MORAMBIQUE - GENERAL
1992
UN renews plea for Mozambicans

LONDON — The UN yesterday renewed its call for the SA government to grant refugee status to 100,000 Mozambicans who have fled across the border.

A spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Geneva said it had asked government to extend their mandate in SA to cope with the growing crisis in the refugee camps.

In September last year, the UN signed an agreement to assist in the repatriation of 15,000 exiled South Africans. The operation began in December — marking the first time in 30 years that a UN body had been allowed to operate in SA.

Now the UNHCR was trying to persuade SA to give the refugees UN protection, said Christen Berthi- jaune at the UNHCR headquarters in Geneva.

The drought and civil war in Mozambique has resulted in a continuous stream of exiles — in spite of the forced repatriation of up to 50,000 people a year.

BBC news yesterday highlighted the plight of the refugees who walk for days and risk their lives crossing the electrified border fence into SA to escape drought, famine and civil war.

According to the BBC, SA has maintained that giving Mozam- bique’s exiles UN refugee status is not an option.

ANC, govt agree to more meetings

SENIOR members of government and the ANC who met on Monday night agreed that more bilateral meetings should take place in an effort to bridge differences that had emerged at Codesa, sources said yesterday.

The meeting, attended by government’s senior negotiators and a host of senior ANC members, was held in an attempt to clear the air after more than a week of vociferous public debate.

The decision to hold more bilateral meetings is perceived as one of ensuring the progress of negotiations, which currently hang in the balance following the impasse at Codesa II.

If more bilateral meetings between the ANC and government are held, the focus of negotiations will inevitably move away from Codesa to these meetings between the two leading members of the two main blocks at Codesa.

The focus of discussions at the Monday night meeting was the outstanding disagreements which emerged during discussions in Codesa’s working group 2 which was dealing with the form of the interim govern- ment and the constituting making bodies.

However, no solution was proposed to any of the major outstanding disagreements between government and the ANC. Whether the parties would reach a compromise was left open.

The issue of the Codesa forum which will decide these issues was also not agreed, although it is known that government is in favour of merging Codesa-working groups two and three which have the task of discussing transitional government.

There is some hope that agreement on the outstanding issues will be reached before the current session of Parliament ends in June, and both government and the ANC have publicly stated their intention to pursue this goal. However, the chance is considered small.

The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere and the damaged relations between the two sides were not the subject of discussion. In light of the accusations and counter-accusations that surfaced before the meeting, which were not the subject of discussion.

Informal sector in anti-AIDS project

AMERICAN Duncan Earle, director of Population Services International (PSI), is planning to use the informal sector to distribute 4-million condoms a year in the AIDS-stricken Natal province.

Business development magazine Enterprise reports that Earle will mount the first phase of the project with extensive research to establish a brand new brand of condom that markets within the culture of SA.

A private, non-profit organisation, PSI has launched health and family planning programmes in 25 developing countries around the world, including about 12 in Africa.

Earle aims to enlist an “army of wholesalers” who will make condoms and sell health information available in shebeens, bars, spaza shops, factories, transport depots and through pavement hawkers.

These retailers will also act as advisors and will be equipped with basic training, says Earle.

He plans to get the condoms on sale throughout Natal by mid-year and go nationwide next year.

The main thrust of the programme is to curb the spread of the HIV virus which leads to AIDS, and which is particularly prevalent in Natal, says Earle.

Earle says that at R1 each condom is too expensive for the average South African, so PSI intends slashing the retail price to between 15c and 20c a piece, or 50c for a pack of five.

While parent company PSI-USA has pledged substantial funding, PSI has also been negotiating with a number of top SA companies for financial support.

The entire project is being run by Earle from his office in Durban.

He was responsible for launching similar projects in Cameron, the Central African Republic and Benin.

Gambler cites Act in reneging on debt

CAPE TOWN — A Sea Point casino is suing a Constantia man for a R73,000 gambling debt which he refuses to pay, claiming it is not enforceable by law and that he lost the money playing an illegal game of chance.

Hightest Entertainment, trading as The Club, claimed in the Supreme Court in Cape Town on Monday that Ruby Rutenberg of Daw Avenue had stopped payment of a cheque for R73,000 in settle- ment of losses for one night’s gaming and demanded immediate payment with interest.

In an affidavit Rutenberg admitted stopping the cheque, but said he was entitled to do so.

He said he issued the cheque to The Club in settle- ment of a gambling debt which was not enforceable by law and which he was not obliged to pay because the transaction was in contravention of the law.

On April 21 he went to the casino and arranged for The Club to provide him with credit. Before being given his chips he had to sign a blank cheque which would prevent a gambler from later refusing to pay.

He was provided with chips worth R73,000 and by the end of the evening had lost the lot.

He played a game called ace high which was a variation of blackjack.

The game was “predominantly one of chance”, as even a skilful and experienced player could do little when he had a weak hand, Rutenberg said.

Although it was sometimes contended that “card counters” — players who had the rare ability to count and remember which cards had been dealt — could predict with some accuracy what most of the remaining cards would be when the game had progressed to a certain stage, he disputed this. — Sapa
Mozambique 'needs food for 9 million'

By Paul Fauvet in Maputo

The Mozambican government has appealed urgently for more than 1.3 million tonnes of food aid to stave off huge loss of life threatened by the worst drought in living memory.

Addressing diplomats in Maputo, the Prime Minister, Marcio Machungo, warned that unless large quantities of aid were received soon, deaths could exceed the 100,000 in the 1983 drought.

The drought affects all southern Africa, but Mozambique is worst hit because its economy has already been wrecked by the war waged by South African-backed rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo).

Renamo is still receiving support from the South African and Malawian police, the Mozambian armed forces claimed.

Even before the drought struck the food supply was precarious and Mozambique was seeking more than 250,000 tonnes of relief food for 1.6 million destitute people, mainly war refugees.

Now the number dependent on emergency rations has risen to 3.1 million. Since almost no surplus is being produced in the countryside, Mozambique also needs food aid for the 6 million people who buy their food in the markets.

The appeal, prepared jointly by the Mozambican government and the United Nations, also asks for non-lethal assistance to the Mozambican troops guarding food aid convoys.

Mr Machungo estimated that this year's harvest will be only about 30 per cent that of a normal year.
Mozambique hopes to meet 5% economic growth target

MAPUTO — Mozambique, drained by 16 years of civil war, is hoping for better times in 1992 after failing to reach its economic growth target of 5% last year.

"One of the things we are afraid of is going back to a situation where there is stagnation," Vice-Minister of Co-operation Oldemiro Baloi said in an interview.

"We are now very clear about what to do, when, where and how, and we are trying to monitor the economic situation very carefully," he said.

Donor nations pledged Mozambique's 1992 assistance needs of $1.125bn at a meeting in Paris in December.

"If we can get fulfillment of pledges on time, I'm convinced this year will be a good year," Baloi said.

Legislation to privatize state enterprises is in place, and several Portuguese and SA banks have shown interest in Mozambique as fiscal constraints have been relaxed.

The World Bank representative in Maputo, Nils Tcheyan, estimated growth in gross domestic product last year at between 4% and 4.5%.

"We are evaluating last year's performance and will try to produce our economic and social programme for '92 in early February," he said.

GDP growth since an economic reform programme started in 1987 has averaged 4.3%, a dramatic turnaround from an annual decline of 5.9% in the 1982-85 period.

Inflation was held to between 30% and 35% in 1991 while the government was expected to reach its money supply target of about 25%, Tcheyan said.

The difference between the official exchange rate and the secondary market was stable at about 4% with the current official rate at about 1,600 meticais to the dollar.

The 16-year civil war with Renamo remains a massive drain on scarce resources.

Baloi said the government would concentrate less on agriculture, Mozambique's traditional economic base, and more on industrial development in 1992, with urban industry more easily protected against rebel attacks.

Peace negotiations are under way in Rome, but President Joaquim Chissano has appealed to the international community for pressure to end what he called foot-dragging and delaying tactics by Renamo to bring a quick ceasefire.

Government and aid officials say many millions of dollars will be needed for post-war reconstruction.

Tcheyan said he was satisfied with the way the economy was progressing.

Mozambique's total external debt amounted to about $4.1bn, he said. — Sapa-Reuters.
First legal opposition in Mozambique

MAPUTO — A Mozambican opposition group said yesterday it was the first legal party in opposition to President Joaquim Chissano's ruling Frelimo party.

The Mozambique National Union, a peaceful breakaway from the armed rebel Renamo movement, and known by its Portuguese acronym, Unamo, said it had delivered all the necessary documents to the Justice Ministry.

Sapa-Reuters
Boost for Mozambique peace hopes

HARARE — Prospects for peace in Mozambique have been boosted by apparently successful talks in Malawi between President Hastings Banda, Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

However, the withdrawal of Zimbabwean troops from Mozambique was not discussed at Thursday's crucial meeting, the Zimbabwean leader said on his return to Harare.

That would be a matter for the peace talks in Rome, said Mr. Mugabe, but once the peace process was concluded the troops would not stay a day longer in Mozambique. It was not necessary for them to be there until peace had been established.

Talks between Mozambique's warring factions have been stuttering along in Rome for the past two years, without nearing a solution.

President Mugabe said that Mr. Dhlakama was a man with some ideas who was anxious to secure the position of Renamo. It was possible there would be more meetings in the future.

This represents a major change in the Zimbabweans' attitude to the rebel leader, who has in the past only been referred to as a "bandit" — usually appended as being supported by the "South African regime."

He said he and Mr. Banda had tried to influence Mr. Dhlakama positively and had emphasised the need for peace.

The meeting with the Renamo leader represents an important breakthrough in the search for a peaceful settlement and follows last month's meeting in Beira between Mr. Mugabe and President Chissano.

Zimbabwean troops are confined to the transport corridors to Beira and Maputo in terms of the partial ceasefire agreement.

Mr. Mugabe's comments were made to reporters on the tarmac when he flew back to Harare.
Mozambique's 'peace puzzle' nearly complete

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — The last pieces of the Mozambican peace puzzle were being fitted into place, Zimbabwe's main newspaper, The Herald, said today, commenting on President Mugabe's meeting last week with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

The paper said too early a meeting with "the man whose bandits had killed and maimed hundreds of thousands" might have been construed by Renamo as a sign that Zimbabwe would agree to almost anything. Timing was critical.

The main sticking point now appeared to be the realisation by Renamo that it was unlikely to win any election and hence its demand for special favours.

The meeting took place in Malawi. President Banda and Mr Mugabe conferred the day before they both met Mr Dhlakama.

Afterwards Mr Mugabe said the Renamo leader was a man with some ideas and was talking peace. He said the question of the withdrawal of Zimbabwean troops was a matter for the Rome peace talks but the Zimbabweans would "not stay a day longer" after the peace process had been concluded.
Renamo wants to
stop war - Mugabe

HARARE - Zimbabwe's
President Robert Mugabe,
who met Mozambican
rebel leader Afonso
Dhlakama for the first
time this week, says the Renamo
boss is keen to end Mozam-
bique's 16-year-old bush
war.

"He is talking peace and
expresses his desire for
peace," Mugabe told re-
porters on Friday night af-
ter returning home from a
short visit to Malawi.

The local media said
Mugabe and President
Kamuzu Banda of Malawi
met Dhlakama secretly in
the city of Blantyre.

"Mugabe" described the
meeting as "very good"
and said he hoped it would
help achieve peace.

The right-wing Mozam-
bique National Resistance
has been negotiating with
the Mozambican govern-
ment for 18 months to end
the war, which has raged
since soon after independ-
ence in 1975.

"Political" sources said
Banda was trying to use his
influence on Dhlakama,
who has used Malawi as a
political base, to advance
the peace process. - Sapa-

Reuter
Renamo rebels kill 2 in suburban Maputo

MAPUTO — Two people were killed and five wounded when right-wing Renamo rebels attacked the Machava suburb of Mozambique's capital, Maputo, the Mozambique News Agency reported yesterday.

The Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) rebels also kidnapped eight people, destroyed two cars, and looted two shops, a bakery and a barber's shop in the attack on Wednesday night, the agency said.

One house was burnt down but its occupants escaped unhurt.

Militiamen resisted briefly but ran out of ammunition, said local militia commander Carlos Manhique.

Two of the five wounded were victims of landmines, the agency said. Their legs were blown off, it added.

The Renamo group, numbering about 100, left behind posters bearing a photograph of their leader, Francisco Dhlakama.

A message on the back of one of the posters appeared to indicate that some rebels were unaware of the changes that have taken place in Mozambique over the past three years.

"We will defeat communism and Marxism," the message said.

Mozambique's ruling Frente party abandoned Marxism in 1989 and the following year adopted a multiparty constitution, abolished most price controls and adopted a free-market economy.

Earlier this week, in Chonguene, in Gaza province, Renamo rebels killed 17 people.

A Radio Mozambique journalist who saw the bodies said the rebels had mutilated the corpses of their victims.

According to the official Mozambican news agency AIM, although the killings took place next to an army checkpoint, the soldiers took no action to stop the massacre.

A similar massacre took place at the same spot in November. — Sapa-Reuters and Star Africa Service.
Maputo to set up commercial bank
Africa News Service (2/18)

MAPUTO — Top officials of the Bank of Mozambique discussed the creation of a commercial bank in Mozambique at a three-day meeting this week.

The Bank of Mozambique is operating as the central bank — issuing and controlling the Mozambican currency, the meticais — as well as fulfilling the role of a commercial bank by accepting deposits from individuals and institutions.

But the Mozambican parliament last month passed legislation restructuring the bank and separating its two functions.
Renamo uses of chemical weapons probed

MAPUTO — The Mozambican authorities believe Renamo rebels may have used chemical weapons in an attack on a town close to the border with South Africa, state radio said.

It reported late on Wednesday that chemical weapons may have been used in the attack on Marange, 10 km from the Transvaal border.

A team of South African military and civilian doctors had visited the capital Maputo at the government's invitation and took away samples from Mozambican soldiers killed in the January 16 attack.

It said officials from Mozambique and other countries would also analyse samples to try to establish the cause of death.

The Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday confirmed that an SADF team, including medical specialists, went to Maputo on Wednesday to assist in treating the injured and in investigating the incident.

The 10th round of peace talks between Maputo and Renamo opened in Rome on Tuesday.
PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe appeared uncomfortable and somewhat nervous when he returned to Harare after an overnight trip to Malawi earlier this month. Pursing his lips and folding his arms tightly across his chest, the Zimbabwe leader told journalists at the airport the startling news: he met Renamo leader Anfonso Dhlakama while in Malawi.

"He is the leader of Renamo and my first reading of him is that he is a man with some ideas and a person who, naturally, is anxious that the position of Renamo be assured after the peace process," said Mugabe. "He is talking peace and expresses his desire for peace."

Mugabe said future talks with the Renamo leader were possible but he adamantly insisted there was no discussion of Dhlakama's demand that Zimbabwe withdraw its 7,000 troops deployed in central Mozambique. Mugabe did, however, indicate that once the peace process gets underway and there is a general ceasefire throughout Mozambique, the Zimbabwean troops will be withdrawn promptly.

The Malawian meeting was a dramatic turnabout that may herald a breakthrough in Mozambique's stalled peace negotiations. The meeting could backfire and cause Renamo to continue delaying any agreement.

It is evident that all that is needed to end Mozambique's 16-year conflict that has taken more than one million lives, caused another million to flee Mozambique and has displaced an estimated six million Mozambicans who are refugees in their own country.

The unending war also troubles all the countries of southern Africa, particularly Zimbabwe, which is spending an estimated US$300 million a year to safeguard the Beira corridor, the landlocked country's route to the sea.

It is understandable that Mugabe, hard-pressed to reduce his budget deficit, would want to speed up the Mozambican peace process. He found it distasteful to contemplate meeting Dhlakama, a man Mugabe had frequently condemned as a South African puppet who had butchered thousands of innocent civilians. Yet others encouraged Mugabe to meet Dhlakama. The beleaguered Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano is desperate to achieve a peace settlement and when he met Mugabe in December he apparently encouraged the Zimbabwean leader to talk with Dhlakama to try to breathe new life into the ineffective Rome negotiations.

The Mugabe/Dhlakama meeting was arranged by Tiny Rowland, whose multinational Lonrho has extensive holdings in Mozambique. Rowland has the reputation of influencing African politics to suit Lonrho's

**Uneasy Mugabe sups with the devil**

Robert Mugabe's surprise meeting with Renamo rebel leader, Anfonso Dhlakama, could pave the way for peace...or backfire if the guerrilla leader does not get what he wants.

By ANDREW MELDRUM

1991.11.30

Robert Mugabe's surprise meeting with Renamo rebel leader Anfonso Dhlakama could pave the way for peace...or backfire if the guerrilla leader does not get what he wants.

**Dhlakama's quest to transform himself** from Mozambique's muttator to a national politician may soon take him to Washington to meet President George Bush. The president could fend off any criticism for receiving a South African-backed terrorist by pointing to the fact that Dhlakama has already been accepted by Robert Mugabe, one of southern Africa's hardest-line leaders.

For his part, Mugabe may also be starting a new strategy of meeting regional foes that could see him meeting President FW de Klerk later this year. By meeting Dhlakama, Mugabe has demonstrated he will do whatever is necessary to achieve a Mozambican settlement and that process could continue.

The international recognition for Dhlakama, who has met the Renamo leader, "He only knows the tactics of a guerrilla fighter. His gut feeling about the Mugabe meeting may be that it simply proves that Renamo has the upper hand. If so he will continue business as usual and that means more blood for Mozambique."

So far the signs are not good. Renamo has delayed the tenth round of the Rome peace talks which were to have begun on January 15. Mozambican officials complain of Renamo's lack of good faith in the negotiations.

If high-level meetings and negotiations don't bring results, what can succeed in bringing peace to Mozambique?

Dhlakama has no interest in a swift transition period and elections, as is taking place in Angola. Renamo retains an odious reputation inside Mozambique that would translate into few election victories. Instead, Dhlakama is understood to be pressing for a lengthy transition period of at least two years during which he would have administrative authority over the large territories which Renamo controls.

"The rebel leader is holding out for such an offer, and without that it appears no amount of meetings with heads of state will bring success to the Mozambican negotiators. Until he gets what he wants, Dhlakama is holding the region to ransom."
Soldiers tell of 'chemical' attack

AFRICA NEWS SERVICE and SAPA-REUTER

The Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria confirmed yesterday that the SADF team, according to hospital officials, went to Maputo to help with the medical relief and the treatment of the surviving soldiers. The team was made up of doctors and paramedics.

Two of the dead were also identified.

The Mozambican government has denied reports that its army killed the Mozambican soldiers who were killed during an attack by the SADF team on January 21. The Mozambican government has also denied reports that its army killed the Mozambican soldiers who were killed during an attack by the SADF team on January 21.

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Mozambican peace talks stall over rebel demands

MAPUTO — Peace talks in Rome between the Mozambican government and right-wing Renamo rebels are in trouble over Renamo’s proposals on electoral law, the Mozambique News Agency (AIM) reported at the weekend.

Among the rebels’ proposals is a ban on coalitions, before or after the multi-party elections which the ruling Frelimo party of President Joaquim Chissano wants to hold this year, AIM’s correspondent in Rome said.

This would exclude about a dozen recently created opposition parties from entering government, because none of them can win enough votes to form a government alone, foreign diplomats here say.

The delegation of the present Mozambican government at the Rome talks believes that the position of Renamo “is not consistent with a spirit of national reconciliation and does not meet universal democratic standards”, AIM said.

The rebels are also demanding that a party must win at least 18% of the vote to have any seats in the next parliament, AIM said. AIM said this seemed to contradict another Renamo demand that the elections be held under proportional representation.

The government delegation in Rome, headed by Transport Minister Armando Guebuza, has said it is willing to accept proportional representation. — Sapa-Reuters.

Sithole defends
Massive maize scam revealed

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — A newspaper has revealed that "tens of thousands" of bags of maize and wheat are stolen every month from a government-owned food processing plant in Beira.

The Maputo daily, Noticias, says it has exposed the existence of a network of common and thieves which is systematically defrauding the factory.

The network, it says, includes local bakery owners and other businessmen, and is coordinated by employees of the government-owned factory, Mobeara, itself.

The sacks of grain leave the factory through the use of fraudulent invoices, in the name of companies which never requested the food, and, in some cases, do not even exist.

These frauds mean, it says, that genuine Mobeara clients, who are entitled to monthly quotas of wheat and flour, find that there is not enough share left for them.

The paper notes some Mobeara officials, with monthly salaries of only R300, have acquired cars, motorbikes and well-furnished homes.
Helping hand from SA firm

REMBRANDT'S Transvaal Sugar Limited (TSL) has supplied the Mozambican border town of Ressano Garcia with a R50kW pump to solve the town's water crisis.

The sugar company is installing about R100 000 worth of equipment at the Nkomati river to pump water up to the town reservoir and purification plant.

The rehabilitation of the town's water supply followed a TSL visit in December when the company offered to repair broken pumps or replace them.

Help was also offered to rebuild the town's infrastructure and establish closer ties between Ressano Garcia and enterprises in the Onderberg region.

The 7 000 inhabitants of the little town, situated less than a kilometre from the SA/Mozambique border, had experienced water problems for more than a year because of pumping difficulties.
New plane delivered

MOZAMBIQUE's national airline, Linhas Aéreas de Mozambique (LAM) has taken delivery of a new 183-seater Boeing 767-200 Extended Range aircraft, the first of two ordered from the US. A Boeing 767 costs between $84m and $90m. The aircraft will be used on LAM's Intercontinental services between Maputo, Paris, Copenhagen and possibly to Berlin.
The US and Britain are studying the possibility that pro-Renamo forces operating inside SA may have dropped chemical warfare agents on Mozambican troops. The British government has sent investigators to look into a January 16 incident at Macene, 10km from the SA border in which 20 soldiers died and many more had to be hospitalised after a light aircraft flew over them from the direction of the border. Survivors suffered severe nausea, chest pains and internal bleeding, diplomatic sources said.
UK to probe ‘Renamo’ chemical strike in Moz

Own Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The United States and Britain are studying the possibility that pro-Renamo forces operating inside South Africa may have dropped chemical warfare agents on Mozambican troops earlier this month.

The British government has sent investigators to look into a January 16 incident at Macaene, 10km from the boundary of the Kruger National Park.

According to diplomatic sources, 20 soldiers died and many more have to be hospitalised after a light aircraft flew over them in the direction of the border.

Survivors reported suffering severe nausea, chest pains and internal bleeding, the sources said.

South African involvement was “one of the angles that is being studied”, a US official said, but he added that the use of chemical agents had yet to be confirmed.

The Mozambican government has so far avoided pointing a finger at South Africa and has blamed the incident solely on Renamo.

High level delegations of the Mozambican-South African Joint Security Commission met to discuss the matter last Tuesday.
Renamo seeks two-party state

Soweto Correspondent

MAPUTO: The rebel Renamo movement is trying at the Mozambican peace talks to eliminate minor parties and turn the country into a bi-party state, said the official news agency, Amy.

The agency's correspondent in Rome, Tomas Vieira Maro, said the leader of the Renamo delegation, Mr Raúl Domingos, was forcing Mozambican politics into a bipolar model and reducing a multi-party system to a two-party system itself and Frelimo.

According to Maro, Domingos said Renamo wants the new parliament elected by proportional representation.

He said the Frelimo government regarded this threshold as too restrictive and believed it would negate proportional representation.

He said Renamo wanted coalitions to be outlawed, either during the election campaign or afterwards in parliament.

Other points concern the ways of amending the constitution and the timing of the election.
Two SA firms bid for Maputo port

By CIARAN RYAN

Eastern Transvaal exporters are re-routing cargo through Durban
Tonnage through the port dropped by 23% in 1991 to 2.35-million tons after a record 3-million in 1990. Coal shipped from Maputo was 58% less than forecast.

This is largely because small mines in the Eastern Transvaal have been hit by low world prices for steam coal and many have stopped exporting.

Pitferage and delays caused by breakdowns in terminal handling equipment are blamed for the lower throughput of citrus and sugar.

After a spell of relative stability, traffic from the Eastern Transvaal town of Komatspoort to Maputo was disrupted when rebels sabotaged the railway line last year.

Tight security measures were introduced this year and no new attacks have been recorded.

Routing traffic through Maputo as opposed to Durban more than halves the distance to the sea for Eastern Transvaal exporters.

A port refurbishment programme, with loan assistance from SA, was completed in 1990 in an effort to improve turnaround times and ease bottlenecks.

The port relies on traffic from the

Wary

Most shipping lines are wary of docking in Maputo and charge large premiums to do so. Only SA Europe Container Services operates a regular monthly service to Maputo. Most exporters charter ships to the principal destinations in the United States and Far East.

Private operators will want some control over plans to stabilize security in the southern part of the country because Eastern Transvaal exporters rely on the safe passage of freight from Komatspoort to Maputo.
Mozambique rebuilds after 16-year civil war

MAPUTO - Despite slow progress in peace talks in Rome, officials in Mozambique are laying the groundwork to rebuild the country after 16 years of devastating civil war.

"If we start now, we are still in time. If we wait until we have a ceasefire, we will be too late," Oldemiro Baloi, Mozambique's vice-minister of co-operation, said in an interview.

The ninth round of 18-month-old peace talks between the Maputo government and the rightwing rebel Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo) is under way in Rome, with the government accusing Renamo of foot-dragging and delaying tactics.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano on January 30 appealed at a conference here of Western donors and 10 southern African states for international pressure to bring peace to his country.

A ceasefire and peace will however pose formidable problems for Mozambique, where about five million of its 15 million citizens are displaced internally, with another 1.5 million refugees in neighbouring countries.

The legacy of Portuguese colonial rule that ended in 1975 and the subsequent civil war has left what little infrastructure Mozambique possessed in a state of collapse.

Government and aid officials say many millions of rand will be needed to get displaced people back home, demobilise armies and absorb soldiers into civilian society, and rebuild infrastructure such as roads, schools and health clinics.

The head of the UN Development Programme in Mozambique, Peter Simkin, said government demobilisation proposals had received little donor response.

"Rural infrastructure will take probably decades to recover, there has been such universal destruction. Rehabilitation is a very long-term goal and I'm not sure donor interest will last that long in Mozambique," Simkin added.

Baloi noted Mozambique had been hit by the collapse of East European socialist states and the Soviet empire which had been major aid contributors - Moscow to the tune of around R425 million annually.

In addition to the loss of these funds, drought had caused further problems which, combined with the effects of war, had produced a patchwork of hunger due to lack of transportation.

But Baloi said the government was planning for the future.

"We need a masterplan to help the peace issue. A European Community consultant is here working to prepare an international conference to be held after a ceasefire to gather the international community to discuss new ways of supporting Mozambique in this phase.

"Preparedness is crucial," he said.

The government also achieved its target of R2.75 billion of assistance pledged by donor nations for 1992 at a meeting in Paris in December.

Diplomats and officials say that, given peace and security, Mozambique is potentially a rich country.

On an optimistic note, the UNDP's Simkin said peasants resettled in fertile central Zambezia province and provided with seeds and tools had become self-sufficient within two years. - SA Press Association - Reuter
MAPUTO — A defector from the Renamo rebels in Mozambique says the insurgent group uses chemical weapons.

Victorino Fernandes said on Monday he had met about 50 Renamo fighters carrying gas masks at a base 40 km north of Maputo on January 22.

Mr Fernandes said the men told him they were carrying the masks as protection against a weapon they were carrying, a projectile that could be fired from a heavy machine-gun.

The weapon released a poisonous substance which, if inhaled in sufficient quantity, could kill.

Western military experts said they knew of no chemical weapon designed to be fired from machine-guns.

Renamo officials in Europe have denied using chemical weapons in their fight against the Maputo government.

Mr Fernandes said the men told him they had fought in a January 16 battle with government troops at the rebel base of Ngungwe.

Survivors told reporters they had been overcome by dense black smoke coming from a projectile which exploded over their heads — Sapa-Reuters
Food aid scheme held at Government College

Govt fears EEC challenge

Rumania rebels,

Conflict in Yemen

Chemicals use chemically

veep since, which was too much time — the process takes quite a long time for

fair trade. Fighting over special classes

in the community. The number of

higher education in Europe is now

veteran's pension scheme.
SA firms vie for gas field contracts

Fuel deal with Mozambique in the pipeline

THE Mozambican government is within weeks of agreement with one or more SA synthetic fuel and chemical firms on a multibillion-rand venture to exploit and market products from its large Pande gas fields, industry sources say.

It is envisaged that Petronet, Transnet's pipeline subsidiary, will build a Rlbn pipeline to carry gas to the Reef. It is believed that a parallel line will be built to carry refined fuel from SA to Mozambique.

Sasol, Engen and AECI are in the running to establish a plant to convert the gas into petrochemicals, with Sasol believed to have an edge over its rivals.

Petronet MD Eric Crowley confirmed yesterday that his company had been involved in discussions with the Mozambican authorities and the World Bank, which was expected to participate in the funding.

He added that the discussions had centred on the possibility of Petronet constructing and operating an approximately 900km gas pipeline between Mozambique's Northern province and the Reef. About 80% of the line would be in Mozambique.

He said discussions were still at a tentative stage and that their outcome hinged on the decision of the Mozambican authorities and the World Bank. Industry analysts say the outcome also hinges on Mozambique's security situation and Maputo's ability to guarantee that Renamo will not sabotage a pipeline as it has the power line linking SA and Cahora Bassa.

Petronet operates SA's only commercial fuel pipeline network connecting major business centres with the oil refineries at the coast. About 80% of the refinery's product is carried by Petronet's system.

Sasol spokesman Jan Krynauw confirmed his company was involved in discussions with Mozambique but was reluctant to elaborate yesterday as talks were at a sensitive stage.

The Pande gas fields have been explored sporadically over the past few decades, with most recent work being done by Soviet drillers. They, however, failed to complete the job. A feasibility study, which has been running on and off for 10 years, has been completed by Engineering Management Services (EMS), a local engineering project manager.

EMS MD Steve Hrabar said yesterday World Bank financing would probably be forthcoming only if private companies invested in the project. Mozambique itself does not have the resources to finance the project.

Unofficial estimates quoted by Engineering Week put Pande's annual gas production potential at 1 billion. This would make it significantly bigger than SA's own offshore reserves off Mossel Bay.
Minister cleared

MAPUTO - The case against Mozambique Interior Minister Colonel Manuel Antonio, accused of taking part in a plot to overthrow the government, has been dropped.

Mozambique's official news agency AIM said yesterday the release of Antonio, who was arrested on August 11 last year, was ordered by Judge Arlindo Mateve, who said Antonio had denounced the plot in May 1991.

The case against 14 other accused stands. - Sowetan

African News Service
French power lights Maputo

MAPUTO — A new French-built power station is now available to provide the Mozambican capital with emergency supplies of electricity when the line from South Africa is cut by Renamo rebels, as happens periodically.

Up to now the city has relied on a coal-fired power station for back-up. It was unable to meet the demand for power in Maputo.

The new diesel-fueled facility, which has a capacity of 25 megawatts, will increase the city's emergency generating capacity by 50 percent. The new facility was opened this week by the French Minister for Cooperation and Development, Edwige Avice.
Mozambique set to join major coal exporters

DEREK TOMMEY

JOHANNESBURG — Mozambique will be a major coal exporter by the end of the decade, says Mr Mike Salamon, managing director of Trans-Natal.

He announced this yesterday along with an increase in Trans-Natal's interim dividend from 22c to 29c a share.

The coal export planning centres on the Moatize coal field, near the town of the same name in Northern Mozambique.

Partners in the project are Trans-Natal, the Mozambican government and Brazil's Companhia Vale do Rio Doce.

Mr Salamon said the partners had completed a pre-feasibility study, which had led to a decision to go ahead with a full study.

The partners would meet in Maputo next month to discuss how to implement the study and how to finance it. It is expected to cost about R70 million.

Mr Salamon said Moatize coal resources were extensive. The cost of developing them would be about 1.5 billion.

Much of the money would be needed for a 400 kilometre railway line and a coal terminal.

Moatize would mine 20 million tons of coal a year and export 10 million tons, representing just over a fifth of South Africa's current export figure.

While some aid money might be available for the railway line, most of the money needed would have to come from private investors.

Mr Salamon said Eskom's decision to mothball the Camden and the Komati power stations from the beginning of 1991 had badly affected Trans-Natal.

It had now recovered from the setback, by offsetting the loss of low-priced Eskom sales with higher-priced export sales.

Exports now accounted for 67 percent of the group income (63 percent a year ago).

Trans-Natal had not only published profit figures for the six months to December, 1991, and for the six months to December 1990, but also for the six months to June, 1991.

Mr Salamon said this had been done because the figures for the six months to December, 1990, included sales to Camden and Komati.

Therefore they were not really comparable with those for the six months to December, 1991.

A fairer indication of progress could be obtained by comparing the latest figures with those of the six months to last June.

The figures showed that sales reve-
R50m benefit from Cahora Bassa

CAPE TOWN — SA manufacturers stood to benefit to the tune of R50m from the rehabilitation of Mozambique’s Cahora Bassa hydro-electric project scheduled to begin this year, Eskom CE and chairman Ian McRae said in an interview at the weekend.

The rehabilitation project — estimated to cost about $140m — will be financed mainly by an Italian government loan with SA providing a guarantee for a R50m credit facility for the manufacture of necessary equipment.

McRae said the World Bank had indicated it would provide the $38m shortfall but was only prepared to consider $20m if it did not have guarantees from the Portuguese and SA governments.

Finalisation of an agreement was in the pipeline.

It was hoped that the project would get under way this year.

“We are looking at alternative financing possibilities to reduce the World Bank loan to below $20m,” McRae said.

McRae said Eskom had been appointed coordinator of a feasibility study to link Zaire, Angola, Namibia, SA, Zambia and possibly Botswana in a power grid with power generated at the Inga power station on the Zaire River.

Eskom would link into the grid and could import up to 10% of its electricity requirements, McRae said.

At an SA British Trade Association function, McRae said Eskom aimed to reduce the price of electricity by 20% over the next five years, contributing to the international competitiveness of SA industry.

The utility intended to increase the percentage of people with electricity from 30% to 70%-80% over the next decade and, in conjunction with local authorities, to electrify three-million homes over five years.

McRae supported the idea of a national electrification forum, decided on by delegates at an ANC national meeting on electrification on Friday.

Bond fraud; ranger sought
Mozambique, Renamo talks deadlock

MAPUTO - The Mozambican peace talks in Rome have reached a deadlock and a meeting between the heads of the two delegations on Friday failed to resolve the stalemate.

According to the official Mozambican news agency AIM, the main obstacle to concluding an agreement on the country’s future electoral law is Renamo’s insistence that the parliament emerging from the country’s first multiparty elections must amend the constitution.

The government says Renamo is in effect trying to convert the future parliament into a constituent assembly, with the intention of "questioning all the legislation adopted since independence" in 1975.

Leader of the government delegation, transport minister Mr Armando Guebuza, said the peace talks could not tell a future parliament "what it should or should not do" in its formal proposal, the government declares that parliament "will have full sovereignty to determine its own agenda".

Which means that if the parliament so desires, it can change the constitution and mechanisms for this are envisaged in the constitution itself.

The leader of the Renamo delegation, Mr Raul Domingos, told AIM that in his view the Frelimo government’s position "would render our struggle illegitimate".

*Source: African News Service,* 11/2/92
ROME - Disagreements in the Mozambican peace talks between Renamo and Frelimo are being played down by optimism that a ceasefire will be signed within the next few months.

"We hope that even by May or June we will have signed a ceasefire," said Mr. Raul Domingos, head of the Renamo delegation.

Both Mr. Don Matteo, head of the St. Egidio Community, the Roman Catholic body that is mediating the talks, and chief of the Frelimo delegation, Mr. Armando Guebuza, were more cautious, but agreed that this was when they too hoped for a ceasefire.

Blocking

If a ceasefire were signed this quickly, democratic elections in which Renamo and Mozambique's 13 other new parties would participate, would have to take place by mid-1993. But obstacles still blocking the signing of the third protocol on electoral principles are very real.

Most hotly debated is whether a new constitution should be decided on by a multiparty assembly before the new government takes office, or if any changes to it should be left up to the new government.

Proposal

According to Domingos, the current constitution is undemocratic because it was decided on by one party, and it should not be allowed to exist in its present form under any circumstances. Frelimo's position is that a multiparty assembly will have no democratic authority to draw up another constitution. Guebuza argues that Renamo's proposal would introduce premature and potentially unnecessary disruption to Mozambique.

Other details which must be resolved before the signing of the third protocol include the minimum age of government representatives, and the technicalities of the future system of proportional representation. The mediators and Renamo expressed more optimism than Frelimo that compromise could be reached on all these questions soon.

Protocol

It is anticipated that in total five protocols will be signed, the fifth incorporating the agreement and implementation of a full ceasefire. In addition the fifth protocol will provide for the implementation of all the others, and include some guarantees, such as one for disallowing trials for war crimes.

Due to the sensitivity of the next round of negotiations, representatives of four nations will act as observers. It has been suggested that South Africa, the United States and Portugal should be among the observers.

It has been agreed that Mozambique will follow not the Angolan or Namibian model but the model of Haiti in its moves towards peace.

"We are going to extend an invitation as soon as possible to the United Nations," said Guebuza. "It will monitor elections and the implementation of the ceasefire."

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**The shaky steps to ceasefire**

**Blow by blow**


Renamo had been formed in 1974, and began fighting by 1977.

1982: Attempted informal contact between Renamo and Frelimo.

1985: Pretoria Declaration talks failed.

1988: First contact between Mozambican church and Renamo.

August 1989: First contact between Frelimo and Renamo with Mozambican Catholic Church as mediators.

November 30 1990: Signing of partial ceasefire agreement which is still theoretically in force.


December 12 1991: Agreement on general principles of Protocol III.
INSTRUMENTS OF WAR: when will scenes like this in Mozambique be a thing of the past?
The good times roll in poor Mozambique

By Ruth Ayisi

FIVE years ago high-quality restaurants in Maputo were difficult to find. But today there is a wide choice, ranging from Italian, French, Portuguese and Chinese to local eateries.

And, upon entering a growing number of eating places, it is almost impossible to guess in what part of the globe the restaurant is located.

One restaurant is full, on the patio and inside, by 9pm — every day. English, not Portuguese (the official language) is spoken here, most of the customers are young, hip and blond-haired, and rock music fills the air. It could be upmarket Johannesburg.

A crowd is inevitably queuing outside. Grilled prawns and fat steaks go down well with many people.

The hidden eating out in Maputo these days is that you need to be a member of the Mozambican elite or part of the large foreign community.

The average cost of 50,000 meticais (Mozambican currency) a head in most restaurants would swallow the monthly salary of most Mozambicans.

The minimum monthly salary is the equivalent of about US$20.

So restaurant managers capitalise on foreigners, especially the South Africans flooding into the capital, on holiday or to open businesses.

For foreigners the prices are normal. They are used to them in London, Paris, Johannesburg and Lisbon.

But such a blatant display of inequality breeds resentment. Mozambique is one of the poorest countries in the world, with an annual per capita income of only US$100. More than 60 percent of the country’s 16-million people live in absolute poverty.

Prices have escalated since the introduction of the 1987 structural adjustment programme sponsored by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Discontent among city dwellers is growing. An exploding crime rate shocked Maputo last year and many took the law into their own hands, in some cases killing alleged criminals.

In January violence erupted in Maputo as more than 1,000 Mozambican migrant workers from the former German Democratic Republic (GDR) demanded compensation because of the abrupt end of their contracts due to the unification of Germany. Some 15,000 returned from the GDR, and most are unemployed.

A wave of strikes hurt industries last year and is just another problem for Mozambique’s economy, wrecked as it is by the 16-year-old war between the State and Renamo rebels. But how long people will tolerate hardship when they see others having so much is difficult to predict.

A sign of exclusivity in Maputo society came in with the new year. Parties rocked the capital, but, where it used to be common to let anyone enter, this year many people could not afford it and sold tickets to cover costs.

One night club, frequented by the young on Saturday nights when prices average around 5,000 meticais, suddenly raised its entrance fee to the equivalent of US$60 a head.

A young Mozambican woman in the queue, however, barely blinked as she paid a million meticais (US$300) for her family to enter.
Mozambique, SA set to sign gas deal

MAPUTO - Mozambique and SA will sign an agreement this month on the sale of Mozambican natural gas to SA, a senior official in the Mozambican Hydrocarbon Company (ENH) has confirmed. The gas would be extracted at Pande in Inhambane province, about 500km north of Maputo, and sent by pipeline to SA. The ENH official declined yesterday to give details of the agreement or name the SA company involved. A full statement would be made on February 27, after the agreement had been signed.

The first exploration well at Pande was drilled in 1961 and the existence of a huge gas field was confirmed two years later. The most recent estimate, published last May by the official Mozambique News Agency, put reserves at 48-trillion cubic metres - Saps-Reader
MAPUTO — Military police arrested a captain in the armed forces yesterday, who has been waging a campaign against alleged corruption in the provincial military command in Nampula. The arrest took place at the Maputo offices of the National Journalists' Union, where the officer, Captain Muzamilo Cassimo, was about to give a lecture on his accusations of corruption — Sapa-APP.
In-fighting before the ceasefire

DISAGREEMENTS in the Mozambican peace talks between Renamo and Frelimo are being played down by optimism that a ceasefire will be signed within the next few months.

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Both Mr Don Matteo, head of the St Egido Community, the Roman Catholic body mediating the talks, and chief of the Frelimo delegation Mr Armando Guebuza were more cautious, but agreed that this was when they too hoped for a ceasefire.

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Most hotly debated is whether a new constitution should be decided on by a multi-party assembly before the new government takes office, or if any changes to it should be left up to the new government.

According to Mr Domingos the current constitution is undemocratic because it was decided on by one party, and it should not be allowed to exist in its present form under any circumstances.

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It has been agreed that Mozambique will follow not the Angolan or Namibian model but the model of Haiti in its moves towards peace and democracy.

"We are going to extend an invitation to the United Nations as soon as possible," Mr Guebuza said. "It will monitor elections and the implementation of the ceasefire."
Mozambique's Progress Toward Peace

The Mozambican government has made significant progress in its fight against the civil war. The peace process has been characterized by a series of agreements and accords, each addressing different aspects of the conflict. Starting with the 1992 Rome Agreement, which ended the civil war, subsequent agreements have been signed, including the 1994 Lusaka Accord, the 1995 Pretoria Agreement, and the 2002 Lusaka Protocol. These agreements have aimed at gradual disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of former combatants, and the establishment of a national government that includes former rebel leaders. The process has been supported by international mediation and monitoring bodies, including the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Despite challenges, the peace process continues to evolve, with the ultimate goal of achieving lasting peace and stability in Mozambique.
A Tale of Persecution and Resurgence

February 20 to February 26, 1992

18 South Features
RC bishops discuss condoms, Aids dilemma

MAPUTO — Southern Africa's Roman Catholic bishops are this week discussing one of their most agonising dilemmas: the conflict between their church's ban on condoms and the argument by health authorities that condoms are an essential defence against the Aids pandemic that is ravaging Africa.

The main item on the agenda for the third meeting of the Inter-regional Association of Roman Catholic Bishops of Southern Africa (Imbon), is not Aids, however, but finding ways of blending the Catholic religion into local African cultures.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano told the bishops this task was difficult "because for many centuries we were told that what is typically African is worth very little".

Opening the meeting, Mr Chissano said the creation of a free and democratic society in South Africa remained the key to lasting peace and stability in the entire sub-continent.

He accused the rebel Renamo movement of using delaying tactics to hold up the Mozambican peace talks in Rome.
Mozambique to tackle ceasefire

ROME — The Mozambique government and Renamo rebels would tackle within days the vital issue of a ceasefire in the country’s 16-year-old civil war, mediators at peace talks said yesterday.

Mediator Mario Ratsell said both sides had agreed to sign a protocol on electoral law, meaning they would start talking about a ceasefire.

Report accuses Renamo of killing civilians

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Renamo is being held responsible for the "vast majority" of human rights abuses in Mozambique.

A US State Department report on human rights in Mozambique blames the rebel movement for the "great majority" of civilian deaths. It also accuses Renamo of "regularly holding civilians against their will" in Mozambique's official news agency, Aim, says the US report claims Renamo beat and mutilated people and forced family members to witness or participate in torture.

"The rebel group continued to execute or kidnap non-combatants after attacks on villages, often hacking or burning people to death, and later displaying body parts, apparently to intimidate would-be resisters," the report says.

The report also criticizes abuses by government soldiers and police. It names incidents in which troops beat civilians or extorted money from them. It condemns the army's forced recruitment campaign of 1991, and the compulsory movement of civilians to "government-protected" villages.

However, Aim says, the report notes that the Mozambican press reported "in full and without any penalty, strong criticism of Frelimo and the government by the new political parties." The report states that "instances of torture by security police have reportedly declined sharply since 1988," but criticizes prison conditions.
AfrIca
Convoy on corridor of fear

In former, peaceful times, Tete was a bustling trucking route—one of the lifelines of southern Africa. Today, it is among the most dangerous stretches of road anywhere in the world.

By HAMILTON WENDE

The narrow strip of road that runs through the Zambezi valley between Mozambique and Zimbabwe is known as the Tete corridor. At least twice a month convoys are attacked, often more frequently, by Renamo rebels.

Villagers are too scared to come by the only rail source of information is from the truckers who do the route but not the mostly ex-cons that have been paid from drug to driver. There is little or no media coverage of them—it's just another little Third-World war.

The collection point for the convoy is near a Renamo army camp about 20kms inside the Mozambique border. A few official lounges in the shade of a low-walled compound from the bush around an emergent number of teenage soldiers dressed in a motley array of faded camouflage fatigues, T-shirts, slip-slops and combat boots. All are armed with AK-47 and other weapons and they go from truck to truck, begging for anything they can get from the drivers.

It is hot. Already the sweat is running down the face of Laxton, the driver who has agreed to give me a lift. Without any visible sign of the trucks in tow of the start moving off into the heat and we follow. Only a few kilometres down the road we start to see evidence of the war that has wracked this country for more than 17 years. Every building is punctuated with bullet holes from AK-47 fire. This is our first evidence of moving into the territories of the Renamo.

At the last convoy starts to gather on the outskirts of Tete. The landscape is a red sandy plain dotted with thickly spaced bushes. All along the road on this side are children begging, their hands outstretched toward the trucks. "Driver, driver please bread, please bread tobacco?" the children's expressions are anguished and disheartened as, one by one, the trucks crumble past them blowing dust and hot, smoky exhaust.

Abut 50km out of Zobega, the most dangerous part of the journey. The bush is thick—mostly mopane.

Sign of the times... One of the many vehicles belting the Tete corridor and the district remnants.

There is one bad stretch where, for about 20km, every 500m or so there is a burned-out vehicle lying on the road. The soldiers ride up and down in three-armed vehicles peering anxiously into the bushes, holding their weapons ready. The convoy is more than a hundred trucks and traverses kilometers long. Only three vehicles guard the convoy—one APC and two seven-tonne trucks with 100mm machine guns mounted on the truck. There are long periods of time when you are completely unprotected.

After two hours of tense-filled driving we pull into Tete. The APC comes screeching past us, headlights flashing, the horn blowing. Soldiers give the "thumbs up" sign at the drivers as they pass. We are in Renamo-controlled territory again. Safe, for now.

Along the rest of the road, trucks are stopped and the drivers are searched on the side of the road, peering, nervously. There are no troops anywhere near. A few drivers are gathered in a group, talking. The air is thick with a mix of Zambian, English and Portuguese. Many of them are in the rear of UEZIL, their loads and large 0-trucks.

A few hundred meters on, there is a trailer burning furiously on the side of the road. A group of Renamo soldiers standing guard over it. AK-47s at the tip. A short distance beyond that is a horse standing without a trailer. Everybody gets out to gather around the dead in the road and ask what happened.

He doesn't know. He looked up in the mirror and saw his car in flames. He had been out and drinking and while they released his mirrors so quickly.

His freight was valuables, cotton, the likely explanation for the fire in spontaneous combustion. But not everyone is convinced.

At the border, the following convoy meets up with the outgoing one. Two hundred in more trucks—6,000 tons of cargo caught up in a bureaucratic quagmire.

A kilometre down the road into Zimbabwe is a pub. Lucky Luke's. Blows out of speakers on the wall, a counter table in the corner, and young women sitting at the bar. The talk is all about the convoy. "Who saw what and where—when the border's not that had been there last time, a radio someone saw in the morning that turned out to be a bombshell—how scared nobody was. And of course, what happened yesterday and last week with the rockets, the bazookas and the grenades and who might have happened today—was it really the fly this trip, but who knows about next trip?" There are too many burnt-out wrecks along the road for it not to happen to you. But nobody is sure. Those days, Laxton's wife and two daughters are waiting back home in Mozambique, and the danger pay for driving the Tete is Z$2500 a trip.
Church plea for
200 000 refugees
TED MAGILL (218) AUG 29/2/92
Weekend Argus Reporter

A joint delegation of the South African Council of Churches and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference has met a government delegation to discuss the status of 200 000 Mozambican refugees in South Africa.

The church delegation, led by the Rev Frank Chikane, secretary-general of the SACC, proposed that the refugees be given status and registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The government delegation undertook to speak to President De Klerk and the Cabinet.

Father Jude Petersen, SACBC secretary-general, said the refugees needed to be protected from exploitation and deportation.

He said the government delegation was concerned that the refugees were fleeing economic difficulties rather than the war and feared they would abuse official status and take jobs away from locals.

There are 95 000 refugees registered with churches in South Africa.
Hope for Mozambique ceases fades

Micheal WANG reports from Maputo

Despite endless years of peace talks there seems no end to the continued Palestinian occupation of the occupied territories. PLO and Palestinian delegates have made numerous visits to international forums but without any clear results. The Palestinian resistance needs continued support from the international community.

Recent developments in the Middle East, including the Israeli general elections, have raised hopes for a resolution to the conflict. However, the situation remains complex and challenging.

The peace process has faced many obstacles, including a lack of commitment from some parties, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict continues to be a source of tension and instability. The international community must continue to work towards a just and sustainable solution.

In conclusion, the situation in the Middle East remains uncertain, but hope for peace must not be abandoned. A sustained effort is needed to achieve a lasting resolution to the conflict.
ROME — Negotiators for Mozambique's leftist government and right-wing rebels yesterday signed an accord on electoral issues, helping clear the way for a general ceasefire in the country's 14-year civil war.

The accord establishes a procedure for impartial and democratic multiparty elections, monitored by international observers. It also calls for free access to the press, freedom of association, and the return and reintegration of refugees.

Mediators said the only outstanding political issue before a final accord could be reached on a ceasefire and the formation of a united national army was the confirmation of Mozambique's constitution.

The formerly Marxist ruling party, Frelimo, introduced a new constitution in November 1980 calling for free elections and a multiparty system. The Renamo rebels rejected it, complaining they were not consulted during its drafting.

The nation has been at war since 1977, two years after it gained independence from Portugal.

More than 600,000 people have died in the fighting, which has also left more than 1 million refugees and half the nation's 15 million people in need of donated food.

The peace talks, which began in Rome in July 1989, are being mediated by the Italian government, Mozambican Catholic leaders and a Rome-based Catholic charity organisation.

Negotiations are set to resume at the end of next month.

— Sapa-AP.
MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano yesterday unveiled an agreement on the country's future electoral system reached after two months of hard bargaining with Renamo rebels.

Government negotiators signed the agreement with Renamo on Thursday in Rome, where a Catholic community is helping to mediate an end to 15 years of civil war.

The government has bowed to a Renamo demand that parliamentary elections should be held by proportional representation, rather than a first-past-the-post system.

Each province will be treated as a multi-member constituency. All citizens aged over 18 will be able to vote, but only if they have registered.

This decision flies in the face of advice to the government from Commonwealth experts, who suggested that, just as in Zimbabwe's independence election of 1980, voter registration could be dispensed with, particularly because of the huge task of registering returning refugees.

Renamo had wanted to rule out coalition governments and ban all alliances among political parties, but the final agreement specifically allows alliances provided the parties present themselves to voters under just one symbol.

The rebel movement also gave way over its demand that a party must take 20% of the votes before being represented in parliament.

The two sides are due to meet again next month to discuss military matters — Sapa-AFP
Mozambican agreement

MOZAMBIQUE President Joaquin Chissano on Friday unveiled an agreement on the country's future electoral system reached after two months of hard bargaining with Renamo rebels. Government negotiators signed the agreement with the organisation on Thursday in Rome.
Boy (10) ordered by Renamo to kill

Star Africa Service (218)

MAPUTO — A 10-year-old boy, press-ganged into Renamo's forces, has told how he was ordered to execute a woman at a rebel base near the SA border.

The boy, captured by government forces on Sunday, is one of large numbers of children and teenagers forced by the rebels to join them and sometimes to commit atrocities.

Local reporters have spoken to the boy and two teenagers captured by Frelimo troops on Monday when a Renamo force of about 200 attacked the Maputo suburb of Patrice Lumumba, killing at least 22 people.

Arlindo Machango (12) said the rebels had kidnapped him from home in Macia a month ago and taken him to a base in Xingaungana. He said he and others were guarded and tied up at night. He showed the reporters rope marks on his arms.

Machango said the raid on the Maputo suburb was his first and he was not given a weapon, only told to carry loot afterwards. The commander of the raiding party had warned that any member of it who tried to escape would be shot dead.

Mario Malilane (16), member of the raiding party, said he had been kidnapped from the Maputo suburb of Singatela in December. He was taken to Xingaungana and trained to use an AK47 rifle. He said the attack on Patrice Lumumba was his first, but said he had only fired into the air.

Lazaro Matavele, captured while on a reconnaissance mission for Renamo north of Maputo on Sunday, said he was kidnapped about a year ago while visiting his aunt at Ximavane. He was taken to a Renamo base in Mapulanguene district, close to the SA border, and trained to use a rifle.

He was then ordered to shoot a woman prisoner at the base. He said he did so "because the commander told me to."

The boy said he had twice seen light aircraft land at the base and unload weapons on one occasion there was a white man among the crew.

The Mozambican news agency, Aim, reports that an older youth, Vicente Chambe (20), said after he was abducted he was at first kept tied up and afterwards guarded closely. He was trained to use a rifle.
Maputo: Renamo not serious about peace

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government's chief negotiator in peace talks with Renamo has charged that the rebels were not negotiating seriously and still hoped to seize power by force.

Transport Minister Armando Guebuza told reporters this week his government wanted firm guarantees that Renamo would respect any future peace agreement.

"Renamo seems not to have desisted from its intention to reach a solution by military means, through violence," he said.

Mozambican rebels killed at least 22 people on Monday night in a rampage through the outer suburbs of Maputo, military officials said.

Guebuza added that the authorities had "drawn the attention" of foreign governments, as well as of the Italian and Catholic church mediators in the talks, to Renamo's recent behaviour.

Guebuza denounced what he called atrocities and massacres committed by Renamo.

"For Renamo, defending the rights of Mozambicans means hacking off their ears, cutting off their sexual organs or stabbing them through the stomach with bayonets," he declared.

"We want guarantees that Renamo will respect any eventual peace agreement," said Guebuza.

Asked about Renamo's recent declaration by commander Afonso Dhikaka that the next round of talks should deal with suspending various articles of the Mozambican constitution, Guebuza made it clear that this was unacceptable to the government.

The government would insist on discussing military matters leading up to a ceasefire, which were the next item on the agenda.

"Renamo exists to a great extent because foreign support was never cut off," he said. "It is necessary to ascertain what foreign support for Renamo still exists, and see what measures can be taken to end it."

He was referring in particular to support reportedly still flowing in from South Africa in violation of a 1984 non-aggression accord between the two countries. A recent US intelligence report said the SA armed forces had continued to support Renamo up until at least February 1991. — Saps-AFP
MAPUTO — Renamo has infiltrated guerrillas trained in Kenya into northern Mozambique through Malawi, the official news agency AIM has reported.

The agency said it received this information from a source on the general staff of the Mozambican armed forces.

The source declined to name the country through which the infiltration had taken place, said AIM, but it could only have been Malawi as Tanzania was a close ally of Mozambique.

This is the second time Renamo forces trained in Kenya are alleged to have been infiltrated into Mozambique.

In August 1990 Defence Minister Alberto Chipande said 300 rebels had been infiltrated through Malawi.

AIM's general staff source said it appeared from the latest infiltration and from the spate of Renamo attacks on the suburbs of Maputo and Beira that the rebels were trying to exert pressure on the Frelimo government to accept the conditions being demanded in the Rome peace talks.

Another possibility was that Renamo still believed it stood a better chance of coming to power by force of arms than through the ballot box.

Renamo has denied that its forces are responsible for the attacks on the cities and has blamed them on unidentified armed groups.

Frelimo officials say, however, that rebels captured in these attacks have admitted being Renamo members.
Private crayfish farm has vital role in Mozambique

EXACTLY 2,000 feet above the northeast coast of Mozambique, Mano Marquez adjusts his Ray-ban and switches the 14-seater Celta Caravan to manual.

With the powerful engine eased down to idle, the Spirit of Chiloane, glides down onto a broad swathe of sand lined by the Indian Ocean.

Chiloane, a palm-fringed island 100km south of Beira, is remarkable for two things.

First, it is an idyllic place where winches mangle under a cashew tree; and the only crowds are the crayfish tumbling in the mangrove swamps.

Second, it is the site of the first private investment enterprise in one of the world's poorest countries, where 16 years of civil war have claimed more than 1 million lives.

The key relationship in the enterprise began several years ago in a bustling Washington bar—a scene light years removed from the tranquility of Chiloane.

William Friedman, a Texan millionaire banker and political consultant, versed in the vagaries of life on Capitol Hill, introduced himself to Amiun Chassano, then Mozambique's foreign affairs minister.

Five years and $3m of investment later— with Chassano becoming president in the meantime—the friendship between the two men has produced a glimmer of hope for the future of Mozambique and a reminder of the days when Lourenco Marques was the jewel of southern African tourism.

The progeny of the relationship is a crayfish farm on Chiloane from whose emerald waters and mangrove swamps two tons of seafood were flown to Johannesburg last month.

The shipments will continue up to an optimum level of 20 tons a month, most of which will appear in restaurants and shops in Johannesburg and other SA cities.

The establishment of the first investment project in Mozambique which does not involve state, multinational or aid-oriented funding has not been an easy task.

Mecca

Handicapped by red tape, security fears and the fearsome logistics of shipping generators, fibre-glass boat moulds, cement and a mini-tractor to the island on a small aircraft, the project at last is producing the kind of quality fare which helped make Lourenco Marques a seafood mecca.

But apart from providing a Mozambican economy suffering from an $8bn external debt with a little inflow of foreign exchange, it also means more than 100 jobs that Friedman's Harrell Seafood Inc provides on Chiloane, the enterprise could even have an influence on the country's political future.

Deep in the heart of Renamo territory, with the frequency of attacks against agricultural and industrial installations on the increase in the past few weeks, Chiloane appears to be a perfect guerrilla target. It is protected by little more than the enthusiasm of the island's 4,000 inhabitants, strong currents in the stretch of water between it and the mainland, and four rusted Lee Enfield rifles.

And yet, as relations between Renamo and Chassano's Frelimo government have begun to thaw— as signalled by the signing of a protocol on electoral law last week which is likely to culminate in elections later this year—it appears both sides have recognised the need and value of enterprises such as the crayfish farm.

The venture on Chiloane is exactly the kind of private enterprise and free market project that Renamo has been fighting for over the past 16 years, a Renamo representative said.

Now Friedman is hoping to bring Chassano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama together on the island for a meeting.

Friedman's close contacts with the financial and political community in the US could also be helpful in attracting the kind of foreign investment Mozambique desperately needs.

However Mozambique's proposed elections turn out, the need to ensure the success of private investment projects like Chiloane's crayfish farm has been acknowledged by all concursers.
Food crisis for refugees

MAPUTO — Nearly 1 million Mozambican refugees face starvation in neighbouring Malawi because of the southern African drought, say UN officials.

"The available food for the refugees is expected to be exhausted by July 1992," says a document presented by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at a crisis meeting in Maputo last week.

The UNHCR said there were 900,000 Mozambican refugees in Malawi, and warned delegates there was no food aid in the pipeline for them. No pledges had been made.

The workshop on large-scale repatriation of Mozambican refugees was attended by UNHCR officials, the Mozambican government and neighbouring states.

Malawi hosts by far the biggest number of refugees who have fled the 15-year war between the Frelimo government and Renamo rebels.

Another 50,000 are in SA, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Swaziland, UN reports say — Reuter.
Frelimo seeks key to peace

MAPUTO - Lasting peace in Mozambique will not be possible without continued Frelimo military activity, social tranquility, economic recovery, democracy and consolidating the rule of law.

This was declared in a communiqué after a week-long Frelimo Central Committee meeting in Maputo.

Mozambique foreign news agency AIM reports that the committee reaffirmed a "talk but fight" policy, and that it considered the actions of the armed forces as "fundamental in order to win peace."

It called for improved management, discipline and control of the armed forces after complaints that soldiers often went for months without pay and that combat rations were diverted to black markets.

According to AIM, the Mozambican government came under "severe criti-

Sowetan Africa News Service

Pik Botha on two-day Japan visit

TOKYO - South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha arrived in Japan yesterday for the first high-level talks since Tokyo and Pretoria established full diplomatic ties in January.

Botha, on his first overseas trip since his government's victory in a referendum on reform last week, is expected to discuss economic relations and a possible visit to Tokyo by South African President FW de Klerk.

"We welcome the visit, the first by a Cabinet Minister since our two countries established diplomatic relations, and expect it to promote better ties," said a government official.

During his two-day visit, Botha was meeting Foreign Minister Mr. Ichiro Watanabe to discuss bilateral ties and a possible de Klerk visit to Tokyo, the official said.

Speculation is growing that de Klerk could arrive as early as June for a visit highlighted by meetings with the Japanese Prime Minister and Emperor Akihito.

After decades of estrangement, the two countries estab-

Pik Botha in Japan
Frelimo seeks key to peace

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According to AIM, the Mozambican government came under "severe criticism", with the central committee calling for "more active, more rigorous, and sharper activity by the government and by state bodies as a whole".

The government was urged to take immediate action in resolving conflicts of land distribution, to build low-cost housing and to act against the growing crime wave in the main urban areas.

In the meeting, Frelimo urged its members to "defend the peasants against the expropriation of their land and other injustices in land distribution".

In the cities, party members were called on to defend tenants of state-owned housing "against the acts of disinheritment practised by former landlords".
Renamo stalling in talks, says Frelimo

Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Renamo has been accused by Frelimo of stalling in the Rome peace talks to win time to achieve its political and military goals. Briefing the Mozambican parliament on the state of the talks, Transport Minister Armando Guebuza said the rebels were using "an exaggerated mistrust of the government" to justify delaying the talks.

The real problem, he said, was "the contradiction between the time that Renamo needs to implement its' political and military goals and the short time public opinion is demanding for reaching a ceasefire."

The chairman of the national assembly, Marcelino dos Santos, said progress would be achieved only if government forces scored military successes against the rebels.
EVIDENCE is mounting in Mozambique that Renamo continues to get support from South Africa. New accounts from refugees, a United States intelligence report and the high concentration of Renamo attacks along Mozambique's border with South Africa all point to the conclusion that support for the rebels is still coming from its southern neighbour.

Frontline diplomats say if Renamo's support is not from the South African government itself, then it is from the South African Military Intelligence unit which has funded other covert operations throughout the region.

Mozambique's Foreign Minister, Pascual Mocumbi, is hopeful that with the success of the referendum, President FW de Klerk will take steps to end South Africa's support for Renamo, no matter where it comes from.

"The yes vote is a positive sign for peace in our country," said Mocumbi. "The forces against change in South Africa are the same ones supporting violence and destabilisation in Mozambique."

Officially the De Klerk government claims it no longer has anything to do with Renamo. But Mocumbi charges that "small and isolated" conservative groups within the South African military establishment remain Renamo's lifeline. He says it is incumbent on De Klerk to root out those cells of support.

The government adamantly asserts that South Africa cut funding to Renamo long ago, but US military intelligence sources claim otherwise. According to a report by the US Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA), Renamo was getting arms and training from the South African Defence Force at least until February last year.

The US report includes testimony from an 18-year-old rebel deserter, called Macacau, who gave details of arms supplies to Renamo from South Africa. Macacau said he was part of a Renamo group which was trained at a military camp near Kruger Park.

Macacau's is one account among many suggesting South Africa fails to honour the Nkomati Accord. In 1980, the SADF took over control of Renamo from the Rhodesian government which had formed the rebel group in 1976 and supplied it until the Ian Smith government fell with Zimbabwe's independence.

The South African military greatly expanded Renamo's destructive capabilities within Mozambique, giving Renamo training, supplies and payments to destabilise that country's former Marxist government. In 1984's Nkomati Accord, the South African government pledged to end all support for Renamo, but documents captured from Renamo's Gorongosa headquarters conclusively proved that official South African support continued.

Much of Mozambique's southern border region with South Africa is now under Renamo control. Recently refugees from the area have reported seeing helicopters fly in over the frontier which have dropped weapons to the rebels.

More Renamo deserters, interviewed over the past two weeks by Radio Mozambique, have added their voices to Macacau's allegations.

This February, 31-year-old Renamo deserter Vitorino Fernandes claimed South Africa was not only training specialists in urban guerilla warfare, but supplying them with toxic chemical weapons. When he gave himself up in January, Fernandes told journalists in Mozambique that 50 men arrived that month at his base in Matiche, 20km from Maputo.

Fernandes said the men told him they were trained at a camp near Phalaborwa. He said they all had gas masks and carried oxygen supplies, and they showed Fernandes poison-filled pellets they said were stored at Ngunigue, another Renamo-held area on the Mozambican border that regularly trades with South Africa.

Fernandes' account was borne out by the gruesome report of a cloud of poison gas which fell near several Friedino men in a skirmish with Renamo near the South African border. An army commander for Maputo Province, Lieutenant-Colonel Musa, claimed five of his men were killed by a poison chemical during a Renamo attack on Nacene, along the South African border, on January 16.

The Chissano government had scheduled a press conference on March 13 to publicise this proof of chemical weapons being supplied by South Africa, but called it off at the last minute. Apparently the government decided that such allegations might weaken De Klerk's campaign for a yes vote.

Apart from evidence of South African military support, Renamo is held to be closely linked with Portuguese ex-colonials who, fleeing Mozambique at independence from Portugal in 1975, now live in South Africa. They are called Renamo Brancas (white Renamo). Some Mozambican observers fear the Branca faction could be getting desperate, as democratic change hits their new home. If South Africa proceeds to majority rule, they say, the Portuguese may want to come back to Mozambique — on their own or invited, to destabilise through the violent methods of Renamo.

Other groups bolster the military support that Renamo is believed to receive from South African sources. The Indian Ocean Newsletter, published in Paris, has identified a number of right-wing religious groups with ties to Renamo, including the South African-based Frontline Fellowship, the Shemlah Ministries in Malawi, and the US-based Food for Africa, World Relief Services and Jimmy Swaggart Ministries.

External support for Renamo is permitting the rebels to continue spreading destabilisation throughout Mozambique and is slowing the peace talks in Rome to a snail's pace.
ARTS

'Flying to avoid the landmines'

Former Mozambican minister of culture, sometimes writer and roving ambassador for his war-torn country, Luís Honwana describes himself as "just an ordinary mutinant." On a working trip to Johannesburg, he spoke to CHARLOTTE BAUER

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T 50, Luis Bernardo Honwana looks not very much older now than he did in 1964 when, as a sloe-eyed schoolboy in Lorenzo Marques, two important things happened to him: his first—and to date only—book, a collection of short stories, We Killed Mungu Dog, was published and, shortly afterwards, he was arrested by the Portuguese secret police for his underground work for Frelimo.

Honwana spent the next three years in prison without books, pen or paper, creating and memorising his next story in the form of a letter from a peasant woman to the father of her child who has abandoned them. The signature he gave the woman was Rosita ate morrer—Rosita until I die. To this day, Honwana says, he can pretty much remember it word for word.

We are sitting in the Devonshire Hotel in Braamfontein drinking filter coffee, because, to the Mozambican’s horror, the espresso machine is broken. Currently on his second visit to this country, the former minister of culture—looking every inch the power broker apart from the odd, teasing flicker of his bright, red braces—had just spent the lunch hour at the University of the Witwatersrand chatting to students and academics about everything from the shortage of paper in Mozambique to cultural links with Brazil.

Afterwards, he expressed surprise, both at discovering that Mungu Dog was used by so many undergraduates, as well as, as a “weapon of (student) torture” and also that those present at the seminar didn’t “fight harder” with him at a literary or political level.

And yet, in a sense, he himself had already solved his own puzzle—“You know very little from Mozambique, but Mozambique knows very little from you”—he had told his audience. South Africa the invader; Mozambique the invaded; the former invincible, the latter violated. Neighbourly cultural exchanges were hardly possible during the 17-year war of deshabiliation that is not yet over. And so, as Honwana said, “somewhere along the line, we lost track of each other.”

Honwana, along with many of his countrymen, is anxious to make a start now. “The distance between us is actually very short—a long as you fly to avoid the landmines.”

Like many of his contemporaries—African writers whose work expressed and reflected the pressing weight of colonialism while they still struggled on its pin—Honwana moved as naturally into politics as he later moved out of politics. Asked to join the transitional government in the nine months leading to independence in 1975, Honwana subsequently became minister of culture, a post he extricated himself from in 1990. He explains: “I joined the government because I understood that, as a member of the generation who fought for independence, we had to take up the reigns of responsibility for governing the country. Now my task is finished. I think that all members of government should be in power only temporarily and anyway, I have never been a member of the central committee—I’m just an ordinary mutinant.”

It took Honwana 18 months to persuade President Josejun Chissano of the logic behind this argument.

“I don’t see anything extraordinary about what I did. I think I have been very lucky to have been part of that generation.”

Honwana’s modesty, which is of the kind that pre-empted mistrust, extends to his opinion of himself as a writer: “I don’t see myself as a writer—not a very fertile one, anyway—I lack the necessary commitment.”

He also mentions the conflict of conscience between writing fiction and working for the government, although he deprecates this as a reason for his never having published a second book. That, he says, would be “an excuse.”

Some writers have managed to live with what they see as the contradiction between holding high posts in government (telling people what to do) and writing fiction, which in most cases implies intrinsically being on the side of the dispossessed. "In a way, I have felt not entitled to assume the posture of a writer because of my government work." And yet, as Lewis Nkosi once said of We Killed Mungu Dog, the title story is certainly a "paradigm of a society in which brutality is equated with masculinity, love and protectiveness with weakness and cowardice...not once does Honwana speak directly of these things, not once does he raise his voice to harangue us "

Honwana is critical of the extent to which much contemporary Mozambican literature is locked in battle with the war years—"dull, depressing, pessimistic, reaction...people in Mozambique do not see many reasons to be hopeful.”

He himself is full of hope, although his family is a typical Mozambican one in that it has not been spared the ravages of war. Honwana has four children—"the youngest two adopted," he says, "thanks to the South African forces." In 1987, during a military raid on the homes of "activists" in Maputo, his wife’s sister and her husband were mown down in a blaze of machine gun fire in the living room of their apartment in front of their toddler daughter and seven-year-old son. The children were found by rescue workers, lying on top of their mother’s body, covered with blood, but physically unharmed.

Five years on, Honwana tells the story matter-of-factly. "This is not unusual. There is no family in Mozambique that has not had something like this happen to them." The parallels with life, as it has become commonplace for many in South Africa, bring us back to books. Honwana believes that African literature needs to broaden its market—primarily on its own continent, he cites the extent to which many African writers have written for a white, foreign audience in order to make more impact and money, as a problem.

“Our job now is to make sure that African audiences are going to win back their authors. We need to succeed in this sub-region in seeing ourselves as part of the same cultural zone, to realise that there is a wider audience for our work right next door, somewhere where we stand a very good chance of being understood.”

Photo. KEVIN CARTER

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Luis Honwana... 'I don't see myself as a writer'
MAPUTO — The Limpopo, the "great, grey-green, greasy" river made famous by Rudyard Kipling, has disappeared, swallowed up by drought, in its lower reaches.

Where the river used to flow into Mozambique from Zimbabwe and South Africa, whose borders it marks, there is now something that "looks like a very wide dirt-road", according to a Mozambican journalist who visited the area.

Normally the Limpopo provides irrigation water that makes Gaza province one of the bread baskets of Mozambique.

"Now there is no river," reports Antonio Makwala of the Mozambican news agency, Amcombian,

"For about 250 km from the point where the Mozambican, Zimbabwean and South African borders all meet, the Limpopo has simply ceased to exist."

Stricken

Downstream, from the point where water flows in from the Massanpur Dam on the Olifants River, there is some water in the river bed. But this flow, too, is drying up.

Makwala visited the area last week with Deputy Corporal Minister Oldemuro Baloi. He said that Mr Baloi, looking out over the stricken landscape, around the former river, exclaimed 

"I am shocked at what I am seeing."

The United Nations special co-ordinator for emergency relief operations in Mozambique, Peter Simkin, also accompanied the party on a tour through hundreds of kilometres of barren fields. Makwala says the UN official "was visibly stunned."

The most worrying aspect, Mr Simkin said, was that donor countries tended to assume that even in an emergency many people would be able to grow some food.

"This year I don't think that possibility exists," he said.

"We have got to mobilise international resources and make sure that enough food is pledged and shipped to avoid breakages in the food chain. It's going to be a massive effort. We are talking about a calamity."

Towards the end of last year the Mozambique government appealed for 1 million tons of food for the 1992-93 crop year. It now estimates that a further 250 000 t will be needed.

Getting the food to starving people will remain a problem, however, because food convoys are subject to looting, both by Renamo rebels and by hungry government soldiers.
Red faces all round in Maputo

ON the road to and from enforced socialism there are, as Africa has painfully learned, many pitfalls Mozambique's national assembly has just spent the best part of a week climbing out of one of them.

This particular pitfall was constructed unwittingly by the very same parliament in 1976 when its members were drunk on the champagne (or should one call it the home brew?) of independence and were gleefully nationalising just about everything in sight, including housing.

In their anxiety to give the "masses" ownership of the high-rise flats built by Portuguese landlords, the parliamentarians of the one-party (Frelimo) government nationalised all housing with a fine, revolutionary contempt for discrimination.

It was only later that it occurred to them that they had nationalised not only the property of the Portuguese landlords but also the reed huts and corrugated iron shacks in the shums, all of which were owned or occupied by elements of the masses.

It did not matter much at the time, it being all in the family, as it were. Those shum dwellers who didn’t own their shacks were just as happy to pay rent to the government as to a private landlord. But it did become a bit of a problem when, 17 years later, with most of the Portuguese landlords having long abandoned the country and with the Frelimo government having abandoned socialism, it was proposed to pay compensation for the nationalised shums or to return them to their former owners.

Some of the deputies in the national assembly choked on the thought that this might result in compensation being paid to former Portuguese landlords now living just across the border in South Africa. Might it not even encourage them to claim compensation for their blocks of flats – or even to get the flats back?

So these deputies sought to restrict the compensation to native Mozambicans. One of them, thinking no doubt of the growing foreign (mainly South African) interest in investing in Mozambique, warned against a move to "re-colonise Mozambique."

The debate in the assembly became quite heated, especially when former agriculture minister Joao Ferreira called Mozambique's post-independence history "15 years of distortion" that brought assembly chairman Marcelino dos Santos indignantly to his feet to declare "I do not renego on our history. If necessary, we'd do it all over again."

Amid loud applause, several deputies leaped to their feet and began singing the patriotic song Nao Vamos Esquecer (We Shall Not Forget), which the news agency, AIM (to whom I am indebted for most of the information for this particular column), describes as "a powerful evocation of the evils of Portuguese colonialism." When some deputies declared that it had never been the intention of the assembly to nationalise mud huts and shanties made of reed and corrugated iron, labour minister Teodato Hungana retorted that intentions were irrelevant.

If it was now contended that these dwellings had not been nationalised, he said, "that's rewriting history."

The main problem, he argued, lay not with the houses, most of which had probably fallen down or been entirely rebuilt since 1976, but with the land on which they stood. Could not the former owners claim title to the land?

Deputy Roger Juwana, who is himself a former landlord (slumlord?), came quickly to Mr Hungana’s support, and he didn’t beat about the bush. "I want what is mine," he declared.

In the end, the assembly passed a law offering compensation to the former owners of shacks of 10 times the annual rent they charged at the time of nationalisation in 1976. Tenants now living in the houses will be given the option to buy them – but only if they are Mozambicans.

This is tough luck on any former Portuguese landlords now living in Roadenville, but that’s how the pitfall crumbles, as they say in societies trying to climb out of them.\n
The skeleton the spirits protect

Not even Renamo dares rob her

The skeleton of a young woman who was found alongside the carcasses of burnt-out trucks on the railway near Renamo. Garcia still wears a pair of black canvas shoes and clothes that were burnt to ashes.

The remains were discovered at the base of a hill in the northern Mozambique region, one of the most dangerous areas in the country. Garcia, who lives in one of the areas affected by the conflict, says she was scared to return home after finding the remains.

The presence of the body near the railway line is a reminder of the ongoing conflict in the region and the dangers that residents face daily.

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UNAIDED REPORT SPECIAL REPORT

Reporters EDDIE KOCH and photographer BLAKE OWENS risk land mines and Renamo ambushes to join a strange mission through the heart of Mozambique’s most brutal warzone.

"We entered the area by helicopter," Koch says. "But we had to be very careful. The area is controlled by Renamo, and we knew we could be ambushed at any time."

Faced with this danger, Koch and Owens decided to join a mission to a remote village in the warzone. The village is controlled by a local warlord, and the only way to reach it was by foot.

"It was a dangerous mission," Owens says. "But we had to do it. We wanted to see what was happening in the warzone, and we knew we couldn’t do it from the safety of our offices."
Firm seals Mozambican deal

Cometal plans to produce between 50 and 100 TEE-designed trailers a year on a royalty basis with the three-year production projection running into 200 units a year. These would be aimed at buyers in Mozambique, SA, Malawi and Tanzania with studies being done in markets like Namibia, Angola, Uganda and Sudan.

Intraccon technical director Mike Redd said yesterday that there were plans to privatise between 200 and 300 enterprises this year, he said. A group called Snaad, consisting of representatives from international aid organisations, had been authorised by the Mozambican government to oversee the distribution of an initial aid package worth $650m, said Redd.

In other joint ventures Sasol and Mozambique have agreed to develop the Pande gas field and Trans-Natal is investigating coal deposits in northern Mozambique.
The plunder of paradise...

The tropical paradise of Bazaruto Island is a conservation model for Southern Africa, reports EDIE KOCH

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The tropical paradise of Bazaruto Island is a conservation model for Southern Africa, reports EDIE KOCH.

RECONSTRUCTION

This word dominates a discussion taking place around a half-full bottle of whisky and a leg of roast beef, red coals fanned by a gentle breeze blowing off the sea, that turns into the early hours of the morning on one of Bazaruto Island's white beaches.

Abdul Adamo, director of Mozambique's Forestry and Wildlife Department (Departamento de Fauna Brava), andornament Paul Dutton are deep in conversation with a delegation of representatives from the United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organization, who are on a whistle-stop trip around the country to evaluate the conservation work being carried out by the Departamento de Fauna Brava, and the topic is a brave plan to rehabilitate Mozambique's once famed nature reserves.

Thirteen percent of the country's surface area has been demarcated as coastal reserves as conservation land, nearly double the proportion of land allocated to game reserves in South Africa and well in excess of the amount set aside for conservation efforts in the United Nations Union for the Conservation of Nature as a target for all countries.

This chain of game reserves and conservation areas—which stretches from the Maputaland Elephant Reserve in the far south, through the Ilha do Mocambique and Vamira Reserves in the southern provinces, into the legendary Gorongosa and Momemure Reserves in the central country, and on up north to the Namibe Reserve that straddles the banks of the Rovuma River—has been affected in a profoundly ambivalent way by the war.

Gorongosa has been occupied for years by Renamo, who have converted the reserve into the movement's national headquarters, and it is the scene of fierce battles with government troops. The infrastructure of all the parks has been destroyed by war and many of the game species have been exterminated.

But the demographic revolution that the war has created at Mozambique has left large areas of land lying fallow for more than a decade and, as a result, has had a positive affect on the diversity of plant and animal life in some of these abandoned areas, says Adamo.

"There is now a great deal of diversity which shows that Renamo has destroyed these animals and used them for food to fight wars and promote war," says Abdul Adamo, director of Mozambique's Forestry and Wildlife Department (Departamento de Fauna Brava).

"There is a great deal of diversity which shows that Renamo has destroyed these animals and used them for food to fight wars and promote war," says Abdul Adamo, director of Mozambique's Forestry and Wildlife Department (Departamento de Fauna Brava).

"Five years ago, when the army overran Renamo bases, they confiscated 19,000 tons of meat from various rebel camp. Information from our staff on the ground tells us a number of rebel leaders confront Renamo poachers and ivory hunters and that they are paid for ivory and poaching.

Last year government was captured hundreds of documents when they routed rebel guerrillas from a base at Nhambagado in Sofala province. One written by Renamo chief, Anambo Dhlakama requests "the price of every ounce of ivory Renamo can take out" and a plan to "arrange the landing ship for the plane."

Most recently a detector from the rebel's logistic headquarters, a man from the provincial opposition, Ngungu, blew to the border of the Kruger National Park, told reporters that a group of South African soldiers arranged for the delivery of supplies to the camp in exchange for elephant tusks.

And last year a Renamo commander told to sell a sack full of tusks to a French television crew, who filmed the whistle of the African elephant and captured the tusks for the documentary "The War in Mozambique, from the Inside," in full view of an SAPF patrol—and the image exists to prove it.

But Mozambique's wildlife is an arena for many different armies—and all of them have taken

Towards progress... A truck bears supplies to Chomole to Beira

... and the long road back to Eden

Photo BLAKE OWENS

The rebuilding of Southern African agriculture is threatened by AIDS, disease and war,

Livid sea green, tangled bush of bitty bents, and under-water plains and mangrove swamps, and other less than glamorous environments, are the setting for the new agricultural frontier.

Dutton calls this monument Mozambique's biological diversity—abundant with red deer, bushbuck, impala, eland, and a variety of crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles.

Dutton calls this monument Mozambique's biological diversity—abundant with red deer, bushbuck, impala, eland, and a variety of crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles, crocodiles.

The people are encouraged to identify eases and other habitats that need to be protected by standard markers. When they have been removed, the hedges are kept small and maintained by the villagers. After two years, half the marijuana is treated into the ocean and the other half is kept by...
Make your stand against vivisection

LABORATORY ANIMALS
On Friday April 20 hundreds thought for animals who live only to serve medical science. The Durban & Coast Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will be holding a wreath-laying ceremony at noon at the morial building the year to commemorate the death of millions of animals capacitor and bred for use in scientific experiments and cosmetics and medicines testing.
Tel Glof Petersen (031) 81-2346 for more details

RIVER WEEK
The western Cape has been organizing river-related activities for the start of the summer for several years, and this year promises to be the most suc-


cessful yet. April 23 is River Day, and people are encouraged to participate in clean-ups and guided river walks.

Please email Wilton at the Wildlife Society (021) 701-1397 or Janice Hart at Cape Nature Conservation (021) 483-4062, to find out about activities planned for this year.

AFRICA BAYON LIBERATION
This workshop will be held at the Potchefstroom University from April 27 to May 2. Registration costs R50 per day or R250 for the week.

COMPETITION FOR YOUTH
The Department of Environmental Affairs is running a competition aimed at school pupils to raise aware-
ness about environmental issues and to reward teachers for their efforts in trying to improve the quality of the environment.

Closing date for entries is April 30. For more details, contact Arno de Moor at (012) 310-5779 or PostCitizen at (012) 310-5707

SCRAP TYRE DISPOSAL
The Tyre Dealers’ Association and the S.A. Tyre Manufacturers’ Conference have recently formed the National Committee for Recycling at the Tyre and Rubber Industry, to look into the problem of dis-
posal of the 5.5 million scrap tyres generated annually. A symposium will be held on May 6 at the Cirsomine Church Conference Centre in Glen Anes, Johannesburg. The cost is R100. Contact J. Contarte (012) 789-2252 to register before April 23.

THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY
Organised jointly by the Chemical Manufacturers’ Association and the South African Chemical Institute, a seminar will be held on May 15 at a Munck in Randburg, Johannesburg. The fee is R40 for members and R20 for non-members or registration. After May 1, topics include responsibility of industry towards the environment, legislation, consumer safety, commercial auditing, control of water pollution and waste minimisation in the chemical industry, transport of dangerous goods and response to emergen-

cy. Telephone (011) 726-1907 for information.

FUNDING FOR WATER RESEARCH PROJECTS
If your organisation aims to carry out scientific research into water next year and requires funding from the Water Research Commission proposals should be submitted to the WRC by May 31.

Contact WRC at Box 821, Pretoria, 0001. Tel (012) 390-0590.

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Photos: BLAKE OWENS

![Image of Sunbird Territory]
Renamo wins the war of spirits

By GIL LAURENZANO and BEATHUR BAKER

THE civil war in Mozambique’s Zambezia and Nampula provinces has degenerated into a form of spiritual warfare with rival armies resorting to magic to bolster their powers.

A powerful arm called the Napramas, which operated independently from government troops, last year staged a series of effective campaigns against Renamo and claimed supernatural powers from a powerful potion as the key to their success.

But the whirlwind offensive of the Napramas, who painted their faces black when they went into battle, was dealt a fatal blow late last year when their leader, a charismatic 29-year-old Manuel Antonio, was killed in battle.

It now appears that the rebels have gone on the offensive with the formation of a rival unit, called the Mukepas, who are said to use the services of a powerful "injanga" from Zambezia to provide "muti" even more powerful than that used by the Napramas. The Mukepas also paint their faces with a white substance to distinguish themselves from their rivals.

A BBC team, which made a film on the Naprama’s activities last year, explained how "the success of the muti lies in the traditional beliefs of the culture."

The Naprama, meaning "vaccinated one", is treated with muti against the enemy’s bullets with "medicine" or ash from a secret bush.

"In mass ceremonies each recruit is cut many times with a razor blade on the breast into which this ash is rubbed. The traditional doctor then tests these vaccinations by hitting the Naprama with a machete."

"If the machete does not cut the warrior then the vaccine has worked and he is ready for battle." Unlike some local versions of the preparation ceremony, this particular one is said to have "many strict rules which, if broken, remove the vaccination’s protection."

The Naprama must not have sex during operations; he must always attack in the sun, never in the shade; he must always receive soup served with the spoon tipped, not turned over.

But in one of the villages when a Naprama was shot four times through his arm and leg, his vaccine did not protect him. This, it is said, was because he had broken an important rule of combat — he turned his back on the enemy.

"It seems quite possible that if the war continues we could see the destruction of Naprama by the bullets of Renamo reinforcements who are themselves being vaccinated against the Naprama spears by their own witchdoctors."

Since the death of Antonio and Renamo’s effective counter-attack in the spiritual realm, with the formation of the Mukepas, the Naprama movement appears to have degenerated into factions led by rival warlords.
Maputo sends out SOS over oil spill fears

MAPUTO — Mozambique, saying it faced environmental disaster, appealed for international help yesterday after more than 3,000 tons of heavy fuel oil had reportedly spilled from the stricken tanker Katina P.

Reuters reports that Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi said the spill was "the biggest environmental disaster to hit the Mozambique channel".

Oil from the Greek-owned tanker, grounded on a sandbar off the southern Mozambican coast, has begun to wash onto beaches and is drifting into Maputo Bay.

It is feared that the tanker could break up at any moment.

Mocumbi said government had decided at an emergency session earlier to seek support from the international community. He estimated that more than 5% of the oil aboard the tanker had spilled, saying this posed a serious threat to marine life and Mozambique's fishing industry.

The ship is beached near turtle hatcheries off a stretch of the coast popular with tourists, divers and anglers.

Prawns, among Mozambique's main exports, are harvested there.

Earlier yesterday a team of British experts arrived in Maputo to help prevent environmental damage. The team, from the Oil Spill Service Centre in Southampton, was sent to Mozambique with 45 tons of equipment following a request from BP.

Linden Howes reports that a spokesman for Cape Town-based salvage expert Pentow Marine said its divers had discovered a 30m³ hole in the tanker's side.

Pentow Marine spokesman Godfrey Needham said yesterday that ship-to-ship oil transfer equipment was on its way to the scene, and Pentow Marine's super-tug.

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Oil spill

the John Ross, was expected to reach the Katina P late tonight or early tomorrow.

Teams from Pentow Marine, the SA Transport and Environmental Affairs departments, an oil company and representatives of the ship's owners would monitor the situation until the oil transfer began.

Katina P captain Truon Kalatzakis, who had abandoned ship at the weekend with all 19 crew members, said the ship had lost 15m of plate from its hull.

Several tankers have been asked to sail to the area to assist with the transfer.

Yesterday Sesafr long-range Hercules aircraft relieved the two SA Air Force Puma helicopters which had been on standby since Friday at Heidspruit air force base after an alert from Mozambican port authorities.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha said SA and Mozambican authorities were working together to avert a potentially major ecological disaster.

A major spill would not only have disastrous ecological effects on the coastline of southern Mozambique and northern Natal, but would also wipe out any income from seafood catches on which small coastal communities relied.

The Katina P, carrying 66,000 tons of oil, was on its way from Venezuela to the Persian Gulf. It is owned by Polen Bros of London and Athens.
SA teams and tugs head for Maputo as tanker's condition worsens

Race to avert oil disaster

CAPE TOWN — A huge salvage operation has been launched from Cape Town in a bid to save the oil tanker Katuna P and prevent an ecological disaster on the Mozambican coast.

The condition of the storm-damaged Greek tanker is steadily deteriorating and oil — estimates vary between 150 and a few thousand tons — has already spilled into the Mozambique Channel, polluting beaches in the Maputo area.

South African equipment and expertise could prove crucial in preventing the Greek vessel from breaking up and spilling its full 66,000-ton cargo of heavy fuel-oil into Mozambican and South African waters. The tanker took refuge in Maputo Bay on Friday after heavy seas ruptured ballast tanks.

Cape Town-based salvors Pentow Marine, charged with the urgent task of stabilising the listing tanker and averting a pollution crisis, have dispatched a small flotilla of anti-pollution and salvage vessels to the area.

Anti-pollution and shipping experts from the Departments of Environment Affairs and Transport were flown by Kuweg aircraft to Maputo yesterday to assist anxious local officials.

An Environment Affairs pollution expert said last night if the Katuna P's oil cargo could not be transferred to another tanker in the Mozambique Channel, an ecological disaster would be inevitable.

Fans tune in to global groove

By Susan Smuts

Mango Groove, boerewors rolls, sunny skies and condoms were a mega-success yesterday when the South African band arrived in Cape Town.

The band's performance was a reaction against the recent closure of the St Francis Hospice in Boksburg and the alleged violence of a group of patients who rioted in the hospital.

The audience, clad in their usual boerewors rolls and sunny smiles, were in high spirits and the band's performance was met with thunderous applause.

The band's performance was part of a larger event, where the city celebrated its diversity and unity.

City on the move

A bird's-eye view (above) of the crowd streaming into the Market Theatre precinct yesterday for Queen's Aids concert.

Claire Johnson, 21, from alternative rock band The Vardi, was among the thousands of fans who jammed into the venue.

"It was a great night," she said. "The music was amazing and the crowd was incredible."
and spilling its full 69 000-ton cargo of heavy fuel-oil into Mozambican and possibly Natal waters. The tanker took refuge in Maputo Bay on Friday after heavy seas ruptured hull plates.

Cape Town-based salvors Pentow Marine, charged with the urgent task of stabilising the listing tanker and averting a pollution crisis, have dispatched a small flotilla of anti-pollution and salvage vessels to the area.

Anti-pollution and shipping experts from the Departments of Environment Affairs and Transport were flown by Kuswag aircraft to Maputo yesterday to assist anxious local officials.

An Environment Affairs pollution expert said last night if the Katina P's oil cargo could not be transferred to another tanker in time, the only alternative would be to tow it to the deep sea and setting it on fire.

Pentow chief Captain Dai Davies said the hull damage was "serious" and conceded there was a possibility the tanker could break up with disastrous results.

"Nobody can handle 66 000 tons of pollution anywhere in the world," he said.

Pentow Marine, which has done two similar operations in the Mozambique Channel, started mobilising over the weekend. "Everything we have is on route to Maputo," a spokesman said.

Elements of the operation are:

- The Richard's Bay harbour tug Hoffe, chartered by Pentow, is to keep the tanker's bow pointing safely into the weather.
- The tug Causeway Salvor left Cape Town on Saturday. Before heading for Maputo it will pick up about 50 tons of salvage equipment in Durban.
- The Pentow supertug John Ross left Cape Town on Sunday and is racing around the coast at almost 20 knots. The John Ross will reach the tanker tonight.

Dr Lynn Jackson, a Department of Environment Affairs pollution control officer, said the grade of oil was very thick and would be difficult to pump from the Katina P. Oil which did reach the beaches would "take a lot of effort" to clean up.

The Maputo Bay area was shallow, had extensive tidal flats and coral reefs, all of which were "very sensitive to oil pollution". The prawn industry as well as tourism would be affected.

She said it was possible some of the oil spill will drift into Natal waters.
All-out bid to fight Maputo oil disaster

Own Correspondent

A full-scale operation to avert a massive pollution disaster swung into top gear yesterday as oil from the stricken Greek tanker Katisa P began washing ashore on the Mozambican coast.

A tug arrived at the damaged tanker yesterday afternoon and a salvage team departed from Cape Town to tackle what Mozambican authorities are already calling the worst ecological disaster to hit their coast.

Oil is washing up at the popular tourist beach Macaneta, about 30 km north of Maputo, a second, smaller slick has entered Maputo Bay and oil has been found in the mangroves on the island of Xefina.

Salvage experts believe, however, that only 150 tons of oil had so far escaped.

Divers have found that the tanker has a large hole — about 25 m long and 12 m deep — in her side.

The tug, chartered by Cape-Town based salvors Pentow Marine, is being used to keep the damaged starboard side of the tanker away from wave and wind action until the company’s tug, the John Ross, arrives at the scene today.

The British government promised more than R1.3 million to help the Mozambican government combat the spillage.

The seas in the area are relatively calm and the transfer must take place before the weather changes.

Pentow Marine have dispatched a small flotilla of anti-pollution and salvage vessels to the area.

They are charged with the task of removing the 66,000 tons of oil from the tanker.

An Environment Affairs pollution expert said that if the oil could not be transferred to another tanker the only alternative would be to tow it to the deep sea and sink it.

Pentow chief Captain Dai Davies said the hull damage was “serious” and said the tanker could break up.

“Nobody can handle 66,000 tons of pollution anywhere in the world,” he said.

Elements of the operation are:

- The Pentow tug is to keep the tanker’s bow pointing safely into the weather.
- The Pentow supertug, John Ross, which left Cape Town on Sunday, is racing around the coast at almost 20 knots in the hopes of reaching the tanker last night or today.
- The tug Causeway Salver left Cape Town on Saturday. It will pick up 50 tons of salvage equipment in Durban on its way to Maputo.

Dr Lynn Jackson, a Department of Environment Affairs pollution control officer, said the grade of oil was very thick and would be difficult to pump from the Katisa P.

Oil which is reaching the beaches would “take a lot of effort” to clean up.

The Maputo Bay area was shallow, had extensive tidal flats and coral reefs, all of which were “very sensitive to oil pollution”. The prawn industry as well as tourism would be affected.

She said it was possible some of the oil spillage would drift into Natal waters.
AFRICA

Farmers in bid to defuse maize row

HARARE — Zimbabwe's commercial farmers are trying to defuse a row with President Robert Mugabe which could embitter the crisis over food supplies and the land nationalisation controversy.

Speaking at independence celebrations at the weekend, Mugabe accused the 4,500 commercial farmers of hoarding maize for their livestock while Zimbabweans queued for dwindling food imports.

Relations between the government and commercial farmers are already strained by the passing of the Land Acquisition Bill, designed to pave the way for nationalising six million hectares of prime farmland without right of appeal to the courts over compensation levels.

Mugabe complained that farmers were asking for $800 a ton for the 300,000 tons of maize he said they had grown for their livestock.

This is the price Zimbabwe has to pay for imported grain, but farmers have been offered a producer price of $300 a ton.

"These are the farmers we believe are part of our society, our nation," he added, saying that his government would be "taking note" of their response.

The Commercial Grain Producers' Association and the Commercial Farmers' Union issued a statement yesterday "to avoid any further misunderstandings or interpretations".

They estimated their lands would yield 200,000 tons of maize this year because of the severe drought, while their 8-million labourers and dependants would need a minimum 300,000 tons for consumption.

To help "bridge the gap" until the arrival of foreign maize, the farmers were offering a scheme to deliver what grain they had to the Grain Marketing Board.

They had proposed a payment of $800 a ton, which would be the price farmers would pay to "buy back" imported supplies.

Observers here say the potential for the food crisis to develop political and racial overtones, with the government blaming the commercial farmers for distress, is unlimited, coming as it does on top of the land acquisition controversy.

Zimbabwe to buy Cahora Bassa power

MAPUTO — Zimbabwe has signed a multimillion-dollar deal to buy power from the giant Cahora Bassa dam in northwestern Mozambique, the Mozambique news agency (AMI) reported last week.

The agreement was signed at Songo, alongside the dam on the Zambezi.

Construction of transmission lines was budgeted at $250m, 50% of which had to be raised by Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

France had expressed an interest in providing soft loans to finance 20% of the cost, the agency said.

The European Investment Bank, the African Development Bank and some Nordic countries were other possible investors, industry sources said.

The Mozambican and Zimbabwean governments hope work could begin in six months and be completed in three years.

The sources said two parallel 300km transmission lines will carry 500 megawatts of electricity from Cahora Bassa to Harare under the deal.

Portugal, which incurred huge debts to construct the dam, stands to gain from any sales. It still holds 50% of the shares in the operating company, Hidroelétrica De Cahora Bassa — Reuters

Nigeria to forge ahead with plant

LAGOS — Nigeria's military government is pressing ahead with work on one of the world's biggest aluminium smelter projects despite domestic controversy over its scale.

Finance Minister Abubakar Aliyu said last week 45% of the civil works on the N2,4bn project had been completed.

Aliyu said most of the materials for the project had been procured from abroad and would soon be shipped to Nigeria.

The project, started in 1989, aims to place Nigeria among the world's major aluminium exporters by the mid-1990s.

But critics of the scheme say it is too ambitious and may end up like the vast Apapa steel plant in central Nigeria, still unfinished after gobbling up more than N3,5bn in construction work over more than a decade.

The aluminium smelter is due to start producing molten metal in 1993 and is projected to reach its full capacity of 130,000 tons per year in 1995.

The Nigerian government holds 70% of the equity in Aluminium Smelting Company of Nigeria, a joint venture incorporated in 1989 to build and operate the plant. The remaining 30% is shared by German and US companies — Reuters
MAPUTO - Leaking oil from a stranded tanker is washing on to beaches and threatening the fishing industry in impoverished Mozambique, the national news agency said yesterday.

The Greek-owned Katuna P has spilled an estimated 4.5 million litres of heavy fuel oil since last Thursday, when it hit a sandbar about 8km offshore and some 80km northeast of Maputo, the capital.

A South African tugboat has reached the Katuna P and was preparing to pull it further out into the Indian Ocean, where the remaining oil will be transferred to another tanker, the AIM news agency said.

Nature reserve

Fisherman Ernesto Ingula told AIM he first noticed the oil on Sunday and it has grown progressively worse since then.

Mozambican environmentalists are worried the oil could wash up on Inhaca Island, which contains a nature reserve and a biological research station.

The waters around the island are home to rare species, such as the whale-like dugong.

The Katuna P, traveling from Venezuela to the United Arab Emirates, was carrying 85 million litres of fuel oil.

Foreign Minister Mr Pascoal Mocumbi on Sunday estimated the spill at about 4.5 million litres. - SA Press Association-AP

Coastline

An AIM reporter flew over the Katuna P late on Tuesday and said a long oil slick was seeping from the vessel and headed toward the coastline of the country.

AIM has described the oil spill as the country’s biggest environmental disaster, though the extent of the damage is not yet clear.

Large lumps of tar-like oil have washed on to popular beaches north of Maputo and the pollution has affected fishing, one of the leading industries of the war-torn nation.
MAPUTO - Some are fixing up hotels, some breed cattle, some sell hot dogs.

But all are South Africans hoping to reap a financial harvest from newly accessible Mozambique.

South Africa, which for years backed rightwing rebels in a war that has crippled Mozambique's economy, is now being welcomed as the sponsor of a business revival.

The once-hated South Africans appear as farmers in far-flung provinces, managers of restaurants, businessmen seeking contracts in everything from plastics to shipbuilding.

Hot dog seller Mr Niel van Niekerk, a white South African from Johannesburg, came to the Mozambican capital Maputo last November and says he is glad he made the decision.

"We are making a very good profit," he said, taking the equivalent of little more than a dollar for a "boerewors" hot dog smothered in tomato sauce, mustard and onions.

"People doing the same business in Johannesburg would never make the turnover that we do in a little thing like this. Never, never, never." Mr David Ankers, who works for the South African hotel company Karos, is equally enthusiastic about doing business in Mozambique.

Elegant relic

For the last two years he has been manager of Maputo's Polana Hotel, an ageing but elegant relic of Portuguese colonial days.

The hotel in the tree-lined Avenida Julius Nyerere was nationalised soon after Mozambique won independence from Portugal in 1975 and still belongs to the State, but the business is now effectively under South African control.

Karos is also the biggest single shareholder in the local company, Hotelos Polana Lamutada, with 32.5 percent of the shares, he added.

Ankers said that Karos had spent R38 million on refurbishing the hotel.

"I have no fear of competitors. I think people will come to the Polana for the sake of nostalgia," he said.

"Looking at our forward projections, we feel that we won't have a problem. Turnover is exceeding R364 000 a month and we have an average occupancy of 70 percent."

Ankers is planning an inauguration party for the revamped hotel, to be attended by "certain personalities" from both countries, in late June or early July.

He won't say who the personalities are but Maputo business sources say invitations have been sent to President FW de Klerk and President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique.

After that ceremony, said Ankers, Karos plans to spend another R8.1 million to renovate the Polana-Mar, an annex to the hotel which overlooks picturesque Maputo Bay.

Maputo does not have diplomatic relations with Pretoria. But the South African trade mission, a sprawling modern complex down the road from the Polana, is regarded as an embassy by many Maputo residents.

Mr David Laubscher, chief of the mission, said Mozambique was attracting considerable attention from the business community in South Africa for a variety of reasons.

"Mozambique is known from the past to a lot of South Africans and many have links here. The flow is being aided to a certain extent by the economic recession in South Africa."

In February, Mozambique's State-owned hydrocarbon company and Sasol signed an agreement for the exploitation of millions of cubic feet of natural gas at Pande in southern Mozambique.

Source: South African Press Association-Reuter
Oil spill begins to foul Mozambique coast

MAPUTO — The grounded Greek tanker, Katina-P, continued to spill oil into the Mozambique channel yesterday as experts prepared to begin the massive salvage operation.

Cape-Town salvors Pentow Marine—who have two tugs in the area—said yesterday their brief was to pull the badly damaged ship out to sea.

The Mozambican Government earlier ordered the ship to be taken beyond the Mozambique Current in the hope this would form a barrier between the vessel and the country’s beaches.

An inspection of the hull of the 26-year-old ship was carried out yesterday by British, South African and other marine surveyors.

One of the Pentow tugs is alongside the grounded tanker, but as far as could be seen from the air yesterday afternoon, the operation to halt the spillage of oil had not yet started.

The Maltese-registered tanker was grounded on a sandbank 52 km north of Maputo after the captain had detected severe structural problems following stormy weather.

It was carrying 66,000 tons of fuel oil from Venezuela to Fujairah in the Persian Gulf.

An oil slick has severely fouled Maputo’s Costa da Sol beach, where thousands swim.

Unwary children who swim in these waters on Tuesday afternoon emerged coated in oil. Despite the evident danger, many fishermen are continuing to work in the polluted waters.

The mouth of the Incomati river and the bay of Maputo itself are severely polluted.

Mozambican environmentalists are particularly worried that the oil may drift on to Inhaca Island, which contains an important nature reserve and biological research station, has the world’s southernmost intertidal coral reefs and is home to rare species such as the dugong.

— Sapa-Aum
Filtering back

Tourists and other foreign visitors are beginning to show up again in Mozambique thanks in part to the efforts of two SA companies, Protea Hotels and Karos Hotels, that are investing millions in the war-torn country’s tourism industry.

Holidaymakers are returning to the offshore islands as Protea has been particularly successful in marketing its 40-room hotel on Inhaca Island to SA anglers. But hotels in the capital, Maputo, are filled only on weekdays by businessmen. They empty on Fridays because lack of security in the surrounding countryside traps tourists in the city. Karos joint MD Stan Hoffmann says, however, “Maputo is beginning to live again. There are new restaurants and four new disco’s.”

Karos and Protea are taking long-term views of their investments in Mozambique. Karos has almost completed its R46m revamp of the Polana Hotel that will bring it up to international five-star standards, Hoffmann says. The hotel, which is already profitable, is leased to Karos and had belonged to the Hoffman family before it was nationalised without compensation after independence. To boost weekend occupancies, Karos will offer discounted two-night packages from June 1.

Protea chairman Otto Stohrlik wants his group to be well positioned when the fighting stops and Mozambique again becomes one of the favoured stomping grounds for SA holidaymakers. On a recent visit to Europe he gained the impression that southern Africa as a whole, not just SA, is being viewed as an up-and-coming destination.
Gamblers warned of state clampdown

PRETORIA — Gamblers were warned yesterday that the Gambling Act would be scrupulously applied.

Transvaal Acting Attorney-General W.F. van der Merwe and Witwatersrand Acting Attorney-General C. Human said the public should not anticipate government decisions on gambling, lotteries and games of chance.

No conclusions should be drawn from the fact that certain prosecutions in terms of the Gambling Act had not been successful, the statement said.

They emphasized that other courts were not bound by judgments of regional and magistrate's courts.

Several prosecutions under the Act were pending, they said.

Meanwhile in Cape Town, police swooped on a "casino" at Hightead Manor, in Sea Point, on Wednesday night, charging the operators and 37 guests under the Act and seizing a gaming table and a poker machine.

The raid followed a warning by Acting Attorney-General Frank Kaba to gaming establishments in the western Cape to close or face prosecution. — Sapa.

Fishing banned in Maputo

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government has banned all fishing in Maputo bay because of the potential health hazard posed by oil-polluted fish.

The dramatic step — which will have severe implications for thousands of fishermen and the population of the southern province — was announced late yesterday by Health Minister Leonardo Simão.

The move was a direct result of the spillage of hundreds of tons of heavy fuel oil by the Greek tanker Katina P.

Swimming was also banned.

The Greek-owned vessel, carrying 19.4 million gallons of oil, was ripped open and its captain grounded the ship on a sandbar 50km northeast of the Mozambican capital a week ago.

It was being towed away from the coast and last night was about 20 nautical miles off Maputo.

The Katina P monitoring group, a community group representing Mozambican biologists and other interested parties, said last night the seriousness of the disaster could be measured only if it was taken into account that 40% of the country's total exports depended on the sea.

Representatives of 7,000 local fishermen yesterday urged government to seek compensation from "whoever is proved to be responsible for the spillage."

Biologist Mia Couto mangroves vital for prawns were covered with oil, Sapa/Reuters reports.

"After inspecting the mangroves at the mouth of the Incomati River north of Maputo, he said, "Within three to four weeks these mangroves will probably die."

The fishing ban was expected to remain in force until UK oil spill experts cleared the remaining slicks and the health ministry completed water quality tests.

A clean-up operation on Maputo's tourist beaches also started yesterday.

Sapa reported that the rate of deterioration in the holed tanker had decreased and, so long as it remained in one piece, the transfer of oil would go ahead. Pentow Marine's Capt Bob Liptrot said a ship-to-ship transfer was still planned.\
Tanker oil spill threatens livelihood

Mozambican fishermen fear oil slick will cause starvation

By Hans-Peter Bakker
Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Fishermen in the small coastal village, Bainho dos Pescadores, only a few kilometres north of Maputo, are afraid to take to the sea after having their nets clogged and their vessels swat in the thick fuel-oil leaking out of the giant Greek tanker lying off the Maputo coast.

Swadzike Yusuf owns a small rustic dinghy which for years has provided his wife and their nine children with a means to survive in the harsh Mozambican environment.

On Tuesday, unaware of the looming black tide lying in wait for him, he cast out to sea with his younger son, 16-year-old Umberto, to catch the family’s seasonal income.

He was sailing strongly toward the small island of Xefna, about 10km from his home, when he first realised something was wrong.

His little sailboat had sailed right into a thick, uncompromising oil slick.

The heavy globules of oil stuck to the hull of his boat, the Deus Nao e Cunrano, and leaning over the side Umberto tried to scrape them off, but that only made things worse as his fingers caked up with the oil and everything he touched turned to slippery black.

But the hunt for food cannot be easily abandoned and Swadzike decided to cast his nets into the oil-covered sea, unaware of the effect the oil would have on his fragile nets.

He continued fishing, catching a small basket full of fish, but with each cast of his nets, they became heavier — soaked with fuel oil.

At the end of the day Swadzike knew that the day’s fishing meant the end of his nets, which, with his meagre income would be impossible to replace before his family starved.

Swadzike did not hesitate to sell his catch to the central market, because he said “the oil will not affect the fish. The oil is on top of the water and the fish below.”

Fish and shellfish are a vital source of food to the people living in and around Maputo, but with the news of the oil spillage, more and more people are beginning to fear buying and eating seafood.

Many people are angry and complain that no health warnings had yet been issued and that news of the disaster had initially been withheld from them.

Hardly anybody in Maputo knows if the oil is toxic or if affected fish can be eaten, while children continue to play happily in the oil-laden surf.

Black tide, Umberto Yusuf with oil from the stricken tanker Kattina P that has forced him and fellow fishermen of this small coastal town of Bainho dos Pescadores (Bay of Fish) just north of Maputo, to stay ashore.

Picture: John Woodrow
Rain, sand and a silted port choke off a people’s lifeline

NACALA, once considered one of the best deep-water harbours on the east coast of Africa, is fast getting silted up by massive soil erosion. As a result, the vital railway lifeline to the interior of Mozambique may be choked off, writes HANS-PETER BAKKER of the Africa News Service.

NACALA (Mozambique) — Eija Mustonen knew they were in trouble when she woke up on that grey November morning. Outside, blankets of rain still poured down steadily.

For most of the night she had been kept awake by the deafening deluge on the tin roof, and by the knowledge that it was almost certainly destroying the fragile anti-erosion work she had been overseeing.

Eija is one of a group of Finnish aid workers in Nacala, a small but vital seaport on the northern Mozambique coast. They are trying to stem the erosion that’s destroying its infrastructure, and thereby threatening a lifeline supplying millions of people in the hinterland as well as in neighbouring Malawi.

As Eija and her Mozambican colleagues walked through the town on that morning in 1991, they knew their nightmare had come true.

The normally bustling town centre was 2m deep under sand. Tarred roads, railway lines, electricity pylons, telephone poles and thousands of tons of sand had been swept into the harbour in a vast tunnel of disaster. Several people had died.

“If the flood had occurred during the day, more lives would have been lost. But it still paralysed the port, and the electricity supply to the interior was cut,” Eija said. It would cost millions of aid money to repair the colossal damage.

Mozambique’s civil war is being blamed as a prime cause of the widespread erosion.

Said Eija: “The war is the reason for so many people having moved to Nacala. The refugees are uncertain of their future and therefore show little interest in their homes. Some think they will have to go back to the rural areas when there is peace.”

Thousands of displaced people have crowded together on sloping land around Nacala. They have cleared the ground of vegetation, leaving large areas of steep, sandy soil exposed to the weather.

The tons of sand swept into the sea every year are filling up the harbour, which was once considered by some to be the best deep-water port on the east coast of Africa. If the erosion and silting continue, it will be only a few years before larger ships will be unable to use the harbour.

“If only the erosion could be controlled,” wailed Eija. But the efforts of the Finnish workers are doomed to failure unless the community of Nacala and its leaders become more involved in the struggle.

So far, the Finnish workers have spent a lot of time and millions of dollars on the scheme, which they call the Nacala Integrated Urban Development Project.

Its major concern is to curb erosion, which it tries to do by counselling and training Mozambican municipal officials on aspects of town management and soil control.

Jorma Virtanen, the team leader and mayor in his home country, has the difficult task of advising Nacala’s mayor, who is treated like a feudal lord by his people and has little time for what one of his officials described as “small things like erosion.”

The destruction of his field during the 1991 wet season did open his eyes to the danger of unchecked erosion, but it also made him lose faith in the Finnish team.

“They have worked on the erosion thing for two years, but still the sand comes,” the official said.

The mayor and his officials want short-term solutions and do not recognize the difficulties and long-term commitment of dealing with the problem.

One of the team’s successes involved a programme in which several families were moved from steep, unstable land to an area more suitable to building homes.

The eroded land was then replanted and the municipality persuaded to bar any new arrivals from settling there.

But the one small success pales into insignificance beside the remaining thousands of families who need to be relocated and the years of work required to stabilise the slopes around the harbour.

Eija wonders just how long the municipality will be willing and able to prevent new refugees from taking over the small patch of land which she and her team have managed to save.

Despite the apparent hopelessness, Eija, Jorma and their colleagues continue to spend all their energies and Finnish aid money on Nacala. They hope the mayor and his community will one day recognize the full dangers of unchecked erosion and the difficulties of dealing with it.

RUN-DOWN: The town of Nacala, on the slope leading to the harbour.

VITAL SUPPLIES: American food aid being loaded in the port of Nacala, after being brought in by ship from Maputo.
Refugees brave "The Snake": to flee terror of Mozambique
Renamo in pledge on food convoys

LILONGWE — Mozambique’s rebel leader met the top US official for Africa on Saturday and pledged not to attack convoys carrying emergency food aid, US embassy officials said in Lilongwe.

Afonso Dhlakama, leader of Mozambique’s Renamo rebels, also said he would withdraw some demands that had held up Mozambican peace talks, said US embassy spokesman Charles Barclay.

Dhlakama met US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen for two hours in the Malawian capital.

Barclay said Dhlakama agreed there was an urgent need to resume peace talks to end Mozambique’s 14-year civil war.

‘The war has left half of Mozambique’s 15-million people, and more than one-million refugees in neighbouring Malawi, in need of donated food. The severe drought has worsened the situation.’

Dhlakama promised to allow Western food aid, including millions of tons of grain from the US, to travel unhindered to impoverished peasants in Mozambique and neighbouring countries if it passed along designated transport corridors, Barclay said.

‘Food trucks have been a regular target in the past, especially of renegade guerrillas and runaway government soldiers.’

The Renamo leader withdrew a demand that peace talks first address constitutional issues before military matters, Barclay said.

‘This could substantially speed up efforts to achieve a general ceasefire.’

The first of nine rounds of peace talks between Renamo and the government began in Rome in July 1998. Another is expected in May. — Sapa-AF
Down south the grass is greener

BY KUDZAI MAKOMBE
ZIMBABWEAN Justin Patwe, a qualified electrician, is one of many professionals preparing to leave the Frontline states in search of better opportunities.

"The expectations of us young people have been raised by our level of education," he explains. "I was at university for four years and I expected a much higher standard of living. I want a house in a low-density suburb and a car, and I want my family to be able to live well."

The recent brain drain has seen thousands of professionals and skilled workers seeking positions "down South" in South Africa, its "home-lands", Botswana and Namibia. Doctors, lecturers, engineers and teachers are also increasingly on the lookout for international postings. And the situation is expected to worsen as political and economic relations normalise between the Southern African Development Co-ordinating Conference states and South Africa.

The Frontline states have found that it is not enough to invest in education to train badly needed professionals. They must also be able to offer good jobs, working conditions and, most of all, financial compensation that can compete with their richer neighbours, South Africa, as well as the developed countries of Europe and North America.

Not all the emigrants are leaving for better pay and working conditions. Many point out that they have a better chance to specialise in their chosen fields in South Africa and that if more suitable opportunities arise in their home countries, they intend to return.

In Zimbabwe, 448 doctors were among the 15,000 skilled people who emigrated between 1980 and 1990. In the early years, the emigrants were mostly whites who could not accept black majority rule, but in recent years the flow has included more and more educated blacks.

In 1991 alone, more than 200 doctors left Zimbabwe for South Africa and Botswana. Of the 500 doctors who graduated at the University of Zimbabwe between 1980 and 1990, only 50 have remained in the country. And 75 percent of the veterinary graduates since 1986 are now working outside the country.

The reasons are obvious. According to the Zimbabwean health ministry, senior doctors in Zimbabwe are earning the annual equivalent of US$9,135 while their counterparts in Botswana are earning US$13,441. In addition to this, Zimbabwe's rate of taxation is higher than Botswana's.

Zimbabwe recently took steps to redress this situation by granting a 40 percent raise to all government doctors. But for many, it is too little too late. "I can't even buy a two-bedroom flat or a new car with that raise," said one young doctor.

A similar exodus of lecturers from the universities of Zimbabwe and Zambia is causing serious staff shortages, undermining the standard of tertiary education and reducing the number of places available to aspirant professionals.

Those who opt to stay are often lured by private-sector salaries that are significantly higher than government pay. A doctor working at a Mozambican government hospital said many are also discouraged by the poor administration in government hospitals.

The Mozambican government is against private health care and fears that privatisation could result in the loss of some 200 medical doctors to the private sector. No wonder: the monthly salary of a Mozambican government doctor is about US$285.

The irony is that those governments which thought they were saving money by keeping professional salaries low have found that they often must pay higher wages, in foreign currency, to lure expatriates — SARDC
No 'fast money' to be made in Mozambique

SA INVESTORS keen to make fast money are falling over themselves to put cash into Mozambique, often without any idea of what they are getting into.

The Mozambican Bureau for Investment Promotion in Maputo says it has been flooded with feasibility studies which "do not always reflect the reality of the situation".

Spokesman Musta Ufmba said this week stringent requirements had to be met before an application was considered. "We need to know the value of investment, and the cost of equipment and machinery to set up a project," he said.

Investors also needed to supply income projections for at least five years, as well as a detailed assurance of funds, he said. He said the bureau investigated the background of potential investors.

Ufmba said some people "mistakenly believe we have cheap land for sale". While land in Mozambique was inexpensive, it was on a leasehold basis only. An investor had to show the land would be used "to the benefit of the local economy".

He said once granted, however, the tenant would enjoy the same security as if he owned the land. "Nobody can move you without a good reason," said Ufmba.

Property for personal use was not available.

He added most interest from SA investors was in agriculture and tourism.

SA's Maputo trade mission head David Laubacher said businessmen might have been misled by media reports suggesting land was being given away.

He said investors should consider the "what, where and how", before submitting a feasibility study.

Meanwhile the latest edition of the Indian Ocean Newsletter has accused SA and Portuguese investors of "jumping on a bandwagon". It said investors were seeking to exploit Mozambique's economic liberalization programme, often without even specifying which region they wanted to operate in.
Ceasefire on agenda for new peace talks

MAPUTO — Steps leading to a ceasefire will be discussed at the next round of talks between the Mozambican government and rebel movement Renamo.

Mozambique news agency Am reports that Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi said the eleventh round of talks would begin later this month in Rome.

Earlier, Renamo had demanded that the talks should look at amending the Mozambican constitution.

But the rebel movement reportedly changed its position after a meeting between US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Herman Cohen and Renamo leader Afonso Dhakama.

After the talks, the United States guaranteed that the next round of talks would focus on military aspects.

Observers from Portugal and the United States will be at the negotiating table for the first time later this month.

More calls for Dalling to resign

Former Democratic Party MP for Sandton Dave Dalling is facing renewed demands for his resignation following his defection to the ANC last month and his shift to the independent benches in Parliament.

The National Party's Sandton branch has called on Mr Dalling to resign his seat because "he has no moral right to continue claiming his salary as the MP for Sandton."
Wage talks crisis

POSTAL wage talks were thrown into crisis yesterday when two staff associations walked out of talks with Telkom.

The SA Post and Telecommunications Association and the Post Office Employees' Association of SA walked out in protest against alleged bad faith by management in announcing that white staffers had been granted a 10 percent wage increase.

A statement by Sapea and Pesa said management's explanation that the announcement was requested by the white staff association was unsatisfactory.

"The action of Telkom management in responding to the request of its white staff association smacks of racism," the statement said. - Sapa
Mozambique showing signs of recovery

Amidst the bloodshed, starvation and the degradation of Mozambique’s civil war a new element of hope is growing as economic development begins to take off. For South African businessmen this offers opportunities — but also risks. HANS-PETER BAKKER of the Sowetan Africa News Service reports.

MAPUTO - South African businessmen keen to take advantage of the opportunities opening up in Africa will find Mozambique a hazardous but potentially lucrative field for investment.

Apart from the problems of war and drought, other difficulties like excessive red tape, inefficiency and corruption pervade much of the country today.

That does not mean Mozambique cannot be profitable. It is blessed with one of the most idyllic environments for tourist and a shrewd businessman with the right contacts in the right places can reap a good portion of the available money.

And it is only a matter of time before the United Nations lifts its sanctions against South Africa, which will immediately give South African concerns access to many millions of dollars in international aid and development money earmarked for Mozambique.

These days South African businessmen can be seen and heard everywhere in Maputo. In all of the three more acceptable hotels in the capital city, Sandton yuppies and grizzled Afrikaners can be seen rubbing shoulders with smartly dressed Mozambicans and Western aid workers.

According to Mrs Angela Self of the South African Foreign Trade Organisation (Safito), imports from South Africa shot up from R17,5 million in 1989 to more than R30 million in 1990. She confirmed that there was "tremendous and growing interest" in Mozambique among South African businessmen.

But she cautioned about going it alone. "Anybody seriously looking at Mozambique should be identifying a partner. It is now much more difficult than ever before without having that local person to have his ear to the ground, to have the right contacts, to know how the system works and who is aware of changes in legislation."

Doing business in Mozambique begins and often ends in red tape. Even if an entrepreneur can overcome the difficulties imposed by decades of civil war and a protracted drought, he will still have to face endless caprying of government officials and high tariffs at every turn.

A South African who started a business in Maputo tells of the many attempts by petty and even senior government officials to close his business.

"They just don’t like me coming in here and making good," he said.

The businessman, who did not want his name mentioned for fear of further threats to his business, said the only reason he had managed to survive in Maputo was because of a Mozambican associate who "knows how things operate here."

Most South African trade follows one of three routes into Mozambique by rail through Komatipoort, by road through Swaziland's Lomahasha border post and by sea into Maputo Port. A fourth alternative, the road that runs from Komatipoort/Resso Garça, is considered too dangerous by traders because of ambushes by Renamo rebels and bandits.

The other overland routes are also subject to ambushes but most of the trains and trucks that run the gauntlet to Maputo get through safely, although the scores of burnt-out wrecks and regular killings on the routes testify to the hazards.

In an effort to make for safer and quicker passage of goods, South Africa paid for a feasibility study to look into upgrading the road and rail route, commonly known as the Nkoma route, from Komatipoort. According to Mr Dawie Laubscher, head of the South African Trade Mission in Maputo, one of the options considered in the study was to realign the road so that it would run alongside the railway to form a corridor which could be more easily protected. He said R54 million was needed for the upgrading.

"Finance is being looked at. So far there has been a lot of international interest, but nothing has yet been concluded."

Until then, adventurous traders will continue to budget for the high risks of the overland routes.

The sea route to Maputo is safer for life and limb but is by no means the easiest or cheapest way, for customs officials slap high duties on imports, while inefficiency and pilfering in the port further reduce profit margins.

South Africa has provided loans of R27 million over a four-year period, towards upgrading some of the specialist facilities of the port. Last year that loan agreement ended and was intended to lead to the next phase.

"Our hope was that a commercialisation phase - aimed at attracting international financing and encouraging joint ventures - would be entered into fairly quickly," Self said.

But that was not to be — at least not just yet.
3-m may starve in Mozambique

MAPUTO — Mozambique estimates up to 3 million of its people could starve to death in the worst drought southern Africa has seen this century.

The government, in collaboration with United Nations agencies, plans to ask the world this week for urgent assistance.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation said in Rome last week that 17.2 million Africans would need foreign help to survive the year, mostly because of drought, but also because of war.

The latest estimate puts total needs at 1,285,350 tons of food, mostly maize, rice and wheat, for the next year.

The rains have failed over most of the country and major rivers have virtually dried up.

— Sapa-Reuters.
3 million are starving to death

MAPUTO - Mozambique estimates up to 3 million of its people could starve to death in the worst drought Southern Africa has seen this century.

The government, in collaboration with United Nations agencies, plans to ask the world this week for urgent assistance for the tormented nation of 12 million people.

"The current Southern African drought is threatening Mozambique with the worst disaster in living memory, putting the lives of millions of Mozambicans at risk," says a draft of the appeal.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization said in Rome last Thursday that 17.2 million Africans would need foreign help to survive the year, mostly because of drought but also because of war. - Sapu-Beaver
3-m face starvation

MAPUTO - Mozambique estimates up to 3 million of its 15 million people could starve to death in the worst drought southern Africa has seen this century - Sapa-Reuters
SAP 'trains terrorists'
THE Mozambican army has accused the SAP of training anti-government rebels. Mozambique's AIM news agency reported yesterday that the army said "elements linked to the SA police" recruited young Mozambicans and trained them in terrorism.
A Foreign Affairs department spokesman could not comment.

Duties 'threaten firms'
There was almost anarchy in the clothing industry because of the huge increase in duties on imported cloth, Cape Clothing Manufacturers' Association chairman Simon Jocum said in Cape Town yesterday.
Jocum said the fear 50% increase in duties would result in large-scale retrenchment and many factories would close.

Postal services halted
Postal workers suspended services in Alexandra yesterday because of criminal attacks. Alexandra ANC branch secretary Obed Bapela said in a statement.
He said workers had complained to the ANC that their lives were in danger.

2.7-million jobless
The number of unemployed people in Britain claiming benefits went up in April to 9.5% of the workforce or about 2.7-million people, the Employment Department said yesterday.

Food goes aground

MAPUTO - A Honduran-registered ship carrying emergency food supplies for a famine-stricken area off Mozambique has run aground near the entrance to the port of Inhambane. The vessel, the Donatina, is carrying 500 tons of maize destined for distribution among starving people in eastern Mozambique. The Mozambique newspaper Noticias said the Donatina had run aground because buoys in the channel had been wrongly positioned. - Own Correspondent
First World Oasis in Heart

The Polana Plan: A Hotel is Open in Good as It Is

Over the years, the mid-million dollar deal to restore a landmark family to South Africa.

The Polana Hotel

A new model

168m bridges
A 30-year-old link is forged anew

1972 Mr Hofmann says "We then became the landlords, but only three years later came independence and the war. The Frelimo Government nationalised the property without compensation. Ever since we have been trying to get compensation with no success." It was the beginning of a dark period in the Polana's history because the Southern Sun was forced to "walk out and leave the place standing". The Mozambican Government took over the hotel. Its priorities directed at winning a civil war, the Government allowed the banking and services to deteriorate. But the Hoffman family did not forget the Polana. Mr. Hofmann, as joint managing director of Karos Hotels, seized the first opportunity to start the wheels turning for the Polana's restoration.

His chance came in November 1988 when he visited Maputo to attend a conference of the Young Presidents' Organisation (YPO), and met ministers and senior officials. With the help of a YPO member in Maputo, Mr. Hofmann started negotiations for the formation of a joint-venture company - Hotels Polana Lusitânia. Once again shares in the Polana are in the hands of SA interests and 55% of the stock is owned by Karos.

In effect, the Polana has come home in a new coat of many colours and the future is rosy. Mr. Hofmann says the institution of democratic government in Mozambique is imminent - he is convinced there will be free elections before the year is out. This will re-open Mozambique to SA tourism and investment. The Polana is ready and waiting to meet everyone's needs and comfort.
**Maputo throbs as things get better**

The fact that Mozambique remains "a country at war", and that the little news received from it in recent years has been bad, might make South Africans afraid to choose it for a holiday. But Polana general manager David Ankers says he has encountered nothing but friendliness in the streets of Maputo, although he advises guests not to leave the city.

The hotel offers organised city tours as part of its weekend package deals. Although Maputo may be "a little worn around the edges" from its years of neglect, it remains historically, architecturally and ethnically an interesting place.

A positive picture is painted in an informative new biannual tourist information publication, Mozambique Time Out, published by Editorial Economica in Maputo. It indicates that Mozambique is keen to revive tourism.

Editor Jeanne Stephens writes: "Life is getting more exciting in Maputo as new restaurants spring up and the night spots are hotter than ever. The hotel scene is also improving. The Polana Hotel, now almost completely renovated, is a true delight. A number of other hotels are also being upgraded. In all, Mozambique is becoming a fascinating destination for tourists and offers growing investment opportunities for businesses."

The publication lists the goods and services available to tourists, including hotels and restaurants and suggests some "pleasant walks" in the city taking in places of interest.

Did you know, for example, that an old steel building below the city hall on Avenida Samora Machel, known as the Casa de Ferro, was designed by Alexander Gustave Eiffel, and was the first prefabricated building put up in Africa?

Architectural buffs would also enjoy a look at the railway station, which Time Out says "requires some repairs", but remains a magnificent Victorian edifice, or the city council chambers, the interior of which is "resplendent."

The Natural History Museum has "a spectacular exhibit of the gestation period of an elephant foetus — the only one of its kind in the world."

Indigenous art is plentiful, both in an intriguing mural by Mozambique's well-known artist, Malangatana, at the Natural History Museum and in a collection of contemporary work at the Art Museum.

Serious sight-seers will also be fascinated by the Museum of Money, which is housed in the oldest building in Maputo. It displays barter goods and money used throughout the history of the land.

There are many gift shops and handcraft markets. Although the currency is the metical (plural, meticais), US dollars and rands are usually welcome — some will accept nothing else.

When it comes to getting around town, it is preferable to take an arranged hotel tour. Taxis are scarce. If you hire one, it is wise to arrange further trips with the driver.

Car rental firms also operate, but advance booking is highly advisable because demand outstrips supply.

Restaurants offer seafood in outdoor settings and live entertainment. The hotel will make recommendations and bookings.
R795 buys a weekend with old-style luxury

Although nobody can yet suggest that conditions in Mozambique are what they were in "the good old days" before independence and the resultant war, the Polana provides an oasis of pleasure and luxury.

Game fishing trips can be arranged from the yacht club below the hotel.

The first weekend package, available from June 1 and priced at R795 a person sharing, offers a Friday evening SAA flight to Maputo, transfer to the hotel and two nights' accommodation with meals. The cost includes a tour of the city, visits to night spots and a Sunday lunch at the Costal Do Sol beachfront restaurant.

After lunch SAA will fly you home. This deal is also offered with a R125 supplement for singles.

A corporate package for businessmen is also on offer. With its up-to-date conference and communication facilities, the Polana is geared to mix business with pleasure.

A weekend package on this scheme costs R1080 a person sharing and includes all the benefits of the tourist package as well as use of conference facilities.

Bookings can be made through Karoo central reservations by calling Johannesburg (011) 464-1841, or fax (011) 613-3343. Central reservations can also handle questions about the hotel and the package tours. Alternatively ask a travel agent.

The hotel operators are negotiating with Linhas Aereas de Mocambique (LAM) for further packages.

At this stage recommended access to Maputo is by air only. The hotel management is aware that money is available for upgrading of the road through Komatiport and is optimistic that in the next few years the highway will again be open to travellers from SA.
US to help Mozambique peace process

By Hugh Robertson
Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — The United States is to significantly increase its involvement in the spattering peace process in Mozambique following a meeting in Malawi last month between the Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, Mr Herman Cohen, and the leader of Renamo, Mr. Alfonso Dhlakama.

For the first time, an American observer will sit in on talks between Renamo and the Frelimo government of President Joaquim Chissano, a situation which would put the US in a position to use its diplomatic leverage with both parties outside the official negotiations.

Since the bulk of foreign drought relief in southern Africa is being supplied by the US, Washington is better able to impose a simple logic on Mozambique’s warring parties — that they cannot expect the US taxpayer to mount a major lifesaving effort costing millions of dollars if it is all to be dissipate in a continuing bloodbath.

The number of desertions from Renamo are said to be increasing rapidly.
Million facing starvation

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Nearly a million people face starvation as a result of the drought in the southern Mozambican province of Gaza, authorities say.

Provincial governor Eugenio Namiano told the Mozambican news agency, AIM: Gaza would need 80,500 tons of food aid to make up for the total loss of this year's harvest. Otherwise, he said, almost 70 percent of the 1.3 million population could be at risk.

Mr. Namiano said even major rivers had either disappeared or reduced to a trickle because of the lack of rain.

The Limpopo River, he said, had almost ceased to exist. "Where the river bed is broad, you can almost play football on it," he said.
Red faces over visit to UK

Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Renamo rebels in Mozambique, took British authorities by surprise by landing in London last Wednesday for six days of secret peace talks sponsored by Lonrho, the multinational corporation with large interests in Africa.

"We knew absolutely nothing of the visit," said an embarrassed British Foreign Office official.

Neither did Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, whom Lonrho had mistakenly hoped would have a meeting with Mr. Dhlakama.

"It was something of an ambush," said Zimbabwean High Commissioner Steven Chiketa.

"Mr. Mugabe was in Britain for private talks with Prime Minister John Major and had no idea that this was intended."

This is not the first time Lonrho's attempts to broker peace in Mozambique have conflicted directly with Foreign Office diplomacy. The British government had itself attempted to set up a Dhlakama-Mugabe meeting in London in January.

For the purpose, the British government had lifted the three-year-old ban on Mr. Dhlakama visiting Britain. But in January, Lonrho preempted the British government's peace attempts by setting up a meeting between Mr. Mugabe and Mr. Dhlakama in Blantyre, Malawi.

And this week Lonrho made use of the lifting of the entry ban to fly Mr. Dhlakama in and attempting to bulldoze Mr. Mugabe into direct talks with the rebel leader.

Frantic diplomacy followed, with Foreign Office officials unclear for several days as to whether Mr. Dhlakama's entry had been legal.

Even though Lonrho did not win that particular wrangle, it became clear when Mr. Dhlakama emerged from closed-door talks with the company leaders that old age has hardly dampeden Lonrho boss Tiny Rowland's power.

Mr. Dhlakama promptly announced that he would be willing to allow international aid groups to take food into rebel-held zones of Mozambique where thousands face starvation.

This is a commitment from Renamo that others, including US Assistant Secretary of State Herman Cohen, who met Mr. Dhlakama recently, have failed to secure.

There has been speculation that Renamo's insistence on $12 million (R33.6 million) before it will sign a ceasefire may have been partially met by Lonrho. Lonrho refused to comment.

Lonrho's interest in food reaching the drought-stricken areas is intense, for with its estates in Mozambique under attack, and its assets in Malawi suffering from high transport costs incurred by the Mozambican War, it wants to see peace as much as anyone.

It apparently recognises that the food problem is one of the main reasons for the current intransigence over peace.
US lawyer boosting Renamo — agency

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Renamo rebels in Mozambique are paying a Washington lawyer $40,000 (about R110,000) a month to advise them and promote their interests in the US, according to the news agency AIM.

AIM said registration papers filed with the US Justice Department on July 22, 1991 by Bruce Fein also declared that he was paid for writing a political agenda for Renamo and "generating public support and legislation in furtherance of its political aspirations".

According to AIM, Mr Fein was connected with the conservative Heritage Foundation and wrote for the right-wing Washington Times newspaper. He had drafted a constitution that Renamo proposed for Mozambique which was largely a copy of the US one, and a proposed flag closely resembled the US one.

By the time Mr Fein had registered with the Justice Department, he had already received $145,000 (R435,000).
Now few rebels know what they are fighting for

THE new African warlords are not idealistic revolutionaries, but clan bosses looking for loot.

HUBERT KAHL reports.
Drought kills 48

MAPUTO - At least 48 Mozambicans have died in the past few days in the worst drought sweeping the impoverished country in living memory, officials said.
Renamo may lose ballots because of bullets strategy

A Maputo university academic says Mozambican rebel movement Renamo faces a tough task if it hopes to win votes in a democratic election. Quentin Wilson reports

Recent United Nations survey bestowed on Mozambique the dubious honour of being the poorest country in the world.

President Joaquim Chissano and his ruling Frelimo party are trying to fight this poverty but their efforts are being hampered by the drought and the civil war being waged by the Renamo guerrillas.

According to Ms Bridget O’Laughlin, a visiting associate at UCT’s Centre for African Studies, guerrillas are all that Renamo will ever be.

Yet, of all the opposition parties that have been formed since the growth of a tiny national bourgeoisie, Renamo remains the biggest political threat to Frelimo.

Throughout the Mozambican negotiation process, Renamo has not been able to get over its guns. Transported from ‘Rhodesia’ and backed by the South African government, they are still trying to destroy all outposts of the state. Their key targets have remained transport lines,” O’Laughlin argues.

This strategy reduces Renamo’s chances in democratic elections — should Frelimo succeed at the negotiating table.

“Renamo are trying to hold out on this point. They still need to draft slightly more literate and tangible documents — they want to protect themselves as more of a political party.”

“But until they are able to do this, their support base will not be strong enough to do well in elections. They are essentially spoilers,” O’Laughlin says.

If Renamo’s political bankruptcy is real, then why are they a threat to Frelimo and how have they managed to force the one-party state to the negotiating table?

O’Laughlin says it is foreign support for Renamo’s military campaigns which has ensured that Frelimo’s political power is undermined.

“There are supposed to be strong networks (of support) here in South Africa, but there are only official dealings from the government.

“If it’s not the SA government office, then how else is it supported? How do they operate? How can logistics still go through South Africa?”

As long as Renamo continues with its military presence, Frelimo does not have any power,” O’Laughlin says.

However, Frelimo has pressed ahead with its structural adjustment programme (SAP). This includes a privatisation scheme

VISITOR FROM MAPUTO: Academic Ms Bridget O’Laughlin who is at UCT

Photo Yunus Mohamed

intended to reduce the budget deficit.

The idea behind Mozambique’s SAP is to favour the development of export production and turn the economy against imports.

But, productive machinery in the country is dependent on imported components, resulting in a rapid rise in inflation — a rise which has not been matched by wage increases.

“It’s certainly true that state employment is enormous and the deficit in the state budget has become huge. But the privatisation of state enterprises does not seem a good way to address this,” says O’Laughlin.

“Letting the free market take over does not do much for the way these enterprises operate. A critique of the private sector is that the market always reinforces the people who are strong,” she says.

Prospects seem bleak for a country ravaged by war. While countless refugees flee to Malawi, South Africa and Zimbabwe, others move to the towns.

In a land where food is scarce, some eat grass to survive.

Says O’Laughlin: “When I first came to Maputo in the beginning of 1979, I could walk around the city at any time of the night.

“Workers were all going to night school and the police and soldiers were there to help. There was no fear of suppression.

“Now, Maputo is a dangerous place to live. There is a lot of discontent and if things deteriorate — the government, the police and the military tend to deteriorate.”
Cholera hits Mozambique

LISBON - An average of three people are dying every day of cholera in a southern Mozambique village, the Portuguese news agency Lusa said yesterday.

The agency said the new epidemic in Massavasse, north of the town of Xai Xai in Gaza province, appeared to be due to drinking water that had become polluted due to the effects of drought.

Mozambican officials have reported some 6,000 cases of the disease so far this year, and around 60 deaths.
Refugees double

MBABANE - The number of Mozambicans fleeing civil war in their country to seek refuge in Swaziland has doubled over the past few months, refugee authorities said yesterday.

The average figure early this year was 250 a month, and this has risen to 500 a month now, according to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees resident representative Mr. Gary Perkins. He said hardship caused by the war is now being increased as effects of drought take hold.

He said similar increases had been noted in Malawi and Zimbabwe recently.

Perkins said just over 22,000 Mozambican refugees were receiving UNHCR assistance in Swaziland. Reliable estimates put the total number of refugees here at almost 50,000.

Soviet News Service
Katina-P was scrapped

MAPUTO - Officials investigating the worst oil spill of East Africa's coast say the tanker that caused it was in such bad condition that it had been headed for the scrapyard.

The Greek Katina-P ran aground near Maputo in mid-April and leaked 3,000 tons of heavy fuel oil, polluting mangroves and beaches, before it was towed to sea, where it sank to a depth of 2,000 metres and has continued leaking.

João Sitot, Mozambique's deputy director of shipping and the government spokesman on the case, told reporters over the weekend that the commission of inquiry set up to establish the causes of the disaster found that the Katina-P had been heading for a scrapyard somewhere on the Indian subcontinent from Brazil.

But as the ship was crossing the Atlantic, it received instructions to turn around and collect a cargo of 66,000 tons of heavy fuel oil in Venezuela to be delivered to Jijura in the United Arab Emirates.

The UAE produces light crude, while Venezuela produces a thicker oil that yields heavy fuel oils that are routinely exported to other countries, including light-crude producers.

Sitot said some crew members said structural problems became evident when the ship was already in Mozambique waters, while others said they appeared earlier, when it was in South African waters, and thus a long way south of the site near Maputo where the tanker eventually ran aground.

Meanwhile, a 6km oil slick has appeared above the wreck, despite previous assurances by experts that the low temperature of the sea at 2,000 meters would ensure that the oil still on board would become too thick to leak.

Sitot said the slick did not appear to pose a threat to the Mozambican coast, but its movement was being monitored.

British and American specialists have been assisting the Mozambican authorities in drawing up a preliminary estimate of the damage caused by the oil spill in and around Maputo Bay. Their report is expected tomorrow and will be used as a basis for Mozambique’s claim for compensation.

-Sapa AFP
Renamo leader ‘not invited’ to SA

MAPUTO — South Africa's diplomatic representative in Maputo has denied a claim by Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama that he has been invited to South Africa for talks with President de Klerk.

Mr Dhlakama said in an interview last month with the London newspaper The Observer that Mr de Klerk had invited him to Pretoria to discuss the Mozambican peace negotiations.

However, the head of the South African trade mission in Maputo, David Laubscher, told the local newsheet, Medafax, that there was no truth in the Renamo leader’s assertions.

In its report, Medafax added that it had been told by a well-informed source that President de Klerk had been invited to Maputo to attend the inauguration of the renovated Polana Hotel, which is now under South African management.

It said the ceremony would probably take place in July and would also be attended by Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano.
Deep in Renamo's nerve-centre

THE hidden headquarters of the Renamo rebels is a well-ordered camp that seems a far cry from the brutal atrocities for which the rebels are blamed elsewhere in Mozambique. HAMILTON WENDE reports for the Africa News Service from Gorongosa.

IT'S LIKE a scene out of a "Star Wars"-type fantasy. Rebel soldiers go screaming through narrow forest lanes on Honda scramblers.

The action takes place deep in the forest in the Sofala province of central Mozambique at the Gorongosa headquarters of Renamo leader Alonzo Dhlakama.

Renamo's headquarters is a well-laid-out camp, with the huts of the 400 or so workers and soldiers spaced out along the footpaths that wind through the trees. 

Dhlakama's complex at the centre consists of an office, his personal quarters, a row of comfortable huts for visitors and a kitchen compound. 

Deeper in the forest is a small parade ground, a church, a small clinic, a tailor's shop...

We are also shown Military Academy No 3 — a collection of thatched huts with students attending lectures in military intelligence and logistics.

During a training display given for our benefit by a group of about 25 Renamo soldiers, the most striking thing is how battered the troops' rifles are and how often they jam — usually after every second or third shot.

Renamo does not deny that it used to get aid from Rhodesia and South Africa.

The rumour state of their weapons suggested to me that perhaps this official aid really has stopped, and that they may well be capturing the weapons and ammunition they use from Frelimo and perhaps getting some others.

TRAINING EXERCISE: A Renamo fighter aims his AK-47 rifle at an imaginary enemy

fully with an open mind — willing to be convinced, if it is indeed the case, that Renamo is a legitimate rebel movement with real political aims and genuine support among the Mozambican people.

To dismiss them as mere bandits is simplistic: There is clearly some level of discipline and their operations are not entirely random.

Renamo also controls significant territory, and from all accounts the population in the areas is well treated.

But there can be no doubt that human rights violations are occurring on a massive scale in Mozambique. Stories of brutal massacres, of senseless and unconscionably cruel mutilations of men, women and children of human targets being used for training young Renamo soldiers who are barely older than children, filter through constantly.

The sources are varied: refugees, Western aid workers, journalists, international observers.

Dhlakama is frank about why he allows the fighting to continue: "It is the only reason Frelimo is negotiating seriously with us."

I ask him about the accounts of atrocities. He grows quite agitated. "It is Frelimo that has committed atrocities, not Renamo," he says. "Sometimes civilians get caught in the crossfire, but Renamo has never done those things. It's all Frelimo propaganda."

All of it? How can he prove this?

"The elections will show that," he says, "They will prove that Renamo is the true representative of the people."

For now, that is the best answer we are likely to get.
Renamo gets its arms and ammunition, the standard answer is that they are captured from Frelimo.

About the motorbikes

Dhlakama is vague, but the next day three missionaries from right-wing protestant churches in SA are flown in, and one, an ex-Rhodesian, tells me he brought spares for them.

About 6km away in the forest is Dhlakama Central Hospital — a cluster of long, thatched huts.

The 32 beds of the hospital are made of tree branches and reeds, and the one "operating theatre" has an operating table made of the same, with a single Sabax drop hanging from the thatched roof and a sheet of plastic acting as a skylight for illumination. A few wooden shelves hold a pitiful selection of instruments and medicines.

I am told that, with the exception of a few visits from the Red Cross, no major aid agencies will work in Renamo-held areas.

He speaks on multiparty democracy and the need for private ownership of land, about freedom of speech and of the press, about the importance of an independent judiciary. At points in his speech the villagers break into clapping or ululating, but there is no real enthusiasm that I can see.

It is hard to interpret a meeting like this as real support for Renamo. Clearly it has been arranged for our benefit. A poverty-stricken, drought-beleaguered populace living in the heart of Renamo-held territory can hardly be expected not to turn up for a political gathering organised by Renamo. They certainly are not likely to show any signs of dissent.

On the other hand, driving through the territories on motorbikes it is clear that the local population are not scared of Renamo.

In the end, the visit left me with too many unanswered questions.

I went there — hope-
Maputo crackdown

MAPUTO - Mozambique has banned all export of copper and bronze scrap metal in an attempt to stop the theft of metal products.

Mozambique news agency Ane on reports that the country has experienced an alarming wave of theft of cables, telephone wires, parts of railway carriages and other metallic products.

The director of Foreign Trade, Savador Namburete, said thieves declared the products scrap and had fraudulently obtained export licences.

Africa News Service
More hitches for Mozambican talks

FURTHER delays have hit the Rome peace talks between the Mozambican government and the Renamo rebels. The rebels postponed the 12th round of talks this week until the Italian ambassador to Mozambique, Manfredo di Camarana, could be present. (218)

Dr Camarana chairs the international Joint Verification Committee which monitors the limited ceasefire which exists along Mozambique's Limpopo and Bora transport corridors.

Renamo's chief negotiator, Raul Domingos, charged there are irregularities in the way the limited ceasefire is being monitored.

Compiled by Mark Huband in Abidjan and Andrew Mejdrum in Harare
Peasants hit hard

MAPUTO - The drought is forcing peasant families to abandon their homes at Massungas in Mozambique's Manhica district. "We've had no rain in six months," said a farmer.

Authorities fear the exodus will swell the number of refugees, concentrated in urban centres, because of the drought and the civil war. "We need more aid," said a relief worker.
Renamo
scupper talks

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - The long-running Mozambican peace talks resumed in Rome this week but immediately ran into difficulties when Renamo refused to discuss the first item on the agenda.

They insisted instead on a discussion of allegations that Zimbabwean troops were still operating outside of the Beira and Limpopo-rural corridors in violation of the partial ceasefire signed in December 1990.

The negotiators had been scheduled to discuss military matters relating to a full ceasefire, such as the formation of a single, integrated army.

Previous allegations by Renamo that Zimbabwean troops were violating the accord were investigated by the international body set up to monitor it, the Joint Verification Commission, which found the allegations to be groundless.
Exports of copper banned

MAPUTO — Mozambique has banned all export of copper and bronze scrap metal in an attempt to stop the theft of metal products. Mozambique news agency AIM reports that the country has experienced an alarming wave of theft of cables, telephone wires, parts of railway carriages and other metallic products. The director of foreign trade, Savador Namurete, said thieves declared the products scrap and had fraudulently obtained export licences. — Star Africa Service
LONDON — The slave trade has returned to Africa, with young women being bought and sold for as little as R5 each.

And the business in human lives is being carried out in South Africa.

So says Richard Elks of the London Sunday Times in a front-page report following a visit to the Mozambican border during which he "bought" two 22-year-old Mozambican refugees for R15 each.

Most of the "slaves" are young women — some of them as young as 12 — who gladly flee the deprivations of war in the hope of finding jobs in SA.

Instead, many are sold off to provide sexual services, as well as cook and clean, for their new owners. Some, says Elks, have ended up in forced prostitution in Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Many of the men find themselves working seven days a week without pay for farmers or businessmen.

He names Aaron Mashewane, a "smooth-talking South African in his early forties", as one dealer — who also boasts that Mozambican contacts can supply anything from people to drugs and arm, including "red mercury", a substance Mr Mashewane said was used in atomic weapons.
Peace talks in Rome

MAPUTO - A new round in Italian-sponsored peace talks aimed at ending a long and bloody, devastating war in Mozambique is scheduled to open in Rome this week.

The government's chief negotiator in the talks with the Mozambique National Resistance, Transport Minister Mr. Armando Guebuza, left Maputo on Saturday for the Italian capital, where the protracted talks are due to resume tomorrow.

It will be the 11th round of talks since negotiations with the rebel Renamo force began in July 1990, and this one is seen here as crucial in determining whether or not a ceasefire can be reached in the near future.

Key issues

On the agenda are a series of key military issues, including the nature and size of a future, national army, to be drawn both from the existing armed forces and from Renamo units.

Also under discussion will be the demobilisation of tens of thousands of armed men from both sides, and way to implement and monitor a ceasefire.

Renamo has already demanded that the new army should be set up on the basis of parity between the two belligerents. It has said that the army should be no more than 25,000 strong, with each side supplying 13,000 men.

Control

One demand raised by Renamo, which the government is expected to reject, concerns control over areas currently occupied by the rebels. In the transition period between a ceasefire and proposed general elections, Renamo wants to continue administering the zones it now holds.

The government of President Joaquim Chissano will, however, will insist on the extension of laws, the constitution and the authority of the state throughout the country.

In addition to the Italian government and Roman Catholic Church mediators, observers from Britain, France, the United States and Portugal will be present at the talks - Sapa-AFP.
Transit camp the last hope for refugees fleeing Renamo raids

By Clyde Johnson
Lowveld Bureau

TONGA — Mozambicans, fleeing their drought-stricken and war-torn country, continue to arrive at KaNgwane's Mangweni transit camp daily.

With only the clothing they are wearing, exhausted after having walked for days without food and water, all have heartbreaking stories to tell.

But just being alive gives them the courage to face the future in an area free of war.

After a Renamo attack at the Lavela village, Maria Muringo (39) joined a group of people on their way to South Africa.

With her 2½-year-old son strapped to her back, her seven-month-old baby in her arms and her six-year-old daughter holding on to her brother's foot, the four walked for seven days without food or water.

Joao Ndlovu, an illiterate old man, wept bitterly as he told how soldiers gunned down his wife in the Kaboka village.

"Being younger than my wife, I managed to escape. But had I known they were going to kill her, I would have stayed and died with her," he sobbed.

Anna Mashava (65) is lucky to be alive. After soldiers opened fire on worshippers in a church recently, killing several, her husband was taken prisoner.

Mrs Mashava and other women were ordered to carry bags of maize meal on their heads.

A woman who did not walk fast enough was hacked to death by a soldier. Horrified, Mrs Mashava screamed and fell.

A soldier ripped off her dress and held the barrel of his rifle against her cheek, saying "Try that once more and you're the next to die."

That night she managed to escape. She walked for four days to the village where her daughter lived, and they reached the Mangweni transit camp five days later.

Refugees arriving at the camp are registered, checked medically and immunised. Each person is issued with a blanket, a bar of soap, clothing and 7.5 kg of maize meal to last a month.

Those who are fortunate enough to have relatives in Tonga go to their families, while others depend on the kind-hearted but poor locals.

Refugee field co-ordinator Sally McKibben, who has worked among refugees for five years, said about 25 000 Mozambicans — mainly women, children and old men — were being accommodated near Tonga.

"None of them are here to take jobs away from the local people. They are all desperate people escaping a cruel war," she said.

But with an average of 15 to 20 people arriving daily, the region has more than reached saturation point.

Water supplies are fast drying up, stomach ailments are prevalent and outbreaks of malaria and typhoid are feared.

A creche provides one meal a day for children. Small children walk up to 7 km a day for a plate of food.

With barely enough drinking water, refugees are unable to irrigate their vegetables and there is just no food.

Ms McKibben said boreholes were the only hope and emergency teams were looking for underground water.

A number of welfare organisations — both local and international — provided food and assistance to the refugees but the situation was getting out of hand.

"We cannot send these poor people back to the misery they escaped. Yet we just do not have the water and facilities to accommodate the ever-increasing numbers," said Ms McKibben.

She said things would get worse in the months ahead, and they could only pray for rain.

It was late afternoon when new arrivals were issued with blankets, soap and maize meal.

"This is the first time in more than a year that I have held a bar of soap," an old woman said.

Survivor... Maria Muringo braved the elements and trekked for days to SA with her three children after a rebel attack.

Picture: Clyde Johnson
Stalemate over aid convoys

MAPUTO — In a meeting with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama, the UN representative in Mozambique has been unable to get from him an undertaking that the rebels will not attack convoys carrying humanitarian aid to starving communities. UN official Peter Simkin said mass starvation would occur unless the food got through.

"This is an apocalyptic situation and we cannot allow it to continue because we know that in the coming weeks people will start dying of hunger."

Mr Simkin said the UN delegation had tried without success to get an undertaking that food convoys, including those passing through Renamo-held areas, would not be attacked. He said, however, that new proposals, including the designation of specific routes, would be put to Renamo — Star Africa Service
MAPUTO — The death toll in Mozambique's drought-hit areas is rising and relief efforts are hampered by the civil war.

Mozambique's official news agency, Aim, reports that 13 children have died from starvation and hunger-related sicknesses in the village of Chhumdzhi in the southern province of Inhambane.

Village chairman Andre Maize said urgent relief was needed to save the 3,500 inhabitants of Chhumdzhi.

The town's health post is empty. The district health authorities wanted to restock the post, but the resident decided against it, fearing that the new stocks would attract Renamo attacks.

In the district of Caia on the Zambezi River in Sofala province at least nine people are known to have died of hunger.
New peace talks (2.15)

A new round in Italian-sponsored peace talks between government and rebel forces aimed at ending the long and bloody war in Mozambique is scheduled to open in Rome tomorrow.
Renamo ‘no’ to food convoys

THE United Nations representative in Mozambique has been unable to get from Renamo an undertaking that its rebels will not attack convoys carrying humanitarian aid to starving communities.

UN representative Mr Peter Simkin confirmed to the official news agency Anm that the secret meeting had taken place between him and Renamo leader Mr Anamso Dhlakama but refused to say when and where it was held.

Mass starvation would occur unless the food got through, he said.

"This is an apocalyptic situation and we cannot allow it to continue," he said, "because we know that in the coming weeks people will start dying of hunger."

Simkin said the UN delegation had tried without success to get an undertaking from Dhlakama that food convoys, including those passing through Renamo-held areas, would not be attacked.

He said, however, that new proposals, including the designation of specific routes, would be put to Renamo and added "I believe the door has not been closed.'"

Renamo insists that all humanitarian aid be flown in rather than taken in by road on the grounds that convoys would expose the rebels to possible covert surveillance by government forces.

The UN, however, insists that the aid must go in by road as not all famine-hit areas have airstrips and only small loads can be landed at existing airstrips, and then at much greater cost than road transport.
Credit line is cut

The World Bank confirmed this week it had cut off its credit to Mozambique's state-owned electricity company, Mozambique's news agency reported.

The World Bank's Maputo representative, Nils Tcheyen, said they suspended funds because they didn't approve of the way the accounts for the project were handled.

The accounts, currently managed by the Bank of Mozambique, should be placed in the hands of the electricity company, Tcheyen said.

"This decentralisation of financial management would substantially speed up the pace of implementing the projects that we fund," Tcheyen said.

The World Bank-sponsored energy project concerned was approved in 1987 and involves R56 million, R19.5 million dollars of which has already been disbursed.

Mozambique's 15-year civil war has destroyed its economy, leaving 50 percent of the country's population dependent on international aid for survival. - Sapa-AP
MAPUTO - The Mozambican government has protested to Zambia over the arrest and maltreatment of a high-ranking Mozambican official who was mistaken by Zambian police for a wanted man.

The official was held without food for 20 hours at a Lusaka police station, where he was stripped of his clothing and his watch, ring and money were confiscated.

The police refused to listen to his protests that he was Dr Carlos Silva, national director of training in Mozambique's ministry of culture and deputy secretary-general of the cultural and information committee of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference.

They insisted that he was a Mozambican passport holder who was wanted for alleged crimes in Zambia.

Silva's ordeal began when he was stopped by police while driving from Lusaka airport to the city, where he was to take part in an SADCC meeting.

The police refused to allow him to telephone the Mozambican embassy in Lusaka but after some hours he was allowed to telephone his wife in Maputo. She in turn telephoned the Lusaka embassy, which at midnight began efforts to get Silva released. They were not successful until 3am the next day.

The Mozambican government has demanded compensation from the Zambian government for the incident - Sowetan Africa News Service.
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Mozambique's 15-year civil war has destroyed its economy, leaving 50 percent of the country's population dependent on international aid for survival. - Sapa-AP
SA firm to redevelop Mozambique hotel

DURBAN — After two years of negotiations with the Mozambican government a Natal-based company has acquired the rights to redevelop a Mozambique hotel and holiday resort at a cost of R5m.

The East Coast Development Company (ECDC) has also negotiated to establish customs and immigration facilities near the hotel — in the village of Xai Xai, 200km north of Maputo — to accommodate direct flights from SA.

The former Chongoele Beach Hotel was one of the most popular destinations for SA tourists before organised tours to Mozambique were stopped in 1975, said ECDC MD Alex Strachan.

Strachan said the development plans were based on the "anticipated mass influx" of tourists into Mozambique as a result of "the imminent resolution of conflict". SA tourism to Mozambique had increased 52% in 1991, he said.

Accommodation at the new Chongoele Beach Hotel would consist of two-, four- and six-sleeper units and other facilities would include a casino, nightclub, swimming pool and tennis courts. Fishing and diving charters would also be provided.

The project would be launched on July 1 and the first phase of the Chongoele refurbishment was expected to be completed by January 1993 — by which time a low-cost air shuttle service between Nelspruit and Xai Xai would be in operation.
Slave trade still a booming business

By EDDIE KOCH

The girls broke out of the stockade where they were being held and fled to a neighbour's home after hearing warnings that they were about to be sold to a local slaver and killed so that their bodies could be used as human food.

A year ago The Weekly Mail exposed the slave syndicates. Despite information being given to the police, the trade in people is growing.

The girls entered into a crying border by the traders, who promised them well-paying jobs in a shop in South Africa. They were still at school and their parents did not know where they were.

A desperately narrow escape from slavery

Anna Timba and her two daughters

By PAUL STOBER

The only thing that saved Anna Timba from slavery was an absolute determination to escape. The girl from South Africa was among the many black women who sell their bodies for money. She decided to escape, despite the fact that she was a slave.

Through an interpreter she told how her family was broken up and she was driven into the streets of a man who sells girls for less than R50. She is pretty and her body seems to have been sold to a trader, despite the fact that she was a slave.

In September 1988, after her village was attacked by the Mozambican rebel movement, Raimundo, Timba fled to the relative safety of Maputo. She spent the next three months in the capital, struggling to get out of being a slave by setting her sights on freedom.

In December 1989, Timba received an offer she felt she could refuse: the sale of her family. A man from South Africa offered to buy her family and Timba accepted.

Days later, the man, Mahalaal Mapalana, headed Timba and her family, along with at least 80 other men, women and children, in an open truck and bungalow, despite the fact that they had been sold to the South African border. At an unspecified place, the group crossed the border and taken to Mapalana's farm in KwaNdebele.

Timba and her family stayed at the farm for two months, sometimes surviving by eating tree leaves and taken to Mahalaal Mapalana's farm in KwaNdebele.

Timba's friend stayed at the farm for two months, sometimes surviving by eating tree leaves and taken to Mahalaal Mapalana's farm in KwaNdebele.

Timba and her children travelled on a rickety, chicken-coop like a bus, which broke down after they had crossed the border.

On the first night, they had to sleep in the open, but there was no water and the children had to drink milk from a barrel.

They were caught by the Mozambican police, who had been searching for them. After being taken to a prison, they were sold to a trader, who had been promised a 50 per cent commission for each slave they sold.

After being interrogated by the police, the children were sold to a trader, who had promised a 50 per cent commission for each slave they sold.

Despite this disadvantage, Timba was determined to track down her sister's killer. She had been told that her sister's killer had been captured and killed, but she had to find out for herself.

While she was working, Timba heard about a centre near which took care of Mozambican refugees. She was offered a job there, but refused. She was offered another job, but refused.

A group of Mozambican refugees were able to escape to South Africa, where they were welcomed by the Mozambican authorities. They were allowed to stay in South Africa, where they were given work and help to start a new life.

The Mozambican police have been warned to stop the trade in people. They have been given a new role to play in the fight against the trade in people.
The trade in people grows

Last year an Australian television crew, working with a local reporter, "bought" a young girl from the same trader, interviewed her at a plush hotel nearby and then dumped her at the transit centre. (From PAGE 9)

The incident, which highlights how easy it is to buy and sell human beings in this corner of South Africa, caused a rumpus at the time as the journalists failed to inform either the slave or the refugee workers about the purpose of their transaction, causing a panic in the area as villagers believed a new group of traders had come to town.

Indications are that the trade has spread far beyond kaNgwane. There have been isolated reports of women being sold into slavery in Banum, a homeland that along with kaNgwane offers temporary refuge to war fugitives from Mozambique.

In the middle of last year City Press reported women were being sold in a squatter camp north of Pretoria called Winterveld, where a large number of Mozambicans live illegally. The Weekly Mail collected evidence that women had been kept at depots in Tembisa and other east Rand townships before being sold to local men.

"The kaNgwane police try to help but they are powerless in many respects," says McKibb. One of the biggest problems is that the absence of a law in South Africa that prohibits slave trading and police have to investigate alternative charges such as rape, abduction or kidnapping.

But refugees are an itinerant group of people. "They have to get a job. So witnesses can't hang around while the law takes its course. The girls feel they won't win the case anyway. So what's the point of hanging around when they could be looking for work?"

After The Weekly Mail's exposé last year, the South African Police promised to investigate the trade and a detective from Nelspruit visited our offices to collect details about the trade and people involved in it. To date there has not been a single conviction.

because of the region 5 000 Volkswagen delivers to those who come into contact with it, were waiting at a taxi rank in a border village when they were picked up by a driver called Madonsela.

The man then took them to Johannesburg and visited various townships, apparently on the east Rand, looking for customers. Along the way he allegedly raped some of the girls and, after failing to sell them on the Reef, took them back to kaNgwane. There he allowed a friend to sleep with one of the captives while looking out for local buyers.

The girls escaped from a local motel and reported to the Mangweni transit centre. Refugee workers called in the kaNgwane police who took affidavits from the girls. Madonsela was arrested and then released on bail. He has not yet been charged as all of the girls disappeared soon after he was released. The refugee workers have evidence that at least one of them was abducted by the trader.

Less than two weeks ago a team of health workers came across 17 adults and 19 children being held in a village called Block C at the home of a woman who is known to recruit people and sell them as chattels.

The team alerted refugee worker Rachel Ntombini, who visited the premises and returned the next day in a bid to rescue the group — only to hear from neighbours that the trader had been warned and promptly loaded the entire group into a single taxi bound for Johannesburg.

(To PAGE 10)
Probing gun running

MAPUTO - South African police officers have joined their Mozambican counterparts in Maputo in efforts to curb the gun-running across the border that is believed to be supplying weapons for crime and political unrest in South Africa.

The presence of the SAP officers was confirmed by the head of the South African trade mission in Maputo, Mr. David Laubscher. He told the local newspaper Mediafax that they were there to work with Mozambican police against gun-running across the border.
Anger in US

Sovetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - The Renamo rebel movement appears to be coming under growing pressure from Western countries to accept proposals for breaking the deadlock in the Mozambican peace talks in Rome.

The United States, which last month entered the Rome talks as an observer basis with other Western countries, has directly blamed Renamo for the impasse.

It has made it plain it will not receive Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in Washington until he shows that his movement is serious about ending the Mozambican civil war.

A US State Department spokesman has denied an assertion by Dhlakama in Paris this week that the US had refused to grant him a visa to visit Washington because of propaganda by the Frelimo government in Maputo.

The spokesman, interviewed on Voice of America radio, said the US Administration was disappointed at the slow pace of the Rome talks and had no intention of admitting Dhlakama to the US until Renamo had shown that it was committed to finding peace in Mozambique.

The State Department is thought to be angry with Dhlakama for reneging on an undertaking.
Renamo's truce offer kindles hope

By Gerald L'Ange
Star Africa Service

An offer by Renamo rebel leader Alonso Dhlakama to sign an "immediate ceasefire" in the Mozambican civil war has been received with cautious optimism in diplomatic circles.

Mr Dhlakama disclosed the offer at a weekend news conference after a meeting in Gaborone with President Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Botswana's President Quett Masire.

It was conditional on Renamo receiving guarantees that its men would not be harassed during the ceasefire, forcing them "back to the bush".

Sources see this as a way of restating Renamo's reluctance to sign a ceasefire without the Mozambican constitution being changed to remove sections that the rebels feel operate to their disadvantage.

The Freneh government, for its part, argues that it cannot change the constitution without elaborate procedures.

These conflicting attitudes have contributed to the deadlock in the peace talks in Rome.
From the bush

to the boulevards

THERE has been a dramatic change recently in the lifestyle of Mr and Mrs Afonso Dhlakama — from jungle to jet-age, one might say.

As leader of the Renamo rebels in Mozambique, Mr Dhlakama has lived rough for the past few years. His huts have been thatched huts in primitive camps in the Mozambican bush, which he has had to shift from time to time to evade the Frelimo government troops. The only wheels available to him for travelling through the bush were the two on a scrambler motorbike Mrs Dhlakama presumably rode pillion whenever moving time came around.

In recent months, however, he appears to have broadened his horizons. He has taken to foreign travel, ostensibly to cultivate external political support and to improve his organisation’s image in the outside world.

It would take more than good PR to erase Renamo’s reputation for atrocities against civilians but that does not appear to be a concern of Mr Dhlakama. What he wants most — and certainly needs — is outside backing for his cause of taking power from Frelimo.

His detractors say that another reason for his recent fascination with foreign parts is that the comforts of European hotels have begun to make life in the bush seem increasingly hard — but only he knows the truth of this.

Mr Dhlakama’s first ventures out of his bush hideaways were to Malawi and then to Nairobi. Lately he has taken to visiting Europe with the approval of various governments that hope this exposure will help persuade him to reach an agreement with Frelimo at the peace talks in Rome. In the United States, however, the State Department has refused to admit him until he shows them that he is serious about ending the war.

In the meantime, he is being kept busy visiting European capitals. Lately he has been taking his wife with him. For a woman accustomed to living in a bush camp, the sudden exposure to the glitter of the boulevards must have been overwhelming.

Sources in Europe inform me that Mrs Dhlakama made her first trip in April, when she visited Lis-
Frelimo soldier gets 22 years for 'executions'

Star Africa Service (218)

MAPUTO — A court martial has imposed a 22-year prison sentence on a Mozambican government soldier, Fernando Samute, whom it convicted of ordering the execution by firing squad of six civilians he suspected of sympathising with the Renamo rebels.

The death penalty is outlawed in Mozambique and no soldier has the authority to shoot or maltreat a prisoner, even a Renamo guerrilla, says the official news agency, AIM STAR.

Samute was expelled from the army and ordered to pay damages of about R350 to the families of his victims.
Multiple gains for Mugabe in Mozambique negotiations

By ANDREW MELDRUM 10/17/87

SEEKING a dramatic breakthrough in the stalled Mozambican peace negotiations, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe met Renamo leader Alfonso Dhakama in Botswana and emerged with a promise that the rebel commander would agree to an immediate ceasefire.

Appearing on Zimbabwe television last weekend, a smiling Mugabe said “The deliberations went very well ... Dhakama said he is for peace in Mozambique. He is for a ceasefire almost immediately, but guarantees must be given so that after the ceasefire there are no arrests or harassments, no restrictions of the Renamo party. He wants Renamo to be treated like a movement that would want to be elected to power.”

Mugabe was filmed sitting with Dhakama, Botswana’s President Sir Ketumile Masire and a beaming Tiny Rowland, chairman of the multinational Lonrho. Mugabe specifically thanked Rowland for setting up the meeting.

Lonrho has extensive holdings in Mozambique, including a gold mine, hotels and vast agricultural lands. The company is facing serious economic difficulties in London, so Rowland must be hoping to achieve a speedy Mozambican settlement that will make his holdings more profitable.

Sitting with his wife, the bespectacled Dhakama simply said: “It was a good meeting. I confirm what President Mugabe has just said. Together we can try to get a solution because this war is not good, not just for Mozambicans but for all of us here.”

If Mugabe is able to turn the ceasefire promise into a reality, he will achieve a major regional settlement that has eluded the Mozambican negotiators in Rome for nearly two years. He said he would speak to President Joaquim Chissano as soon as the Mozambican leader returns from a trip to the United States.

In Washington this week, Chissano responded cautiously to the offer of a ceasefire, saying some skepticism was justified as Renamo had used delaying and obstructionist tactics in the Rome talks. He said he looked forward to meeting with Mugabe and that he was open to a ceasefire, adding “the ball is in Renamo’s court.”

Chissano said Mozambique’s new constitution guaranteed the right to form political parties and pointed out that there were already 15 registered parties. After a ceasefire, Renamo would be free to operate like any other party, he added.

A successful ceasefire and peace process would mean that Mugabe could withdraw some 7,000 Zimbabwean troops stationed in Mozambique and achieve considerable economic savings. And, taking a page from the book of former Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda, Mugabe would be able to dispel domestic political problems with a stunning international victory.

Mugabe needs such a dramatic accomplishment to obscure the fact that Zimbabweans have greeted his long-awaited cabinet reshuffle with a shrug. The reshuffle, announced last week, left Zimbabweans complaining that the cabinet of 43 remains too large and retains too many of the same faces.

Under domestic pressure as well as from the World Bank and donor nations to reduce the size of his government, Mugabe deliberated nearly a year before announcing his new cabinet. He managed to reduce his cabinet from 32 to 26 ministers, but he included nine deputy ministers and eight provincial governors.

“No deputy ministers are needed as all the ministers have secretaries to carry out those functions,” commented John Makumbe, chairman of the University of Zimbabwe’s political science department. “The only reason Mugabe has deputy ministers is because he’s afraid of the political threat they would represent outside his government.”
IMF policy stifling small traders

Oliveiro Gustavo kick-started his bakery and snack bar in Maputo last month with a 7,000-dollar loan from the government's Employment Creation Office (GPE).

Today he boasts "the cheapest bread in the city" with constant queues for bread.

Gustavo is typical of the small businessman who has profited from Mozambique's radical change from a rigid state-controlled economy.

From the peasant farmer, driven to town by a 16-year war in the countryside, to road sweepers and coasters, there is hardly an urban Mozambican nowadays who does not engage in a little private business.

But despite the official green light, small businesses complain of weighted odds.

They say poor access to credit is a major problem.

Arnaldo Namboro recently left his job with a tyre company to start a small decorating business.

All he needed to turn his one-paintbrush show into a civil construction company was a small loan from the bank for a few machines.

But the bank was not interested.

"For small businessmen like me it's impossible to get credit from the bank. "Those people have no faith in us," says Namboro.

comments government labour consultant Fion de Vletter. "There are plenty of budding entrepreneurs out there who could help revive the economy, but they can't get credit to start up.

"Following 500 years of Portuguese colonization in Mozambique and 15 years of socialism - until 1990 when a new constitution was introduced - few Mozambicans have any accumulated capital, or experience of a formal market economy."

Mozambique is classified by the United Nations as the world's poorest nation with 60 percent of its 15 million people living in "absolute poverty."

This situation has worsened since the introduction in 1987 of economic austerity measures under the International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP).

The IMF's plan for beating inflation (running at about 50 percent) is to restrict money supply.

De Vletter argues the IMF policy is killing the very private initiative it aims to encourage, imposing excessively tight credit ceilings on the state-run banking system, especially for foreign exchange.

"When you block credit, local business can't take off or develop."

"That means no local production, continued dependence on imports - and that is really the cause of inflation," says De Vletter.

The best credit facility open to small-scale, urban business at present is a 2.5-million dollar credit line through the GPE.

The GPE claims a 75 percent loan recovery rate, according to De Vletter.

Meanwhile, access to bank credit is only available to business in the formal sector.

Between 70 to 80 percent of Mozambique's economy lies in the informal sector - AIA.
Truce called for
Rwanda civil war

ARUSHA, Tanzania - The Rwandan government and guerilla opponents have hammered out a ceasefire to end 21 months of tribally based civil war which nearly crippled the tiny central African state.

"I am optimistic that the ceasefire will hold and lasting peace will return to our country," Rwandan Foreign Minister Boniface Ngalazana said at the end of three days of talks brokered by Tanzania in Arusha.

Renamo members dying from hunger

MAPUTO - Renamo defectors claim that six people a day are dying of starvation in one of their bases in the central Mozambican province of Manica. (2.15)

Mozambican news agency AIM reports that the men said about 50 Renamo members had died by the time they left the camp at Gagadzi, near the Zimbabwe border. According to the agency, hundreds of Renamo members had surrendered to the government in an effort to escape starvation in the drought-ravaged areas.
Gencor eyes Mozambique

Gencor is discussing a joint venture agreement with Washington-based mining company Edlow Resources and the Mozambican government to explore for titanium deposits in Mozambique.

Gencor executive director Jack Roux yesterday confirmed that his company had been talking to the two parties.

He said his company had committed "a couple of million rands" for further investigation of some of the deposits. This would be followed by a feasibility study which, if successful, could lead to a project.

Jack Edlow told Southscan magazine his company had discovered two deposits in Mozambique with "world class potential". He expected to sign formal contracts with the Mozambican government and a large international mining company within 30 days.

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SA plans to bulldoze dunes foiled

By EDDIE KOCH
MOZAMBIQUE wildlife officers this week foiled plans by a consortium of South African businessmen, including a member of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging convicted of fraud and dealing in illicit diamonds, to bulldoze fragile sand dunes and reefs on the island of Benguerua in order to make way for a tourist resort.

Paul Dutton, senior ecologist for the Bazaruto Nature Reserve, uncovered an alleged scheme by a company called Coral Island Lodge to send front-end loaders, trucks and tractors to the island to carry out earthworks for the proposed complex. And officials in Maputo’s wildlife department have obtained documentary evidence that Wessels Piennar, one of the shareholders in the consortium, is in fact a member of the neo-fascist AWB.

“The wetlands next to the proposed complex is to be bulldozed for a 1km airstrip to accommodate Dakota aircraft, which will bring in supplies and guests to the lodge,” says an official report compiled for Mozambique’s Department of Forestry and Wildlife. “The reef in front of the proposed complex will also be flattened to permit water sports.”

The report, based on information supplied to the department by a former manager of the Coral Island Lodge, notes that the resort was planned without an environmental impact assessment being carried out.

Benguerua forms part of the Bazaruto archipelago, the only national marine reserve off the Mozambican coast.

Ernst Henning, a director of the controversial company, this week adamantly denied any plan to bulldoze any part of the island’s ecology. He said the wildlife department’s report was based on false information supplied to Dutton by the lodge’s manager. “This employee made false allegations. He has since been dismissed,” Henning told The Weekly Mail.

“Nobody in their right mind would do that. He insisted that a scheme to expand the lodge will go ahead, but that regulations governing development in the nature reserve will be strictly observed. “We will respect stipulations that no natural vegetation can be destroyed, no damage can be caused to coral reefs off the island and that only 40 people can be accommodated at a time in the resort.”

Professor Koos van Wyk, an ecologist from Potchefstroom University and a friend of Henning’s, will act as environmental consultant for the company.

Henning said he knew nothing about his associate’s right-wing political connections or his criminal record. “Piennar is just a salesman without any shares in this business. I don’t know anything about links with the AWB.”

But members of the wildlife department lodged reservations about the project with Mozambican ministers after receiving proof that Piennar, described as Coral Island Lodge’s marketing director, has been convicted in the South African courts of numerous counts of fraud and dealing in illicit diamonds. And Peter Fogg, a businessman with close links to Coral Island Lodge, this week confirmed that Piennar was a shareholder in the consortium and has been convicted of fraud and IDB.

Fogg, who owns a share in a Mozambican company which holds the concession for tourist development on Benguerua, also has documents to prove Piennar has been a member of the AWB. Fogg said he was busy negotiating with Coral Island Lodge and would only allow the scheme to go ahead if the AWB member was excluded.

Wildlife officials in Maputo believe the consortium has abandoned the most controversial aspects of its venture, including the involvement of their AWB associate, in an effort to stave off negative publicity.
Maputo talks on refugee problem

PRETORIA and Maputo are to form a joint task group to tackle the problem of repatriating Mozambican refugees.

This was among agreements reached by President FW de Klerk and his Mozambican counterpart, President Joaquim Chissano, during talks in Maputo yesterday. "This problem will have to be analysed before we agree on how it can be solved," Mr de Klerk said.

The two leaders also discussed the expansion of economic co-operation between SA and Mozambique and moves to bring peace to the region.

President Chissano said he expected peace talks in his country to conclude "within a few months."
MAPUTO — SA and Mozambique moved closer to establishing stronger diplomatic ties following talks between President F W de Klerk and President Joaquim Chissano on Saturday.

Following the discussions, both presidents emphasized the need to bring about regional economic integration and peace.

Chissano said the reopening of Maputo’s Polana Hotel, which was a joint SA-Mozambique enterprise, was a significant beginning to economic co-operation between the two countries.

He and de Klerk officiated at the reopening on Saturday following the completion of a R44m refurbishment of the hotel.

De Klerk said southern Africa had to redouble efforts to bring about regional economic integration but emphasized that peace was an essential prerequisite for growth.

De Klerk said he and Chissano had agreed that progress was being made to bring peace to the region and a positive environment was being created in which problems could be addressed.

“This part of Africa should be seen as a safe haven for investment where the natural treasures of our sub-continent can be unlocked and used to improve the quality of life of all our people,” De Klerk said. — Sapa
Police and rescue teams look over the body of a man killed when a powerful car bomb ripped through the town of Moroni in the Indian Ocean nation of Comoros.

The bomb struck near a railroad station, killing at least 15 people, including two children, and injuring dozens more.

Police said the attack was likely the work of a militant group with links to al-Qaida.

The government has declared a day of mourning and called for calm.

In other news, the United Nations has announced a new peacekeeping mission to the disputed region of Western Sahara.

The mission will be based in the Western Sahara town of Gao, which has been under the control of Morocco since 1975.

The UN has so far been unable to broker a lasting peace in the region, where tensions have simmered for decades.

In a related development, the European Union has announced plans to increase its military presence in the Sahel region of West Africa, which has been beset by instability and conflict.

The move is part of a broader effort to combat terrorism and support regional security.
De Klerk, Chissano renew friendship

By Ken Vernon

MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and South African President F.W. de Klerk took advantage of their joint opening of the refurbished Polana Hotel at the weekend to hold talks on the stalled constitutional negotiations under way in both countries — and renew their warm friendship.

According to sources at the talks, President Chissano offered to do all he could to help resuscitate South Africa's Codesa talks, and President de Klerk in turn pledged that South Africa would take a more active role in promoting peace in Mozambique.

The sources said President Chissano had indicated that African leaders were "disappointed" at the breakdown of
were confident that talks
would resume soon — espe-
cially after last week's UN
resolution urging both sides
to return to the negotiating
table.

On ANC charges that Mr
de Klerk was responsible for
promoting the violence that
had led to the breakdown,
President Chissano said AFRi-
can leaders still regarded
President de Klerk as an-
cere in his reform efforts.

At a press conference
after the hotel opening,
President de Klerk denied
that the SA Government or
defence force still supported
the Renamo rebel movement
in any way.

HARARE — President
Chissano said yesterday he
had agreed to meet rebel
leader Abama Dhlakama,
signalling a breakthrough in
a country's 16-year civil
war. Mr. Chissano, speaking
after talks with Zimbabwean
President Robert Mugabe,
said a date for the meeting
with the Renamo leader was
still to be arranged.
The country of calamities

David Orr in Maputo

Manuel Nacene, a farmer whose livestock was taken by the rebels, says, "We were forced to supply them with food and clothes. Sometimes they said we didn't work hard enough and they beat us. In the next village a family who refused to help them had their ears cut off."

Since arriving in Chimbarava one of Manuel Nacene's four children has died of starvation; his two-year-old daughter is severely malnourished.

For Renamo in particular the drought is a serious political disadvantage. The reduction of external support from SA, Malawi and Kenya has forced the rebels to rely increasingly on raiding and taxing the residents of the areas they control. Their policy has been to stockpile food from past taxation but these reserves have all but run out.

Their readiness to talk in Rome is an indication of how bad things are," says Dan O'Dell, Unicef representative in Maputo and an observer at the talks.

By all indications infant mortality, life expectancy, per capita income, literacy and medical care - Mozambique is the unhappiest nation on earth.

It is, in the words of Chissano, "a country of calamities".

But not until a ceasefire agreement is signed and the effects of drought alleviated can Mozambique begin to build for a democratic future - Daily Telegraph.
Minister to meet unhappy students

MAPUTO - Health Minister Leonardo Simao has gone to Moscow to hear the grievances of Mozambican students studying in Russia who are occupying the Mozambican embassy.

The students have taken the embassy staff hostage and are demanding that the authorities increase their subsides or risk losing their meals.

**Mozambican students hold embassy staff hostage in Moscow to demand increased subsides:**

- They are on hunger strike and are also forcing their captives not to take their meals.

One of the students is reported to have said that if they were forced to return to Mozambique, "we will take the heads of the embassy staff with us."
176 die of cholera

MAPUTO - About 176 people have died of cholera in Mozambique since the beginning of this year, according to the Ministry of Health.

There have been 10,365 diagnosed cases of the disease in eight of the country's eleven provinces. Worst hit was the southern province of Gaza with more than 3,000 cases resulting in 66 deaths. Maputo city had over 1,000 cases with eight deaths.
Mozambican adversaries set to talk peace

HARARE — Mozambican President Joaquin Chissano and his main rebel opponent Afonso Dhlakama could hold their first meeting next week in Rome, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Mr Chissano said on Sunday that he was prepared to meet Mr Dhlakama in a bid to end the 16-year civil war that has devastated his country of 15 million people.

The diplomatic sources said the meeting was likely to be in Rome, where representatives of the Maputo government and the rebel Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo) have been discussing peace prospects on and off for the past two years.

“Arrangements are still being worked out,” one diplomat said.

Mr Chissano announced his readiness to meet Mr Dhlakama after a four-hour session with Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe in Harare on Sunday.

He briefed Mr Mugabe on international peace efforts to end the war, which has cost an estimated 1 million lives, and on a meeting on Saturday with South African President F.W. de Klerk, whose Government once backed Renamo.

Mr Mugabe, leader of southern Africa’s Frontline states, seeking an end to white domination in South Africa, met Mr Dhlakama in Botswana two weeks ago.

Zimbabwe has about 7,000 troops in Mozambique guarding road and pipeline links to the Indian Ocean. Renamo has demanded the removal of these forces. — Sapa-Reuters.
Renamo and Frelimo Stand

Amano Dinha

...
MORE than 70 Mozambican students in Moscow, staging a hunger strike in their country's embassy in protest against poor allowances, ended their week-long sit-in yesterday after a cabinet minister flew from Maputo to hear their grievances.
Renamo names date for peace talks

LISBON — Mozambican rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama told the Portuguese news agency Lusa yesterday he would meet President Joachim Chissano in Rome on August 3.

It will be their first meeting in 16 years of civil war that has cost an estimated 1 million lives.

Chissano said at the weekend after meeting Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe that he was prepared to meet the Renamo leader to seek peace for the country of 15 million people.

Dhlakama, speaking from Geneva, said he had been contacted by an envoy of Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe on Tuesday to agree on a date for talks. He did not say how long the talks would last.

"We are going to discuss important political questions with a view to ending the war in Mozambique," Dhlakama said. "It is possible that we will reach an agreement to end the war."

He added: "A ceasefire can only be made when (Chissano's government) accepts that democracy be established in Mozambique, and it could even be signed at the summit."

Dhlakama said Mugabe would also be present in Rome, along with a representative of Botswana and observers from the Rome talks — Sapa-Reuters
A lesson from aloes

The proportions of the human disaster which has overtaken Mozambique can scarcely be imagined. Here is a country whose capital is actually closer to Johannesburg than is Durban, but which has fallen out of the 20th Century into something resembling the Stone Age.

One million people have died since independence in 1975 and 5m have been displaced. Those who are not shielded by the remnants of the army in the cities of Beira and Maputo are subject to starvation, banditry and colossal destitution.

Next week, Frelimo president Joachim Chissano is meant to meet his main political and military opponent, Afonso Dhlakama, the Renamo leader whose links with the SA military (and before that the Rhodesian security forces) have been well-documented. Perhaps if they can agree on a path to democratic elections and co-operation in reconstruction, the surviving Mozambicans might have some cause to hope their children will not suffer further.

This agreement is by no means assured. Dhlakama is quite probably not in control of the numberless bands of killers and looters who control vast territories in the interior and drought has made the war for survival nasty, brutish and short.

The Soviets who once backed Frelimo have long gone. There can be little doubt that Chissano will be forced to ask FW de Klerk for help to restore normality, despite the history of betrayal and distrust which underlay the mood of their recent meeting.

In any case, SA itself is hardly stable and its financial resources are so strained that any extensive foreign military operation, even with possible OAU support, is questionable. So there is really little to be done about Mozambique, except to take it as the pre-eminent case study in Africa of what happens when ideologies clash and have real effects on the daily lives of millions. The ideologies — Marxism for Frelimo and whatever Renamo chooses to call its policies — have little relevance to actual conditions a wasteland has been left.

South Africans of all persuasions should look on this with dismay. That is the abyss that lies ahead if we do not negotiate.
ROME — Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama will meet in Rome on August 4 in their first direct talks to end one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars, an Italian official said yesterday.

Mario Raffelli, a legislator who has been mediating peace efforts, said it was impossible to predict the outcome of the meeting.

But in an interview published in the Maputo daily Noticias this week, Chissano said he hoped it would produce "concrete results which would lead to a ceasefire and to consequent peace established in the country." Lower-level peace talks have been going on in Rome between the Renamo rebels and the Mozambican government for over two years, so far without success.

Raffelli said that President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe would also attend the meeting. Zimbabwe depends on transport corridors through Mozambique to reach the Indian Ocean.
Rebel at talks (2/8)

MAPUTO - The leader of the Mozambique Democratic Union, Mr. Suso Phiri, a former second-in-command of Renamo, is in Maputo to negotiate the integration of his army into the Mozambican military. 25/1/792

Mozambique's official news agency, AIM, reported that Phiri was in command of more than 2000 armed men who operate mainly in the central province of Zambézia. Phiri left Mozambique a year after independence in 1975 and formed an army in Malawi which carried out raids in Zambézia. In 1982 he merged with Renamo, but four years later he broke away after a disagreement on strategy with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.
Mozambique talks resume

MAPUTO - The Mozambican peace talks resumed in Rome on Tuesday but no progress is expected until the meeting next week between President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

According to the Mozambican news agency AIM, despite months of negotiations, there are still strong disagreements between the two parties over a series of crucial issues. Frelimo and Renamo have yet to agree on the criteria for the formation of a new national army, the timetable for the withdrawal of Zambian troops stationed along the Beira rail corridor and how to demobilize surplus troops. Renamo wants these issues to be sorted out before constitutional matters are discussed. - Sowetan Africa News Service and Sapo-Reuters-AP-AFP.
SA-run clinic to take health care to Maputo

KATHRYN STRACHAN

A GROUP of SA doctors is to open Mozambique's first private medical clinic, a R5m facility on Karl Marx Avenue, Maputo, next week.

The clinic is expected to upgrade the devastated health facilities in the city.

A Clínica Cruz Azul spokesman, a doctor who cannot be named for ethical reasons, said the project — which is financed mainly by the African Development Bank — would be the first in a chain of private hospitals throughout Africa. Development would begin in Angola this year.

The opening of the clinic followed three years of negotiation between the group and the Mozambican government. Construction of a 250-bed training hospital, attached to the clinic, was expected to begin soon.

The doctor said the "First World island in a Third World sea" would be equipped with all the latest in medical technology, and would charge rates recommended by the Medical Association of SA.

While the clinic was aimed at tourists and foreigners, he said the general population would also benefit. The Mozambican government would take some profit and use the hospital to train state doctors.

The clinic would be staffed by doctors in Mozambique, supplemented by SA specialists. Specialists would also treat patients in state clinics free of charge and provide educational lectures.

A worldwide travel assistance chain, Europ Assistance, has undertaken to set up Maputo's first ambulance system.

Eduardo Mondlane University medical dean Prof Albertino Damasceno said there were about 200 Mozambican doctors serving a population of about 15-million.
SA pair held near Maputo

AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

MAPUTO — Mozambique police have arrested two white South Africans and a junior officer in the Mozambican army forces in connection with trafficking in mercury and uranium.

Police raided the officer's house at Mtala, near Maputo, on Thursday and found an AK-47 assault rifle and two projectiles, which they assume had been used to conceal mercury.

The names of the three have not been released.
SA medics open clinic in Maputo

A group of South African doctors opened the first privately medical clinic in Mozambique at the weekend.

The opening of the clinic in Maputo comes after three-year-long negotiations with the socialist Mozambican government. It precedes the construction of a 250-bed training hospital in Maputo.

'There has been a lot of talk about South Africans co-operating with their African neighbours,' Clinica Cruz Azul has met the challenge and is making a positive contribution,' according to clinic head Dr Konstantine Katsounis.

The clinic, described by Dr Katsounis as a 'First World island in a Third World sea', will consist of a full operating theatre, a five-bed high-care ward, a casualty ward, a radiological unit, doctors' and dentists' consulting rooms, a full laboratory, a pharmacy, two ambulances and a communications network. Self-sufficient standby generators and water systems will also be installed.

The clinic will be staffed by doctors in Mozambique, supplemented by South African specialists. All equipment will be brought in from South Africa.
Chissano upbeat about talks with Renamo

MAPUTO — Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano is "optimistic" about his first meeting with Renamo leader Afonso Dhukakama in Rome tomorrow.

Chissano has told a news conference he expects "positive results" to emerge. His optimism is based on comments by Dhukakama to Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe in Botswana on July 4.

Mugabe briefly Chissano two weeks later in Harare, telling him Dhukakama wanted "a serious meeting to discuss peace and sign a ceasefire." Dhukakama also wanted guarantees for his personal safety and that of his men, who should not be harassed or discriminated against, and be able to pursue political activities freely.

"We thought Dhukakama was not demanding anything impossible," Chissano said. "The government guarantees all citizens that they can live in peace and security and express themselves freely."

Chissano insisted, however, that Renamo should also give guarantees that it would not murder or harass people. He hoped Dhukakama was serious about seeking peace. A breakdown in talks would be a "catastrophe," Chissano said.

The talks between government and Renamo delegations, now in their 11th round, have so far failed to reach agreement on a series of issues, including the composition of a new national army.

But Western diplomats have noted the devastating drought is putting pressure on all sides to reach a quick settlement. President Mugabe is due to attend the talks and there are reports that Loun ro CE Tiny Rowland will also attend. — Sapa-Reuter-APP
Peace talks on track

MOZAMBIQUE President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama arrived in Rome yesterday for their first face-to-face talks aimed at ending one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars, officials said.

The Italian government had been mediating in an attempt to end the 15-year war.
Mozambican peace talks get off to a friendly start

ROME - Hopes of a quick accord to end 16 years of civil war rose after talks between Mozambique's president and its rebel leader got off to a good start.

"All I can tell you for the moment is that the meeting went well," Mozambican President Joaquin Chissano said yesterday after his first meeting with Renamo's Afonso Dhlakama, who has been fighting to overthrow the Frelimo government since 1976.

A handshake in a Rome hotel was the first move in the latest bid to end the war as President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe brought the two foes face to face for the first time.

Mugabe and Longch CB Tiny Rowland, whose British conglomerate has extensive interests in southern Africa, took part in the talks, a senior Mozambican source said.

The talks only broke up after dawn yesterday. Then Chissano and the leader of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) returned to their hotels for a few hours' sleep before the start of formal negotiations.

Both Chissano and the rebel leader said earlier they were looking for a quick peace settlement in Rome.

Chissano said on arrival on Tuesday that well over half the population of Mozambique needed urgent outside help in the country's worst drought in decades.

"There are 3.1 million people who need to be rescued and 6 million more who are in the cities but who need outside help to eat. Of course, the war is making this more difficult."

Renamo and the Mozambican government have been negotiating for the last two years in Rome and have agreed agreements on holding elections and the formation of political parties.

"But there is still a wide gap between them.

Their military leaders cannot agree on what the country's future army should be called - let alone how many men it should have or what role the intelligence services should play.

Apart from the military issues, Renamo is holding out for guarantees that any accords signed in Rome will not be torn up as soon as the rebels lay down their arms."

Sapa-AFP reports from Maputo that Renamo last week seized weapons in a raid on a police station in a town close to Maputo, according to the national Mozambican news agency AIM.

The attack last Friday was against Catembe, which faces the capital across the Bay of Maputo and is normally reached by a short ferry ride from the city.

Citing Catembe residents, AIM said the Renamo unit, numbering about 70 heavily armed men, killed 16 people and seriously wounded a further four.

They attacked the local administrative offices and stole at least 47 AK-47 assault rifles from the police station.

AIM also reported that last Tuesday that Renamo attacked the town of Mafila in Gaza province, killing at least one person. In a shootout with Mozambican troops, two of the raiders were killed.

Macaia lies within the Limpopo corridor, one of the routes between Zimbabwe and Mozambique that is supposed to be protected by the partial ceasefire signed in Rome between the government and Renamo in December 1990. - Sapa-Reuters
Hopes High for Swift End to War

Rome — hopes of a quick end to the war were undermined yesterday by the British announcement that it will take time to bring about a peaceful settlement. The British Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, said that the war will not end quickly, but that the British forces will continue to fight until peace is achieved.

The news came as a shock to many people who had hoped for a quick end to the war. The British decision to continue fighting is likely to prolong the conflict and increase the suffering of civilians on both sides.

The United States and the Soviet Union have also announced that they will continue their military operations until peace is achieved.

The news has caused widespread concern and fear throughout the world. Many people are calling for a peaceful resolution to the war, but it is unlikely that this will happen in the near future.

The war has caused immense suffering and destruction, and the world must work together to bring about a just and lasting peace.
Mozambique talks begin

APUTO - No truce or ceasefire in Mozambique is expected to emerge immediately from the historic talks being held in Rome between President Joaquim Chissano and the Renamo rebel leader Mr. Afonso Dhlakama.

However, the discussions are thought likely to lead to further exchanges that could ultimately bring an end to the civil war that has devastated Mozambique for the past 16 years.

Another round of talks between the two leaders next month in the Botswana capital of Gaborone is already being discussed.

Chissano and Dhlakama had long private discussions on Tuesday night before meeting formally on Wednesday. Their talks were due to continue yesterday and today.

Dhlakama made it clear shortly before he went into the first day of talks that he was not ready to sign a truce as that would "just mean putting down our guns for a week or a month and afterwards reactivating the war".

He repeated his demand for guarantees of political freedom and immunity from military attack for Renamo if it had down its arms.

He also said Renamo would not sign any ceasefire until certain "anti-democratic" clauses were removed from the present constitution.

He did not specify these clauses but indicated that one of them gave the Frelimo government the power to declare a state of emergency. He said Renamo feared that this clause could be invoked by Frelimo to hamstring its movement in an election.

If Frelimo were to accept Dhlakama's demand for these clauses to be removed from the constitution, it would have to be done by parliament, which could be a relatively lengthy process. For that reason alone, an immediate ceasefire seems unlikely. - Sowetan Africa News Service
Rebels reject ceasefire in Mozambique

ROME — Mozambique's government and rebels were today expected to sign an agreement fixing a precise calendar for peace, but hopes of an immediate end to the fighting were dimming fast.

President Joaquim Chissano said yesterday that rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama had refused his offer to sign an armistice that would go into effect at once and last until a full peace settlement had been worked out.

This is what the international community had been hoping for after 18 years of civil war that has cost over a million lives. The horrors of the conflict have now been compounded by a devastating drought this year.

Mr Chissano said it had been unfair to expect three days of talks in Rome to produce a complete ceasefire agreement, but did not conceal his disappointment that he would be leaving Rome without news of an immediate truce for his war-weary people.

Instead, negotiators are drawing up a joint declaration that should map the exact path to peace. — Sapa-Reuters

Hope for wage settlement with striking metalworkers

A settlement appears imminent between striking National Union of Metalworkers of SA members and car manufacturers following wage talks.

Numsa spokesman Dr Berme Fanaroff yesterday said more than 115,000 workers had been on strike since Monday. A meeting would be held on Monday following “good progress” in talks this week. Dr Fanaroff said a strike ballot would be held for the motor industry including filling station employees and panelbeaters.

‘Integrate MK and SADF’

The sooner the armed wing of the ANC can be integrated into the SA Defence Force and together makes an apolitical force loyal only to the government of the day, the sooner distrust between them will be overcome.

This is the view of Britain's retired director of Military Assistance Overseas, General Andrew Dennis, who was speaking at a conference in Pretoria yesterday arranged by the Institute for Defence Politics.

The Midrand-based institute is a non-profit trust seeking to assist the SA Defence Force become accountable, and legitimate. — Sapa 7/8/92

One way of reducing distrust in South Africa would be for the defence force to stop playing a role in internal security, General Dennis said.
Tête-à-tête raises Mozambique hopes

MOZAMBIQUE President Joaquin Chissano and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama met face to face for the first time on Tuesday night, raising hopes for a swift resolution to the country’s civil war.

The two men talked into the early hours in a five-star Rome hotel, ahead of the formal negotiations which started several hours later on Wednesday. Also present were President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Tiny Rowland, senior executive of the British conglomerate Lonrho, both of whom have an interest in the future of Mozambique.

The negotiations, held under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church and the Italian government, are being hosted by Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo.

Chissano and Dhlakama, leader of the rebel movement Renamo, commented that they were looking for a quick peace settlement from the current negotiations. But after two years of talks in Rome, during which agreements on elections and the formation of political parties have been signed, there is still a wide gap to be bridged between the two sides. Military leaders are still at odds over the size and composition of the future army and the role of the secret services.

The negotiations have been given a sense of urgency by the worsening drought. As Chissano said: “There are 3.1-million people who need to be rescued and six million more in the cities who need outside help to eat. Of course, the war is making this more difficult.” — Sapa-Reuter
Zimbabwean farmers ponder a ‘Great Trek’

HARARE Talk of a new “Great Trek” by white Zimbabwean farmers facing nationalisation of their land overshadowed their annual congress yesterday.

The phrase was used by Acting President Simon Muzenda, who said farmers planning to move into Zambia and Mozambique were “overreacting”.

But 4,000-strong Commercial Farmers’ Union deputy director Jerry Grant said land reform plans had caused farmers “to look north and east for opportunities”.

Muzenda, who opened the congress on Wednesday night, said cries of anguish by white farmers over government plans to nationalise about half their land had created a climate of “persecution”.

Reviewing the industry, Grant said attempts to ensure farmers’ security of tenure and the right of appeal to the courts over compensation had been only partly successful.

It was ironic, neighbouring countries had “welcomed the prospect of attracting commercial expertise to their underdeveloped agricultural industries”.

Zimbabwe’s large-scale commercial farmers, almost all of them white, pride themselves on their productivity.

Some 200 of them, representing all districts, swapped their traditional shirts and open-necked shirts for suits and ties and headed for town in their Mercedes-Benzes and pickup trucks for the annual talk shop which ended yesterday.

This year there were two main topics — the worst drought on record and the recently passed Land Acquisition Act, which enables the government to acquire 5-million hectares for resettlement of peasants from overcrowded communal lands.

Some 4,000 farmers own around 28% of the land in a country of 10-million people.

They produce 81% by value of all crops and livestock marketed in the country’s agriculture-based economy.

When talk of moving to neighbouring countries first surfaced, President Robert Mugabe said: “Let the whole shoot stop farming. The people of Zimbabwe will not perish as a nation”.

But yesterday confrontational rhetoric was replaced by attempts at bridge-building. Muzenda said there was “enough land in our country for Zimbabweans who genuinely want to make a living from farming”.

And Agriculture Minister Kumbirai Kangai said the government would nationalise under-utilised land first to avoid loss of production — Sapa-AFP.

Renamo ‘no’ on offer to end fighting

WINDHOEK President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique said yesterday he had offered rebels an immediate cessation of hostilities to end 18 years of civil war, but that this had been rejected by Renamo.

Chissano, who met rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama in Rome on Wednesday for the first time, said negotiators were instead drawing up a calendar for a general ceasefire that could be signed at an African summit within the next few months.

It was possible, he added, a ceasefire calendar would be approved by the two sides later yesterday.

“I proposed an immediate cessation of hostilities. A truce is the wrong word, as it implies a pause before the fighting resumes,” Dhlakama rejected this,” Chissano said in a media interview.

“I told him my armed forces were willing to stop immediately I said my officers were ready. .. but he said his men were not prepared and probably not disposed to obey.

“I told him it was better to have a few ceasefire violations here and there, even if it involved clashes between entire battalions, rather than go on with generalised fighting and the systematic killing of innocents” — Sapa-Reuter.

Namibia moves to liberalise transport laws

WINDHOEK Namibian Cabinet has approved draft legislation to amend the Road Transport Act to liberalise certain transport operations in the country, Information Permanent Secretary Bob Kandetu said yesterday.

The Cabinet has also mandated the works, transport and communications ministry to work towards removing restrictive provisions in the legislation giving rise to a monopoly.

About 50 large trucks paraded central Windhoek for an hour last Friday while the Namibia Truckers’ Association handed a petition to President Sam Nujoma.

The NTA, representing small operators, claimed there was collusion between large operators regarding the allocation of transport permits — Sapa.
Mozambican accord signed

ROME. — President Joaquin Chissano of Mozambique and rebel leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama sealed an accord here yesterday to end 16 years of civil war by October 1, ending three days of talks with an emotional embrace.

"This is a historic day for the people of Mozambique and Africa... Please, no more deaths. No more war," Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, who brought the two foes together for the first time, said after the signing ceremony.

Mr Chissano, who called the rebel leader "dear brother", expressed regret that the fighting was not ending at once, despite his offer of an immediate armistice.

A six-page accord said both the government and Renamo were "determined to do all in our power to end the catastrophe resulting from the combined effects of the war and the drought in our country."

The war began a year after independence in 1975.

Mr Mugabe, the architect of the Rome talks, urged Renamo not to try to grab more territory in the coming weeks to strengthen its negotiating hand and said the government should not try to flush out rebels from their positions.

The Renamo leader, defending his decision to reject an immediate truce, said it was "not enough" to just call a ceasefire.

"You must have the proper mechanisms set up to supervise it... We don't want a simple truce."

The accord commits Renamo and the government to wind up two years of negotiations in Rome on a peace accord within the next seven weeks. — Sapa-Reuter
Peace comes to Mozambique

RICHARD WALLIS

ROME — President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and Renamo rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama sealed an accord yesterday to end 16 years of civil war by October 1, ending three days of talks with an emotional embrace.

"This is a historic day for the people of Mozambique and Africa. Peace. No more deaths. No more war," Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, who brought the two foes together for the first time, said after the signing ceremony.

Chissano, who called the rebel leader "dear brother," expressed regret that the fighting was not ending at once, despite his offer of an immediate armistice.

"It would undoubtedly have been more honourable if our meeting had meant the end of the war, today. There is no reason why the guns should not fall silent," Chissano said.

Catastrophe

"Although the war will continue a little longer, the fact that we know it will end by October 1 is a consolation."

A six-page accord said both the government and Renamo were "determined to do all in our power to end the catastrophe resulting from the combined effects of the war and the drought in our country."

Mugabe, the architect of the Rome talks, urged Renamo not to try to grab more territory in the coming weeks to strengthen its negotiating hand and said the government should not try to flush out rebels from their positions.

"That would mean more war and more people dying. The next two months are crucial," Mugabe said.

The civil war, which began a year after independence from Portugal in 1975, has cost more than a million lives and brought one of the world's poorest countries to its knees. This year, the horrors of war have been compounded by a devastating drought.

Chissano warned before the talks began on Wednesday that over half of Mozambique's population could no longer feed itself.

The Renamo leader, defending his decision to reject an immediate truce, said it was "not enough to just call a ceasefire. You must have the proper mechanisms set up to supervise it. We don't want a simple truce.

"We did not refuse peace. We refused war because what we want is peace with security," he told a news conference.

Dhlakama, evoking the Cold War origins of the conflict, said Russians, East Germans, North Koreans, as well as Zimbabweans, Tanzanians and Malawians had died in the fighting.

Repeating that he felt extremely moved that national reconciliation had finally been achieved, Dhlakama said he was prepared to accept defeat in democratic elections and would in such a case merely lead the political opposition.

Democracy

"I want to tell the people of Mozambique that if they vote for the president and Freimo, I will remain in Maputo as leader of the political opposition. This is what democracy means," he said.

The Rome accord commits Renamo and the government to wind up two years of negotiations in Rome on a peace accord within the next seven weeks. It also hands the government to enshrine in law the guarantee Renamo has been asking for — Sapa-Reuters.
Peace to bless

Mozambique?

PEACE for war-weary Mozambicans is in sight following the historic signing of a peace agreement on Friday by President Joaquim Chissano and Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) leader Alfonso Dhlakama.

President Chissano hugged rebel leader Dhlakama after the former bitter foes signed the agreement which sets October 1 as the target date for a ceasefire.

"This is a historic day for the people of Mozambique and Africa. Please, no more deaths, no more war," said Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe who brought the two face to face for the first time.

The accord commits Renamo and the government to wind up two years of negotiations in Rome on a peace accord within the next seven weeks.

It also binds the government to enshrine in law guarantees the rebels have been seeking, which mainly cover their personal safety once the war ends.

All this should be completed by October 1 so that a ceasefire can come into force.

The civil war, which began a year after Mozambique's independence from Portugal in 1975, has cost over a million lives and brought one of the world's poorest countries to its knees.

Dhlakama said he was prepared to accept defeat in democratic elections and would in that case merely lead political opposition to Chissano. - Sapa-Reuters
ANC blames Koëvoet

By TEMBA KHUMALO

DESPITE vehement police denials, Driefontein villagers in south-eastern Transvaal are adamant that their raiders last week were members of the notorious Koëvoet unit.

ANC president Nelson Mandela alleged on television that Koëvoet members were involved in house-to-house searches at Driefontein last Saturday.

They harassed the community by locking some families inside their houses to prevent them from attending an ANC rally in the village, Mandela alleged.

State President FW de Klerk announced last month that Koëvoet and the controversial 32 and 131 battalions would be disbanded and members of the two battalions would be absorbed into SADF structures as part of rationalisation of the security forces.

The alleged police action on villagers and the involvement of Koëvoet has sparked off a row between the ANC and the police.

In response to Mandela's allegations, the police have launched a high-level investigation headed by Brig Floris Mostert.

Mandela said he would bring the matter to the attention of the Goldstone Commission for Investigation.

Driefontein ANC chairman Yunus Cajeer said about 300 policemen arrived and parked about 300 metres from his shop on Saturday morning.

Cajeer, who is also a local general dealer, said he identified clearly some 200 of the policemen as Koëvoet members through their language and their uniform.

He said the men wore dark-green overalls and blue coats.

"They were the only ones who wore that uniform and spoke a Namibian dialect.

"They looked like people who came from an isolated place because they were so excited about buying tikkies and after one of them bought a pair others followed suit and they were behaving like children," Cajeer said.

Another villager, Paul Nkosi, alleged that Koëvoet members came to his house and asked to search the car which was parked in his yard.

Cajeer said the police barred people from going to work while they were conducting the searches.

Cajeer has made a statement to the police about the incident.
There will be peace, says Chissano

ROME — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano said at the weekend that last week's agreement on the timetable to a ceasefire in the country would bring peace.

"Yes, peace it must be," he said at the end of the peace talks. "The world has seen that we have signed an agreement." Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama signed an accord on Friday setting October 1 as the target date for a ceasefire in a 16-year civil war that has claimed more than 1-million lives.

Dhlakama rejected Chissano's call for immediate peace on Friday. "It is not enough just to call a ceasefire," he said. "You must have the proper mechanisms set up to supervise it."

Chissano, however, said he was not disappointed.

"Renamo has said they want to stop the fighting, and a peace accord will be signed if they keep their word."

He said he did not know how the war would progress in the run-up to a formal ceasefire, but noted the two sides would remain in contact in Rome until October — Sapa-Reuter
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The difficult peace 218

This week, days after the signing of a Mozambican peace protocol in Rome, rebel Renamo forces killed five people and kidnapped 100 in a raid on the outskirts of Maputo. Peace may prove easier to achieve on paper than in reality after 16 years of conflict sponsored largely by Cold War and regional antagonists.

Mozambique achieved independence as a on-party, Marxist-Leninist State in 1975 under Frelimo’s Samora Machel. Though the main US/Soviet antagonisms over Africa were to be more fully acted out in Angola — with SA and Cuban surrogates — Mozambique’s civil war has destroyed the remnants of civilised life.

The skills left by the departing Portuguese proved inadequate to run a modern economy. Socialism turned off capital inflows except for aid. Road, rail, electrical and communications infrastructures were destroyed.

or deteriorated. Financial systems fell apart. A million lives were lost, hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced, bandits are rife — and now the drought means that a third of the 15m people face starvation.

The peace talks — sponsored by Italy, with good offices mediators such as Zimbabwe’s Robert Mugabe and Mozambique’s Tiny Rowland — began in December 1990.

Yet Frelimo’s Joaquim Chissano and Renamo’s Afonso Dhlakama met only last week.

After the ceasefire agreement for October 1992, with previous attempts to stop the killing failing, Chissano was able to describe Dhlakama as a “dear brother” while Mugabe was even more enthusiastic:

“This is an historic day for the people of Mozambique and Africa. Please no more deaths. No more war.”

The former enemies face the joint task of rebuilding Mozambique. Their resources are so exhausted they can hardly fight further. Government estimates it will take five years to pacify the countryside. Humanitarian aid has failed to reach rural areas and allegations of corruption have prompted the World Bank to cut aid to the State-owned electricity company on the grounds that the accounts are being mismanaged.

Moving emergency food supplies into the interior is bedevilled by this corruption and a new, unexpected factor — that white members of the Frelimo elite are feathering their nests at the expense of blacks. If true, this suggests a resurgence of racism in a theoretically classless society. Frelimo has accepted multiparty rule and the free market, but its credentials are not convincing. It is surrendering full power because it has lost that power.

For its part, Dhlakama — a friend of the late Bavarian Franz Joseph Strauss — has a murky past of Rhodesian complicity in the origins of his movement, followed by SA support. The date when SA support ended remains in dispute. He travelled on an SA passport until 1984, when Pretoria (spuriously as it turned out) agreed with Machel to halt support of Renamo. His heartland is the Gorongosa forest. He now has a Kenyan passport courtesy of embattled Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

In the mid-Eighties, Renamo’s Western credentials were tarnished by well-documented accounts of atrocities, murders, mutilations and kidnappings. The US State Department issued a comprehensive report on these matters — effectively reducing Renamo’s status from what it might have been, an equal of Unita in Angola.

Though Dhlakama has since met Herman Cohen, US Undersecretary of State for African Affairs, several times, Renamo was cut off from maternal assistance such as Stinger missiles — and this may have contributed to the aggressiveness of what subsequently happened in the countryside. There, any overall direction to the war has been undercut by warlords and the battle to survive.

Frelimo reached a political watershed in 1984 — prior to the Nkomati Accord. On the grounds of gross underdevelopment, it was deemed membership of Conzone, the communist economic bloc, and SA’s destabilisation policies compelled it to turn to the West for protection against its aggressive neighbour Machel met President PW Botha, whom he mistrusted.

Debt burden

These developments — followed by the collapse of the Soviet Union — increased Frelimo’s dependence on the West and it eventually acceded to the major lending agencies’ demands for economic restructuring. It has paid a calamitous debt burden much of its annual aid inflow — US$1.4bn a year to 1993 — goes to servicing debt and it owes 1.5bn roubles to the former Soviet Union mainly for obsolete military equipment.

With doubts over the effectiveness, corruption-free dispersal of what remains of the aid money after the servicing of debt, the effective capitulation of Frelimo to outside pressures to reach an accord with Renamo became insuperable. Even as it did so, the US signalled its pleasure at the development and urged Frelimo and Renamo to accelerate efforts towards peace on October 1.

The US went further. A statement issued from the US embassy in SA said “As an official observer to the Rome talks, the US will continue to provide technical negotiating assistance to the mediators and the Mozambican parties as needed.”

Assistance on reconstruction and debt might also be forthcoming if Mozambique can shed its bleak heritage and move towards a free-market democracy. As in SA, this depends on whether the violence can be ended.

SA’s role in reconstruction — hand in hand with Western donors — should bring unparalleled opportunities to entrepreneurs working in a land blessed with many natural resources but which has suffered almost every known disaster in its violent period of independence. But SA bears much of the responsibility for the warfare that has ravaged Mozambique.

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Mozambique hesitates
on buming its bridges

Gris McGreal

Gris McGreal's reports

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EVEN the Mozambican dalaasts

The government can talk cold comfort from Mozambique's problems. In the two months since he was elected to the presidency, President Joaquim Chissano has been trying to address the persistent crises in his country. However, the opposition remains skeptical of his efforts. The recent visit to South Africa by the Mozambican delegation raised hopes for a resolution to the conflict, but many fears linger. The government's attempts to negotiate a ceasefire with the Rebel Movement for a Democratic Mozambique (RML) have been met with skepticism. Despite the efforts of both sides, a lasting peace remains elusive.

Even before the ceasefire went into effect, RML leader Frelimo was.

In the meantime, the government continues to struggle with internal divisions. The opposition has accused the government of using violence to suppress dissent, while the RML has accused the government of violations of the ceasefire. The situation remains tense, and a lasting peace remains uncertain.

The opposition has called for international intervention to help resolve the conflict. However, the international community has been reluctant to become involved, citing a lack of resources and a desire to avoid becoming involved in another African conflict.

In the face of these challenges, President Chissano has called for national unity and reconciliation. He has also promised to work towards a lasting peace, but many remain skeptical of his ability to achieve this goal.

The situation in Mozambique remains fragile, and a lasting peace remains elusive. The government and the opposition continue to struggle to find a way forward that will satisfy both sides.
Renamo attack after ceasefire agreement

MOZAMBIQUE rebels killed five people, wounded 12 and kidnapped more than 100 in a raid on the outskirts of Maputo on Sunday night. According to a radio Mozambique broadcast Monday, a large group of Renamo National Resistance rebels attacked a settlement in the south, looting 26 houses and stealing food, clothes and money. The attack followed the signing of a pact between President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Alfonso Dhlakama in Rome which set October 1 as the target date for a ceasefire.
EC hails peace accord

End of Mozambique's 15-year civil war

LONDON - The European Community on Wednesday welcomed an agreement by Mozambique's leaders to end the southern African nation's 15-year civil war. The president of Mozambique, Mr. Joaquin Chissano, and the rebel leader Mr. Afonso Dhlakama, committed themselves in Rome on August 7 to signing a general peace accord on October 1. They agreed to sign a ceasefire by then. - Sapa-AP.
IFP man linked to gun running

By EDDIE KOCH
A SELF-CONFESSIONED arms smuggler has implicated Bruce Anderson, the white Inkatha official deported from South Africa last month, in a racket that involved smuggling AK47 rifles out of Mozambique into South Africa.

The gun-runner says Anderson acquired about 40 AK47 rifles and a few anti-personnel mines from contacts in Mozambique and then arranged, through a middleman in Swaziland, for the consignment to be dropped off at a shop in kwaMashu township near Durban.

The Weekly Mail's source claims to have personally supervised arrangements for Anderson's cargo of weapons to be transported from Mozambique to Natal.

The Department of Home Affairs has refused to comment on the reasons for Anderson's sudden deportation to England last month. Inkatha declines to say why their official was booted out of the country. And British officials remain tight-lipped about Anderson's expulsion.

Asked if the Inkatha official's expulsion was linked to gun-running, Home Affairs' Chris Pretorius said, "We do not give reasons, as you know, for people being deported."

But sources close to Mozambican intelligence this week confirmed that Anderson had close ties with Renamo rebels in Mozambique and has long been suspected of involvement in the movement of weapons from that country into South Africa.

Anderson also visited Washington last year where he made contact with a number of rightwing movements and inquired about the possibility of purchasing weapons.

Mozambican intelligence sources added that President Josu先后Chissano discussed the issue of arms smuggling between the two countries with President FW de Klerk when the two leaders met at the opening of the new Polani Hotel in Maputo last month.

"De Klerk said he would take action against anyone who was supporting Renamo from South African soil if concrete details were supplied to him," a leading PDMo member told The Weekly Mail.

British diplomats, who ask not to be named, say they are also certain that the expulsion was related to the Inkatha official's involvement in gun-running.

Anderson was the chairman of Inkatha's Sandton branch and a delegate for the Zulu movement at CODESA. He also served on an interim dispute resolution committee in Alexandra township.

He came to South Africa in 1981 after being convicted of fraud in Zimbabwe where he lived for a number of years. Anderson became a confidante of Renamo leader Alfronso Dhlakama as well as Ndabaningi Sithole, Zimbabwe's rebel nationalist leader.

He was also a member of Britain's neo-fascist National Front before he emigrated to Rhodesia in the late 1970s.

Anderson was declared a persona non grata on July 17 this year and was given a one-way ticket to England on that day. It is believed he will be attending a reunion meeting for members of the Rhodesian special forces in London this weekend.
Chateaubriand, who in his time graphed with a Europe very different from ours, would have given the quiet assurance, "The exasperation and the politeness, the outcome is contrary to the forecast." Slightly less than seven were killed in that forecast, and the one on which hanges the rationality of the state on European Unions, the rising tide of "noes" recorded by opinion polls lends validity to that dictum. Magyars are always first among the oppressed people. Whom they could trump the French, who were thought to be unabashedly wedded to the European cause, might that not be its time to cut out at the last moment.

Europe, has long enjoyed a spasmodic status among the French. The first polls conducted from the end of World War II showed an unqualified attachment to Europe. From 1947 to 1967, most of the French wanted a united Europe. The French have, in favor of union practically never dropped below 60 percent (except in 1955 when it slipped as low as 45 percent). In 1989, when the poll was run in 1989 the French made the first publics.

Support for the building of Europe was very clear-cut in the '70s. This was in the age of the European Unions, and the figures, ranging from 70 percent in 1973. In 1977, the French, in the same poll, noted only 15 percent in 1977, and 10 percent in 1989. Numerous surveys conducted in Europe, and in Europe, have shown that the French, in general, have become stronger as the level of education and income rates. The continuing attraction that the building of a unified Europe has been exerting on people's minds is not yet to be seen. One 1990 study shows that this attraction is tinged with misgivings. A poll last year showed 65 percent against 33 percent held the opposite view; said they would worry about the consequences of enlisting the entire European market in the drive for the Common Market.

By Gilles Paris The charms of European integration would appear to be fading as an ever closer to becoming a fact. When French opinion was sound between 1982 and 1985, the French felt certain major decisions would be taken in favor of the Community. After the individual members, the proportion voting for it fluctuated between 55 and 60 percent, whereas those who objected to it were between 35 and 32 percent.

Unlike what was noted in the polls carried out in 1983, the support for a common foreign and a common defence policy did not diminish as any amendment in favor of national policies were roughly equal to the proportion for "essentialism." The 1989 poll showed 62 percent voting for a common defence, but the number of those who opposed it was still around 35 percent in 1986, whereas those who held the opposite view ranged from 20 to 41 percent. Only the prospect of a common monetary policy, which in the context of the Maastricht treaty, allows a majority to emerge (53 percent in favor as opposed to 37 percent against at the end of this period).

Assuming the benefits of Community membership, entailed by most polemics, have also underlined some consequent benefits. In 1967, 47 percent of the French said the Common Market would affect their lives, and 32 percent expected an improvement and 13 percent feared an increase in the cost of living. Ten years later, most respondents (58 percent) considered that their standard of living would have been the same if the Common Market had not existed, 11 percent thought it would have improved and 16 percent that it would have deteriorated.

Given this situation, the referendum on ratifying the Maastricht treaty, the "no" carried out between early March and early July. The OSA shows that the proportion of the "yes" vote did shift between 50 and 60 percent, and from 40 to 50 percent in the second and third survey, but here again the "yes" vote shed two, while the "no" vote rose in the same proportions.

The trend has been confirmed by other polls, in particular BVA in its poll, the "no" vote fell from 65 to 67 percent between early June and early July, while the "no" rose from 35 to 39 percent. An EPOQ telephone poll, at the same time the number of registered voters who decided to say "no" rose from 11 to 18 percent.

That some phenomenon is heavy, repeated in recent polls on the referendum on ratifying the treaty, it seems that the political parties carried out between early March and early July. The OSA shows that the proportion of the "yes" vote did shift between 50 and 60 percent, and from 40 to 50 percent in the second and third survey, but here again the "yes" vote shed two, while the "no" vote rose in the same proportions.

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Continued on page 10

Rivals seek a way to topple the president

As the Brazilian political crisis deepens with each new allegation of corruption, it has united the opposition and the government on one thing: the need to establish a procedure to impeach President Fernando Collor de Mello.

RIO DE JANEIRO _ Corroded in its now it has that means to topple the president, the opposition is al ready questioning the very existence of the government. But the federal government's supporters believe that it can still count on a majority (one that would amount to about 20 percent of the Senate) to block the move and confirm the opposition. The presidents of the two chambers of Congress have already signed the request for an extraordinary session to discuss the impeachment procedure. The government also needs a majority in the Senate, which is dominated by the opposition.

Between the government and the opposition, there is a lack of communication, and this is something that is still being discussed over dinner.

This parliamentary crusade investigating the allegations of corruption has not, however, completely fried hearings, and is expected to publish its findings on August 26. The latest accusations made by Funeraria do Brasil and the dates of the future of the government. But the federal government's supporters believe that the corruption charges cannot be proofed one by one, and that the government will be able to resist them.

Sources are trying to es tablish a date for the move for impeaching the president. Brazil's Planters Union is not worried by the report, but the special law that was adopted by the lower house of Congress has not been voted. "Today's events are setting off a legislative battle for a new constitution that the government is determined to resist," a source told one of the independent newspapers. Sources have also confirmed that the "no" vote will be voted on the move to impeach the president.

Members of the government who are in charge of Finance Minister Marco Pissalos sees no way to reach a solution on the future of the government. The International Monetary Fund has decided to make a loan to Brazil and has approved a part of the agreement for granting it. But the stand-by loan of $1 billion has been signed by Brazil and the U.S. Treasurers Department has announced that the government has already committed to supporting the president. The chancellor of the government has confirmed that he is supporting the economy minister and em ployees of the need for an "emergency" plan. Security problems remain unsettled."

Non-Film-Matt: Film-Septem

My film Maastricht-man comes out in September

COMMENT

Handshake sets deadline for peace.

The two leaders will meet as soon as possible and sign a peace deal by the end of the year.

The two leaders have not yet agreed on the details of the peace deal, but they have said that they are willing to meet to discuss the issue.

The two leaders have met several times in recent months to discuss the peace deal, but they have not yet reached a final agreement.

The two leaders have agreed to meet in the coming weeks to discuss the peace deal, and they have said that they are committed to finding a solution to the conflict.

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CLAYTON — I'm afraid for the future of this country, and especially for our factories and workers. Many of the far off lands are being invaded, leaders are being arrested, and those who are left behind are being forced to work under harsh conditions. The future looks bleak, and there is a great deal of uncertainty and pessimism.

Kuwaiti workers are being exploited by their own government. The Kuwaiti government has been accused of违反 workers' rights, including the right to form unions and strike. The situation is further complicated by the ongoing oil crisis and the economic downturn, which has led to layoffs and decreased wages. The government has been accused of not doing enough to address these issues.

The situation is not helped by the political landscape, which is characterized by corruption and lack of transparency. The government has been accused of widespread corruption, and this has eroded public trust in the government. The situation is further exacerbated by the ongoing conflict with Iraq, which has led to increased economic sanctions and a decrease in oil revenue.

In conclusion, the future of Kuwait is uncertain, and there are many challenges that need to be addressed. The government needs to take action to address the issues facing workers, improve transparency and accountability, and work towards a more stable and prosperous future for all Kuwaitis.
Golden age of art in Lorraine

Jacques Callot was one of the greatest etchers of all time. The 400th anniversary of his birth is celebrated by six important exhibitions, one devoted to the other exclusively, the other more generally to art in Lorraine in the first half of the 17th century. Philippe Dagen has been to see them.

The reason for choosing this rather Gary catalogue of events is that the misguided British, typified by the illustrations by two exhibitions in Nancy, barely had the imagination or the courage to recognize and enjoy a sudden death at the same time as its artist.

Some knowledge of the diplomatic and military history of the time is necessary for a full understanding, of art in Lorraine, particularly as the Duke of Lorraine, in 1603, lost, cannot offer a straightforward, coherent picture of the phenomena since they are located in different museums.

In the 16th century the Duke of Lorraine around 1595-1600, under the Duke of Guise, the first of the War of Reunions had raged against the French provinces, the province of Lorraine, which was reduced to a fiefdom by the French

The arts, from painting, through sculpture, to poetry, are still influenced by mannerism.

In 1609, after learning all he could from his father, Jacques Callot, brother of Demange Croix, to whom he had been entrusted by his father in the previous year, Jacques Callot set off for Rome. He was only 15.

It was at the beginning of the 17th century that the development of printmaking as an art form began in the French Northern Netherlands.

During his stay there until 1621, Callot produced his first, accomplished works — large-scale depictions of fêtes, the sophisticated entertainments organized by the Medici and grandees of the d’Este, characters, in turn, for the Medicis, transvestites, masked figures, and Punchinello the clown. Callot's subjects are drawn from the world of buffoonery and other everywhere evident in these lively works, where fine
tasy roots shoulders with urbane sophistication.

In the same year, a paucity of Jacques Callot’s works are known to us, as the engravers' approach to the subject matter is at first glance, rather more casual and superficial at times inflated and seemingly empty.

Why did the etchings of the early years of his life, his etchings of the early 1630s, which are more direct and less decorative, have such a strong force;

This is a question that has haunted the history of art for centuries, to be discussed in a comprehensive way.

In 1631 Callot returned to Nancy. As we know from his etchings and the portraits of the dukes of Lorraine, he was a true and loyal servant of his sovereign and the dukes.

By the time he returned from Italy, Callot had become a wealthy and successful artist. He was still only 26 years old, but he had already established himself as one of the leading artists of the day. His work was admired by the courts of Europe, and he was invited to work for several important patrons, including the Duke of Lorraine.

In 1640 he was appointed as the official painter to the dukes of Lorraine. This appointment was a significant milestone in his career, and it allowed him to continue his work in the service of his sovereign.

It is in this context that Callot's etchings are best appreciated. They are rich in detail and imagination, and they capture the grandeur and splendor of the 17th-century court.

The etchings of Jacques Callot are a testament to his artistic vision and his commitment to his craft. They are a reflection of his love for his homeland and his dedication to his art.

The etchings of Jacques Callot are a testament to his artistic vision and his commitment to his craft. They are a reflection of his love for his homeland and his dedication to his art.

A fine selection of his paintings and prints was also included in the exhibition, which was held at the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Nancy. The exhibition was curated by Luc Lebègue, who is well-known for his work on the etchings of Callot.
Food campaign helps Castro to defy second blockade

Now that the Soviet Union has collapsed and Cuba has to pay market prices for what it buys from the ex-communist countries, growing enough to feed its people and keeping young people from leaving Castro's moribund country. Expectations of the country going the way of the Roman Empire have so far been belied.

By Jean-Michel Caroit

Castro difficult year

One and a half million inhabitants of Soviet Union are in daily danger of dying because of famine, according to Mohamed Sahoun, the United Nations secretary general's special representative there.

ASKED what he thought of the present situation in Somalia, Sahoun said: “You imagine a standard famine which is causing many votes against a background of political destabilization. As a matter of fact, what we are witnessing is a real systematic and civil war, a civil war of the state.

There is a so-called interim government, but there is no state. There is no international community willing to help a population which has been abandoned for too long a time by the world. There has been a total break out in 1988 in the Somali dilemma, which has been left to itself.

We have in recent days succeeded in getting support for one of the conditions laid by the United Nations in Mogadishu. Sahoun added. The condition is that the population should be able to live under difficult conditions. Which makes them more effective. With the exception of UNICEF, UN agencies don't appear to be prepared to cope with emergencies. I prefer not to name them.”

The US had to be convinced that an initial payment of $30 million under the Security Council resolution passed on July 27 which will be sent to Somalia. 30 million under the Security Council resolution passed on July 27 which will be sent to Somalia.

Somalia’s geographical configuration hampers the dispatch of food. And the problem is that Somalia is a country with a very large territory, with a very long coast, which is not only inhabited by a population of high density but also by a very large number of refugees from the Horn of Africa. The solution is to increase the number of aid workers and to increase the number of support for the population in the border region of Ethiopia and Kenya. The solution is to increase the number of aid workers and to increase the number of support for the population in the border region of Ethiopia and Kenya.

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Despite the fact that Somalia is a country with a very large territory, with a very long coast, which is not only inhabited by a population of high density but also by a very large number of refugees from the Horn of Africa. The solution is to increase the number of aid workers and to increase the number of support for the population in the border region of Ethiopia and Kenya. The solution is to increase the number of aid workers and to increase the number of support for the population in the border region of Ethiopia and Kenya.
Lay down arms now

President Chissano's appeal to Renamo rebels:

MAPUTO - Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano at the weekend appealed to Renamo rebels to end their 16-year war immediately instead of waiting for the formal signing of a ceasefire on October 1.

"This appeal is addressed to the men of Renamo. There is no reason at all for the continuation of hostilities. We want peace today, not tomorrow," Chissano told a rally in Maputo.

"It makes no sense to go on killing each other. The end of the war should be now. Papers, protocols, more words - this we will carry on doing. But peace is necessary now. Continuation of the violence is absurd," proclaimed Chissano in an emotional speech.

Chissano's appeal follows an agreement with Renamo in Rome on August 7 that a peace accord ending the civil war would be signed by October 1.
More food aid

MAPUTO - The governor of the southern Mozambique province of Gaza has ordered more food aid for the district of Chihuto where this year 120 people have starved to death.

Mozambique news agency AIM reports that governor Eugenio Numan, on a four-day tour of the affected area, asked the district authorities to follow the day-to-day situation closely. Chihuto, already seriously affected by a large influx of people displaced by a civil war, has been further threatened by drought.
Peace protocol

MAPUTO - As a first step towards implementing the Rome peace declaration, the Frelimo government has asked the United Nations to get ready to monitor a ceasefire and subsequent election in Mozambique.

Announcing this over the weekend, President Joaquim Chissano said the government would also introduce legislation to put into practice the various protocols signed in Rome with the Renamo rebels.
Ceasefire: Frelimo asks UN to help

MAPUTO — As a first step towards implementing the Rome peace declaration, the Frelimo government has asked the United Nations to get ready to monitor a ceasefire and subsequent election in Mozambique.

President Joaquim Chissano said at the weekend the government would also introduce legislation to put into practice the various protocols signed in Rome with the Renamo rebels.

Mr Chissano also appealed to Renamo members to lay down their arms now and not to grant a formal ceasefire.

"The continuation of violence is absurd," he said at a rally in Maputo at which he publicly reported on his first-ever meeting with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in Rome.

At that meeting the two leaders failed to reach final agreement on a ceasefire but committed their respective negotiators to do so by October.
State officials held after aborted coup.

Pilot revealed:

Mozambique government officials held in Nairobi

NEWS

Attempt to overthrow Mozambique government • UN refugee office in Nairobi

SOWTAN Wednesday August 1992
Mozambique's new investment code

At present, the bulk of foreign private sector investment in Mozambique has been in the minerals and mining sector. Although the Government of Mozambique has been keen to attract foreign investment in other sectors, the terms of foreign investment have not been as liberal as those in some other African countries. The new investment code is expected to improve the terms of foreign investment in Mozambique. The new code includes provisions for the protection of foreign investors' property rights, the right to repatriate profits, and the right to invest in other sectors of the economy. The new code is expected to attract more foreign investment into Mozambique.
Opposition leader in Mozambique jailed

MAPUTO — The leader of Mozambique's only legal opposition party has been jailed for an offence he was convicted of seven years ago. The Mozambique National Union (Unamos) president Carlos Reis was arrested recently in the coastal town of Quelimane in his home province of Zambezia, Radio Mozambique reported this week.

Reis, formerly a trader in Zambia, is accused of speculation, an economic issue in Mozambique, but left the country before he could be brought to trial. He was tried in his absence and the local court sentenced him to an 18-month prison term as well as a heavy fine. The same court has now converted the fine to a further 12 months imprisonment.

The arrest of Reis, who returned to Mozambique more than a year ago, will be an embarrassment to President Joaquin Chissano, who sealed a peace deal with rebels, partly on the basis that they would not be persecuted if they laid down their arms. — Sapa-Reuters.
PRETORIA — Illegal immigration from Mozambique is reaching critical proportions, quadrupling over the past decade and intensifying over the past year because of the drought.

During an SADF briefing in the Kruger National Park border area this week, Deputy Defence Minister Wyllyand Breytenbach was told that the number of deportations of Mozambicans had risen from 11,534 in 1983 to 46,958 last year. The figure for the first eight months of this year was already higher than that for the whole of last year. The SADF, which patrols the length of the park, had arrested 2,890 people last year and 2,730 so far this year.

There are an estimated 400,000 Mozambicans in SA illegally.

Military authorities believe the terrain impedes the apprehension of illegal immigrants. Only 20% are caught.

Mozambican refugees, pushed by the civil war and pulled by the need for food and work, are increasingly attempting to cross into SA via a hazardous 30km walk across the park.

Those arrested are handed to the SAP within three days and are repatriated at border points nearest their homes, if it is considered safe for them to make the trip.

Military analysts are concerned at the poor health of refugees and the health risk they bring with them. Political implications are also beginning to be felt, with refugees absorbing many of the homeland resources, especially at schools and clinics.
BOOKS

Wait-and-see approach to Mozambique
Tim Cohen

War and Poverty

Death as They Feel

Refugees Dice with

View of a Photograph in an
essay on war, poverty, and injustice.

The essay discusses the role of refugees in the
context of war and poverty, highlighting
the struggles they face.

The text mentions measures and
solutions to reduce poverty and
improve living conditions for
refugees.

The essay concludes with a
reflection on the nature of war
and its impact on individuals and
societies.

The text is a call for action,
advocating for policies and
initiatives that support
refugees and address the
root causes of poverty.

The essay emphasizes the
importance of empathy and
compassion in understanding
the experiences of refugees.

The text highlights the need
for international cooperation
and solidarity to create
sustainable solutions.

The essay concludes with
a call for continued efforts
towards peace and justice.

The text is a poignant reminder
of the human cost of war and
the importance of addressing
the underlying causes.
Mozambique and SA sign trade accord

Pretoria Correspondent

Full diplomatic relations between South Africa and Mozambique could be established soon, following the signing of the first formal trade agreement between the two countries.

Mozambican Foreign Minister Paseoal Mocumbi and his South African counterpart, Pik Botha, signed the agreement, paving the way for the establishment of representative trade offices in Pretoria yesterday.

Mr Mocumbi said while further co-operation between the two countries depended on internal stability in Mozambique and the establishment of full democracy in South Africa, there was "a good chance" full diplomatic relations could be established in the near future.

Mr Botha said the signing of the agreement could be the first step towards greater co-operation between the two countries.

It created "tremendous potential" for joint ventures between the two countries and would enable South Africa to assist Mozambique with its economic development projects.
Renamo accused

MAPUTO - Authorities in Mozambique's Manica province claim Renamo is stirring discontent among government troops and army veterans, promising them senior posts in the rebel movement if they switch. Manica governor was quoted as saying he knew of being recruited by Renamo, promising "any will be rewarded in leadership positions."

Leader's arrest condemned

A powerful branch of Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party has condemned the imprisonment of the leader of the only legal opposition party, Maputo newspapers reported this week. The Frelimo steering committee in Zambezia, the country's most populous province, said a court decision to imprison Carlos Reis was "regrettable" and contrary to government reconciliation efforts.

Reis, a Zambezia businessman and president of the Mozambique National Union, was arrested on August 19 and jailed for 30 months for trading offences committed a decade ago.

The ruling has deeply embarrassed President Joaquim Chissano, who guaranteed "personal security to all members of political parties" when he negotiated a peace agreement in Mozambique's civil war with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.
Chemical attack denied

Weekend Argus Correspondent and Sapa-AFP

PRETORIA. — A Mozambican armed forces accusation of South African responsibility for a chemical attack against Mozambican commandos has been rejected as “absurd” by a SADF army spokesman.

According to a Mozambican armed forces general staff statement this week, the weapon used belonged to the South African army and was fired by black South African troops, in connivance with some members of the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo).

“This type of allegation has been made in the past and proved to be untrue,” said the SADF army spokesman.

The incident took place on January 16, when it appeared that Mozambican troops might seize a major Renamo base at Ngungwe on the South African border, about 180 km north-west of Maputo. A projectile was fired, releasing what survivors described as “a dense cloud of black smoke.”

Eighty Mozambican troops were killed or are still missing from the attack, according to the Maputo military command. British experts found the survivors’ symptoms were consistent with the use of a chemical agent acting against the nervous system.

The general staff statement accused the South Africans of testing their weapon against the Mozambican troops. Its ultimate purpose was use against guerrillas of the African National Congress should it resume its armed struggle against Pretoria.
100 000 may starve to death

Drought and civil war combine to spread famine in province of Mozambique:

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - Over 108 000 people, almost the entire population of Mozambique's Manjacaze district, face death from starvation because of the drought and civil war, according to district administrator Mr Antonio Manjate.

At least 200 people died of hunger between the middle of July and early August, Manjate told officials from Maputo who visited the district which is in the southern province of Gaza.

The official news agency, AIM, says Manjate told the officials that the district had been receiving only 140 tons of food a month from government relief agencies but this was only enough to feed 45,000 people. More than 500 tons were needed to avert famine.

Food supplies

Manjate said over 108 000 of Manjacaze district's population of 128,000 could starve to death if food supplies were not increased.

Three centres were established by the authorities in Manjacaze this month to accommodate people displaced by the drought and the war. Several hundred have arrived at the centres and others are coming in at a rate of about 30 a day as word of the centres spreads, says AIM. Some, however, have died of hunger while trying to reach the centres.

"The food we receive doesn't fill up our hunger," said one old man at the centre. "But at least it will delay our own deaths for some days or weeks."
INKATHA and the Mozambican Renamo rebels movement jointly committed themselves to upholding free enterprise, human rights, freedom and full democracy at a meeting in Johannesburg yesterday between the movement's leaders, Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Afonso Dhlakama.
SA and Moz look ahead

PRETORIA. 1 Nt Ian
to leader, Afonso Dhlakama
visited senior govern-
ment officials yesterday,
eliting a promise for
SA to assist Mozambique
through its stuttering peace process.

Mr Botha said he
thought the signing of a ceasefire agreement,
due to take place on Oc-
tober 1, had a reason-
able chance of being achieved.
Drought aid teams poised for action

WATER supply teams from SA were poised to provide emergency drought relief assistance in drought-stricken areas of Zimbabwe and Mozambique should they be asked to do so. Water Affairs spokesman Simon Forster said last week.

Forster said the UN had asked SA to help with regional emergency water supplies a fortnight ago, but this would take place only when formal requests from neighbouring countries were received.

He said SA's Foreign Affairs Department had given the go-ahead for the drought teams to go into action as soon as possible.

Training

A Foreign Affairs spokesman confirmed SA would help neighbouring countries where possible if official requests for assistance were made by their governments.

Forster said although there had been no official contact with Mozambican officials, technical liaison was taking place.

Water Affairs was already training technical staff in Mozambique and private companies, including the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, were helping supply water in southern Zimbabwe, he said.

SA was already supplying about 800,000 Mozambican refugees in Garankula with emergency water, Forster said.

Reports early last week said more than 100,000 people in Mozambique's Manica district faced death because of the drought and civil war in the area.

Forster, who serves on the Water Supply Task Force (WSTF), said SA teams could help stem the tide of refugees from Mozambique by supplying emergency water to drought-stricken villages there.

The WSTF is a joint government/community initiative to supply water to areas where traditional water supplies have run out.

ANC economic policy spokesman Derek Hanekom said SA was in a better position than its neighbours to cope with the drought because it was economically better off and the drought did not affect the whole country.

He said it was ironic that SA had to compete with poorer countries for offshore aid money, while local money allocated to drought relief did not find its way to impoverished communities.

Forster said SA has begun a comprehensive study of the giant Inkomati basin, which covers large areas of the three countries, with a view to determining how water should be distributed there in the long term.

Forster said preliminary results indicated the basin, which includes the Okavango delta in Botswana and the Zambezi River, was drier than previously thought.
MAPUTO - The former chief of staff of the Mozambican armed forces, General Sebastiao Mabote, has been found not guilty of conspiring to overthrow the government of President Joaquim Chissano.

The six supreme court judges returned a unanimous not guilty verdict.

The announcement of the court's decision was greeted with loud applause from the courtroom, packed to capacity with Mabote's relatives and supporters.

The judges' decision followed a three-week trial in which the prosecution had tried to prove that Mabote was a leading figure in a plot to stage a coup. The coup, it was alleged, was to have taken place in June last year but was foiled by military intelligence which had infiltrated the conspiracy.

Mr Justice Joao Trindade said all the prosecution had proved was that Mabote had indeed met at various occasions with many of the other accused with whom he had discussed various subjects.

The 13 others accused of taking part in the alleged conspiracy will be tried this week.
MOZAMBIQUE

President Josèph Chamisa and Renamo ( Mozambique National Resistance) leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama signed an agreement last month to end the country's 16-year-old civil war by October 1.

The agreement follows two years of talks in Rome sponsored by the Roman Catholic San Rocco community and the Italian government.

Mozambique, its infrastructure ruined by 20 years of almost constant warfare, is experiencing a devastating famine. UN sources estimate that as many as five million Mozambicans could starve.
Sasol eyes Mozambique gas project

SASOL is to meet potential joint venture partners later this month to discuss the exploration and development of gas fields onshore of the Mozambican coast, Sasol assistant GM Peet Steyn said yesterday.

Steyn said discussions were to take place with various international companies to find a third partner with the necessary experience in the development of onshore gas fields.

Sasol and the Mozambican energy company Empresa Nacional de Hydrocarburos de Mozambique (ENH) entered into an agreement in February regarding the joint exploration for and development of natural gas in that country.

In terms of the February agreement, ENH was continuing with exploration activities and was currently engaged in drilling the 11th exploration well in one of the potential fields, the Pande gas field.

Sasol was drawing up a market survey to establish the potential gas market. Steyn said although the reserves were not big, further exploration should find sufficient reserves to ensure a feasible project.

Meanwhile, Soekor is following up approaches made by numerous potential investors in either participation or concession rights to its Bredasdorp Basin, Soekor spokesmen said.

The oil exploration parastatal had also approached various companies and authorities on the west African coast for further opportunities and several prospective projects were being investigated.
MAPUTO — Agreement was reached in Rome at the weekend between the Mozambican government and the Renamo rebels over the size and composition of a new army, in what is being hailed as a "major breakthrough" by diplomats in Maputo.

Few details were available yesterday but Renamo chief political representative in Maputo, Anselmo Victor, confirmed that the new army would consist of 28,000 men drawn in equal proportions from government and Renamo troops.

Renamo had called for the army to be headed by a general from each side, but Victor yesterday said he did not yet know if this had been agreed to.

Observers say the figure of 28,000 represents a considerable victory for Renamo as the government had called for an army of 60,000.

The issue of a future army has dogged the Rome talks for weeks and has been one of the main obstacles to a ceasefire agreement on October 1.

UN permanent representative in Mozambique, Peter Smikin, welcomed the agreement saying this made the signing of a ceasefire on October 1 almost certain.

Victor said points still to be resolved included the structure of the police, the secret service and the status of the protocols signed in Rome.

A nine-man UN special delegation arrived in Mozambique last week.

Smikin said it would assess the possible role of the UN in monitoring the ceasefire and the elections, which are expected some time next year.
Push for SA presence at Mozambique peace talks

ROME — SA is likely be given a seat at the Mozambique peace talks, negotiators said yesterday.

Mediators racing against time to conclude a peace agreement by October 1 are to suggest this week that SA be granted observer status because of its interest as a neighbouring country.

The two-year-old Rome talks have been deadlocked since the start of the month over disagreements between the Mozambique government and Renamo on military and security issues. However, there are indications that a settlement could be reached soon.

Both the Mozambique government and Renamo were in favour of SA being at the final phase of the talks, sources said. This will be formally proposed when full negotiations resume tomorrow.

Chief mediator Mario Raffaelli said yesterday it was logical that SA, which would be heavily involved in monitoring any future ceasefire, should have a say in how the agreement is drawn up.

The leader of the Mozambique government delegation confirmed that his country would welcome SA’s presence among the observers — alongside Italy, France, Portugal, Britain, the US and the UN.

Mozambique’s transport minister Armando Guebuza said his government, however, also favoured Zimbabwe “and eventually countries like Russia” being given seats at the talks.

Although the talks have been deadlocked, sources said President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama had agreed to push ahead with negotiations in order to be able sign a ceasefire by the end of the month.

“If there is a will, we can still make it (by the October 1 deadline agreed last month),” said Raffaelli.

The war in Mozambique has cost more than 1-million lives since Mozambique’s independence from Portugal in 1975.

Guebuza said it was vital to stick to the timetable agreed for a peace settlement.

Under the latest compromise worked out between Chissano and Dhlakama to unlock the talks, both sides agreed to postpone discussions about the future of the country’s secret service and the size of the future army until the end.

Renamo is insisting on the secret service being dissolved and this is the biggest stumbling block. — Sapa-Reuters
Call for SA seat at Moz talks

ROME — Mediators racing against time to conclude a Mozambique peace agreement by October 1 are to suggest that South Africa should be given a seat at the talks.

Both the Mozambique government and Renamo were in favour of South Africa being given observer’s status in the final phase of the peace talks, sources said.

The talks have been deadlocked since the start of the month over disagreements on military and security issues.

But the sources said President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama had now agreed to sidestep the problems and push ahead to be able sign a ceasefire by the end of the month — Sapa-Reuters.
Scruppism mounts over Mozambique ceasefire
Peace talks

MOZAMBIQUE'S President Joaquim Chissano met rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama in Botswana to discuss a ceasefire in the 15-year-old civil war. It was their second face-to-face meeting to smooth the way for a peace agreement.
Peace talks

MOZAMBIQUE's President Joaquim Chissano met rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama in Botswana to discuss a ceasefire in the 15-year-old civil war. It was their second face-to-face meeting to smooth the way for a peace agreement.
Say a prayer for this dying mine

A GROUP of white miners bent on keeping the Sabbath holy are praying God with the future of a small mining town.

The men, members of the Council of Mining Unions, do not want the town's main source of income, Harmony Gold Mines, to blast on Sundays.

But mine management says this is the only way Harmony can produce enough gold to make ends meet.

And if Harmony Join the many other mines which have been forced to shut down because of the drop in the gold price, the town of Virginia is doomed.

Harmony Mines human resources manager Jack Hattingh said the mining community was the financial backbone of the town.

"We are the biggest employer in Virginia. If we close at least 14,000 families will lose their livelihoods and many businesses will be forced to close.

Harmony Mines owns 32 percent of the houses in Virginia and pays the council R1 million a month in rates and taxes.

The Council of Mining Unions, which represents less than 10 percent of mine employees, says Sunday blasting will set a precedent on other mines. But the real reason many of the union's members refuse to work on Sundays is religious.

"God made the world in six days and made Sunday a day of rest. It is a religious day," said shaft steward Dick Coetzee.

"We can survive without blasting on Sundays. All we need to do is make sure every blast counts."

The secretary of the Mine Surface Officials' Association, Mrs Martie Nieman, said the small group of people leading the resistance believed blasting on Sundays was "communistic."

"But most people on the mine would do anything to keep the mine going," she said.

By CHARIS PERKINS

Virginia's domines met representatives from the mine this week to discuss the issue. They were worried that Sunday shifts would interfere with church services.

"We take the Bible's stand," said the dominee of Harmony Dutch Reformed Church, Rev Johan Lessing. "Only emergency work should interfere with our services. We pray God will find a solution.

The dispute between the Council of Mining Unions and management began last month.

To produce the extra 300kg of gold a month the mine needs to survive, management proposed blasting higher stopes more than once a day, including Sundays.

If the plan goes ahead, management believes it could turn Harmony's forecast R42 million working loss for the year into a working profit of R31 million.

But the Minerals Act forbids mines to blast on Sundays, and Harmony cannot ask the government to amend the act without the support of the unions and associations on the mine.

So far the National Union of Mineworkers and mine associations have given the proposal their view the situation before the end of next month.

But Mr Hattingh said Harmony did not have time to waste. "The mine is losing money every day."

In its heyday five years ago, Harmony employed 36,000 people and Virginia was a booming town. But since 1997 rising costs and falling gold prices forced the mine to cut down the number of employees by 22,000, and the town has suffered.

In the suburb of Skaaplaas, row after row of derelict houses stand empty. Vandals have stolen the doors and broken the windows.

Uncertain

Rev Koos van der Merwe of Skaaplaas, whose congregation has dwindled from over 1,000 to 500, said, "You can buy a house here for as little as R10,000.

"In the past six months 120 businesses have shut down in Virginia."

"Another 120 businesses will go if Harmony closes," said the owner of Bullion Supermark, Mr Anacleto de Ascensio, who closed the other branch of his business two weeks ago.

"People are not spending money because they feel so uncertain about the future," he said. "The whole town is waiting for the results of the negotiations."

Mrs Nieman, who has lived in the town for 37 years, said, "In a way Virginia has already died. But if Harmony closes the town will definitely go. It is something we do not want to think about."
UK may help Mozambique army

Afonso Dhlakama.

"Whether the offer will be taken up we wait to see," she said.

Since 1986, Britain has been training Mozambican government soldiers at a camp in Zimbabwe.

Chalker said she was delighted that Chissano and Dhlakama had agreed on the size of the unified armed forces at a meeting in Botswana on Friday.

The two leaders agreed to fix the size of the armed forces at 30,000 people, settling an issue that had been one of the last stumbling blocks holding up peace talks in Rome.

"The major purpose of my visit is to discuss and see at first hand the famine situation brought about by drought and civil war," Chalker said.

"Only with a ceasefire and a peace agreement can one make sure that the food and the medicine and the help that is needed by the people gets to them."

On Saturday, Chissano and Dhlakama reaffirmed their intention to sign a ceasefire on October 1, Radio Botswana reported.

It quoted Dhlakama as saying the two sides had also agreed on the supply of drought relief food to desperate rural areas.

More than three million Mozambicans face starvation because of drought and war. — Sapa-Reuters
Life tough, but at least there's peace.
Civic offers aid
Bus maulers

Moz. Govt. Renamo, agree
Britain upset with Renamo

Renamo puts followers facing starvation at risk by disallowing food convoys

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - The Renamo rebels in Mozambique have been warned by Britain's Minister for Overseas Development, Baroness Lynda Chalker, that they are putting their supporters' lives at risk by withholding agreement to a United Nations plan for getting food to starving Mozambicans.

More than three million Mozambicans are facing starvation as a result of drought and civil war. During a visit to Maputo over the weekend Chalker expressed irritation at Renamo's stalling, according to a report by the Mozambican news agency AIM.

She warned that the UN was "running out of patience".

The rebels signed an agreement with Frelimo government representatives in Rome on July 16 to allow food to be taken to famine-stricken areas.

The UN had proposed running 10 food convoys and eight air-delivery operations, starting on September 14.

The government accepted this plan but Renamo rejected it.

They demand that most of the food be flown in UN representatives say this would increase costs and reduce the effectiveness of the operation as only small planes can land on the bush airstrips.

A meeting yesterday with President Chissano, Chalker said there was now "a good chance" that Renamo would agree to the UN plan.
GABORONE - Less than two weeks before the deadline for signing a ceasefire, President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama may have rescued the deadlocked Mozambican peace initiative with a surprise meeting in Gaborone over the weekend.
At their secret meeting in the Botswana capital the two leaders appear to have resolved the remaining issues that had deadlocked the peace negotiations in Rome.

They said afterwards that they had issued instructions to their respective representatives in Rome to "prepare the necessary documents so that a General Peace Agreement can be signed by October 1."
Mozambican pact 'rock solid'

LONDON — A final ceasefire agreement between Renamo and the Mozambique government will be signed on October 1 and the current provisional pact is "rock solid," says Lombo chief Tony Rowland.

Rowland, a veteran entrepreneur with vast economic interests in several African countries, attended and facilitated the first-stage peace agreement signing in Rome last month between the Mozambican protagonists.

He also took part in the recent Gaborone meeting between President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama which resolved the last remaining obstacles to a ceasefire.

These were the formation of a national army composed of both Renamo and government troops, and the role of the intelligence service during the transition to multiparty elections next year.

Rowland, who has spent a hectic week of shuttle diplomacy between Botswana and southern Sudan, predicted that the efforts of himself and his company's East African director, Mark Too, in southern Sudan last week would result in the first face-to-face meeting between Sudan's President Omar Hassan Ahmed al Bashir and rebel leader John Garang.

The elderly Lombo chief has assumed the mantle of broker in two of Africa's most devastating civil wars.
Chissano, rebel chief resolve 2 vital issues

By Gerald L'Ange
Star Africa Service

Less than two weeks before the deadline for signing a ceasefire, President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama appear to have rescued the deadlocked Mozambican peace initiative with a meeting in Gaborone at the weekend.

At the meeting in the Botswana capital, the two appear to have resolved the remaining issues that had deadlocked the peace negotiations in Rome.

They said they had ordered their respective representatives in Rome to "prepare the necessary documentation so that a general peace agreement can be signed by October 1".

The meeting in Gaborone was obviously held to get round the deadlock that had developed in Rome, despite the agreement reached there between Mr Chissano and Mr Dhlakama on August 7 to sign a ceasefire by October 1.

In Gaborone the two leaders resolved the two main points of contention. They agreed that the army to be formed from government and rebel troops would be 30,000 strong. Frelimo had wanted 50,000 and Renamo 15,000.

And instead of disbanding the secret intelligence service, Sise, as Renamo had demanded, they agreed to put it under the control of an impartial commission.

The deadlock in Rome had developed amid criticism of Italian mediators, who were said to have lost interest after the August 7 accord.
MAPUTO - President Joaquim Chissano has told parliament that a ceasefire and peace agreement will definitely be signed on October 1, formally ending 16 years of civil war in Mozambique.

There has been no similar confirmation from Mr. Aforesu Dhlakama, leader of the Renamo rebels, but Chissano said he was confident from his meeting with Dhlakama in Gaborone last Friday that Renamo would sign the agreement.
SA, Mozambique in talks

MOZAMBICAN and South African government representatives held exploratory talks in Pretoria yesterday on the fate of displaced Mozambicans in South Africa.

A joint working group was established and will shortly hold its first meeting. South Africa’s Foreign Affairs Department said in a statement after the talks.

The meeting followed recent discussions between presidents FW de Klerk and Joachim Chissano in Maputo. The discussions, which took place in a constructive spirit, were of an exploratory nature,” the department said. — Sapa
Chissano bid to speed aid

MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano has ordered the army and police force to facilitate the distribution of relief aid.

Speaking at the opening of a session of parliament yesterday he told the Chief of Staff of the armed forces and the Minister of the Interior, "to collaborate to the maximum with the donors and the UN to save lives."

Mr. Chissano said he had urged Afonso Dhlakama, leader of Renamo, to accept the UN food distribution plan, "or better still open all the roads." — Sapa-AFP.
Rome talks tying up loose ends

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government and Renamo are tying up the last loose ends before they can sign a peace accord, planned for October 1.

The Mozambican news agency, AIM, reports that remaining protocols under consideration in Rome concern military questions, guarantees and technical arrangements for a ceasefire.

Italian mediators in Rome are optimistic that the political conditions to resolve the outstanding protocols exist.

AIM reports that difficulties concerning guarantees and Renamo's objection to "excessive" presidential powers could still complicate the process to peace. — Star Africa Service.
Troops stall pay mutiny

MAPUTO — A mutiny by unpaid Mozambican troops erupted this week in the town of Chhabava in Sofala province, the Maputo daily, Noticias, reported.

Several mutinies have occurred since July among troops based near Maputo and Beira, but this was the first reported in a small provincial town.

The Chhabava garrison mutinied on September 17, protesting that the men had not been paid for 18 months.

The mutiny resulted in a spree of vandalism and robberies culminating in the looting of 10 shops.

Sofala provincial military command sent the mutineers five months' wages, but that failed to placate them. At one stage they seized an aircraft belonging to a state-owned company and held the pilot and an official of the company hostage overnight.

The mutiny ended on Tuesday but the men said they would resume it on October 1 if the outstanding 13 months' wages had not been paid by then. — Sapa-AFP.
Mystery Mozambicans

Boost KZF manpower

The Weekly Mail Reporter

Opening in the homeland

Soldiers from Mozambique

Defection of foreign-spies

The usual place KZF officers from Mozambique are stationed in the homeland. The defection of some soldiers has raised questions about the security situation. The Weekly Mail says the soldiers were lured by promises of better living conditions and higher pay. The defection highlights the need for improved security measures in the province.

KZF operations are hampered by a lack of resources and equipment. The Weekly Mail says the KZF needs more personnel and equipment to carry out its duties effectively. The defection of some soldiers has raised concerns about the KZF's ability to maintain order in the province.

The Weekly Mail also reports that the KZF is facing a shortage of officers. The newspaper says the KZF needs to recruit more officers to replace those who have defected.

The defection of soldiers is a concern for the government. A government official says the KZF needs to address the issue to maintain order in the province.

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The defection of soldiers is a concern for the government. A government official says the KZF needs to address the issue to maintain order in the province.
Hope is all that the refugees have and the struggle goes on

CARRYING one child in her arms, Rosalina Shabangu cajoled, pushed and sometimes dragged her other three youngsters to safety from Mozambique.

Their four-day journey across the Lebombo mountains was not as long as some— if it had been, some of the children might not have made it because all the dams and rivers along the route were dry.

They eventually reached a refugee camp in the northeastern Transvaal, the first step in their search for a better life in South Africa.

Like thousands before her, 28-year-old Rosalina brought little with her besides hope—for peace, the chance to build a home, plant food and find a job.

But for those who cross the mountains into KwaZulu and risk their lives traversing the Kruger National Park to get to Gazankulu, South Africa offers only a continuation of their struggle.

It is a fight against drought, homelessness and unemployment, with the added hazard of deportation.

Some find their way to Johannesburg and other major cities where, as illegal immigrants, they search for work and a place to live while trying to stay hidden from the law.

Crazy

Rachel Nsmbani, 43, supervisor of the Mangweni transit camp in KwaZulu for the past six years, has never come to terms with the desperation she encounters daily.

"About 200 refugees make their way here each day," she said.

"Operation Hunger feeds more than 20,000 people in KwaZulu, and other organisations like the International Red Cross and the Catholic Church provide blankets, soap and clothing.

"The South African government regards them as illegal aliens, not refugees, so if they are caught on South African soil they are arrested and sent back across the border.

"It's a crazy, mixed-up situation, and all we can do is feed them and try to keep them alive.

Among the refugees are teenagers, lured from their homes by ruthless operators who promise houses and jobs, guide them across the border and then sell them as slaves.

Martha Mabunda's parents paid a guide R100 to bring her to South Africa from Maputo after he

SURVIVORS: Rosalina Shabangu and her four young children, who fled Mozambique.

RISKING DEATH FOR A BETTER LIFE

assured them he had a job for her.

"There were 16 of us," said Martha, 20. "Eight were young women and the rest were young boys. When we crossed into KwaZulu, I was sold to an old man as his wife for R400.

"When the old man tried to rape me, I managed to escape and a friend brought me to the transit camp. The others were taken away in a taxi and I was told they were sold in Johannesburg.

"Other refugees are mothers, who walk for up to two weeks before arriving at the camp with not only their own children, but those of family members who have been killed by Renamo troops.

"They tell me that in their country, people are dropping dead from hunger and the decomposing bodies are lying in the bush," said Mrs Nsmbani.

"One man arrived at the camp with his two wives, their 11 children and his dead sister's four-year-old son.

"Just 10 days before they started out on their journey, soldiers attacked their village in the northern part of Mozambique," said Mrs Nsmbani.

"They forced his sister to carry a bag with the last meal that the family had. She was about eight months pregnant, and as she pulled the sack on to her back, the soldiers asked her where she was hiding under her dress.

"She told them she was pregnant. Then one of them took a panga and hacked her stomach open and pulled the baby out. They threw their bodies into the bush.

Farmer

"This man was a farmer, who owned a house with eight rooms. He left it behind. He still believes he'll have a better life here, but it won't be easy.

Last month, 322 new arrivals—115 of them children—swelled the ranks of the refugees in the Himalanicamp, about 10 km from Phalaborwa, to 11,252.

Operation Hunger gives the camp about 5,000 bags of mealie meal and 69 bags of soup each month, while the SA Council of Churches gives 1,000 bags of mealie meal—but that's only one meal a day.
Mozambican accord on track

By Gerald L'Angé and Peter Fabricius

The signing of the Mozambican peace accord is expected to go ahead as scheduled in Rome today after Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama had been persuaded by diplomats to withdraw last-minute objections.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha is understood to have played a major role in the diplomatic efforts to get Mr Dhlakama to the signing ceremony.

Mr Botha, who flew to Rome last night, would be ready to help him with the final drafting of the agreement today, government sources said.

The signing had earlier been thrown into doubt by Mr Dhlakama's reported refusal to attend on the grounds that all contentious issues had not been resolved — particularly the administration of Renamo-controlled areas after the ceasefire.

Renamo wants to retain control of these areas but the Frelimo government in Maputo interprets the agreements reached in Rome to mean that the areas must come under its control. The Italian government mediators are reported to have disagreed with Mr Dhlakama's interpretation.

Waiting patiently in Rome were the ambassadors of the observer nations: the US, Britain, France and Portugal, together with SA ambassador Glenn Babb who has been close to the negotiations.
ROME — Foreign Minister Pik Botha arrived in Rome yesterday to attend the ceremony for the signing of the peace accord between Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama. There was a question mark over the whereabouts of Mr Dhlakama — who had doubts about certain aspects of the accord — although he was yesterday believed to be on his way to Rome.

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and President, Khama of Botswana are also in the Italian capital for the ceremony — Sapa.
Voter education a Matla Trust priority

WITH SA’s first nonracial elections imminent, educational and charitable organisation Matla Trust has chosen voter education as a priority in its programme of uplifting disadvantaged South Africans.

To this end, the trust has produced 320 graduates from eight two-week courses to train people in the concept of democracy and the electoral system. Matla Trust’s community and citizen education programme national co-ordinator Terrence Tryon says.

Matla Trust was established in 1990 as a nonpartisan body serving the needs of disadvantaged people across the political spectrum, following ANC president Nelson Mandela’s consultations on the issue.

The trust is being funded by money Mandela raised in overseas drives. To date, the Washington-based Free Mandela Fund has released R13m to the programme. It also receives funds from foreign governments, foreign and local business and individuals and non-governmental bodies.

As an educational and charitable trust under the chairmanship of lawyer Enant Aych, the trust subscribes to the adage “When you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day, but if you teach him how to fish, you feed him for life.”

The trust’s objectives are to uplift disadvantaged people through educational, social, welfare, charitable and informative programmes.

It also aims to promote the development of a democratic society by teaching people about democratic principles, institutions and practices.

The name Matla comes from the Sesotho word meaning empowerment.

In an interview last year, executive director Billy Modise said the voter education programme would “generally prepare South Africans for democracy.”

He said SA was changing rapidly and if there were to be an election now, many people would be disqualified from voting for procedural or tactical errors.

The community and citizen education programme prepares people for elections by teaching them the basic principles, institutions and practices of democracy.

“We get 33 organisations from all over the country to select people to be trained and to go back and train their constituencies. These people will also act as election managers and serve as monitors during elections,” Tryon said.

“It must be made clear that the programme is not for a particular organisation, but is aimed at getting as many people as possible to vote.”

Renamo leader arrives in Rome

ROME — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama arrived in the Italian capital yesterday to sign a peace treaty ending Mozambique’s 16 years of civil war.

Dhlakama, who had been held at signing the treaty at the last minute but was later convinced to travel to Rome by SA officials, arrived at the city’s Fiumicino Airport early yesterday evening.

And Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano told SA he was sure a face-to-face meeting with Dhlakama would be enough to save the threatened treaty.

SA diplomats said Chissano had assured Foreign Minister Pik Botha a settlement could still be signed in the next few days despite a last-minute change of heart by Dhlakama.

After talks with Chissano, Botha said: “Both parties are so close to signing this ceasefire that it would be a great pity if it did not happen in the next day or two.”

“We hope that thanks to Italian efforts, there will still be a signing (ceremony) in the next few days in Rome,” Botha said.

Italy on Tuesday suspended the planned signing ceremony and put on ice invitations that had already been sent to world leaders including Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi and Portuguese Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva.

Sapa-AFP-Reuters.

Stolen goods recovered in Zevenfontein
AFRICA BRIEFS

Renamo won't sign

ROME: Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama would not attend the signing here yesterday of a peace agreement aimed at ending Mozambique's 16-year civil war, the Italian foreign ministry said.

Dhlakama had "strong reservations about some points of the latest document being worked out, so he feels he cannot be in Rome" to seek an agreement before October 1, the foreign ministry said.

Mediators in the peace talks here have called on the Renamo chief to go back on his decision, saying "controversial issues do not justify a suspension of the scheduled programme."

...
LAST HURDLE FOR MOZAMBIQUE

A LAST obstacle stands in the way of signing a Mozambican peace accord, a source said in Rome yesterday. (218) The stumbling block is the provisional administration of the country during the transition phase and details of this were still being discussed, the source said. — Sape-AFP
Hope for peace

Mozambicans to end hostilities

ROME. — President Chissano of Mozambique and Mr. Alfonso Dhlakama, the leader of Renamo, yesterday signed a peace settlement to end 18 years of hostilities in the former Portuguese colony.

Described as "a historic event for Africa," the agreement comes as a relief to the nearly one million people who have been displaced by the conflict. The signing ceremony, which took place at the Italian parliament, was attended by leaders from several African nations.

"Peace must be guaranteed by all of us and the world," said the president of Mozambique. "We are committed to a peaceful solution and the implementation of the peace accord." The agreement calls for the disarmament of all factions and the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission.

But there are concerns about the future of the peace process. "We need to ensure that the peace agreement is implemented and that justice is served for those who have suffered," said the leader of Renamo.

The agreement is a significant step toward peace in Mozambique, where the conflict has claimed thousands of lives and caused widespread suffering. The leaders of both sides have been praised for their efforts to reach a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

"This is a historic moment for Mozambique," said a prominent political figure. "We hope that this agreement will bring about lasting peace and stability to our country."
Mozambique ceasefire is signed at last

ROME — After two years of negotiations and two days of round-the-clock bargaining, the government of Mozambique and the right-wing Renamo guerrilla group signed a formal ceasefire yesterday to end the 16-year-old civil war.

The sticking point was the composition of local administrative bodies in the transition period leading up to elections.

The accord should allow Mozambique to receive urgently needed food aid and pave the way for free elections.

Presidents Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Quett Masire of Botswana, South Africa's Foreign Minister Pik Botha, Kenyan Vice-President George Saitoti and assistant UN secretarygeneral James Jonah attended.

US under-secretary for African affairs Herman Cohen, ready to offer more than $500 million in food aid, was also present.

After approval of the ceasefire by Mozambique's National Assembly, the agreement sets a timetable for withdrawal of Zimbabwean troops who backed the Maputo government. Troops from both sides will be rounded up and blended into a national army. — Sapa-AFP-AP
Mozambique gets ready for peace

Hopes soar that fighting that killed 600,000 will cease:

ROME - After two years of protracted negotiations and two days of bargaining, Mozambique and the Renamo guerrilla group signed a formal ceasefire yesterday to end 16 years of civil war.

The accord was signed in a public ceremony by Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

Last-minute objections by Dhlakama were overcome on Saturday, Italy's Foreign Ministry said, capping two years of talks in Rome.

The bone of contention was the composition of local administrative bodies in the transition period leading up to elections. A compromise allows Renamo to keep its local residents in their jobs, guaranteeing those personnel will not disseminate against the government's people.

The accord should allow the famine-stricken nation of 15 million to receive urgently needed food aid, suspend fighting which has killed 600,000 and pave the way for free elections in 1993.

Chissano and Dhlakama undertook in Rome on August 7 to sign an accord by October 1. - Sapa-AP
Dhlakama signs ceasefire at last

ROME — After two years of protracted negotiations and two days of round-the-clock bargaining, the Mozambican government and Renamo signed a formal ceasefire yesterday.

The accord was signed in a public ceremony by President Joaquin Chissano and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama.

Last-minute objections by Dhlakama were overcome on Saturday.

The sticking point, said a spokesman for one of the mediators, was over the composition of local administrative bodies in the transition period leading up to elections. A compromise allowed Renamo to keep its local residents in their jobs.

The accord should allow the famine-stricken nation of 15-million to receive urgently needed food aid, suspend fighting which has killed 600,000 and pave the way for free elections next year.

The signing in Rome was attended by SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha, presidents Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Masihe of Botswana, Kenya Vice-President George Saitoti and UN Assistant Secretary-general James Jonah.

After approval of the ceasefire by Mozambique's national assembly, the agreement sets a timetable for withdrawal of Zimbabwe's troops, which backed the Maputo government.

Troops from both forces will gradually be blended into a 30,000-man national army in a 50-50 ratio. — Sapa-AP

*Comment: Page 8*
Rough road ahead for Maputo

Mozambique is a ravaged land — but if the latest ceasefire holds there is hope, writes HANS-PETER BAKKER.

The signing of the Mozambican peace agreement in Rome at the weekend brings hope to a nation reduced by war and economic mismanagement to an official status as the poorest in the world.

But the signing is only the beginning of what could be a long, hard road to recovery.

The ceremony will ostensibly end nearly 30 years of war, first by the Frelimo liberation movement against Portuguese colonialism and then by the Renamo rebel movement against the Frelimo government. Whether the accord will in fact end the fighting is an open question and, initially at least, the peace could be fragile.

There is a consensus among informed observers, however, that the two sides have little alternative but to resolve their differences peacefully and install a democratic government.

The commitment by President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama to end the war has come only after — and possibly because — Mozambique and its people have been brought close to the lowest possible level of degradation. The crippling drought may have been the final straw which forced the warring sides to agreement, depriving even the rebels of the ability to live off the land.

Much of Mozambique is in a state of disaster in the true sense of the word. The Frelimo government has a tenuous control over most of the cities and towns but these have become little more than islands surrounded by Renamo attrition.

Almost every building is dilapidated and streets are pot-holed, often running with sewage and inhabited by hungry and desperate people, many of whom have fled from even worse situations in the rural areas.

Security has deteriorated to a point where in some cases the only safe form of travel between towns is by air. Renamo claims to control much of rural Mozambique — and in disputed areas has been blamed for atrocities against civilians that have horrified the world.

The once beautiful land, with its abundance of rich agricultural lands, game reserves and unspoilt lagoons and beaches, has been ravaged.

First there was a guerrilla campaign against colonialism until in 1962 the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) began armed insurrection.

By 1974, when the Portuguese withdrew following the collapse of their home government, Frelimo was in control of much of the country. The party assumed full control when independence came in June 1975.

Most of the Portuguese left, taking with them their wealth, their equipment and skills. They left a poorly developed infrastructure and a literate population of less than 10 percent.

Frelimo imposed Marxist-Leninist social engineering which led to rebellion among some of the people and the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) emerged, sponsored first by Rhodesia and later by South Africa.

But the Frelimo government, led by arch-socialist Samora Machel, faltered as its experiments with communism failed.

President Machel in 1984 signed the Nkomati Accord with South Africa which called for Mozambique to stop supporting ANC insurgency in return for Pretoria ending its backing for Renamo and promoting investment.

The accord failed amid allegations that Pretoria had continued to aid Renamo. After his death in an air crash Machel was succeeded by the more pragmatic Joaquim Chissano, who introduced a multiparty, free market system and began exploratory talks with Renamo.

But the civil war continued unabated, despite the opening that year of peace talks.

Economic decline, drought and increased international pressure ultimately brought Mr Chissano and Mr Dhlakama together for the first time on August 5 in Rome, where they committed their sides to sign a ceasefire by October 1.

The ceasefire will be monitored by United Nations observers. There almost certainly will be continued violence, for many of those with guns owe no allegiance to any party or authority and regard banditry as the easiest way of making a living.

Several political parties have been formed in the new political dispensation now operating in Mozambique but it seems likely that the election that is expected to be held next year will be contested mainly by Frelimo and Renamo.

Rebuilding Mozambique at a time when the developed nations have grown tired of Africa and its problems will be extraordinarily difficult.

Large amounts of foreign aid will be needed to get the economy back on its feet. By the same token, however, opportunities will be opened up for foreign investment if the country can get on to a stable footing.

South Africa will be well placed to take advantage of the opportunities that will arise in construction, tourism and merchandising — provided the ceasefire holds and a democratic government is installed.
Maputo holds its fire

MAPUTO — The Mozambican defence ministry has ordered all military units to adopt a strictly defensive position following the signing of a peace agreement in Rome between President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama.

Immediately after Sunday's signing, Defence Minister Alberto Chipande issued orders to the armed forces calling a halt to any offensive action.

Strictly speaking, there is no ceasefire until the Mozambican parliament ratifies the agreement — expected some time this week.

General Chipande announced that even before the ceasefire takes effect the armed forces should not take offensive action "in order to express the commitment of the Mozambican government to achieving peace".

Mozambican troops are, however, allowed to take defensive action whenever necessary.

Mr Dhlakama declared in Rome, shortly after the signing, that he would order his men to stop fighting within 24 hours.

If both sides ensured that all their units received these orders promptly, and obeyed them, then the guns would fall silent by today.

Once the ceasefire has come into force, the troops of both sides are supposed to gather at assembly points. A total of 15,000 men from each side will be chosen to form the new national armed forces.

Gerald L'Ange of The Star's Africa Service reports that one of the most important benefits to flow immediately from implementation of the ceasefire will be the opening of roads to trucks carrying relief food for the millions of Mozambicans who face famine because of the drought and the war.
Stop squabbling, says Pik

By Kaizer Nyatamba
Political Reporter

The signing of a formal ceasefire by Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in Rome on Sunday, and the completion of elections in Angola, presented a challenge to all South Africans to put their house in order, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said yesterday.

Addressing a press conference at Jan Smuts Airport on his arrival from Rome, Mr Botha said the two major developments — in which South Africa had played a role — challenged local political leaders to stop squabbling, put an end to violence, and solve the country's problems so that South Africa could play its role in the region.

Mr Botha said although the implementation of the Mozambican ceasefire would not be easy, no talk of implementation could have been possible without the agreement.

South Africa had played "a small part" towards bringing the Mozambican government and Renamo to the negotiations table, he said.

During a visit to Rome a few years ago, he had asked the Pope to nominate a church leader in Mozambique who would be acceptable to both sides to act as mediator. That had been done and had led to the signing of the ceasefire agreement, Mr Botha said.

A number of commissions would be created to implement the agreement and prepare the ground for elections in Mozambique next year.

On Angola, Mr Botha said his latest information was that Unita had polled about 40 percent of the vote, "which is a considerable amount of support to have". Unita had not been "overrun", and would play a significant role.

The Government had sent a message to President Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi to work for reconciliation and a government of national unity, he said.
Pik offers Mozambique SA's help with ceasefire

SA WOULD consider taking part in overseeing Mozambique's ceasefire if asked, Foreign Minister Pik Botha said yesterday.

He told a news conference on his return from Rome, where an accord ending 16 years of civil war was signed on Sunday, that various commissions were being created to monitor the ceasefire and help Mozambique along the road to democracy.

"We would be prepared to sit on some of these commissions, but only if asked," he said.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama signed the ceasefire after more than two years of peace negotiations in Rome mediated by the Roman Catholic church and the Italian government.

Botha warned that difficult times still lay ahead for Mozambique, one of the world's poorest countries devastated by war and the worst drought of the century in the region.

"This agreement has now been signed, but it doesn't mean implementation will be easy," he said.

"We are relieved that this important step has now been taken."

Refugee officials said refugees were still fleeing the famine in Mozambique into Malawi, Zimbabwe, Swaziland and SA. More than two million Mozambicans are refugees in neighbouring states, while millions more of the 15 million population have fled their homes within the country.

Botha said a return of refugees would have to be discussed with Mozambique's leaders.

Now, after the major events in Angola and Mozambique, SA was being challenged to solve its own problems and to stop the violence, Botha said.

He called on political parties to put SA's interests first, and not their own narrow party political interests.

Asked about his meeting in Rome with Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, Botha said prospects were good for diplomatic relations eventually being established between the two countries.

However, Pretoria would not push for the opening of relations, but would wait for an improvement to come about naturally. He said trade and communication links between the two countries were already good.

On Cahora Bassa, Botha said if the water project was resurrected, about 15 000 workers would be needed to remove the vegetation underneath the power lines.

The Mozambican peace agreement would not only improve the region, but would also pave the way for holdaymakers who wanted to visit the region.

The Foreign Minister said that while in Rome, he had discussed with a senior UN official the UN observers function in SA and how they should co-ordinate their work with local structures such as the Goldstone commission.

Meanwhile, in Maputo, the Mozambican defence ministry has ordered all military units to adopt a strictly defensive position because of the signing of the peace agreement.

Immediately after Sunday's signing of the accord, Defence Minister Alberto Chupande ordered the armed forces to call a halt to any offensive actions. — Sapa-Reuters

Banda rules out change in Malawi

LILONGWE - President Kamuzu Banda has ruled out a multiparty system in Malawi, saying it was unviable and would cause corruption and strife.

"There is no question of multipartisynism here," Banda, president for life of the central African nation, told a convention of his ruling Malawi Congress Party at the weekend.

Malawi would remain a one-party state whether the country's "friends or enemies like it or not", he said, according to the official Malawi News Agency.

Banda, who has banned opposition parties and ruled Malawi since independence from Britain in 1964, said pluralist politics "bred corruption, political instability, poor economic performance and civil and tribal strife."

— Sapa-Reuters

Breakaway gunmen seize key points in Madagascan port

ANTANANARIVO — Breakaway gunmen have seized control of key installations in Madagascar's main port town, Toamasina, in continuing violence in the run-up to multiparty presidential elections next month.

Travellers returning from the port said groups of gunmen had taken over Toamasina Airport and were threatening to shoot down any aircraft attempting to land.

Travellers said the government sent troops to Toamasina at the weekend and to Tolagnaro, 500km to the southeast, to end violence by supporters of regional rule.

Returning travellers from both towns said the gunmen were in control of local radio and television stations which they were using to broadcast demands for regional rule.

In Toamasina, they said they planned to take over banks, the local treasury, the railway network and power and water plants to back demands for a federal state.

The transitional government announced on Sunday that presidential elections would be held on November 26, pitting Duber Ratsiraka, who has ruled for 12 years against some 15 hopefuls from Madagascar's six provinces.

Madagascar has been in a state of political and economic upheaval for more than a year after President Ratsiraka bowed to the democracy movement sweeping Africa and agreed to share power with a transitional government before general elections.

Toamasina, birthplace of Ratsiraka, has been the focus of violent opposition to a continued unitary state in recent weeks by supporters of regional rule.
Refugees pouring into Zimbabwe, says report

HARARE — Up to 5 000 Mozambicans a month were arriving in Zimbabwe as refugees, most of them weak from walking for days from rebel-held areas, the World Food Programme (WFP) said last week.

In a report on the severe drought in southern Africa, it said the number of Mozambicans in Zimbabwe to escape war and famine had risen from 98 000 to 123 000.

“New arrivals increased sharply after July, with up to 5 000 a month, stretching housing and sanitary services to the limit,” the UN agency said.

In July the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said Mozambicans were arriving at rates of 2 500 to 3 000 a month.

“[The] influx, a sixth refugee camp will be established in Uzumba, in the northeast (of Zimbabwe),” the WFP said.

Renamo signed a peace agreement with Mozambique’s government on Sunday after 16 years of civil war in which more than 1 million people died.

Tens of thousands of Mozambicans have also fled to Botswana, Malawi, SA and Zambia. — Sapa-Reuters

Renamo in transition to respectability

HARARE — Mozambican rebels, once branded Africa’s Khmer Rouge by other leaders, have finally completed a long quest for recognition by their enemies and emphatically stamped their mark as a powerful political force in southern Africa.

Political analysts said the signing of the Mozambican ceasefire on Sunday had transformed Renamo, a shadowy group known mostly for its brutality in Mozambique’s ruinous 16-year war, into a credible opposition to the beleaguered government.

Renamo chief Anson Dhlakama, adopting “backward and forward” tactics, wrung spectacular concessions from the government to undermine the fact that Renamo had come of age, the analyst said.

“Few thought this bunch of dissidents would ever sit at a table with Mozambican leaders, let alone (Zimbabwe President) Robert Mugabe, who viewed the rebels as mere troublemakers,” said a Western diplomat speaking in Harare.

“Renamo has succeeded in not only getting the recognition it wanted, but it has managed to get concessions which clearly make the rebels victors this time round.”

The agreement, signed in Rome, calls for the establishment of a new armed forces structure comprising about 30 000 men drawn equally from both sides.

And Zimbabwean troops guarding two strategic corridors between their country and Mozambique’s ports must leave within a month.

Set up in 1974 by white rulers of then Rhodesia, Renamo has travelled a long and arduous road to achieve this recognition.

The rebel group, whose full name is the Mozambique National Resistance, was later taken over by SA as the main force to topple Mozam-

ique’s first president, Samora Machel, who was fiercely opposed to the Pretoria government.

It also fought against Mugabe’s guerrillas, then operating from Mozambique, with the help of Rhodesian security forces.

Its brutal attacks against civilians brought worldwide condemnation in the 80s, particularly from the US State Department.

With the war intensifying and the SA government pouring arms and ammunitions into Renamo camps, Machel, who died in a plane crash in 1986, was forced to sign the 1984 Nkomati peace accord with Pretoria.

But the rebels stepped up their offensive, forcing peace talks between the Mozambican government and Renamo. The first talks started in Rome more than two years ago.

— Sapa-Reuters
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Arms agreements

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South Africa steps in

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Its brutal attacks against civilians brought worldwide condemnation in the 1980s, particularly from the US State Department.

Several southern African leaders branded Renamo Africa's Khmer Rouge, after the Marxist group that ruled Cambodia between 1975 and 1978 and systematically killed millions.

With the war intensifying and the South African Government pouring in arms and ammunition into Renamo camps, Machel, who died in a plane crash in 1986, was forced to sign the 1984 Nkomati peace accord with Pretoria.

Increasing power

But the rebels stepped up their offensive, forcing peace talks between the Mozambican government and Renamo which started in Rome more than two years ago.

Mugabe, whose landlocked country has about 7 000 troops guarding trade routes through Mozambique, began to be more actively involved in seeking a truce to the war which has killed one million people and displaced several million others.

"The economy of Mozambique had been driven to near collapse by the war," one diplomat said. "Zimbabwe, too, was feeling the pinch. "Zimbabwe has been spending more than 70 percent of its annual budget on the Mozambican war effort."

Renamo has finally signed a peace agreement to end one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars. They have managed to wrest many concessions because Presidents Mugabe and Chisano believe they are unlikely to win any popular vote because of past atrocities against hapless citizens.

Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano (left) and Renamo rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama (right) give a toast after signing a peace agreement including an immediate ceasefire to end Mozambique's civil war. Italian official Sergio Raffaelli stands between them.

Than southern Africa's most disastrous drought struck, devastating the economies of Zimbabwe and Mozambique and leaving millions of people in both countries in need of urgent food aid.

May assume leadership

"All these factors have made Renamo, for all the ugly things it has done, emerge from political oblivion to become a serious contender for the Mozambican political leadership," one diplomat said.

But others said Mugabe and President Joaquin Chissano, who signed the ceasefire accord with Dhlakama, believe Renamo could not win a fair election because of atrocities it has been accused of committing.

"These leaders apparently are convinced that Renamo will lose any election so they are prepared to give in to as many demands as possible," an African diplomat said. - Sapa-Reuters
Mozambique Accord awaits UN monitors

Star Africa Service (218)

MAPUTO — The Mozambican peace accord will not come into effect until the United Nations monitors are in place and the joint commission that is to supervise it has been established, President Joaquim Chissano said yesterday.

Thousands of people greeted him at the airport on his return from signing the accord in Rome and thousands more lined the roads to the city to give him an excited welcome.

There was a roar of approval from the crowd as he appeared in the aircraft doorway and held aloft a copy of the bulky Rome agreement, symbolising the end of 18 years of devastating civil war.

Under the accord the ceasefire is supposed to take effect as soon as it has been ratified by the Mozambican parliament. This is expected to happen this week.

At a news conference at the airport Mr Chissano said the UN would need “a few more days” to get its representatives in place.

Both the Frelimo government and the Renamo rebels have undertaken, however, to order their forces to respect the ceasefire immediately and there have been no reports of clashes between the two armed forces since the signing.

Asked about the difficulty in deciding which areas were to be regarded as under government control and which under Renamo control, Mr Chissano said that “a lot of good faith” was needed if the accord was to be a success.

He said Britain, France and Portugal had been invited to train the new joint army and the three nations were already meeting in Portugal.

Britain had proposed doing some of the training at the army base at Nyange in Zimbabwe where it has been training Mozambican troops.
US tells Maputo to fight famine

WASHINGTON — The US on Monday hailed the signing of a peace agreement to end civil war in Mozambique and said attention should now be paid to averting a severe famine in the country.

The White House said it expected all parties to redouble their efforts to overcome a severe humanitarian crisis in Mozambique brought about by war and drought.

"Tens of thousands of Mozambicans in remote areas of the country are reported to be facing famine," said White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, adding that "swift international action was needed to avoid a "large-scale human catastrophe".

President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama on Sunday signed a peace treaty in Rome to end the 16-year civil war that has devastated the country and killed more than 1 million people.

A ceasefire will take effect as soon as the treaty is ratified by the Mozambique parliament, which diplomats said would probably be later this week.

It will mark the theoretical end of a major southern African conflict which began shortly after independence from Portugal in 1975.

Millions have been forced to flee their homes amid the fighting between government troops and Dhlakama's Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), which had backing from, South Africans and Portuguese.

Countless others died of hunger.

US state department spokesman Richard Boucher said that under the agreement, democratic multi-party elections would be held within 12 months.

He said the agreement would not have been possible without the mediation of the Italian government and support of many other parties including Kenya, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Portugal, Britain, France and SA.

He urged all groups to stay involved to ensure the agreement was implemented.

Sapa-Reuter
Running the gauntlet of Mozambique’s roads

HUNDREDS of truck drivers, many of them South African, used to run the gauntlet of Mozambique’s treacherous roads every day, risking life and limb to bring in essential food supplies. They will be among the many who will be relieved about the signing of the country’s peace accord.

There is little left of the road to Maputo from the Swazi border. For the last 16 years this vital artery has borne the brunt of the mortar and rocket exchanges that have characterised the civil war between Mozambique’s government troops and the Renamo guerrillas.

The route from the border bears testimony to the risk the drivers run, for the scars of the war that has cost the country 100,000 lives and displaced 4.5 million of its 14-million people are everywhere.

The charred remains of houses and more than 50 ambushed vehicles line the route, mostly attacked by Renamo in their struggle to feed themselves and cut off the capital.

But the government was determined to keep the road open. When we travelled it last month, there was a group of three or four soldiers every 200m, most barely older than 18 but no less keen to display their importance.

As we approached each group, they lifted their rifles and rocket launchers and took aim — a signal, now well understood by our driver, to toss half a loaf of bread out of the window as we passed.

"Like everyone else here, they’re hungry," Miguel explained. "Forget to give them food and they will shower you with bullets.

"You can get attacked by bandits, Renamo or even Frelimo — you never know which side it's coming from."

The border road was safe, though, compared with the coastal road north from Maputo. Described as the “hell road” by truckers, it easily earns its name, for every day someone was shot at.

Our driver was the lucky ones. In 36 runs he had never been attacked.

His luck ran out, however, 30 minutes out of Maputo when a dozen men leapt from the bushes and unleashed a few rounds at our truck from their AK-47s. Somehow they missed, and Gary managed to chuckle and keep driving.

At the depot in Xai-Xai was another driver, Jo, who had been shot in the leg, along with his passenger, about a year ago. He lost his right leg and his passenger his left, but Jo has had a hand clutch fitted to his truck and keeps on running the same route regardless.

"The money is good, but above all the country is fantastic and the friendship among the drivers is unbeatable. Now I go shoe shopping with my friend and we split a pair," he said, grinning.

Harry Thomas, who has been running trucks through Mozambique for the last two years, said drivers could make up to R3 500 a month as well as R500 hazard money and R500 spending money a trip.

Most prefer not to travel in convoy because, said Gary, "the ground alongside the road is so soft they only need to take out the first truck and the others get stuck beside the road."

But while the troops and rebels begged and truck drivers ran the gauntlet of their hunger, even those with a little authority in Africa’s longest-running civil war learned to look after themselves. Not far from Xai-Xai we came across a Frelimo officer being carried across the water onto his dhow. "I don’t want to get my feet wet," he told us. "Why should I? I’m an officer."
Business Day misled

BUSINESS Day was deliberately misled and, as a result, incorrectly reported on July 30 that a private clinic to be opened in Mozambique would be financed by the African Development Bank. The Bank has asked us to point out that it is neither financing the clinic nor is aware of it.
Renamo kills 2 SA drivers

MAPUTO — Rebel Renamo guerrillas on Tuesday killed two SA drivers in a three-truck ambush, violating the preliminary ceasefire, the Mozambican army said yesterday.

A statement by the general staff said a third SA driver had been beaten and robbed in the attack on the road from Swaziland.

One truck had been burned out and two others had been damaged.

The identities of the drivers were not available.

The Mozambique Defence Ministry and Renamo have said they had instructed their forces to halt all offensive military operations following Sunday's Rome peace accord, and prior to a formal ceasefire.

Sapa-AP reports from Maputo that President Joaquim Chissano said on Tuesday his government was seeking ways to immediately implement such a ceasefire agreement.

Chissano received a rousing welcome at the airport on his return from Rome, where he signed the peace accord ending 16 years of war.

"We have learned our lesson — war must never return to our country," Chissano told cheering supporters.

He said parliament would approve the accord within days, but it would not formally take effect until UN representatives came to Mozambique.

No date has been set, but a strong UN presence is expected to monitor the truce, leading to elections by October 1993.

The war between the leftist government and right wing Renamo rebels claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and made Mozambique one of the poorest countries in the world.

More than 3-million people depend on food aid because of the war and drought.

In Zimbabwe, President Robert Mugabe said Zimbabwean troops guarding roads and railways in Mozambique would be withdrawn only when it was clear the ceasefire was holding. The soldiers, believed to number 10,000, will remain if Renamo rebels continue to strike at transport links. Zimbabwe depends on these economic lifelines for about 10% of its trade — Sapa-AP-AFP
Mozambique rebels sign peace accord

SIXTEEN years of civil war which have cost Mozambique up to a million lives and brought the country to the brink of ruin were formally ended at the weekend in Rome when President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Ali Hassan Moktar put their names to a comprehensive peace plan, writes Noli Scott.

The signing of the Rome accord, brokered by Italy, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, followed months of negotiations and repeated about-turns by Mr Dhlakama and his National Resistance Movement (Renamo).

Under its terms there will be an immediate truce and Zimbabwean troops will withdraw within a month. The troops have been guarding two strategic corridors across the country — the Beira corridor in central Mozambique and the Limpopo railway in the south — against repeated attacks by Renamo forces. Up to 500,000 Mozambicans have fled into the Beira corridor to seek protection.

The agreement also lays down that both government and Renamo troops will move into specified assembly areas within a month and hand their weapons to the United Nations monitors within six months.
Two countries battling for peace

Savimbi has means to resume war

If the choice is to defy international pressure

By JUDIN MULLLOFF in Luanda

UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi has the opportunity to start the war again.

South Africa has steadfastly been trying to work with the Angolan government. It is still in contact with Savimbi, but diplomatic sources say he can expect little future help from Pretoria.

Savimbi is now either in exile in Portugal or in Angola. In any event, UN observers will be watching closely for any signs of new attacks.

The war will continue to be fought on the ground by UNITA and MPLA forces.

South Africa's Foreign Minister, Pik Botha, is reported to have said that his government is ready to mediate in the conflict.

The war has been going on for over 15 years, and both sides have lost many lives.

The international community is calling for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

Guns still likely to rule ceasefire in Mozambique

By CHRISTOPHER McCURR in Maputo

After many years of brutal war there are doubts that the ceasefire will last.

The government in Maputo has signed a ceasefire agreement with the rebel forces in the country's north.

However, there are concerns that the ceasefire may not hold.

The rebels have been fighting for independence from the government for many years.

The international community is calling for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

The war has been going on for over 20 years, and both sides have lost many lives.

The international community is calling for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.
General Smart's scruffy army wears

By Eddie Koch

Renamo's General Smart and his rag-tag army are elated that an end to the war is in sight and now talk frankly about the SADF's role.

According to a recent study by American academic Bill Minter, who interviewed scores of Renamo defectors from southern Mozambique, most of the village's inhabitants are captives who have been drafted into the organisation and live in the camp under extreme duress.

The report describes a typical Renamo raid in which, in the apex province, this rebel unit attacks the village, kills most of the adult men, and abducts the women and young children. The women are forced to carry the bodies to the Renamo camp, where they are killed. The captives are used as servants and labourers for the soldiers. The raids are organized through a network of informants, which sometimes involves the killing of one of the captives family members, and then trained as the boy soldiers who make up more than half of Renamo's army.

As General Smart proceeds with his impromptu press conference, a group of these women and children are captured by Ngungwe huddle in the bush nearby and sing a melancholy song about the virtues of Renamo. Just two days prior to the peace agreement, they received a truckload of food from the South African army, and the thought that without this aid many of them would have died.

But General Smart admits these humanitarian sup
Union's (CWIU) demand is an increasingly familiar one in a world where multinational corporations plan to move whole sections of industry to South Africa. From Johannesburg where European and American companies have already concentrated a great deal of their operations and become a focal point for the second largest industrial base outside the United States. The crisis has been exacerbated by a series of devaluations of the rand making South African goods and services cheaper, and hence more competitive in world markets, while at the same time making imports more expensive and, thereby, squeezing profit margins. This has led to a wave of retrenchments, plant closures and the threat of more.
We will retaliate, warns Renamo

MAPUTO — The rebel Mozambique National Resistance yesterday warned that it would retaliate against what it claimed were attempts by government troops to occupy areas under rebel control, in violation of the peace agreement signed in Rome on October 4.

The Renamo statement alleged that 70 government soldiers had moved into Mhessa, a locality in the central province of Zambezia, which the rebels claim to “control totally”.

In the north-western province of Tete, Renamo says, government troops are trying to occupy the area of Chuputo, and even left a note informing Renamo that this operation was on instructions from the General Staff.

If these allegations are true, they would amount to a violation of the agreement, which envisages that, as part of the cessation of hostilities, even before the ceasefire takes formal effect, neither side will occupy “new positions”.

The Renamo statement follows accusations by the General Staff last week of several Renamo violations of the agreement. Thus Renamo was blamed for an ambush on Tuesday on the Mozambique-Swaziland road in which two South African drivers were killed and three trucks set on fire. — Sapa-AFP.
Truck driver runs bloody gauntlet

By Clyde Johnson
Lowveld Bureau

NELSPRUIT — A 32-year-old truck driver described at the weekend how he kept his heavy-duty vehicle moving while hiding beneath the truck’s dashboard as bullets riddled his vehicle during an ambush in Mozambique.

Then Daniel Shabalala felt a sharp blow in the elbow when one of the bullets hit him.

As blood poured from the wound, he ripped off his shirt, bound it round his arm and ran to a nearby dilapidated building for help.

Speaking from his bed at Nelspruit’s Rob Ferreira Hospital, the Vanderbijlpark father of three young children said he was lucky to be alive.

Two colleagues travelling in trucks behind him were killed. One of the trucks was destroyed by fire.

Shabalala, driving a 25 ton horse and trailer belonging to Scott’s Transport of Johannesburg, said he was on his way home on Tuesday after delivering a load of steel to Maputo.

About halfway between Maputo and the Namaacha-Swaziland border, a man appeared from the bushes and fired at his truck. Seconds later about 40 more armed men appeared and opened fire.

“I engaged the truck into the lowest gear, slid off my seat, dropped beneath the dashboard and kept the vehicle moving without looking where I was going. The windscreen shattered, bullets rained into the cabin but I just kept moving.”

Suddenly he felt a sharp jab in the right elbow and saw blood pumping from the wound.

“I ripped off my shirt, wrapped it tight and ran as fast as I could to an old, broken-down house some distance away. The attackers never followed and a friendly couple helped to stop the bleeding.”

Shortly afterwards, a colleague, known only as Cecil, arrived at the farmhouse and told him the drivers of two other trucks had been shot dead.

Shabalala refused a lift to a Maputo hospital, saying that if he was to die he would prefer to do so in South Africa.

A motorist who introduced himself only as Mr. Brown brought him to Nelspruit.
Let's get off this slippery slope, fast. Graham Lumpsitt comments on some disturbing parallels.
Chamber and NUM go on historic tour

A top-level Chamber of Mines-NUM delegation is to leave for Germany tonight for a joint study tour of that country's coal mining industry.

The tour, described by both sides as historic, has been arranged by German mineowners and the country's mining union. A Chamber spokesman said the visit followed the mining summit which committed management and labour to a cooperative approach in solving the industry's problems.

The group includes Chamber president Bobby Godsell, industrial relations adviser Adrian du Plessis, colliery committee chairman John Hopwood, NUM president James Motlatsi, assistant general secretary Marcel Golding and union spokesman Jerry Majatladi.

The group is to study Germany's coal mining industry and the way it has adjusted to changing circumstances.

Golding said the group would be looking at ways of protecting jobs as far as possible, such as by retraining workers. It would also examine an industrial relations system which allowed workers meaningful participation in decision-making without undermining the industry.
Peace eludes; killing stays

Accord signed last Sunday has little effect on stability:

MAPUTO - Despite the peace accord signed in Rome last Sunday between the Mozambican government and the rebel Renamo, rebel attacks on vehicles and villages are still being reported.

According to the Maputo daily, Notícias, Renamo rebels killed eight civilians in an ambush on Tuesday on a convoy of food aid trucks in the northwestern province of Tete.

Citing the provincial military command, the paper said the convoy's military escort managed to kill two of the attackers and two of the Mozambican soldiers were wounded.

A statement issued by the general staff of the Mozambican Armed Forces said that also on Tuesday, two villagers were attacked in the north of the country, in Nampula and Niassa provinces.

A total of 80 houses were burnt down in these raids but no casualties -AFP
Renamo attacks continue — reports

MAPUTO — Despite the peace accord signed in Rome last Sunday between the Mozambican government and Renamo, rebel attacks on vehicles and villages are still being reported.

According to the Maputo daily Noticias on Saturday, Renamo rebels killed eight civilians in an ambush on a convoy of food aid trucks last Tuesday in the northwestern province of Tete.

Citing the provincial military commando, the paper said the convoy's military escort killed two of the attackers, and two of the Mozambican soldiers were wounded.

A statement issued by the Mozambican Armed Forces' general staff said that also on Tuesday, two villagers were attacked in the northern Nampula and Niassa provinces.

A total of 80 houses were burned down in the raids, but there were no reports of casualties.

Mozambique's parliament has meanwhile altered election laws to match agreements reached in the ceasefire halting the 16-year civil war, the AIM national news agency reported on Saturday.

Under the changes, elections would be based on proportional representation instead of the winner-takes-all system originally adopted in December 1990, said AIM.

The constitutional amendments would permit parliament to ratify the peace accord today, AIM said.

However, the general staff said it had received information that local Renamo commanders in Niassa were opposed to the cessation of hostilities that was decreed by Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama immediately after signing the peace agreement.

It has been suggested that the order to halt offensive action had not yet reached all Renamo units.

But there are fears in Maputo that discipline in the rebel ranks is so poor, many units would go on fighting regardless of what Dhlakama said. — Sapau-

AP-AFP
UN chief sketches plan to enforce Mozambique pact

NEW YORK — United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday outlined plans for a new UN peacekeeping operation to help implement an accord between Mozambique and Renamo rebels.

The treaty, signed in Rome on October 4 by President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama, ends a 16-year civil war that has devastated the country.

Mozambique's parliament yesterday unanimously ratified the peace accord.

In a report to the Security Council, Boutros-Ghali said he planned to appoint immediately an interim special representative who would be in overall charge of the UN operation.

It is similar to one being completed in Angola — like Mozambique, a former Portuguese-ruled territory — following the signing of an accord in May 1991 between the Angolan government and Unita rebels.

The Mozambique operation involves helping to monitor the ceasefire, expected to come into effect no later than Thursday; overseeing the separation of the two sides' forces; the forces' concentration in designated assembly areas; and the demobilization within six months of troops not enlisted in a new Mozambican defence force.

The UN will also monitor and help organize presidential and legislative elections, to be held a year after the start of the ceasefire, and co-ordinate humanitarian programmes.

Boutros-Ghali said his special representative, to be appointed with Security Council approval, would immediately be sent to Mozambique with an advance team of up to 26 military observers and administrative support staff.

The team, whose military personnel would be drawn from existing UN peacekeeping operations, would be stationed in Maputo, Beira and Nampula. — Sipa-Reuters.
Little confidence that Renamo will honour peace deal

MAPUTO — Mozambican rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama made a rare appearance on national television last week, interviewed at his base in the wilderness of Gorongosa.

Diners watching the broadcast in a corner of a restaurant on Maputo's Avenida Eduardo Mondlane tittered over their soup when they heard him complain that the government was not delivering food to his troops. They laughed because they knew that any lorry venturing outside Maputo was highly likely to be ambushed by Dhlakama's Renamo rebels, and would not get near the base at Marrungue.

"I do not trust men with guns in the bush," said Jorge Pinto, a government clerk.

It is a perception that has thrown a damper over the conclusion of two years of peace talks. When the guerrilla leader finally signed the agreement on October 5 — five days late — Maputo residents were not jubilant.

"When one of the signatories has been dragged kicking and screaming to the table, it doesn't inspire one with confidence," said a relief agency official.

There is deep concern whether Dhlakama can deliver his side of the agreement. Renamo's record for honouring agreements in the past is not encouraging.

The first deal it made was in December, 1990, to stop attacking the two corridors linking land-locked Zimbabwe with the coast.

However, Renamo's violations were so frequent that the Mozambican army stopped reporting them to officials monitoring the limited truce.

In July, Dhlakama publicly agreed to a UN-led convoy system to bring food across the combat lines to the drought-devastated southern and central areas under Renamo's control. Three months later, relief agencies are still haggling with the movement over which routes can be used.

The peace talks in Rome were a test of patience for Roman Catholic church mediators as Renamo repeatedly changed its mind and missed deadlines.

The latest link leading to the final signing appeared to take this pattern to extremes, leading Louisko CE Tiny Rowlond — Renamo's main link with the world outside Marrungue — to declare "I have known this man for four years, but to tell the truth, I don't know how his brain is working now."

Most worrying, of all, Western diplomats have said, is that Renamo appeared to have little reason for settling for peace.

Dudley Searle, a Zimbabwean businessman kidnapped by Renamo in 1998, remarked soon after escaping his captors that their weapons gave them everything they needed to live by, and that there was "no incentive for them to lay down their arms" — Sapa
Maputo approves general amnesty

MAPUTO — Mozambique's parliament yesterday approved a general amnesty for rebels and government soldiers, as called for by a peace accord ending the 16-year civil war.

The AIM national news agency reports that the amnesty covers rebels jailed or awaiting trial for war-related offenses, as well as soldiers court-martialled during the war.

Thirteen alleged coup plotters are also to be freed.

President Joaquim Chissano said the amnesty was intended to promote reconciliation.

"Everybody should be allowed to go back to their homes," he said. "Nobody should be killed, jailed, harassed or discriminated against. There should be no settling of accounts." — Sapé-AP.
Mozambique’s accord is no cause for joy among citizens who still face...

Young men with guns in the bush

When Mozambican rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama made a rare appearance on national television last week, diners watching the broadcast in a restaurant in Maputo tittered over their soup when they heard him complain that the government was not delivering food to his troops.

They laughed because they knew any lorry venturing much outside Maputo is highly likely to be ambushed by Dhlakama’s Renamo rebels.

“I don’t trust men with guns in the bush,” said Jorge Pinto, a government clerk, summing up the perception that has thrown a damper over the conclusion of two years of peace talks.

When the guerrilla leader finally signed the agreement on October 5 — five days later — Maputo residents were not jubilant.

Renamo’s record for honouring agreements is not encouraging. The first deal it made was in December 1980 — to stop attacking the two corridors linking landlocked Zimbabwe with the coast.

However, Renamo’s violations were so frequent that the Mozambican army stopped reporting them to officials monitoring the limited truce.

In July Dhlakama publicly agreed to a United Nations-led convoy system to bring food across the combat lines to drought-devastated southern and central areas under Renamo’s control. Three months later relief agencies are still haggling with the movement over which routes can be used.

The peace talks in Rome were a test of patience for Roman Catholic Church mediators as Renamo repeatedly changed its mind and missed deadlines.

“The last days before the final signing took this pattern to extremes,” Lompo’s chief executive Tony Rowland — Renamo’s main link with the world outside its base at Maringue — said “I have known this man for four years, but to tell the truth, I don’t know how his brain is working now.”

Dhlakama was a private in the Portuguese colonial army in 1974 when he deserted to Frelimo, a year before it came to power.

After being put in charge of stores at the military base at Dondo near Bura, he was arrested for theft, only to be broken out of jail soon after by a Rhodesian-led raid.

Africa Watch, the London and Washington-based human rights organisation, says in a detailed report on Mozambique published last month, that Renamo’s roots are tribal. It is dominated by members of Dhlakama’s language group, the Ndau, to the extent that the language has become the lingua franca of the movement.

Various independent reports put Renamo’s strength at about 30,000 men. But many of these are children, some as young as eight years old. Africa Watch reports the existence of units of a couple of hundred, with only one or two adults in charge.

Traditional religion, rather than conventional strategy, plays a major part. Africa Watch details several consultations Dhlakama has held with spirit mediums, seeking guidance and predictions for the outcome of offensives — Sapa
Moz ceasefire due to take effect tomorrow

MAPUTO — Mozambique's ceasefire is due to take effect tomorrow when an advance team of observers should be in place, says the UN.

The UN team, headed by a special representative appointed by the secretary-general, Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, would include "25 military observers and necessary administrative support staff", said a statement yesterday.

It said the first team was small because of the limited time available, but would be followed by more people who would carry out all the functions envisaged for the UN under a peace agreement signed by the Mozambican government and Renamo rebels on October 4. (230) C1 412014 L

The announcement followed ratification of the peace pact by the Mozambican parliament on Monday night — Sapa-Reuters
MAPUTO - The Mozambican ceasefire signed between Frelimo and Renamo more than a week ago, was already changing attitudes even before it came into effect yesterday.

According to Radio Mozambique, a truck convoy carrying food and was stopped by a Renamo unit. But when the trucks stopped, instead of looting them and killing the drivers, the Renamo rebels requested food. The drivers gave them sacks of maize.
Control over armed forces is crucial.

The eruption of violence in Luanda after the Angolan elections has cast a shadow over the prospects for peace in Mozambique — another country which has been torn apart by civil war.

The signing in Rome of the October 4 peace accord between Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama came after two years of negotiations.

And last-minute differences threatened to disrupt the historic occasion which was witnessed by several southern African leaders and broadcast live over Radio Mozambique.

Though the peace accord has been signed, there are still too many unknowns.

Nobody knows how much control the two warring sides have over their respective armies.

Many rebels are thought to be youngsters who have had little formal education and who know only violence as a way of life.

On the government side, many soldiers have been forced to serve longer than their official terms, in some cases without pay for months. This has led to a wave of mutinies over the country in recent months.

The other big question concerns the independent peasant militia, known as the Nampulas, who fought Renamo in the northern provinces of Zambezia and Nampula.

It is not clear yet whether they have agreed to lay down their traditional weapons in favour of reconciliation. — AIA
Probe into Renamo

MAPUTO - United Nations observers were due to arrive in Nampula in Mozambique yesterday to investigate reports that Renamo had breached the Rome peace accord by seizing the port of Angoche in Nampula province.

The reported capture of the port has put the accord to its first major test less than a week after the ceasefire provided for in the Rome pact had come into effect.

Under the accord both Renamo and Frente government troops were supposed to be moving into 20 assembly points before being disarmed and disbanded.

A number of men on each side were left to form a new joint army.

Sowetan Correspondents and Saga-Reuter-AFP
Renamo seizes another town in northern Mozambique

MAPUTO - The rebel Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), seized the town of Lusenda in the central province of Zambezia on Tuesday, radio Mozambique reported yesterday.

This brings to four the number of towns in Zambezia and the neighbouring province of Nampula that the rebels have occupied since Saturday. - Argus

Africa Service and Supa-AFP

Sovietam 22/10/92
Mozambique settles into uneasy peace

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — The Mozambique ceasefire is holding in spite of Renamo’s seizure of four towns since the pact was signed and its failure to implement elements of the accord.

At the same time fraternisation between Renamo and government forces is being reported and transport is beginning to flow along main roads once made hazardous by ambushes.

The Frelimo government has accused Renamo of “serious and systematic violations” of the agreement signed in Rome on October 4 and of “a deliberate strategy of conquering territory and strategic positions”.

Frelimo had flung down “an open challenge to the Mozambican people and the international community”, the government said in a statement.

The statement said government troops had been placed in a state of alert but did not make clear whether the movement of the troops into assembly points, as provided for in the Rome accord, had been suspended.

Renamo has been accused by the government of failing to send to Maputo its representatives on the joint commission supposed to supervise the peace accord.

• Aid convoys are reaching areas – previously virtually inaccessible and 552 tons of food were delivered by road to central province – Sapa-Reuters
Renamo is accused of peace accord violations

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government accused rebels yesterday of serious violations of the peace accord signed on October 4, the AIM news agency reported.

Under the accord, fighting was to cease when UN observers arrived in Mozambique to help enforce the agreement. The UN team arrived last week.

Yesterday's government statement said Renamo had seized four towns in central and northern Mozambique since the weekend.

It called the moves a "deliberate strategy of conquering territory and strategic positions" in defiance of the peace accord.

The statement said government forces should remain on alert, and that the government reserved the right to protect civilians and end violations of the peace accord with "appropriate measures".

It also accused the rebels of failing to send representatives to serve on commissions formed to supervise provisions of the peace accord.

President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama signed the agreement in Rome after two years of negotiations mediated by the Italian government and church officials. The peace pact was supposed to end 16 years of civil war that killed more than 600,000 people and devastated the economy.

AIM reported on Tuesday that rebels killed 40 government soldiers in weekend fighting for control of the port of Angoche, one of four towns the rebels are accused of occupying.

The rebels, too, have accused the government of violations.

Neither side's claims can be verified independently.

Zimbabwe's defence minister Movven Mahachi said yesterday Zimbabwean troops guarding transport lines in Mozambique had started withdrawing in terms of the peace accord.

About 3,000 Zimbabwean soldiers are in Mozambique, mainly to protect roads and railways linking their country with ports.

Mahachi expected all Zimbabwean soldiers and equipment to be home by the November 15 deadline.

A UN group said yesterday food convoys had been reaching government and rebel-controlled areas in the past week.

The group said in a statement that 728 tons of food, and had been delivered in the central provinces of Manica and Sofala.

Southern Africa's worst drought in a century has left more than 3 million Mozambicans in danger of starvation without donated food. Relief convoys previously have been unable to travel to rebel-held areas out of fear of attack. — Sapa-AP
Zimbabwean trucks talks

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Transport Minister Dennis Norman held urgent talks with Mozambique authorities yesterday concerning a dispute that has left dozens of Zimbabwean trucks with food aid stranded in Mozambique.

The dispute arose two weeks ago when Mozambique raised fees for trucks moving through its territory to $150 from $25 a truck, in hard currency.

The Zimbabwean officials said Norman wanted the dispute resolved quickly as the rainy season starting next month could close some roads and prevent movement of the aid.

Sapa-Reuters
Zim troops withdraw

HARARE - Zimbabwe has
begun pulling its troops out
of Mozambique and will
continue to do so despite
Renamo violations of the
peace agreement, Defence
Minister Moven Mabhuchi
said yesterday.

But he warned that any
attack on Zimbabwean sol-
diers would be repelled
with vigour, saying if the
transport routes to the sea
were attacked after the
withdrawal, Zimbabwe
would have to reassess the
situation.

"You cannot assure we
will not allow these routes
to be closed," he said.

Sunday Times News Ser-
vice and South Africa, AFP.
PWV train violence 'developing a pattern'

A PATTERN which went some way to explaining violence on PWV commuter trains was emerging, SA Rail and Commuter Corporation (SARCC) and ANC-aligned spokesmen said yesterday.

Speaking after a meeting between the parties, SARCC spokesman Koos Meyer said a direct link had been established between violence on trains and in nearby communities.

Shifts in township violence from east to west had been correlated with similar shifts in train violence, he said.

Cosatu official Alfred Woodington said train lines between Soweto and Johannesberg and between Katlehong and Germiston had been identified as epicentres of train violence.

He said the conflict was being generated by a grouping trying to derail multilateral talks on the issue. Attacks had also been found to follow publicised breakthroughs in the talks.

Progress had been made in identifying the perpetrators of the violence, but it was too early to publicise this, he said.

ANC PWV spokesman Bonne Mamoepa said the ANC continued to believe government was using surrogates to conduct "low-intensity war" leading to train violence.

Woodington said a working group on measures aimed at preventing train violence would look at access control at trains and stations, visible policing and public relations.

Meyer said a second working group would deal with policing methods and arrangements had been made for a joint ANC alliance-SARCC delegation to visit a police operations room to observe existing methods.

"There's always crime and there will always be this violence on trains, but it is our duty to see that it is limited," he said.

"Nobody, not even the Goldstone commission, could find a reason for the violence. It's very difficult to solve the problem until you know the cause," he added.

Woodington said the parties would meet next week to prioritise action to be taken by the two committees and to set timeframes.

Sapa reports a man was stabbed and pushed off a train at a Germiston station, east of Johannesburg, yesterday morning.

Witwatersrand police spokesman W/O Andy Fiske said L Ncube was stabbed numerous times with a sharp object before being pushed off the train at Drieheuwel Station.

He was admitted to Germiston's Willem Croywagen Hospital in a critical condition.

No arrests have been made.

Fancourt directors oppose Masterbond liquidation bid

The Fancourt board of directors has opposed the application by Masterbond creditors to have the upmarket golf development in George placed in liquidation.

The board said the creditors had failed to obtain the urgent application brought before the Cape Town Supreme Court on Wednesday and that they had filed an opposing affidavit.

As a result, the matter would now be heard on November 17 to allow the creditors an opportunity to respond to this affidavit.

However, directors could not be reached for further comment and specific details of the affidavit were unavailable.

"We believe we will successfully oppose the curator's application," the statement said.

"If we do so, this will have caused unnecessary damage to the project and will have wasted about R200 000 by the time the matter is heard."

The directors added that Fancourt was never a Masterbond company and its recent difficulties were caused by Masterbond's inability to meet its financial commitments to Fancourt.

Fancourt has retained the services of Mullinuck, Rees, Richman & Clossenberg, assisted by advocates Jeremy Gaultlett, SC, and John Dickerson, to oppose the motion.

Zimbabwean

trucks talks

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The Zimbabwean officials said Norman wanted the dispute resolved quickly as the rainy season starting next month could close some roads and prevent movement of the aid.

Sapa-Reuters
AFRICA NEWS

Fragile ceasefire just holds in Mozambique but true peace is way off

Mozambique

ceasefire holding

PEACE PROGRESS Renamo and government make friends slowly:

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - The ceasefire in Mozambique is generally holding despite Renamo’s seizure of at least four towns since the pact was signed and its failure to implement elements of the accord.

At the same time as these violations of the pact have occurred, fraternization between Renamo and government forces is being widely reported and transport is beginning to flow along main roads once made hazardous by ambushes.

The Frelimo government has accused Renamo of "serious and systematic violations" of the ceasefire agreement signed in Rome on October 4 and of "a deliberate strategy of conquering territory and strategic positions.” Frelimo had flung down "an open challenge to the Mozambican people and the international community," the government said in a statement.

The statement said government troops had been placed in a state of alert but did not make clear whether the movement of the troops into assembly points, as provided for in the Rome accord, had been suspended.

The government has asked the United Nations representative, Aldo Ajello of Italy, to ensure that Renamo respects the agreement but no UN observers have yet attempted to visit the captured towns.

Renamo has been accused by the government of failing to send to Maputo its representatives on the joint commission that is supposed to supervise the peace accord.

Now Frelimo has offered to fly Renamo from their headquarters in Sofala province to Maputo because Renamo said it had no transport.
Mozambican peace threat

THE Mozambican peace agreement hangs in the balance after the seizure by Renamo guerrillas of two government-held towns.

The weekend capture of the port of Ancoche in Nampula province and the town of Maganja da Costa in Zambezia province came as United Nations military observers were to start monitoring the October 4 pact on the ground.

Land grabbing by the Frelimo government and the Renamo rebels is barred by the agreement, which is supposed to lead to multi-party elections in one year.
Fierce fighting in Mozambique

MAPUTO — Mozambican government troops reclaimed the northern coastal town of Memba on Tuesday after fierce fighting with Renamo forces, the provincial governor said yesterday.

"Memba was reoccupied after intense clashes with Renamo forces," Nampula province governor Alfredo Gamito told state radio.

Gamito said both sides had suffered casualties, but he gave no figures.

The radio said Renamo had protested to the UN special representative in Mozambique that government troops were occupying areas formerly under its control in the towns of Sinamaco and Munua in Sofala province, and had deployed troops into the province of Zambezia, Tete, and Cabo Delgado.

Government and Renamo have accused each other of violating a ceasefire signed on October 4 by President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama to end the civil war that began on independence from Portugal in 1975.

Land grabbing by either side is barred by the accord which is supposed to lead to multiparty elections in one year — Sapo-Reuters.

Unita has a plan to break impasse

LUANDA — Unita, which had been blocking a conclusion to Angola's elections after making fraud allegations, on Tuesday offered a plan to end the stand-off, Angolan and diplomatic sources said.

They said the proposal, which included a call for a greatly increased UN presence in a second round of voting, was put forward by Unita at talks with the government.

The talks have been going on for a week behind closed doors.

The sources said Unita's plan called for the setting up of mechanisms to create a consultative government until a second round of voting.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos won 49.57% of the votes in the first round of the presidential election against 49.87% for Savimbi. This made a second round necessary.

Unita had initially delayed the announcement of the results, alleging fraud and threatening to restart the 16-year-long civil war.

Unita's plan also called for strong UN presence during a second round of voting, and more international observers than in the September poll.

Foreign observers who monitored that poll said it was fairly conducted.

Unita is also demanding that state information media be completely impartial in any new poll, and that "arbitrary" arrests should stop.

The movement, backed by the US and South Africa, is demanding that the government be in the new government.

The sources said the ball was now in the government's court. It would probably take some days to respond.

Following its accession of power, Unita pulled its forces out of the combined army that they had formed with government troops.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has been held up and arrested when the governor of Huambo, refusing to come to Luanda for talks with dos Santos.

In the legislative part of the elections, dos Santos' MPLA party sounds beat Unita, gaining 53.74% of votes to its rival's 34.1%.

Some diplomats saw Unita's offer as a positive development, saying the talks, which had been going on without any of the countries that guaranteed the Angolan peace agreement — Russia, the US and Portugal — were probably the last chance to avert a new war — Sapa-APP.

Chiluba celebrates with privatisation promise

LUSAKA — President Frederick Chiluba marked his first year in power yesterday with a promise to spread wealth among Zambians by privatizing unprofitable state corporations.

Chiluba, a former trade union leader who defeated longtime president Kenneth Kaunda in last year's election, accused his predecessor of tearing apart the country with ill-conceived socialist policies, corruption and mismanagement.

"Democracy has arrived in Zambia," Chiluba told a news conference. "But it is just the beginning of a long process. We are a pacemaker and other countries want to emulate us."

Chiluba and his Movement for Multiparty Democracy campaigned on promises to end corruption and policies that were borrowed from the old East bloc. He won international support for pressuring Kaunda, Zambia's founding father, to end one-party rule.

Kaunda, Zambia's leader since its independence from Britain in 1964, was widely blamed for transforming Zambia into one of the poorest nations in southern Africa.

Chiluba said that despite Western-prescribed economic reforms, a small elite group still controlled the country's riches.

He hoped the chasm between rich and poor would be narrowed through eminent privatization of money-losing state corporations that control 80% of the economy.

Many citizens, he said, would be able to buy shares in these companies, including copper mines, newspapers and sugar plantations.

Chiluba said his government would, in its second year, also promote informal businesses so more people could become entrepreneurs — Sapa-AP.
SEVEN students from the University of Mozambique have arrived in South Africa on an Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa hosted visit.

Idasa spokesman Simon Ntombela said the students were here for 10 days and would visit various parts of the country, including strife-torn areas in greater Durban and Manzilugu.

Ntombela said the students would visit several factories and residential areas and would exchange problem-solving ideas with South Africans.
Renamo linked to Inkatha violence

POLICE are probing reports that bands of Renamo soldiers have been infiltrated from Mozambique into Natal’s flashpoints over the past four weeks to train Inkatha units and fight alongside them during clashes with members of the African National Congress.

And members of the National Intelligence Service last week travelled to Mozambique where they met intelligence agents to discuss reports that Inkatha leader Bruce Anderson had been smuggling AK-47s supplied by Renamo bands to arm military units set up by his organisation in hostels along the Reef before he was deported from South Africa.

Official investigators believe the Renamo factor — the movement of rebel Mozambican fighters into Natal’s war zones — may have played an important role in the spiralling levels of violence in the province.

Inkatha has vehemently denied it is collaborating with Renamo.

ANC official Bonangani Msomi charged this week that Natal leader Reggie Hadebe, gunned down in an ambush near Ixopo on Tuesday, was investigating indications that Inkatha youths were being trained by Renamo fighters at bases in Natal.

For teaching community development skills rather than guerrilla warfare.

However, there is an accumulation of reports that Inkatha has been working closely with Renamo in the wake of the ANC’s threats to march on Umhlanga in demand of democratic rights for the organisation in kwazulu.

An eye-witness said he was present when a milibus load of Renamo fighters was picked up at a military base near the Mozambican border and dropped off at Amatikulu, a kwaZulu Police training base on the north coast of Natal.

Mozambican intelligence sources report that a team of NIS agents visited them in Maputo last week to investigate reports that Anderson was running weapons obtained from Renamo into hostels on the Reef.

The sources say Anderson was deported from South Africa two months after this had been requested by President Joaquim Chissano when he met President FW de Klerk at the opening of the Polana Hotel in Maputo.

A senior kwaZulu policeman said earlier this month that 36 Portuguese-speaking fighters had been ferried into Ulundi from Mozambique so that they could be used to bolster Inkatha’s ability to withstand mass action and armed attacks from ANC supporters.

Inkatha leader Musa Myeni is reported to have met Renamo chief Afonso Chikane when the rebel leader visited South Africa on his way to peace talks with the Mozambican government in Rome last month.

There have been consistent reports that Portuguese-speaking men have been involved in attacks on train commuters on the Reef.

The Weekly Mail last year received reports that Renamo and Inkatha soldiers had been trained at the same military camp located in the mountains near Barberton in the eastern Transvaal. The source for these reports was an officer in army intelligence.

Inkatha’s claim that the Mandleni camp is a “community development centre” is exactly the same description the organisation gave to one of its bases at Mkuze in northern Natal. It subsequently emerged that the camp was a military barracks where Inkatha fighters received advanced training in the use of AK47s, hand-guns and offensive guerrilla warfare.
The abyss between bush and beachfront

A sheen of normality has returned to Maputo. But it belies the threat from warring troops in the bush who don't even know the names of those negotiating peace for them.

By JENNIFER GRIFFIN

CIVILIANS are once again travelling Mozambique's main north-south highway to bring coconuts to Maputo. Tourists are returning to the newly renovated Polana Hotel, while South African businessmen set up shops and restaurants in a city they say is safer than Johannesburg.

Rebel Renamo leaders are emerging from their bush hide-outs and are easily accessible at their beachfront bungalows in the capital, where they conduct poolside conversations with diplomats and journalists.

A veneer of normality has returned as a result of the ceasefire signed by Renamo and the government on October 4. Individuals are trying to be optimistic, but many are doubtful that a piece of paper signed in Rome will restore peace in a country that has experienced so many years of terror.

"There have to be alternatives for the people with guns. If not, they are going to use their guns to get by. I don't think anyone expects them just to hand in their guns and go home," said Joe Kessler, head of Care, the United States-based and agency which is helping to co-ordinate the government's relief effort.

Continued fighting and bittering between government and rebel leaders on the battlefield and in the media is fueling fears that there will be a full-scale resumption of the 16-year civil war which claimed an estimated one million lives.

Aldo Ajello, the UN special envoy, said: "The fighting is going very well."

Hope rests largely on Ajello and the UN, who are responsible for ensuring that ceasefire committees are organised, assembly points for troops are established, and that elections are held by next October.

While all these substantive issues remain unresolved, the two sides bicker over housing arrangements for Renamo delegates who have yet to arrive in Maputo.

Hopeful signs... Enemy troops in the south make merry together Photo JENNIFER GRIFFIN

Despite the confrontations, there are some hopeful signs. Government officials say that the southern town of Salamatonga, enemy troocr are fraternising with each other, dancing to the same music, and speaking amicably.

Rebel Renamo fighters have emerged from the bush, weapons by their side. They are asking for food.

There are several reasons for the inconsistent response to the ceasefire. Among them is the large gap that still exists between the leaders' each side and the troops in the bush.

A foreign diplomat in Maputo comments that it has always been difficult to tell whether Renamo has control of its troops. In some cases, troop commanders in the bush do not even know the names of the representatives who are negotiating peace for them in Maputo.

Several foreign journalists last week managed to accompany a Red Cross food airlift to Ndindiza, a village in Renamo-held territory, far from Frelimo base called Mafalane in Gaza province. They asked permission from Renamo's Victor M. Mapato, who gave them the go-ahead.

But instead of entering the territory, which has been off-limits during the war, the journalists spent three days sitting at an airstrip in Mafalane, enduring sand storms and suffocating heat, awaiting approval from Renamo commanders in Ndindiza, where the closest radio is a four-hour walk.

"They didn't even know Victor," said a Red Cross aid worker. "They told us, 'It's the first phase of the peace. Everything can change.'"

Observers are speculating about Renamo's recent spate of attacks on coastal towns to the north. Some say the rebels need a port, so they attacked Ancoche. Others believe they chose key towns on the coast so that, in the event of an election, they could control the votes in Zambezia and Nampula, the most populous of the country's 10 provinces.

"If they capture these areas, they will control 50 percent of the voting population," said Salamao Pedro, a translator for the Ministry of Information.

Some aid workers speculate that Renamo troops captured villages like Derre and Ndindiza prior to the ceasefire for sentimental reasons. Government forces controlled these villages temporarily, but they were taken back by Renamo. Ndindiza has no water source and no population worth mentioning.

"There's something that's psychological..."
"There's no morale in the army," said Sylvester Josi, a soldier who earns the equivalent of $2 a month. "It's compulsory for two years, but they never let you out."

Paul Polo, a leading rebel of the Patriotic Front, said pressure from the Zimbabwean government has left the rebels with no choice but to agree to the peace talks. He said the government had left the rebel fighters in a desperate state because of their pressure. "It was clear to us that the government was using the army to pressure the rebels," he said. "They had no choice but to agree to the peace talks because they were under pressure."
Mozambique - General
1993
Mozambique 'at historic moment' - GORONGOZA (Mozambique) — Understanding between political leaders and respect towards fellow citizens made the past year, one of the most historically significant in the life of Mozambicans, Renamo president Afonso Dhlakama said in a New Year's message from Gorongosa on Thursday.

He told his fellow Mozambicans that 1993 marked an "historic moment in time".

The new year, he said, after a prelude of years of armed and political struggle, continued carried out by the Mozambican people in defence of their rights, justice and freedom, he said.

New era

A new era of stability had been born.

Dhlakama said problems were still being encountered in distributing food and medical supplies from foreign organizations were not getting to those in need.

He appealed to Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano to deal with foreign aid organizations in the new year in order to end disturbances in distribution.

He also appealed to Mozambican refugees who had fled the country because of the drought and the war to return.

"The war is over and the rams have started," he said, and gave the assurance that Renamo had eased its armed struggle.

"Our struggle now is political only, not through the means of justice and democracy."

In 1993, the people of Mozambique will have the privilege — for the first time in their history — to vote in elections," he concluded. — Sapa
Journalist murdered

MAPUTO — A Mozambican journalist, Alvaro da Fonseca, was murdered on New Year's Day. Mozambique's official news agency, AIM, said Da Fonseca's body was found in Matola, an industrial town near Maputo.

He was employed in the information sector of the Ministry of Defence. Star Africa Service 8/1/78
Landmines:
SA firm is rejected

Star Africa Service (218)

MAPUTO — A South African company has failed to get a contract to remove Mozambique's landmines after the government objected to its Renamo contacts.

The Mozambican government and Renamo have agreed to contract an unnamed British company to remove the mines.

The agreement puts an end to attempts by Renamo to use the South African company, Minerva, run by former Rhodesian Special Air Services officer Garth Barret.

Jose de Castro, head of Renamo's foreign affairs department, said his organisation and the International Committee of the Red Cross had negotiated with the South African company to remove the mines from roads under its control.

He said Renamo dropped the idea of using the South African company when the Mozambican government raised its objection to it.
MAP TO A REAL ENGAGEMENT TO PLEASE TOURISTS. NOW IT ONLY THEPEE LEARN TO MAKE TOAST.
Aid to Maputo may boost SA
Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO:-- South African suppliers of goods and services stand to benefit indirectly from the $600 million that foreign donors have pledged to give Mozambique to finance its economy this year.

The donations were made at a meeting in Paris in December of the World Bank's Consultative Group on Mozambique, the forum where much of the foreign funding for the country's economic reform programme is decided.

Mozambique's economy, ravaged by years of civil war and Marxism, is having to be largely rebuilt in the new multiparty, free enterprise society and much of the skills, materials and services required for this will have to be imported.
More talks on Maputo peace

Maputo (11/198), Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano at the weekend held talks with visiting UN under-secretary Mr James Jonah at the beach resort of Bilene in the southern province of Gaza.

According to the Mozambican news agency, AIM, the two men discussed the prospects for the implementation of the peace agreement.

Chissano told Jonah that he was satisfied with the progress of the peace process so far. Jonah will also hold talks with the Renamo leadership and UN special representative Mr Aldo Ajello.
Rightwingers from South Africa are colonising land in rural Mozambique to set up farming and tourism projects. One plan aims to create a small white homeland.

A range of far-right splinter groups are expanding into Mozambique by offering the Frelimo government desperately needed farming and business skills needed to rebuild a country devastated by 15 years of civil war.

Some groups have entered into secret pacts with Mozambique’s rightwing rebel movement, Renamo, to make sure that their plans succeed. Contacts with the Renamo leadership have been made through South African Defence Force officers involved in supplying clandestine aid to the rebels during the late 1980s.

Full details: PAGE 3
Renamo link in plan to buy in Gaza area

By ARTHUR GAVSHON

DOCUMENTS seized by M15 last month from two South Africans allegedly involved in an illicit arms deal indicate a desperate attempt by rightwingers to secure a chunk of land in Gaza province, Mozambique.

The prospectus formulated by the Sub-Saharan Development Company — offshoot of a group named Soundrops Investment 1145 Pty Ltd of Pietersburg — describes the area in question, promises the programme has the backing of Renamo leaders and will be protected by Renamo guerrillas.

In the prospectus, the company’s managing director, Dave J Oosthuysen (also referred to as Oosthuizen in the document), notes: “The company has no intention of becoming involved in the dispute between Remano (sic) and Frelimo. The fact that most of the Remano (sic) guerrillas in the area will be employed by the company would serve as a stabilising factor.”

Mentioned in the prospectus are these intentions:

- Extensive cattle ranching for beef production, wildlife conservation and management in the first phase of a development scheme that sets 20 years as a time span for repaying interest on loans and completing the programme.
- The establishment of a centrally located meat processing factory in the second phase.
- Restoration and upgrading of the railway linking Zimbabwe with the Gaza development region and Maputo in the third phase.

Between one and three million hectares would be needed for the development, according to the prospectus.

A Gaza under the sway of latter-day bittersenders could provide a highly useful fallback area if anything resembling a white homeland were to arise on the South African side of the border.

In his presentation to Mozambique’s Office for the Promotion of Foreign Investment (OPFI), Oosthuysen does not mention plans for co-operation with Renamo or his expectation of the support of the rebel movement.

He makes clear that his company expects the allocation of land would vest full ownership in the developers. Only when full and final agreement is reached would capital be raised, although an amount of $85-million had been pledged in principle by an unnamed investment group. All equipment and livestock brought into the development area would need to be exempted from duties or taxes for five years, and income taxes would not be levied on the company for the first 10 years of operation.

Acknowledging the approach, OPFI deputy director Jose Julai Muzive wrote from Maputo in January last year: “I am pleased to inform you that your project is, in principle, acceptable. However, to give you the final decision it is necessary to present a viable project proposal with a guarantee of attention (sic) of related financing.”
All the right’s moves

Far-right groups, with links to Renamo, are attempting to buy up land in Mozambique — possibly with a view to ‘recolonising’ the country.

By EDDIE KOCH and ARTHUR GAVSHON

RIGHTWINGERS from South Africa are colonising parcels of land in deserted rural areas of Mozambique so that they can set up farming and tourism projects.

At least one of these schemes involves a bizarre plan to create a small white homeland in the former Marxist state.

A range of far-right splinter groups, disillusioned by moves to end apartheid at home, are expanding into Mozambique by offering the pre- limo government farming and business skills needed to rebuild a country devastated by 15 years of civil war.

Some groups have entered into secret pacts with Mozambique’s right-wing rebel movement, Renamo, to make sure that their plans succeed.

Contacts with the Renamo leadership were made, in some cases, through South African Defence Force officers involved in supplying clandestine aid to the rebels during the late 1980s.

Details about one of the more controversial projects surfaced in London last month when a man called Danie Oosthuysen, once a senior member of the African Weerstandsbeweging and a close friend of its leader, Eugene Terre-Blanche, fled the United Kingdom after being picked up by British security agents on suspicion of buying arms for the AWB.

Oosthuysen left a pile of documents in his London hotel room which show that he was trying to raise investment capital for a multi-million dollar project that would have given the rightwingers a large chunk of land in Mozambique’s Gaza province in exchange for upgrading the area (see accompanying story).

The documents reveal that Oosthuysen’s company, based in the northern Transvaal town of Pretoria, the Sub-Sahara Development Co, has been secretly dealing with the leadership of Renamo while negotiating with the government of Mozambique.

“It is the company’s firm belief, after initial contact with Renamo (sic) that the security of the company’s property and personnel will not be jeopardised in anyway. At no stage must the government of Mozambique be informed that Renamo supports this scheme,” says a memo contained in the documents.

Oosthuysen’s scheme is just the latest in a series of controversial projects being set up by members of South Africa’s far-right in Mozambique.

In 1989 Colonel Gert Otto, commander of the SADF’s security operations in the Kruger National Park, set up a company called the

Mozambique Assistance and Investment Corporation (Mozac) with plans to develop a large game reserve on the Mozambique side of Kruger.

A senior officer in the South African Police told The Weekly Mail that Otto had extensive dealings with Renamo, supplying the rebels with arms and supplies until at least as late as 1989, while he was setting up the company.

One of the colonel’s stated objectives, according to the company’s mission statement, was to “provide productive security information to the security community.”

The SADF officer’s plans were scuttled when he was transferred from his post in the Kruger Park to the northern Transvaal. Some of Otto’s men were using their contacts with Renamo to smuggle tasks from elephants poached in Mozambique into South Africa.

In the middle of last year Mozambican wildlife officers foiled plans by a consortium of South African businessmen — including a member of the AWB convicted of fraud and dealing in illicit diamonds — to bulldoze a coral reef off an island in the Bazaruto archipelago so that they could build an upmarket tourist resort there.

The plan was aborted by ecologists working for the Mozambican government.

An even more bizarre project in Mozambique involves an offshoot of the militant Wit Wolwe called the Israelis.

Jan Taljaard reports that the Israelis, a fundamental religious sect with extreme rightwing views, have set up a chapter in Mozambique with the idea of creating a small all-white enclave in the southern province of Maputo.

The Israelis believe that members of the white race are the descendants of the tribes of Israel and that all other races, including blacks and Jews, are sub-human. The sect’s members appear to be unconcerned that Mozambique is ruled by a black government — even though they refer to Africans as “members of the mud races” or “crownless animals of the field.”

Eddie von Malitz, one-time leader of the Boerweerstandsbeweging (BWB) and now head of an organisation called Resistance Against Communism, says he has been asked by Israeli members to help run a dairy farm they have established near Maputo (see PAGE 10).

Terre’ Blanche this week told Mozambican journalists he was aware of plans by various rightwing groups to settle on land but said his organisation was not interested in this project.

“The facts is that if I had a single rand I would use it to buy bullets, not land,” Terre’ Blanche is quoted as saying by the Mozambican newsletter, Mediafax.

These groups are able to get into Mozambique because the authorities there are desperate to raise foreign investment capital.

Large tracts of land in the country’s hinterland have been left fallow for many years because millions of villagers and peasant farmers have fled to large towns and the relatively safe coastline to escape Renamo attacks.

Abdul Adamo, former director of Mozambique’s Department of Wildlife and Forestry, says his government encourages South Africans to invest in productive business projects in South Africa but that each scheme is examined by the Mozambican cabinet before being approved.

Augusto Sumbaruane, director of the Office for Foreign Investment Promotion in Maputo, told Mediafax that there were four projects formally approved by his office which involved farmers from South Africa.

One thousand hectares have been granted to Mozambicans who have entered into joint ventures with the South Africans for cattle and cotton farming. Some of the deals involve the import of farming equipment in exchange for land. There are no indications that these projects are linked in any way to the rightwing schemes.

Government officials in Maputo say it is easy for foreigners to obtain access to land without going through official channels by getting Mozambicans to act as fronts for them.

Mozambican officials say there has been a recent rush for land, and business contracts, in their country by South Africans as it appears that the ceasefire between Renamo and government forces will hold.

“There are many more proposals from South Africa but most are not serious,” said Sumbaruane.

There is concern in some government departments that thousands of Mozambicans will return to their rural homes to find their land occupied by white Afrikaners and that this will become a source of serious social conflict in the future.
Viva Paix! at last in Mozambique

INHAMINGA was cut off from the outside world for seven years while a Renamo stronghold. Before that, it was held by Frelimo, who took it from the Portuguese colonialists. For two decades, it knew continuous warfare.

Located deep in central Mozambique, 150km north of Beira in Sofala province, it has the haunted, ghostly air of many tales pressing to be told. The intense yet remote statures of its barefoot population of 20 000 silently tell of killings and mutilations, family members dead or disappeared and of deprivation and famine.

The wide tree-lined avenues with once-handsome commercial buildings and spacious homes testify to the boom years when Inhaiminga was a thriving railway junction linking Beira port to Malawi. Now the streets are littered with burnt-out shells of cars, trucks and army carriers.

Locomotives rusting in a cavernous warehouse speak of Inhaiminga’s bustling past as a regional engine maintenance centre. Now the railway’s giant cranes and drills stand idly by as women camping in the warehouse carry out the timeless African task of pounding grain with large wooden cudgels.

In many respects, Inhaiminga appears a hopeless casualty of Mozambique’s 16-year war. Yet the seeds of the country’s future peace are being sown there.

Renamo officials are co-operating with the Maputo government and with international organisations. Because the town is still inaccessible by road, emergency food relief is being airlifted to the town. Seeds and hoes are being handed out so that people can start cultivating.

The Mozambicans in Inhaiminga, as throughout the rest of the country, are setting aside differences in order to get on with building a lasting peace.

"We are all tired of war. We cannot survive if we continue fighting," said Augusto Xavieri, Renamo’s director-general of internal affairs, who is over-

The threat of another Angola if Renamo does not win the coming elections hangs over Mozambique. But in the rebel stronghold of Inhaiminga, encouraging signs for peace are being felt in Inhaiminga. "First we start by getting the people enough food to be healthy. Then they will be able to grow their own food."

Articulate and efficient, Xavieri contradicts the widely-held view that Renamo has no capable administrators. He said Renamo would not sabotage Mozambique’s peace if it lost the elections, as Unita has done in Angola.

"Renamo will respect the election results, even if we lose," said Xavieri. "We are like Unita. We fought for the principles of multi-party democracy and a free market economy. The Chissano government has already instituted those changes, so we have already won."

"Even if we lose the elections we will have won because there will be democracy in Mozambique, "

 Asked about Renamo’s reputation for brutality, massacres and mutilations, Xavieri dismissed the charges as Frelimo propaganda.

"The same things were said about Frelimo when they were fighting against the Portuguese," he said. "Now they are in power and they are making the same charges against us, calling us terrorists."

Such responses are obviously self serving, but Xavieri’s answers contain positive indicators that Renamo would like to see peace established in Mozambique.

At the muddy airstrip, 3km from Inhaiminga’s town centre, daily flights bring in 360 tons per month of desperately needed food.

Demonstrating the end of the Cold War, Russian Antonov jets with Russian crews deliver bags of American and European aid. The Russian planes and crews were hired by the United Nations’ World Food Programme for the massive airlift needed in Mozambique.

The British charity, Action Aid, is funding the delivery of the food to

Does he have a future? Many areas in Mozambique are not yet receiving food aid.

Photo M. SAVAGUES, WFP

Inhaiminga "By giving aid to the people in Renamo areas we are hoping to show Renamo that the international community is working towards peace with them," said Action Aid’s emergency unit director Colin Baker. "By delivering emergency food to Renamo areas we are helping to consolidate the peace. This is the start of bringing Renamo into the country’s mainstream.”

The co-operation of all sides in the delivery of food aid and the onset of good rains bode well for Mozambique. Of course, things could go wrong very quickly. Many areas are not yet receiving food aid and there are reports of hungry crowds attacking food convoys. The Renamo and Frelimo troops have not yet begun to demobilise and disarm. Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has delayed going to Maputo to take part in the prepara-tions for elections. Yet signs are that all sides — Frelimo, Renamo and the international community — are working to make sure that Mozambique does not return to war as has happened in Angola.

About 2 000 people have gathered around an abandoned schoolhouse where food aid is being distributed through their "regulo", a Portuguese colonial term for traditional chief. The atmosphere is rather serious, as the people await the food, but as several families receive their share without problems the mood lightens. A Renamo official leads the group in cheers "Viva Renamo!" he shouts, punching his fist in the air. "The crowd responds "Viva! Viva Presidente Afonso Dhlakama! Viva!"

The aid officers are noticeably uncomfortable to see their food donations provide the excuse for a Renamo rally.

A few words are exchanged and the Renamo leader quickly grasps the situation. He leads the cheering again, this time to everybody’s satisfaction. He enthusiastically shouts, "Viva Mozambique! Viva Paix! Peace! Viva Democracia! Viva!"
SOUTH visited Mozambique to find a new mood of optimism echoing through the faded colonial streets and ravaged countryside. Reports and photographs by Justin Pearce

'Man-woman' Magaya takes on children's fight

LNA Magaya points out the bullet-hole in her living room wall. It was put there by a Romanio soldier in June 1989. "I was a target because I could say things," she recalls. Magaya has lived for most of her life in the village of Matemba, about 40 miles north of Maputo. As one of the few educated people in this community (she studied in Maputo and Portugal), she found herself with responsibilities of educating and informing people in a country where indepen-dance had a 99 percent literacy rate.

"Even in Maputo in 1988, many people didn't realize how really bad thing in the countryside were suffering." Next to the bullet-hole is a bookcase with titles as diverse as "A Man in the Capital", Steve Biko's "I write what I like", the Bible, and Magaya's own two books about the war in Mozambique. She worked as a journalist in her youth in the sixties and has returned to writing in recent years.

INA MAGAYA: 'The killers were also victims of the war'

In 1965, aged 20, Magaya was...for three months for her par-ticipation in the Frelimo underground in Maputo. Later she received military training in Tanzania and fought in Frelimo's army. She remains a republi-can and a redoubtable political fighter.

"We call her the man-woman," a fellow resident of Matemba says, introducing Magaya. The teenager recalled of a culture where the combination of African patri-otism and Latin machismo have not spared many opportunities for...women to make an impact. But Frelimo had a women's sec-tion in their armed army. That is...of Magaya's commitment to the war, coming from peasant women...hoping for the war to end. Magaya says she never dreams of a peace treaty...under Frelimo really is accepted by the people. She also believes that the phase of one-party rule had a wider...frelimo need a strong leader to defy the old idiosyncrasies of the country. She was only party strong enough to defy the colonial government's ban on political mobilization. It was necessary for Frelimo to remain unchallenged to teach the people the meaning of liberation," says, Magaya.

PARADISE REGAINED? Tourists are trickling back to the abandoned holiday resort of Xai-xai.

Life stirs in his...in the city of a time-wrap. Shops and restaurants retain their familiar nems and pastel colours -- not because of some retro-trendy contemporary designer, but because they haven't been redec-orated in at least 20 years. The positive sides of Portuguese heritage remain in an easy-going urban lifestyle.

POOR people live in ramshackle houses in Mozambique. However, 60% of Mo-landia's population suffers from poverty and malnutrition, and the future has been dictated by the legacy of a brutal colonial policy and three decades of war.

Downtown Maputo is like a city in a time-wrap. Shops and restaurants retain their familiar nems and pastel colours -- not because of some retro-trendy contemporary designer, but because they haven't been redec-orated in at least 20 years. The positive sides of Portuguese heritage remain in an easy-going urban lifestyle. People will drink beer in pavement cafes all morning and wander in the streets at night. They use the city as a social space in a way that seems strange to TV- and bra-branded South Africans.

The benefactors of this laid-back way of life are the black urban elite and the few whites who stayed on in Mozambique.

In fact, it is misleading to define the social and cultural spheres within blacks and whites socially together as a manner which on South Africa is seen only in beer advertisements. A surprising mixture of black Mozambican and Portuguese in their first language, using African languages to communicate only with poor relations in the countryside.

SMALL BUSINESS: With the import of consumer goods from South Africa, nobody is too young to be a trader

Small-time private enterprise ensures plenty for those who can afford it. In addition to local produce like tobacco, snuff, and seafood, Maputo's central market is full of canned food, cosmetics, artificial hair extensions and kitchen utensils -- all imported from South Africa.

Children sell South African beer, Coke and wine on the streets and along the beachfront of Maputo.

The locally made Murrina beer is excellent, yet the fascination for the event encourages people to pay double the price for Carling Black Label and Guinness. The event is not for Portu-guese ambassadors, or even once again filled, this time with South African clothing. The fascination with the foreign extends to the poorest Mozambicans who cover their hands with the traditional popo-popo, a wrap-around skirt printed with white, football players,
vegetables and fraps of Mozambique optimistically lauded back with peace.

But the top halves of their bodies now sport slogan T-shirts "Arizona Skateboarders", "Iron Maiden Power House" and "Welcome Mandela we salute you".

The illegal import trade is financed by the money-changers who collect rands or dollars from tourists in exchange for the local currency, meticais.

Tourism is set to become an important source of foreign exchange. For the first time, tourists are being treated back to Mozambique by lodestar medals of "LMM", which in the days of Portuguese rule was the "Tessin's most accessible beachfront".

Among them are the wealthy white farmers who come for the deep-sea fishing, complete with two servants, four-wheel drive vehicles, power boat, tent set up in a small cottage, deep freeze and petrol generator.

On the edges of Maputo, reality begins to take hold. Visit informal settlements accommodate people from the city by Renamo guerrilla activity in the countryside, and by the quest for work.

Not much corrugated zinc here. Maputo squatters build mud huts identical to those they left behind in the countryside. Only in rural Mozambique can one get an idea of the impact of the war. Renamo armed to shatter the country's infrastructure, with the result that the history of the war is

As a result of the new optimism, people who have cars are reclaiming roads where a few months ago they would not have dared to venture.

Rural relief work run on a shoestring.
Renamo headquarters

RENAMO on Friday formally inaugurated its national headquarters in Maputo with a ceremony attended by diplomats, leaders of other political parties, and religious groups.
Total disarmament ‘vital to Maputo peace’

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Demobilisation of Frelimo and Renamo forces is the key to lasting peace in Mozambique and must be completed successfully before elections, even if it means the elections must be postponed until next year.

That’s the word from the United Nations representative in Mozambique, who said the country should learn from the mistakes of Angola.

The head of the UN mission, Mr. Aldo Apollini of Italy, said in an interview that the UN would not go ahead with the election process until demobilisation was completed and a new joint army formed.

He said the planned October elections might have to be delayed until early next year because of delays with the demobilisation process.

UN peacekeeping troops are scheduled to arrive only early next month and while 12 of the planned 49 assembly points have been selected demobilisation of the Frelimo and Renamo forces can only start once the troops are in position.

Mr. Apollini said Angola’s post-election crisis stemmed from the incomplete demobilisation of the armed forces in that country. He said the timetable drawn up by Frelimo and Renamo for the election was “unrealistic.”

“But, it is going well by United Nations standards. This could be one of the few countries where the United Nations will be successful,” he said.

“Taking a strong stand from both sides to go ahead with the peace process. We can’t keep up with their desire for peace.”

Adding to this is a spokesman for a delegation of senior Swedish military personnel who arrived here yesterday to pave the way for the deployment of UN troops. He said they would “put much effort into completing demobilisation before the election.”

“We learned from Angola and now the demobilisation of Mozambican forces has the highest priority.”

He expressed doubt that the process would be completed before October.
Ombudsman tackles 2,000 complaints in his first year

PRETORIA — SA’s ombudsman, after a year in office, has opened up more than 2,000 files on specific complaints.

According to the Association of Law Societies, Judge P.J. van der Walt’s office received 30 to 40 phone calls a day from complainants.

Complaints range from rezoning and ecological matters at the state of roads, financial wrangles — including complaints from married women about not receiving housing subsidies — to workmen’s compensation cases and political debates.

De Rebus says, however, that there are still several shortcomings in the Act governing the ombudsman. These include limitations on the types of matters he can investigate and his appointment by the President and not by Parliament.

De Rebus says there was a need to separate the ombudsman’s office from the public service.

In terms of the Ombudsman Act of 1991, Van der Walt’s title was changed from advocate-general to ombudsman and his powers and functions extended. The society believes government departments, public servants and others were learning valuable lessons on accountability and the fact that they could be called to account for their actions.

De Rebus is concerned that a section in the Act which empowers individuals to voice grievances still requires that such complaints should result from someone being unlawfully enriched or advantaged.

This probably resulted from the institution’s painstakingly slow evolution from an advocate-general’s office, which was established to deal with issues such as the Information Scandal.

Walsh was arranged to discuss the proposed joint working group.

ANC-DP joint working group put on hold

CAPE TOWN — The ANC and the DP failed yesterday to reach agreement on launching a joint working group to promote free and fair elections in the western Cape.

At a meeting yesterday the ANC backed off, for the time being at least, from its earlier commitment to set up a formal structure with the DP to monitor the volatile political situation in the region and promote a culture of tolerance.

Yesterday’s meeting between delegations led by ANC regional secretary Tony Yengeni and DP regional chairman Jasper Walsh was arranged to discuss the proposed joint working group.

However, the ANC said the idea would first have to be canvassed with its rank-and-file membership and use should be made of peace accord structures to deal with crises as they arose.

Renamo weapons dispute resolved

MAPUTO — Renamo, government and the UN had “amicably resolved” a dispute over a list of weapons Renamo had to give UN peacekeepers, a UN spokesman said yesterday.

The row flared up at a joint Ceasefire Commission meeting on Monday, where Renamo claimed it was unable to supply a detailed list of the weapons and ammunition its units would take to 20 assembly points where its fighters are to be garrisoned prior to demobilisation.

The reluctance to provide lists fed suspicion that Renamo might try to cache arms ready for use should the rebels dispute future general election results.

It was agreed on Tuesday that Renamo would provide aggregate lists of all weaponry it possessed, without breaking the list down for each assembly point.

UN supervisors would check all weapons arriving at the assembly points against Renamo’s total tally.

The peace accord’s implementation is three months behind and it seems impossible to maintain the scheduled October 1999 date for Mozambique’s first multiparty elections. — Sapa-AFP.
Gurkhas on the line

MAPUTO - Gurkha soldiers from Nepal will soon start lifting some of the thousands of land mines that were laid throughout Mozambique during the war between the MPLA government and the Renamo rebels.

The Gurkhas will initially clear mines from selected main roads to allow lorries to run into areas that have largely been cut off by road. This will open the way for the International Red Cross to truck relief supplies into famine-stricken areas, that at present can be supplied only by air. - Swedton Africa News Service and Sega-Reader.
MAPUTO — Key elements of the Mozambican peace process have begun falling into place, but it is still several months behind schedule.

A restart is expected soon, however, on one of the most urgent tasks: neutralising the more than 2,000,000 landmines that are estimated to be strewn around the country.

UN special representative Aldo Ajello said over the weekend that the first of the 49 assembly points, from which Frelimo and Renamo troops will be demobilised, should be opened this month.

The first 12 assembly points have been surveyed but cannot yet be opened because only 14 of the 364 UN observers have arrived in the country.

The R72 million UN programme for the lifting of the landmines envisions a force of 1,200 specially trained men to neutralise the mines left over from both the civil war and the war against Portuguese colonialism.

There are no maps showing the location of the Portuguese minefields and inadequate maps for the others.

The UN programme will not begin until April, but before then a force assembled by the British company, Lenrho, will start lifting mines along main roads to allow Red Cross relief convoys to get to famine-stricken areas.
Two allege kidnap, claim R20 million

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Two Mozambican teachers who claim to have been kidnapped by the South African Defence Force are demanding about R20 million compensation from the South African Government.

Mozambique's official news agency, AIM, reports that Felix Ndime and Jeronimo Simbine claim to have been abducted from the town of Namaacha on the border with Swaziland in a South African commando raid on August 22, 1983.

The men, who have written a lengthy account of their experiences, claim to have been pressganged into participating in dirty tricks operations, including raids into Angola in support of Unita and a kidnap mission in Swaziland.

Simbine managed to escape after three years but Ndime succeeded in resigning from the SADF only in January 1991.

"If there is justice in the world, South Africa should be made to pay," they said.

The two men demand their claims be resolved by international institutions like the United Nations and Amnesty International, saying their experiences had wrecked them psychologically.
Plotting Peace in Maputo
Rebels steal food for needy.

MAPUTO — Former guerrillas of Mozambique's war for independence blocked a road in the central province of Zambezia on Tuesday and stole 90 tons of food aid, national radio reported. The food, belonging to Save the Children Fund, was destined for destitute peasant families in the western district of Marrumbala, where deaths from hunger have been reported.
Starvation ‘inevitable’ in dry, war-torn Angola

CHIANG, — The combination of civil war and drought had made widespread hunger inevitable in southwestern Angola, relief workers said yesterday.

Although rains had been good in the north of the Unita-controlled southern province of Huila, farmers had been unable to harvest or move their scant produce to market.

“Since the government won’t let the nongovernmental agencies send food into Unita-controlled areas, starvation is becoming very acute,” said a Care relief agency official.

Unita has penned government forces inside provincial capitals in many parts of Angola and agencies are unable to move freely in the Unita-held countryside to deliver food.

UN world food programme officials said they were flying to only a handful of provincial capitals because of renewed fighting. They estimated that 2 million people were in danger of starving.

In southern Huila, where government troops controlled the roads, making travel safe, six years of drought had taken their toll.

“The whole district is dry,” Gambio assistant administrator Joaquin Antonio Nuna Whamena said. “We have 92 water holes and they’re all dry.” The 300 tons of food aid delivered to Gambio in December ran out before half the district’s 89,000 residents received anything.

While aid officials did not expect hunger to be a problem in southern Huila as relief shipments could get through, the situation in the north was grim.

One said “Even Unita has trouble getting food for its troops. They go into villages asking for chickens or corn. People give it to them — or they’ll be killed on the spot.”

Meanwhile, as national radio reported intensified fighting in southern Menongue and Huambo yesterday, the government asked the international community not to abandon the country to civil war.

Unita men damaged an airport runway and about a dozen houses in Menongue. About 60 died in fighting in Huambo, Kuito and the provinces of Benguela and Kwanza Sul.

Prime Minister Marcolino Moco said “The international community followed Angola’s peace and democratization process, in which the government and political parties met their obligations. We demand that the international community assume its responsibilities.”

“…if not, in face of the current crisis, wash its hands.”

— Sapa-Reuters

War veterans hold up convoy, steal food aid

MAPUTO — A group of veterans who fought in Mozambique’s war of independence against Portugal blocked a road in the central province of Zambeza on Tuesday, held up trucks and stole 90 tons of food aid, state radio reported yesterday.

The food, which belonged to the British charity Save the Children Fund, was destined for displaced and destitute peasant families in the western Zambeza district of Murrumbala, where deaths from starvation have been reported.

Food to the district passed from the provincial capital, Quelimane, through the village of Licuara, which is inhabited exclusively by former guerrillas dependent on government pensions, and their families.

The war veterans stopped traffic on Tuesday and detained 35 vehicles, looting 90 tons of maize.

The veterans justified their behaviour on the grounds that the government had not given them any food aid, but veterans who receive government pensions are not entitled to free food aid anyway.

Government and donor agencies try to restrict free food distribution to those who really cannot produce or buy their own food, such as the displaced, returning refugees and those whose harvests have been completely wiped out by the southern African drought.

— Sapa-AFP
MAPUTO — Humanitarian organisations have suspended food distribution to the famine-stricken Morrumbala district in central Zambézia province after a food convoy was looted by veterans of the war of liberation against the Portuguese.

The veterans are reported to have stopped the convoy as it passed through Quelimane and seized 60 tons of food from the Save the Children Fund.

The veterans are demanding food aid from the government. Relief organisations now want assurance that further convoys will not be looted.

— Star Africa Service
Mozambicans moving to SA despite curbs

The number working on SA mines is now 50 000:

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - Despite attempts by the South African Government to curb the influx, the number of Mozambicans working on the South African mines has increased in recent years and now stands at about 50 000.

The miners earn more than 10 times the minimum industrial wage in Mozambique, according to Mr Pedro Taimo, the Mozambican Labour Ministry's representative in South Africa.

Taimo told the official news agency AM that, in addition to the miners, his office knew of about 8 000 Mozambicans who were working illegally in South Africa, some of them as slaves on farms.

The actual number of illegal workers could be much higher, he said.

Many of them had fled from the war in Mozambique and unscrupulous farmers, taking advantage of their illegal status, were paying them "laughably low wages."

The figure of 50 000 now working on the mines was far below the maximum of 118 000 when Mozambique became independent in 1975. The Pretoria government immediately imposed restrictions that led to the number dropping to 41 000 in two years.

It rose again to about 55 000 in the mid-eighties until the government in 1986 threatened to expel them all at the end of their contracts.

Taimo said the wages paid to the miners were "reasonable", averaging about R700 a month.
MAPUTO — A row has broken out in Mozambique over the allocation of beachfront building sites to wealthy South Africans and to top Mozambican officials at Xai-Xai, despite the threat of environmental damage.

Local planning officials say the plot-holders have begun bulldozing trees and vegetation that are vital to the prevention of erosion at the holiday resort 150 km north of Maputo.

Although the plots have been allocated by the Xai-Xai Town Council, Gaza province planning chief Turque Abubacar told the Maputo news-sheet Mediafax "We know nothing about this new concession of land. But we can tell you that, according to a study made in 1991, there is no space for new buildings on the beach."

Government officials who have been allocated beachfront sites at Xai-Xai include Justice Minister Ossumane Ali Dauto and Deputy Foreign Minister Salome Moiane.

At least four South Africans have sought permission to build beach houses and one plans to build a tourist complex.
Mozambique pushing privatisation targets

MAPUTO — Formerly Marxist Mozambique is pushing privatisation, unloading its once vast network of business interests in a programme that is changing the economic face of the country.

About 149 small and medium-sized companies have been sold off since 1987 when Mozambique started its economic reform programme backed by the World Bank.

The bank stressed the need for a move towards a market economy, which became official state policy when the ruling Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (Frelimo) ditched Marxism-Leninism and the National Assembly approved a new democratic constitution in 1990.

A World Bank report said plans to privatise larger and more complex enterprises were now under way.

"Despite initial delays, sound progress has been made," said the report, prepared for international donors to Mozambique.

In December, Prime Minister Mario Guebuza authorised one of the biggest privatisations so far — the gradual sale of the majority state trading group Empresa Nacional de Comércio (Enacomco).

In addition to its international trading interests, Enacomco is involved in timber processing, agricultural chemicals, veterinary products and tourism.

It will be a step-by-step process, beginning with distribution of 30% of share capital to the group's executives and workers, while the state keeps 70%.

But the state intends to sell off more of its Enacomco shares, putting 20% of them on the market in March.

The World Bank report said the government was adopting a "phased approach to total privatisation".

"The privatisation option considered for most enterprises is that of joint ventures with direct private foreign investment," the report said.

"The government's strategy is to give the private sector a controlling interest while maintaining a minority percentage of ownership at this stage (about 40%) with the objective of offering these shares to local private investors and employees at a later stage," the report said.

The preliminary list of 40 large enterprises identified for privatisation "over the medium term" includes 10 enterprises expected to be privatised by the end of 1993.

The government and the World Bank agree one of the obstacles to speedier privatisation is lack of clarity over the legal status of many firms abandoned by their foreign owners around the time of independence from Portugal in 1975.

Under a procedure known as "intervention", the government assumed management control but not formal ownership of these companies — Sipa-Reuter.
Italian troops to police peace in Mozambique

THE expected arrival of 1,200 Italian troops in Mozambique by mid-February to secure the Beira corridor and relieve Zimbabwean troops will be an important step towards implementing a general peace agreement.

It is hoped that implementation will lead to political stability and economic rehabilitation.

The country has already benefited from the more stable situation which followed the ceasefire between government forces and Renamo rebels.

International donors pledged money to the Mozambican peace effort at the Sixth Consultative Conference in Paris on December 10. Some US$700m in credits, grants and food aid was allocated.

A further $420m went to debt rescheduling and more concessional debt rescheduling agreements along the lines of the Trincomalee terms will be negotiated at a Paris Club meeting later this year.

The promise of peace and democratisation has stimulated interest in SA, Mozambique's most likely source of ready investment. SA is Mozambique's second largest trading partner. Sato spokesperson Angela Self said there had been an increase in awareness of business opportunities.

"SA wants things to happen quickly in Mozambique," she said, "but we do not expect a huge bonanza straight away."

Tourism and general trade were obvious opportunities, but there were also openings for small industrial developments.

The main problem is payment and potential investors are looking to counter trade and barter as alternatives to cash settlement.

A spokesperson for Sociedade Austral de Desenvolvimento, a Mozambican management consultancy, said 60% of the organisation's information newsletters were sent to SA. Most inquiries came from South Africans wanting to set up ventures with Mozambican partners, he said.

UN approval procedures, the absence of Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama from Maputo and a lack of experienced Renamo negotiators were factors contributing to delays in implementing the peace agreements, UN special representative Aido Ayello said.

UN operations in Mozambique were already behind the Rome timetable, which Ayello described as unrealistic. Elections scheduled for October 1993 would not take place until all soldiers had been demobilised, he said.

According to the 1992 World Bank report, Mozambique remains the world's most aid-dependent country. In addition, its external debt is US$5bn and about 59% of its budget is funded abroad.

But, despite drought setbacks, the country's 1997 economic and social rehabilitation programme is continuing and it is estimated real growth will improve on the 1.4% achieved last year.

Finance Minister Eneas Comiche says Mozambique is committed to policies and structural reforms to create the basics for sustainable economic growth.

Financial reforms in the banking and insurance sectors since 1992 have led to the establishment of two independent banks and insurance firms.

In April 1992 foreign exchange controls were amended to create tax holidays and profit repatriation schemes for foreign investors. Roads and other transport links have re-opened and movement within the country has become possible again.
MAPUTO — While many people go hungry in famine-stricken rural Mozambique, large quantities of maize are rotting in dockside warehouses in Maputo because of a local glut.

More than 8000 tons of food-aid maize is reported to be rotting in the warehouses because the merchants who are supposed to sell it to the public already have more than they can handle.

The maize was donated by the United States to Mozambique for sale through normal commercial channels as a means of overcoming the food shortage.
Brazilian to lead UN's troops

The Star 12/12/93

MAPUTO — Brazilian Major-General Lello Goncalves da Silva was confirmed yesterday as head of the military side of the UN operation in Mozambique as the country moves towards elections.

A spokesman for the United Nations in Maputo said that both the government and the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) have given their formal approval to the appointment of Goncalves.

No date has yet been fixed for the arrival of the Brazilian but the UN spokesman expected it "very soon".

Goncalves is currently commander of the Brazilian army's Eighth Division.

The head of the UN military observers in Mozambique, Lieutenant-Colonel G P Sinha, denied a report from Lusaka yesterday that a Zambian colonel would head the UN force, but confirmed that Zambian troops would take part in the operation.

The UN effort to restore peace and establish democracy in Mozambique will cost more than $250 million (R318.4 million) and involve thousands of troops and civilian staff, according to a report to the General Assembly.

This comes on top of an estimated $861 million (R2.1 billion) for other peacekeeping operations this year for an organisation already severely over-stretched by the demands imposed by member states.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's report on Mozambique coincided with his disclosure that the UN regular budget for 1993 will be about $1 billion (R3.1 billion), only $235.9 million (R772.1 million) of which had been paid so far — by 19 members who met the end of January deadline. — Sapa-AFP, Special Correspondent.
Mozambicans agree to postpone election

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Reports of vehicles being ambushed have been received for the first time since the October ceasefire.

Several attacks were made on Friday on the main road about 80 km north of Maputo. In one attack, two people were seriously injured when a truck was shot at. The gunmen did not loot the goods. They later shot out tyres on several other vehicles without stopping them.

Last week four trucks from Malawi were attacked in Tete province but this time the gunmen were caught and identified as company guards.

Trucks shot up north of Maputo

MAPUTO — The collapse of the peace process in Angola appears to have persuaded all parties in Mozambique to agree to a postponement of an election in order to avoid the mistakes made in Angola.

The Frelimo government, Renamo, the other opposition parties and the United Nations group in Mozambique all now agree that the election, due to be held in October, should be postponed until next year.

This is reported by the official Mozambican news agency, Aim, which says that the head of the UN mission, Aldo Ajello, has again urged the postponement of the election.

The Angolan peace process collapsed because of inadequate UN monitoring and because the armed forces of both sides had not been fully demobilised when a dispute arose over the election outcome.
1500 ‘Mozambicans’ stateless

MAPUTO — More than 1500 people born in Mozambique but who regard themselves as Portuguese have been declared illegal immigrants by Portugal in terms of new European Community norms.

The news agency AIM reports the Portuguese immigration authorities claim about 2000 Mozambicans are living in Portugal. Their “illegality” results from their “inability to prove they have adequate means to support themselves”.

Immigrants from countries outside the European Community were given four months until Saturday to regularise their situation, with the threat of deportation if they could not.

The government has since extended the deadline to March 5.

The Portuguese government plans to withdraw citizenship from several hundred people, who, though they were born in Mozambique, do not regard themselves as Mozambican. To qualify for Mozambican citizenship, they must specifically renounce their Portuguese nationality and establish residence in Mozambique.
Govt wins ground back from Unita in Huambo

LUANDA — The Angolan government said on Monday it had regained ground from Unita in the decisive battle for the second city of Huambo but at least 6 000 civilians had died in more than a month of fighting.

Diplomats said the government's position was precarious and they believed Unita still controlled large parts of the smashed city.

"The government will need to regain a lot of ground to prevent Unita from taking control," said one Western diplomat.

Fighting was raging around the governor's palace and army installations, the government said.

More than 6 000 civilians were killed in the five weeks of combat and those who remained were short of food and water, it said. Hundreds of bodies were littering the streets, military officials in Huambo said on Sunday.

There was no independent confirmation of the reports but foreign aid officials believe the death toll is in the thousands.

Angolan military sources said both sides had sent reinforcements to the central highland city, which has been pounded to rubble in many parts. Fighter planes took off from Luanda at the weekend towards Huambo.

State-run media yesterday repeated government claims that Zaireans and South Africans were helping Unita. A South African company had rented three DC-3 planes to Unita, it said.

The battle for Huambo, former headquarters of Unita, is the most significant in the civil war which resumed after Jonas Savimbi rejected his defeat in elections in September and began to expel local authorities from 75% of the country.

International aid organisations said they were unable to reach the worst stricken areas Unita has rejected a UN proposal for a brief truce in Huambo so that food and medicine can be rushed to wounded civilians.

The UN has failed to revive May 1991 peace accords which ended 18 years of war between Unita and the MPLA.

Talks in Addis Ababa in late January failed to produce a ceasefire. Unita cancelled a second round planned for February 18 on the grounds that its delegation had not returned to Angola. Unita had refused to set a new date.

Many diplomats believe Savimbi wants control of Huambo before negotiating. Then he will seek a powersharing agreement, a notion rejected until now by the MPLA, which was legitimately elected.

Peace accord observers Portugal, Russia and the US demand Unita agree to a new date by tomorrow night. But diplomats admitted they had little clout.

Military sources said a column of government troops heading from Benguela in the west had still not reached Huambo and some had turned back after clashes on the way.

— Sapas-Reuters.

Brazilian general takes Mozambique post

MAPUTO — A Brazilian general took up his post yesterday as commander of UN forces overseeing Mozambique's transition to democracy. UN sources said so far only 100 UN peacekeepers are in Mozambique, but when the international force reaches full strength May-Gen Lello Goncalves da Silva will have more than 7 000 men under his command.

The UN force will include five infantry battalions, three companies of military engineers, an air unit, and support and logistics units.

UN operations will have three regional commands in place.

The northern region will be headed by a Bangladeshi, the southern by a Zambian and the central region by an Italian.
Posh lure for rebel leader

MAPUTO — The government has offered Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama one of the poshest houses in Maputo.

The idea is to lure him out of his bush headquarters so that the peace process can be speeded up.

While Renamo has stationed representatives in Maputo, Dhlakama has refused to leave his headquarters in the bush near Maringue in central Mozambique. He has rejected the two houses so far offered to him in the capital, saying they were neither sufficiently prestigious in style nor secure enough.

He apparently fears attempts on his life once he leaves the bush.

But this has meant that communications between Dhlakama and his representatives in Maputo are slow. Frelimo complains that this is holding up implementation of the peace accord signed last year.

The government is now preparing a mansion with spacious grounds for the Renamo leader, according to the local newspaper, Mediafax. The house was used by the city’s mayors in colonial times and after independence by the governors of Maputo province.

“Short of the presidential palace itself, there could scarcely be a more luxurious or more secure building in the capital,” says the official news agency, AIM.

Meanwhile, the peace process went ahead with a meeting yesterday between President Joaquim Chissano and the newly arrived commander of the United Nations monitoring force, Major-General Leho Goncalves da Silva of Brazil.

Highwaymen set ambushes

MAPUTO — Armed robbers have begun ambushing vehicles at night on the main road between Maputo and Beira.

The Frelimo government and the former rebel movement, Renamo, are reported to be working together in an attempt to curb the highwaymen. However, the gangs are said to be growing in number.

An official who administers the Goonda locality told the state news agency, AIM, that he had been robbed twice in one night — Star Africa Service.
Posh house offer to Renamo leader

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — The government has offered Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama one of the poshest houses here in a bid to lure him out of his bush headquarters so that the implementation of the lumbering peace process can be speeded up.

While Renamo has stationed representatives in Maputo, Mr Dhlakama has refused to leave his Marmgue headquarters.

He has rejected the two houses so far offered to him, saying they were neither sufficiently prestigious in style nor secure enough.

He apparently fears attempts on his life once he leaves the bush.

But this has meant that communications between Dhlakama and his representatives in Maputo are slow and cumbersome. Freimo complains that this is holding up implementation of the peace accord signed in Rome last year.
Maputo peace delayed by UN spat

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — The Mozambican peace process has been delayed by a power struggle between two United Nations officials, a Maputo newspaper says.

Mediafax newspaper said there had been a struggle between Mr James Jonah, of Sierra Leone, who is UN Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs, and Mr Aldo Ajello, of Italy, newly appointed UN representative in Mozambique.

Mediafax said the contest had been won by Mr Ajello.

Mr Jonah has been accused by the Mozambican Press of incompetence, according to the official news agency, Aim.

One of the Italians who helped negotiate the Rome accord to end Mozambique’s civil war has joined in the controversy. He is Father Matteo Zuppi of the Santo Egidio Community in Rome, which hosted the talks that led to the signing of the accord four months ago.

Aim reported that at a news conference in Maputo Father Zuppi rejected the argument by some UN officials that the world body could not quickly respond to Mozambique’s needs because it was involved in about 35 other places.

Father Zuppi warned that peace might be jeopardized by delays in implementing the October pact under which the UN military force should have been in place within a month.
Offer to rebels chief

THE Mozambique Government has offered Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama one of the poshest houses in Maputo in a bid to lure him out of his bush headquarters so that the implementation of the lumbering peace process can be speeded up.

While Renamo has stationed representatives in Maputo, Dhlakama himself has refused to leave his headquarters in the bush near Manjagie in central Mozambique. The rebel leader has rejected the two houses so far offered to him in the capital, saying they were neither suitably prestigious nor secure enough.

Correspondent and
Sapa
Renamo won't fight again,

vows general

HARARE — Renamo won't go back to the bush if it loses multiparty elections in Mozambique, vowed army commander Lieutenant-General Matheus Ngunhano, who is also vice-president of the rebels.

He told Zimbabwean journalists that Renamo was confident but, if it did not win, it would respect the results. "Renamo is different from Unita," he said, referring to the Angolan rebel movement's decision to continue fighting after losing multiparty elections.

He was inspecting military training facilities in the Nyanga Mountains, where British and Zimbabwean instructors have been training Frelimo soldiers. The training camp, established by the British Army, may be used to train the new integrated Mozambican army. Renamo claims to have a force of 20,000 soldiers.

The visit to Zimbabwe was the first by a high-level Renamo military delegation since the Rome peace accord in October. — Star Africa Service.
Renamo considers army training offer

LONDON. — The Mozambique resistance movement Renamo is considering a joint offer by the British and Zimbabwean governments to help train a new Mozambican army made up of government and Renamo forces.

Renamo vice-president General Mateus Ngwenamo was today shown military training facilities in Zimbabwe run jointly by the country’s army and the British Military Advisory training team.

The British High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Richard Daley, said Britain and Zimbabwe had made a joint offer to train sections of the planned new Mozambique army during the Mozambique peace talks in Rome last October.

Mr Daley said the Mozambique government had already accepted the offer and Renamo had expressed interest in the plan, which explained Gen Ngwenamo’s visit to the joint British-Zimbabwean training camp in Zimbabwe’s Nyanga mountains — Telegraph.
HARARE — Renamo will not go back to the bush if it loses multiparty elections in Mozambique, according to army commander Lieutenant-General Matthews Ngonhano.
Smuggling of arms to stop

HARARE — The smuggling of arms from Mozambique to Zimbabwe will only be effectively controlled once the demobilisation process in Mozambique is completed in about April, Zimbabwe’s national news agency Zana reported yesterday.

It was quoting Mozambican Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi, who said that although his country had gun control laws, thanks to the war, the authorities could not determine who was authorised to possess weapons.

Armed robberies

After a lengthy and brutal civil war between government troops and the Renamo rebel movement, Mozambique is slowly moving towards multiparty elections. It has been alleged firearms being used in the increasing number of armed robberies in Zimbabwe have been smuggled from Mozambique.

Mocumbi said on Monday evening that once demobilisation began in Mozambique, “we will know who is authorised to have a gun or not. The demobilisation process is starting in March.”

Dumping firearms

Referring to South Africa, the Mozambican Foreign Minister said as long as there was conflict in the neighbouring state, weapons would be smuggled from South Africa into Zimbabwe.

He said it was unfortunate there were manufacturers who continued to dump their firearms in countries such as Mozambique which had already been torn apart by war — Sapa.
UN trio face split over peace roles

TOP DOG London, Rome and Lisbon in bitter wrangle over control of monitor force:

Sowetan Africa News Service

APUTO — Signs of friction between countries involved in the Mozambican peace process have begun to emerge even before the process is well under way.

The Italians have expressed unhappiness about their role in the United Nations monitoring force, Unomoz, and have delayed the dispatch of their contingent.

Meanwhile, the British and the Portuguese are sparring over the right to train the joint national army that will be formed from Frelimo government and Renamo rebel forces.


The rest of the 1 300-strong Italian contingent were to have flown in today but their departure has been delayed.

Initially defence minister Salvo Ando threatened to keep the men at home until their country was given “an adequate role” in the command structure of the UN force, Unomoz.

Ando did not specify what role he had in mind for the Mozambican contingent but appears to object to the appointment of a Brazilian general to command the Unomoz force when Italy is making the major military contribution to that force.

Mozambican commentators have pointed out that Italy has already been given the top job in the UN operation in Mozambique, which is under the overall direction of an Italian, Aldo Agello.

The Mozambican news agency reports that representatives of Britain and Portugal were unable to iron out differences over the troop training issue when they met in Lisbon with delegates from France, the third nation invited to help in this part of the peace process.

The British indicated that they wanted to train the new army, while the Portuguese made proposals that would effectively edge out Britain altogether.

Under these proposals, Lisbon would supervise the formation of all three services: army, navy and air force.
Shoestring peace about to snap

FROM his spartan headquarters on the eleventh floor of a dilapidated central Maputo hotel, Aldo Ajello, head of the UN Operation in Mozambique (Unomoz), gazes out upon a country apparently in the throes of transformation.

When Frelimo seized power in 1974 it proclaimed a one-party Marxist state so doctrinaire that even the shoeshine stalls were nationalised. Opposition was banned and peasants were forcibly collectivised.

Education standards fell so steeply that researchers found that the majority of Mozambicans could not count past 10.

Then in 1980 President Joaquim Chissano announced a spectacular reversal of policy. The state officially abandoned Marxism and embraced capitalist development.

Now, with money from the World Bank and help from about 200 newly arrived UN agencies swarming around and providing 60 percent of the country's income, there are real signs of recovery.

But the burning question is whether Mozambique is experiencing a false dawn. Western ambassadors in Maputo are warning their governments that the Mozambican peace process - to which the West has committed R4-billion - is in danger of ignominious failure unless serious United Nations loggias are removed.

Postponed

"There is a facade of peace here because a ceasefire is holding very well so far despite the absence of UN peacekeepers," said Mr Ajello, a 57-year-old Italian. "But there are great risks and threats"

By the end of last year Mr Ajello was to have had 7,500 UN Blue Beret peacekeeping troops.

By this weekend the multinational peacekeepers were meant to have overseen the demobilisation of 45,000 of an estimated total of 150,000 governmenb and rebel troops in preparation for Mozambique's first multiparty general election in June.

Instead, despite the UN's decision to allocate R1-billion to Unomoz, no one UN peacekeeping soldier has yet arrived, not one Mozambican fighter has been demobilised, and the country's multiparty elections have been postponed indefinitely.

Mr Ajello is clear about where the problems lie. "There are too many UN missions in the field that administration units in New York are overwhelmed. We have the first UN military observers here, but I can't give them vehicles. To get vehicles I have to go through the contract committee in New York. That takes months."

Instead, Unomoz is operating on an emergency shoestring budget, renting vehicles temporarily from neighbouring countries, the nearest of which is South Africa.

A cherished slogan in Maputo is "Angola can never happen in Mozambique," a reference to Angola's quick return to bloody civil war after multiparty elections were held under United Nations supervision but that is precisely the danger now confronting Mozambique. - The Telegraph, London
MAPUTO — An unknown group calling itself the "Green Helmets" has circulated leaflets in Maputo threatening to launch attacks in Mozambique five months after a peace accord ended 16 years of civil war. The leaflets, delivered anonymously to local journalists, threatened to start ambushes to cut roads today. There were no immediate reports of any attacks.

The civil war ended last October with a peace accord between the government and the rebel Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo). The leaflets, one a communiqué and the other a letter to UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, indicated the major grievance of the group was that the government and Renamo were not looking after demobilized fighters from both sides, but enriching themselves.

The leaflets denounced the government, Renamo and Boutros-Ghali's special representative in Maputo, Aldo Ajello. "Our action will begin on March 1, 1995, and we will cut most of the highways now considered open," the communiqué said.

"The commanders of the Green Helmets have no fear of Renamo, Frelimo or the blue helmets of the United Nations (peacekeeping forces). The men of the UN and the gang of thieves of Renamo and Frelimo will be fodder for our bullets."

The leaflets did not specifically claim the Green Helmets were responsible for recent isolated attacks on vehicles north of the Zambezi river in Tete and Zambezia provinces, but the letter said: "We have already tried out our incursions with good results."

The letter to Boutros-Ghali said of his special representative: "We are here to denounce the passivity of Dr Ajello in the Mozambican peace process ..."

The group claimed to have its headquarters 50km from Maputo. — Sapa-Reuters.
New war looms as armies demobbed

As southern Africa begins to stabilise and Zimbabwe and Mozambique prepare to demobilise thousands of soldiers, so South Africa is bracing itself for another border war - cross-border raids and even deep incursions by AK47-wielding ivory and rhino horn poachers.

At the recent conference of the Game Rangers' Association of Africa, held at Itala Game Reserve in Natal, rangers spent many hours discussing how to prepare for this new wave.

As rhino numbers slump throughout Africa north of the Limpopo, so South Africa has become a prime target, with 23 percent of all known rhino in the world.

Kruger Park, which holds more than 2,000 rhino, shares a 350km border with Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Chief ranger Bruce Bryden says there are thousands of Mozambican troops near Kruger Park who will be demobilised and who have starving families.

Rhinos provide meat and horn.

In Natal and KwaZulu the reserves hold about 2,500 rhino and are on the alert.

Since 1990 the Natal reserves have lost 11 rhino to poachers.

Kruger lost eight.

Major Piet Lategan, head of the SAP's 20-strong endangered species squad, told the conference the game departments were prepared for the "onslaught" which he sees coming - a suggestion vigorously denied.

Lategan's squad has had enormous successes. In February, a 23-year-old unarmed policewoman rounded up a gang and their cache of horns and ivory in Randburg. She and a black undercover policeman fooled the gang into thinking they were selling horn. One of those arrested had called the policeman, "Hey, boy! Help lold."

The policeman replied, "Ja, my baas."

When the handcuffs were snapped on, the leader said "I don't believe this."

Dr George Hughes, chief executive of Natal Parks, said Taiwan has 10,000 chemist shops selling ground rhino horn. Rhino horn has been sold as a fever cure for 4,000 years and, said Hughes, it works.

Taiwan consumes 200kg a year but considers African rhino horn inferior to the almost unobtainable Asian horn, which sells at 40 times more.

The Taiwanese say they would welcome a legal and reliable source and told Hughes they do not want to go down in history as the people who extinguished the rhino.

A debate on whether it would be wise for South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe to put their huge stockpiles of rhino horn - confiscated from poachers or cut from rhino found dead from natural causes - on to the market went on inconclusively for two hours.

The world ban on rhino horn is being more closely failed to stop poaching and, annually, the price goes up and the gangsters get rougher.

The law is also getting rougher when, last year, a senior Kruger Park ranger was given eight years for poaching rhino horns he appealed. He was then given 12 years.
Monitors in Beira

MAPUTO — The first contingent of Italian troops being sent by the UN to monitor an Italian-brokered peace accord in Mozambique arrived in Beira yesterday.

A battalion of 180 Alpini troops left the northern city of Tuma on Tuesday night. The Italian contingent will grow to 1,300 by the end of the month. The first ship carrying equipment for the Italian soldiers docked in Beira on Tuesday and a second is due today.
Mozambique begins reconstruction

UN special representative Aldo Ayello said UN troops would arrive in one month stages to coincide with the phased opening of assembly points for demobilised soldiers.

The UN operations in Mozambique had secured 12 of 49 assembly points for demobilising soldiers and would open them next month. It was investigating the next 12 assembly areas.

The demobilisation process is crucial for the success of the operation. Lessons learnt in Angola have meant elections will not be held until all soldiers are demobilised.

Ayello, Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama and President Joaquim Chissano have agreed to delay elections until after the rainy season in June 1994.

About 21,000 Renamo and 61,000 government soldiers will demobilise in the next months, a diplomatic source said.

By April 15, each side should have contributed 15,000 soldiers to a joint defence force, but Maputo military sources believe Renamo will find it difficult to provide this number.

UN assembly will provide tents to demobilised troops, who in turn are expected to build their own accommodation. Medical aid is also given.

Although Maputo has working electricity, water and sewerage systems, office space and accommodation is hard to come by.

Since the signing of the peace agreement, many refugees are returning to their homes in the countryside. However, urban overcrowding has not eased significantly.

UN officials estimate about 3.5 million people will depend on food aid this year while 1.5 million people are expected to return from neighbouring countries and more than 5 million internally displaced people also will require settlement aid.

At the Rome conference in December last year, $320m was pledged by the international community towards the peace process.

However, seeds and tools pledged last year did not arrive in the country for last year's planting season, making rural resettlement for the returning refugees impossible.
Mozambique looks to SA banks for Cahora Bassa reconstruction

MAPUTO — Reconstruction of the two supply lines for the giant Cahora Bassa dam in Mozambique's north-western province of Tete is to be discussed with commercial banks in South Africa.

The Maputo daily, mediaFAX, quotes an unnamed South African source as saying that at least five banks are to be involved.

The director-general of Mozambique’s electricity company, Fernando Juliao, said about R375-million was needed to reconstruct 1,600 pylons brought down along 300 km of lines during the war which ended formally on October 4 last year when the government and Renamo signed a peace agreement in Rome.

Juliao said Italy had promised R150-million and negotiations were under way with the African Development Bank, the World Bank and the Caisse Francaise du Development to reach the target.

The latter two demanded guarantees from the South African government.

Reconstruction of the supply lines to South Africa would take about two-and-a-half years and would provide employment to hundreds of unqualified workers, many of them demobilised soldiers, Juliao said.

An unnamed source told mediaFAX that the South African cabinet would have a definite answer on the guarantees — which are critical to the project — by the end of March.

Gert Grobler, of the South African Department of Foreign Affairs and South Africa’s representative on the Cahora Bassa Joint Permanent Commission, said the matter was receiving urgent attention from the cabinet.

There was no doubt that Cahora Bassa was economically viable, he said.

The negotiations with South African banks follow a South African proposal that financial backing be looked for in the region rather than abroad.

Portugal's ambassador to Mozambique, Lopes da Costa, who heads the joint commission, said he was optimistic about the chances of getting the full amount by the next meeting in Lisbon on April 26.
The unhappiest country

MOZAMBIQUE: A WAR AGAINST THE PEOPLE by Hilary Anderson (Macmillan, 173pp, oppr R175)

The road to hell in post-independence Mozambique was paved with the good intentions of Frelimo. Anderson says Frelimo's people for the country were frustrated by others' melees.

No such claim can be made for Renamo, a fake liberation movement started by what was then Rhodesia and taken over by SA. Its aim was to destroy the Mozambican economy and destabilise society and government, at whatever cost.

Anderson calls Renamo the "Khmer Rouge of Africa." She argues that the human cruelty of its war against the people of Mozambique justifies this reproach. Moreover, she finds it significant that the US, which openly supported Unita in Angola, came out against Renamo.

If Renamo had no genuine goals, those of Frelimo were more consistent. "What kind of principles, people might ask, guide a government to force peasant farmers to live in communal villages, to foster large-scale farming, one year and in the next decade decide that family farming should take priority, to rip munkuris off women in the streets while also fighting for the rights of women, to profess democracy, yet not allow people to choose their government, to penalise church-goers and traditional ways of life, to flog people publicly for selling goods in the streets one day and to condone it the next?"

These turnabouts were not the outcome of changes at the top. On the contrary, "it is the same core of people who changed the party from a loosely defined nationalist movement to a Marxist-Leninist party and now to a party which is struggling even to call itself socialist."

Frelimo did try to build up the country and to make basic foods, education and health available to all. But, by its mere profession of socialism, it not only forfeited the credit to which its efforts entitled it, it lent Renamo an undeserved credibility despite that movement's origins, aims and activities.

Anderson points out that Renamo articulates discontent with Frelimo's record in government, but she admits that serious discontent does exist. This "is only discernible through a certain amount of passive and some positive action on the part of the peasants and through the existence of strong grounds for political discontent. The passive discontent has been most destructive for Frelimo as it has played a large part in bringing about Mozambique's economic collapse."

The existence of discontent brought at least some following to dissident elements. These were primarily people who had wielded power during Frelimo's armed struggle against the Portuguese and who saw Renamo as a source of power in lieu of that which they were not willing to give up.

But discontent extended to tribal leaders with power bases which Frelimo had treated with insufficient consideration. Then, too, the Catholic Church was treated with a heavy-handedness which, says Anderson, provided the first glimpse of President Samora Machel's loss of touch with his countrypeople.

Anderson sees aid as essential for Mozambique, at least for now. She clearly distinguishes relief from development aid. "The first is the disaster-thwarting aid given only in cases of emergency. Development aid is given for longer-term reasons, is concerned with such things as educational projects, seed growing, preventive medicine, infrastructural improvement and macro-economic growth."

She adds "In the sense that it never cures the problem, relief aid always goes down a bottomless pit. It does nothing to reduce the need for itself in the long term. One meal which keeps you alive until the next does not reduce your need for the next meal, nor does it cure your poverty."

"Yet, without effective development, they (the people of Mozambique) are doomed to remain reliant on relief for an indefinite period."

Mozambique is a land of paradox. On the one hand, "a survey of the nations of the world conducted for the International Index of Human Suffering labelled, not Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Nicaragua or Cambodia, but Mozambique, as the Unhappiest Nation on Earth."

Anderson adds "Yet it is a land of such potential. The amount of foreign investment that began to pour in as soon as the economy was liberalised is testimony to this."

Gentleman Jim

THE JIMMY COOK STORY by Jimmy Cook with Frederick Cleary (Pelham, 220pp, R76,99)

Cook has always been a good, honest batsman, and so is this autobiography. With no fuss, hype or hint of scandal he runs briskly through his cricket career with Transvaal, Somerset and SA. Personal life is discussed only so far as it affects his sporting career, and no dressing room secrets are betrayed even on the shameful treatment of Transvaal players by recent national selection panels, he refuses to express much more than bewilderment. It's a far cry from the first international against Kim Hughes' Australians, when the SA team comprised seven Transvaalers and four from Western Province, to the virtual exclusion of Transvaalers since the return to official international cricket and the incomprehensible attitude of the selectors towards Clive Rice and Cook himself, in particular.

True, the Transvaal Mean Machine itself disintegrated long since, but it's hard to believe that any recent national sides have consisted of the best available players, bearing in mind the specific needs of each game. One of the few weaknesses of the book, incidentally, is the co-writers' apparent inability to distinguish between proper Tests, unofficial Tests and one-day internationals.

Cook has scored 11 000-plus first-class runs in SA. As the Wanderers is his home ground, I must have seen a fair proportion of them. Yet I can scarcely visualise a single innings he's played. That is a comment on the unobtrusive style rather than the quality of his batting, much of the same can be said of his writing.

But as the (sadly, brief) statistical coverage by Frank Heydenrych shows, Cook's career average is higher than that of any other current SA batsman except Kepler Wessels — and that by less than a run, while his rate of scoring would surely have served SA better than Wessels's pedestrianism, which puts such unbearable pressure on an already fragile middle order.

Of course, Cook is a pre-eminent member of the lost generation, whose sporting careers had not taken off when isolation set in, and were in their twilight when international doors were re-opened. At least he had those three golden years with Somerset.

Michael Coulson
Pamphlets a threat to peace

MAPUTO — An unknown group calling itself the "Green Helmets" has circulated pamphlets in Maputo threatening to launch attacks in Mozambique five months after a peace accord ended 16 years of civil war. Delivered anonymously to local journalists, the leaflets threatened to start ambushes to cut off roads this week. The leaflets indicated the major grievance of the group was that the government and the opposition Renamo movement were not looking after disabled fighters from both sides, but earmarking themselves — Sapa-Reporter — 8/12/1992
Elite unit growing restless

MAPUTO - Unrest among Mozambique's armed forces has spread to the elite Presidential Guard, according to the Maputo newspaper, Mediafax.

There has long been dissatisfaction among soldiers over pay and food, and discontent is reported to be increasing among troops grown tired of waiting to be demobilised under the Rome peace accord.

The Presidential Guard has been dissatisfied over what it says is failure to pay a promised 23 percent increase. The authorities have denied making a promise.

Star Africa Service
Frelimo has violated pact — Dhlakama

By Eric Janssen  
Star Africa Service (218)

MARINGUE — In a rare interview in the Mozambican bush, Renamo president Afonso Dhlakama has cast further gloom over the peace process in that country by lashing out at the Frelimo government and the United Nations for stalling the process.

Both, he said, were constantly throwing obstacles in the path of a quick, smooth transition to democracy.

The rebel leader’s remarks reflect the increasing fragility of the peace effort, which is several months behind schedule.

Dhlakama was speaking at a news conference and interview at a Renamo base near Gorongosa, about 100 km north of Beira, where he is consulting with regional Renamo leaders and military commanders.

Dhlakama said Frelimo had scant respect for the peace accord signed in Rome last October and he “doubted whether President Chissano really wanted peace”.

The main reason for him not meeting Chissano on Mozambican soil yet, said Dhlakama, was that Frelimo had constantly ignored all his demands.

Among the violations of the Rome Accord he alleged were:

- Frelimo was purposely stalling the peace process knowing it could not win a free election.
- Instead of disarming its soldiers, Frelimo was secretly transforming them into a police force.
- The UN was also slowing down the process, waiting five months before bringing in the first peace-keeping forces, and also appeared to be in collusion with Frelimo.
- The Frelimo government continued to control the news media and was relying heavily on disinformation to keep TV, radio and the press on its side.
- Renamo had yet to see any food, transport or housing which it had been promised in the accord.
- Frelimo was supplying food and medical supplies only to its own people while Renamo children died daily.

He further alleged that at least 18 Renamo people had been blown up by landmines laid recently by Frelimo.

In answer to questions, Dhlakama blandly denied that Renamo had ever committed a massacre, ever abducted a child or ever received aid from Western countries during the civil war — South Africa included.

Looking towards the future, Dhlakama said he sought reconciliation, co-operation and development with all former enemies.

Although warning that drastic action was needed to avert a disaster he did not believe Mozambique would follow Angola’s path.

“I fought for democracy not for power,” he said. “If Renamo loses the election we will accept it and we ask the same of brother Chissano.”

“Mozambique is not Angola, Chissano is not Dos Santos and I am not Savimbi,” he concluded.
Renamo looking for ways to speed up peace

HARARE — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama said this week he had no objection to Zimbabwean troops remaining in his country under UN command to accelerate the peace process.

"We have killed each other long enough and we cannot go on like that," he told Tommy Sithole, editor of the semi-official Zimbabwean daily, The Herald, in an interview at his headquarters at Marungu in Sofala province.

Sithole, a much-publicised reserve squadron leader in the Zimbabwean Air Force who took part in assaults on the former Renamo headquarters at Cassa Banana, Gorongosa, appeared to be preparing public opinion here for an official reconciliation with the Renamo forces he until recently styled "bandits".

Sithole said Dhlakama "talked in passionate Shona — he made a direct appeal to President Robert Mugabe to intervene to bring pressure to bear on President Josipin Chissano to stick to the 1992 Rome Peace Accord".

The Renamo leader ranked at suggestions he might reject the result of planned elections and plunge his country back into civil war, as has happened in Portugal's other African colony, Angola.

"That is a silly question I am not Sau-

vumbe, President Chissano is not Dos Santos and Mozambique is not Angola.

"I personally as Afonso Dhlakama have no objection to Zimbabwean troops being incorporated into the UN peace monitoring force. This is a suggestion that could be negotiated," said Dhlakama. "But I must be frank, this is not something we have discussed as Renamo."

Zimbabwe is believed to retain up to 3,000 troops in the 270km "Beira corridor" linking the border town of Mutare with the Indian ocean. Plans for a ceremonial withdrawal last year were cancelled after fears of lawlessness and looting of famine relief trucks.

Dhlakama claimed there was "no good reason" UN troops had not yet been deployed to replace the Zimbabweans, as envisaged at Rome. Renamo has withdrawn from discussions in Maputo in protest at the ruling Frelimo party's alleged failure to honour promises over accommodation for his party, which now regards itself as the official opposition, and other issues.

Dhlakama accused Frelimo of using international aid for political purposes, channelling it only into pro-Frelimo zones.
Agreement reached on Cahora Bassa

HARARE Agreement has been reached on long-awaited plans for Zimbabwe to draw power from Mozambique's giant Cahora Bassa hydroelectric scheme, and work on the 340km link is expected to begin by the end of the year.

Notices in the Harare Press yesterday called for tenders for the construction of transmission lines from Songo, site of the 2000 MW dam on the Zambezi River, to Dema, south-west of Harare, as well as for substations to transform the power for transmission and the feeding of up to 500 MW into Zimbabwe's national grid.

The tender notice marks the first step towards work on the project, expected to cost about $150m.

It follows years of negotiation between Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Portugal, the Electricity Supply Commission (Eskom) of South Africa, Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (Zesa) and Electricidade de Mocambique (EDM) and Hidroeletrica de Cahora Bassa, the company which owns the power station, predominantly owned by the government in Lisbon.

Observers see the development as the first major fruit of peace in Mozambique, following the signing in October last year of the ceasefire between President Joaquim Chissano's government and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama's Renamo movement after 17 years of civil war.

Sapa
Big step forward for Mozambican peace

By Eric Jansen (2)
Star Africa Service (28)

MAPUTO — The flagging Mozambican peace process will get a boost this week with the arrival of tons of equipment, military hardware and supplies for the UN peacekeeping force.

Fears of Freimo and Renamo resuming their bloody war increased recently after more than five months had passed since President Joaquin Chusano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama signed the Rome peace accord.

And while United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali sanctioned the sending of a peacekeeping force to Mozambique in December, Italian members of parliament delayed the deployment of troops by up to three months.

But now it's full speed ahead, said Felicce Silva, operations chief of the United Nations in Mozambique, following the arrival of an advance party in Beira on February 23.

At present, about 200 members of the advance party are hard at work setting up a base at Dondo, about 25 km west of Beira, which will be the headquarters of the Italian contingent, whose main task is to safeguard the vital Beira Corridor.

"The soldiers will also assist in setting up 49 assembly points throughout Mozambique where both Freimo and Renamo soldiers will report for disarming and demobilisation," said Silva.

"In addition to the armed soldiers we will have 354 unarmed military observers from 19 countries to oversee the operation."

Silva said the UN peacekeeping force would comprise soldiers from India, Bangladesh, Botswana, Zambia and Uruguay. India would provide logistical support for the Zambian battalion while Portugal would provide the communications network and personnel for all battalions.
Failure to enforce fiscal discipline, complains ANC

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN - Finance Minister Derek Keys was criticised by ANC economics chief Trevor Manuel yesterday for failing to introduce measures into the Budget to enforce fiscal discipline.

"There is no indication in the Budget that discipline goes beyond aggregate expenditure cuts. Pearly targeted and inefficient delivery of social services will, by and large, continue through wasteful apartheid structures," Manuel told a media briefing on the Budget.

He criticised the absence of clear objectives which would allow the measurement of performance. He said the nature of the internal budgetary process encouraged departments to build fat into their estimates.

"The budgetary process undermines the good intentions the Minister may have on exerting fiscal discipline," he said.

Manuel challenged Keys to provide the ANC with all the relevant data that went into the calculation of the Budget so that it could produce an acceptable development plan for social expenditure within three months.

He said the theme of the Budget - discipline and growth - was inappropriate at this stage.

Furthermore, there was nothing on the revenue side of the Budget which would promote economic growth.

The effective personal tax rate had been increased and the higher VAT rate and excise duties would contribute to the contraction of consumer spending. These measures would contribute to a 2% rise in inflation.

At the same time, government expenditure would be kept constant or decline slightly in real terms and as a proportionately higher amount would be used for interest payments, expenditure on goods and services would be reduced in real terms. Neither would the change in company tax have the desired supply-side impact on economic growth, Manuel said.

Our political staff reports that opposition parties slammed Keys's Budget for further milking taxpayers while failing to curtail government expenditure.

- Government efforts to relieve unemployment were also criticised.
- But there was praise for the equalisation of pensions for all races and efforts to stimulate the growth of emerging and small businesses.

The DP said the Budget came as "a great disappointment" because the government had placed the burden "almost entirely on the public's shoulders."

DP finance spokesman Ken Andrew said the "glaring omission" in the Budget was the "totally inadequate way in which the massive and dangerous problem of unemployment" was addressed.

The CP said the 16c/l litre price hike and the increase of VAT to 14% meant that the "ordinary man-in-the-street" would have to dig much deeper into his pocket.

CP finance spokesman Casper Uys said no allowance had been made for fiscal drag or bracket creep.

Cosatu secretary-general Jay Naidoo lashed out at government for unilateral decision making and criticised Keys for missing an opportunity to address corruption.

Sapa reports he said the 40% VAT increase was the most significant feature of the Budget and would have a major effect on society. But he said Cosatu supported progressive taxation.
Frelimo: 'Punish SA'

MAPUTO — Mozambique National Assembly speaker Mr Marcelino dos Santos has called on the UN Security Council to punish South Africa and other African countries for their continued support of the rebel Renamo movement.

Mr Dos Santos said Mozambique had "proof" that some countries continued to support Renamo after it had signed a peace accord with Frelimo.

He also asked for help in handling the influx of returning refugees. Around 1.3 million Mozambicans are expected to be repatriated — Sapa
Call to punish SA

Mozambique accuses South Africa of supporting Renamo

We have proof that there are Renamo people being trained in Kenya," he said.

"We have proof that there are Renamo people being trained in Kenya," he said.
Renamo stalls joint-army plan

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Hopes for starting the training of Mozambique's united armed forces by the end of March have been dashed by Renamo's refusal to send men to a British-run camp in eastern Zimbabwe.

Mozambique's news agency.

AIM, reports that the United Nations special representative in Mozambique had been optimistic that the first 100 troops from the formerly warring armies would start training by the end of this month.

But a Renamo spokesman said training could not start until the troops on both sides were garrisoned in assembly points and demobilised. Renamo is also refusing to demobilise any of its forces until at least three of the five UN infantry battalions are in place.

Meanwhile, in a move which appears to be in contravention of the peace agreement, Renamo is setting up its own police force in Zambezita.
UN peacekeepers arrive at last in Mozambique

By Eric Janssen
Star Africa Service

BEIRA — After months of delays, the United Nations' peacekeeping operation is finally off the ground in Mozambique.

Yesterday the third aircraft arrived here, carrying 190 Italian troops and bringing to 670 the total number of officers and soldiers now in Mozambique. By tomorrow this will have grown to 1,660.

The arrival follows the weekend's off-loading of equipment including eight military helicopters, two light aircraft, 398 vehicles (including armoured cars, ambulances, trucks, field kitchens and trailers) and 72 containers of supplies.

The Italian contingent — the largest from those of eight countries which have sent personnel to Mozambique — expects to be fully operational by April 1.

A base and headquarters have been set up at Dondo, 30 km west of Beira.

Lieutenant-Colonel Giovanni Marizza, Italian chief of staff, said about half of the Italian contingent would move to Chimoio, near the Zimbabwean border, later this week.

"Our main task will be to safeguard the Beira Corridor. The UN must still work out the details, but our armed force will serve as a deterrent to bandits and soldiers thinking of taking up arms again. We will also set up some of the 49 assembly points where Renamo and Freimo soldiers will be demobilised and disarmed," said Marizza.

While officers from Bangladesh, Brazil and Botswana have already arrived, their countries' soldiers will follow later.

Zimbabwean soldiers are presently safeguarding the western part of the Beira Corridor, but command will officially be handed over to the Italians on April 8 at Chimoio.
Mutineers appeased

MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano has acceded to demands made by his Presidential Guard after they mutinied and held their commander hostage, according to a report.

The Mediafax news sheet reported that the guard mutinied last Wednesday after demanding payment of a demobilisation gratuity of 25 percent of their pay. They seized their commander, Colonel Chitupila, and demanded that he summon the Minister of the Interior, Colonel Manuel Antonio.

Antonio referred the issue to President Chissano himself. The mutineers sent a delegation to meet him. It demanded that if guard members were to be demobilised, they should be issued with civilian clothes, transport to their homes and paid a gratuity of about $3,000 each.

Mediafax says Chissano accepted these demands and Chitupila was released.
No plans for war: Renamo

MAPUTO — Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama has denied a report that his organisation is preparing to resume the war in Mozambique and has pledged that it will never take up arms again.

Dhlakama was reacting to news reports in local and European media that Renamo was planning to go back to war. — Sapa-Reuters and Argus Africa News Service (218)
US-based Kaiser Aluminum was considering a feasibility study for the construction of an aluminium smelter in Mozambique, spokesman Mary Beth Gregg said yesterday.

Kaiser is one of the world's six biggest aluminium producers. An SA/German Chamber of Commerce and Industry publication reported Kaiser investigating building a $100m smelter at either Beira or Maputo Mozambican authorities could not be reached for comment.

SA Aluminum Federation chairman Tony Patterson and Alusaf technical director Pieter de Waal said they had heard only rumours.

Patterson said the move was possible because there was a trend to shift aluminium production from industrialised nations to Third World countries with sufficient energy resources and lower environmental standards.

The major cost components in operating a smelter were electricity and imported alumina Mozambique had cheap electrical capacity from the Cahora Bassa scheme, although its infrastructure would have to be upgraded to provide uninterrupted electricity. Beira would be able to handle alumina imports and aluminium exports, he said.

A stock exchange analyst said it would make more sense to use gas from the Pande gas field when it came on stream.
MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano has acceded to demands made by his Presidential Guard after they mutinied and held their commander hostage, according to a report published here.

The Medafax news sheet reported that the guard mutinied last Wednesday after demanding payment of a demobilisation gratuity of 23 percent of their pay. They seized armoured cars at their barracks in a Maputo suburb and drove them to the Presidential Guard headquarters in the city centre.

There they seized their commander, a Colonel Chitupela, and demanded that he summon the Minister of the Interior, Colonel Manuel Antonio, who is in charge of the guard as well as of the police.

President's request

Ajitêna refused the demand and referred the issue to Chissano himself. At the president's request, the mutineers sent a delegation to meet with him.

The delegation demanded that if guard members were to be demobilised they should be issued with civilian clothes, transport to their homes and a gratuity of about R3 000 each.

Medafax says Chissano accepted these demands and Chitupela was released.

Chitupela told Medafax that soldiers already demobilised from the Presidential Guard had been given the 23 percent bonus and were stirring up trouble among those still in the force.
MAPUTO — The final contingent of Italian troops for the United Nations peacekeeping operation in Mozambique were deployed from the central port city of Beira yesterday.

An ONUMos spokesman said 188 Italians flew into the city on Wednesday, bringing the Italian battalion up to 1,140 troops.

The Italians have been deployed along the Beira corridor, the vital road and rail route between Beira and landlocked Zimbabwe.

Under the terms of an October peace agreement between the Mozambican government and the rebel Mozambique National Resistance, they are taking over protection of the corridor from Zimbabwean forces, who guarded it for more than 10 years.

The Zimbabweans are expected to withdraw all their forces from the corridor in the first half of April.

The Italians are the first of five ONUMos infantry battalions due in the country.

An advance party of 67 Bangladeshis has arrived to prepare for their role in protecting the railway from the northern Mozambican port of Nacala to Malawi.

Botswanan troops will take care of the road from Zimbabwe to Malawi through Mozambique’s northeastern province of Tete, while Uruguays will be deployed along the main road from Maputo to Beira and Zambians will protect the Maputo-Zimbabwe railway.

Meanwhile, the UN special representative in Mozambique, Aldo Agello, on Wednesday met with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama at Renamo headquarters in the central district of Maxico in an attempt to persuade him to end a month-long boycott of monitoring commissions established under the October peace accord.

— Sopa-AFP
### Cameroon meetings banned

YAOUNDE — The government of Cameroon accused the opposition on Tuesday of trying to destabilise the central African country and banned all public meetings which could lead to violence. Scores of people have been killed in Cameroon in protests and ethnic clashes over the last three years. In a television interview, Information Minister Augustine Kontchou said the Union for Change opposition group — which is opposed to President Paul Biya’s 11-year rule — was plotting “a diabolical scheme for the systematic destabilisation of Cameroon”, including bomb attacks, the abduction of foreigners and assassinations. — Sapa-Reuters

### AFRICA BRIEFS

**GUARDIANS**

2/4 - 7/4/93

**23 Militants killed**

ALGIERS — Special army troops tracking down Muslim fundamentalists who slaughtered 18 soldiers in the bloodiest attack in over a year of violence in Algeria have killed 23 militants, the government announced. It said the fundamentalists, accused by four soldiers, had slipped into Bouzenit barracks 100km south of Algiers to try to seize arms. It was the worst single attack since security forces were deployed. — Sapa-Reuters

**‘Government controls Cuito’**

LUANDA — The Angolan government denied this week a rebel claim to have captured the central city of Cuito after a two-month siege. “Cuito remains under the control of government forces,’’ Defence Ministry spokesman Jose Manuel Jota said. But there had been fierce clashes in the outskirts of Cuito, a city of 260,000 people, on Sunday and Monday, he said. The government and Unita radio also reported continued fighting around the besieged city of Menongue. — Sapa-Reuters

### Botswana's biggest diamond

GABERONE — Botswana’s largest diamond has been found at the Jwaneng diamond mine, owned by a subsidiary of DeBeers. The 446-carat stone will take its place in the record books among the biggest in the world. — Sapa

### GUARDIANS

2/4 - 7/4/93

**Guardsmen overpowered**

MAPUTO — Seven mummers were wounded when commandos stormed the barracks of the Mozambican presidential guard in an outer Maputo suburb on Tuesday, according to a government statement published this week. The commandos overpowered the guardsmen, who mutinied over pay and demobilisation benefits, and took control of the barracks using light arms in an operation that lasted about half an hour. — Sapa-APP

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*Note: The text contains a mix of event summaries and public relations statements, reflecting recent developments in various African nations.*
Soldiers accused

MAPUTO — Members of the public in the central Mozambican district of Gorongosa have accused soldiers of the Mozambican army's Ninth Brigade of abuse of power and of sowing panic in the area, according to a report in the Maputo daily newspaper, Noticias.

At a meeting with Alexio Ngwenha, a member of the political committee of the ruling Freiimo Party, participants accused the soldiers of stealing relief goods distributed to Gorongosa residents.

A middle-aged peasant woman, Albertina Membe, said soldiers had stolen a dress and shirt from her daughter and received in a distribution of second-hand clothing.
Time now ripe for peace, prosperity

PEACE and prosperity is a sure thing for Mozambique, says Aldo Ajello, the UN secretary-general’s special representative to this southern African country. "With the signing of the peace accord last October came rain, interrupting a long season of drought," he notes. "I like the idea of linking peace and prosperity."

Sitting on the 11th floor of the Protea Royal Hotel with only a UN flag decorating a sparse office, Ajello is constantly interrupted by a stream of officials, phone calls and secretaries. This tall, slim, silver-haired Italian diplomat who has been in Mozambique since October is convinced that both Frelimo and Renamo are committed to peace. "I am optimistic, especially since I met the two leaders (President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama) I feel both parties want — and need — peace."

Dhlakama is a particularly impressive person, Ajello says. "He has an instinctive political skill, and he adores the new game. He wants to become a political leader and leave the role of guerrilla chief."

"The government knows it cannot win a war. They have already been fighting for 16 years without success. So there is vested interest on both sides to achieve peace. All the elements for success are there."

The delay in moving the process along, he says, has been largely because of logistical problems. As one observer noted, the deadline suggested in the ceasefire agreement was "optimistic, even by the standards of Western countries, never mind an African country racked by two decades of bloody civil war."

The biggest problem at the moment is getting a basic agreement signed with the government which will allow the UN to function properly. It would, for example, guarantee freedom of movement and grant certain immunities, without which the arrival of the rest of the UN troops will probably be delayed. Already the first free elections are expected to be held only in June 1994 (they were scheduled for October this year) because of the delays in implementing the ceasefire agreement.

Other major obstacles have been Renamo’s decision to demobilise its troops only once 65 percent of the UN troops are stationed in the country, and the government’s refusal to assist in funding Renamo’s shift from a military organisation to a political party.

"Renamo’s only capital is its troops, and weapons. Dhlakama is concerned that nothing should happen to them, which is why he is waiting for the deployment of the UN troops before doing anything."

At present there are only 1300 UN troops in Mozambique, in all, some 7500 are expected from Italy, Botswana, Bangladesh, Uruguay and Zambia. There are currently 154 UN military observers from 12 nations in the country, at full strength there will be 378 military observers from 19 nations.

Pledges from the international community totalling $1 billion have already been made for the reconstruction of Mozambique, and there is huge interest, both from South Africa and the international community, in the opportunities a peaceful Mozambique offers, Ajello says.
Renamo leader delays troop demobilisation

MAPUTO — Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama has delayed further the start of a planned demobilisation of his forces under a ceasefire agreement. Mr Dhlakama said he would only order the demobilisation when the entire UN peacekeeping contingent of 7,000 troops had arrived ahead of elections. Thousands of Zimbabwean soldiers defending the transport route to Beira will begin to withdraw next week, a senior Mozambican official said. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP
People are the only jewels in battered post-war Beira

IT WAS the best of times, it was the worst of times. It was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair. We were going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way.

Dickens may have been writing about Paris and London, but he could very well have talked about Beira, the second largest city in Mozambique. In what might be called a balancing of the opposites, Beira offers views which are as different as vegetarians are from cannibals.

Poor people are everywhere, their clothes tattered, their soles and perhaps their souls, too worn through. They are either skinny thin or pot-bellied.

While Maputo managed to pull through the war in an almost respectable manner, Beira residents by and large sat back and chanced their luck — and were dealt a poor hand.

The streets seem to be an endless series of potholes. Jobs and goods are scarce and many survive by peddling anything from second-hand hair curlers to motor car spares.

One of Beira's colonial showpieces, the Grande Hotel, where Rhodesians once came for holidays, now resembles a large concrete block with hardly any windows or doors left. Two trees grow out of cracks on the third floor.

Aply, some neon letters have fallen off or been stolen, leaving only the B, the A and the T in place — although even a rat may find it uninhabitable.

Gone, too, is another former jewel of the colonial era, the seaside restaurant where diners literally sat in air-conditioned rooms on the beach, enjoying splendid cuisine. Only the walls remain, stripped of anything useful.

Beira's once-fine golf course has been turned to other uses by innovative locals, greens, fairways and bunkers have become slushy holes, toilets, graveyards and, reputedly, places to hide the many bodies of murder victims.

In this unhealthy city the unlickiest are those in the prawn, which is likened to a furnace in Beira's vicious summer heat. At its extremely small windows inmates can be seen on hot days virtually throttling themselves on the steel bars to get some fresh air.

While much of the country was crippled by drought, lack of water is not something Beira folks can complain about, but much of it is found in the wrong places, such as inside and in front of squatter camp homes, being used simultaneously for drinking and washing and spreading diseases at an alarming rate.

Much of Beira is a festering sore and its people have largely accepted the fate of having to live there. Yet here and there one finds evidence of some people trying to lift standards back to what they used to be.

The Imperial Restaurant is a beacon of this kind, boasting clean table clothes, interesting — though hardly Picasso — art works as decor, shining cutlery and fine fare.

The harbour also stands out with new and functioning machinery, which is not surprising, considering that almost $3 billion in foreign aid was pumped into the port.

Also strange to see are the Piscina swimming pools, one an eight-lane 25 m pool, the other a deep pool complete with a multi-level diving board, where the city's youth hang out every afternoon — and where the floodlights still burn at night.

While it will not be listed in any travel guide of note, Beira's "best hotel", The Embassador, deserves a small mention. Shabby and dirty though it is on the inside, its rooms offer the two things essential for visitors — air conditioners and hot water.

And if accolades are to be given, one must go to Beira's people. In spite of all their hardships and suffering, they are some of the friendliest one could meet, always smiling, always asking after your health, always the opposite of their money-grabbing, aggressive counterparts in Maputo.

On your first visit you become acutely aware of the poverty, the filth and the famine and you are determined to get back to those parts of South Africa where water flows from taps, people have enough food and doctors tend to the ill.

But as the place and people grow on you, you leave with a hope that those who are trying to make it better will one day...
SA may furnish some aid to Renamo rebels

By Esther Waugh
Political Correspondent

The South African Government is considering a request for aid from Mozambique's rebel movement, Renamo — for office equipment.

Department of Foreign Affairs chief director for southern Africa, Gert Grobler, this week confirmed that the request had been received.

"From the outset, South Africa said it would do everything possible to assist the democratic process in Mozambi-

que on an even-handed basis," he said.

Requests from the Mozambican government and Renamo had been received, he said. The request from the Mozambican government had been "nothing specific."

South Africa took part in the Donors' Conference for Mozambique in December. The country's resulting pledge included the provision of seeds and implements, assistance with water provision and purification, and the installation of two manpower training centres.
$7.5m study for a huge game park

THE World Bank and the Mozambique Government have approved a $7.5-million study which could lead to the creation of one of the largest protected ecological areas — incorporating the Kruger National Park — in the world.

The study will be funded by a grant from the Global Environment Facility, a World Bank-administered fund to prevent global warming, promote biological diversity and prevent depletion of the ozone layer. Mozambique will put the project out to tender. SA ecological consultants are expected to apply.

"Terms"

The study intends identifying the possible conservation use of a tract of land — larger than the Kruger Park — stretching along the SA border from Swaziland to Zimbabwe.

A key aspect of the study will be the needs of people who live in the area, including those who have been displaced by war in Mozambique. The area under study is said to be sparsely inhabited, mostly in a pristine condition although largely denuded of wildlife.

The developments hold the prospect that in some fences on the Kruger Park border will be removed to allow the free movement of animals on an ecological rather than political basis.

"We're finalising the terms of reference and, will call for tenders for the study," says Milagre Cencrilo, director for Forestry and Wildlife in Mozambique.

The intention is that wildlife management should pay for itself, so tourism proposals will form an important part of the study. Private companies, if canvassed, will operate tourism facilities.

Miss Cencrilo says Mozambique is keen to use SA expertise in the rehabilitation of these areas.

"We have been in touch with SA officials who are showing interest in working with Mozambique," she says, adding that technical assistance from SA will be welcome in certain areas.

Part of the area to be studied is now a hunting area.

Salomon Joubert, executive director of Kruger National Park, says the project holds the prospect of being "one of the most exciting wildlife developments in the world."

He says meetings three or four years ago identified the possibility of such a project with Mozambique, but the war prevented progress.

Now — with peace holding since October — studies can begin in earnest.

Core

Dr Joubert says Kruger Park officials are likely to provide input for the feasibility studies, but stresses that much ground work, including surveying, still has to be done.

"The core conservation area in Mozambique could be larger than Kruger Park," says Dr Joubert.

"Somewhere along the way, it might be possible to cut the fences, but we would want assurances," says Dr Joubert.

The Global Environment Facility is a $1.3 billion fund which intends assisting developing countries to protect the environment. Countries with a per capita income of less than $4 000 and a United Nations development programme in place are eligible for GEF funds up to $10-million a project.
No to coalition govt call

MAPUTO — Mozambican Justice Minister Ali Daozo has rejected a demand by 12 opposition parties for a coalition government before multiparty elections. About 420 Uruguayan soldiers, were due to arrive in Maputo yesterday evening for the Mozambican peace-keeping operations under the Rome Peace Accord.
LUSAKA — The repatriation of more than 25,000 Mozambican refugees from Zambia, has stalled because Mozambican representatives refuse to sign a repatriation agreement.

An agreement between the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and Mozambican and Zambian delegations was reached last week, but the Mozambicans require instructions from their government.
Mozambique fights losing battle

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Mozambican authorities are battling with dwindling medical supplies to curb rampant malaria and cholera.

Health ministry officials said stocks of medication were running out and would be exhausted within the next few months unless foreign help was received. During the first three months of this year hospitals and clinics used as much anti-malaria medicine as in the last eight months of last year, the officials said.

Hundreds of people have died from malaria and cholera in central and southern Mozambique this year and officials expect both epidemics to get worse because of the lack of medicines and facilities.
Lampho in Mozambican peace bid
UN repatriates Mozambicans

LUSAKA — The office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will begin repatriating 1.5 million Mozambican refugees next month in the largest such operation yet carried out in Africa.

The UNHCR said in Lusaka at the weekend that more than half a million of the refugees were expected to return home this year under the programme.

The UNHCR estimates there are 250,000 unregistered refugees in South Africa.

— Reuters

Helicopter fired

Police arrested a 63-year-old man at an old age home yesterday after he allegedly fired shots at an SAPS helicopter searching for two suspects in Akasia, near Pretoria.

The suspects had stabbed an elderly couple on a smallholding in Winterton, police said.

Police spokesman Major Andrew Leach said a security guard at the old age home in Akasia claimed to have seen the man fire at the helicopter.

He said the planned attack was to make a name for the past, the court heard. The suspect, aged 30, was shot dead.

The man is expected to appear in Pretoria North Magistrates Court today.

Leach said the suspect was sent to prison after an attempted escape from jail (70) and his
BHP looks to Mozambique

AUSTRALIAN-based Broken Hill Proprietary (BHP), the world's largest mineral resource group, is poised to take a stake in a mineral sands operation in Mozambique.

The move would see BHP joining the other major groups involved in heavy mineral projects in southern Africa — Rio Tinto Zinc and Gencor in Richards Bay Minerals and Anglo American in the Namakwa Sands project.

The London-based Mining Journal reported in its latest issue that, subject to further geological and other studies, BHP would pay $24.1m to earn a 75% stake in the Congolone project 30km north of Angoche on the northeast Mozambican coast. Irish exploration company Kenmare holds a 25% stake in the project.

Congolone has a proven reserve of 167-million tons of sand containing 4.19-million tons of ilmenite, 373,000 tons of zircon and 90,000 tons of rutile. By comparison, Namakwa Sands, with reserves of 531-million tons, is expected to produce 375,000 tons of ilmenite a year along with 160,000 tons of zircon and 38,000 tons of rutile when it reaches full capacity in the mid-90s.

Irish, Menell, Rosenberg analyst Dave Russell said there was fairly good demand for heavy mineral sands. However, as with most commodities, prices were depressed and were likely to remain so in the medium term.

Costanzo (218)

Heavy minerals' prices depended on the composition of the ore body. The easier it was to process with new environmentally-friendly technology, the better price it commanded, he said. Old technology had both waste disposal and radioactivity problems associated with it.
Japan in a flurry over peace role

The Japanese government is coming under fierce attack from opposition politicians over its decision to send peacekeepers to Mozambique, re-igniting an old battle over the extent to which Japan can play a full role in world affairs.

The Cabinet announced this week that 53 Japanese troops would be sent to Mozambique to prepare for UN-sponsored elections there, but the opposition says the plan violates a highly restrictive peace-keeping law passed last year. A deputy foreign minister has come under fire for asking UN officials in Cambodia to give special treatment to Japanese UN workers so that they are not exposed to danger. Concerns about Cambodia have mounted after the murder last month of a civilian Japanese election monitor by unknown assailants in Kompong Thom province.

The controversy, which surrounds Japanese participation in both countries again, highlights the lingering unease about a part in overseas peace-keeping missions.

In theory, Japan has no armed forces because the constitution specifically bars the use of force. In practice, Japan has one of the best-equipped forces in Asia.

The first Japanese troops to join an international peacekeeping force in Mozambique left for Maputo this week, amid strife at home over Tokyo’s global military role. TERRY McCARTHY reports.

The opposition now says it was right to warn that this was the thin end of the wedge.

The dispatch of 53 soldiers to Mozambique marks a further step towards a full peace-keeping role for Japan. Five will be assigned to the command headquarters, where decisions on the need to deploy armed UN contingents will be taken.

Opposition politicians say this directly contravenes the peace-keeping law of last year.

The government says the five men will be sent “in an individual capacity”, and their duties will be kept separate from those on military matters.

The opposition says that is meaningless doublespeak. — The Independent News Service.

MADAM & EVE

By S Francis, H Dugmore & Rico

"Is your singing really talking to Mr. De Klerk?"

"Of course! He calls him for advice all the time.

"Hmmm, I see. That's a tough problem, Faj... Let me think..."

"Okay, here's what you do: roll two bones, slaughter a chicken and call me in the morning."

"What do you think he could fit me in?"

"Sorry, the multi-party talks are going on. This is his busy season."
Frelimo soldiers go home
Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — The forces that fought each other in Mozambique’s civil war were demobilized today as 1,768 former soldiers in the Frelimo government army were sent home.

After being given tickets and discharge pay at three demobilization centres in Maputo, the former soldiers were taken to bus and railway stations, the airport and the docks by the United Nations monitoring force, Unomoz.

The demobilization is more than two months behind schedule because of delays in deploying Unomoz and in setting up commissions to implement the peace process.

These commissions have still not begun functioning fully because of a dispute between the government and Renamo over accommodation for Renamo’s representatives in Maputo.

There has been no report yet of Renamo forces having been formally demobilized, but numbers of the former guerillas are reported to have gathered of their own accord at designated assembly points.
AK-47s confiscated

Six AK-47 rifles, used to procure wanted illegal Mozambicans, were confiscated and after the illegal Mozambicans were detained since Wednesday when police began intensifying security action in the Eastern Transvaal region.

Police have erected roadblocks in the region. About 100 members of the police Internal Security Unit have been deployed in the Estremo and Nelspruit districts.
Container volumes to Luanda increasing

POLITICAL uncertainty and conflict has had a negative effect on road and rail freight into Angola, but access by sea is booming.

Grinrod Seafreight GM Paul Horsfall says the dramatic increase in container volumes to Luanda has continued unabated since last year. "In the first five weeks of this year the number of containers sent in amounted to about one-third of total 1992 container traffic handled by us into Angola." (3/213)

And in Mozambique, the road links with the former Portuguese colony are now reported to be completely safe.

Local forwarder Walter reports that it recently successfully convoyed from Johannesburg to Maputo, unescorted by the military.

It is also reported there is now hope for the rehabilitation of Mozambique's east/west road. The World Bank and donor countries are negotiating the upgradings. Delmas Mission Commandant Jean Marie Viger says a decision is expected soon.

The Africalink service, established by Grinrod with partners SCAC Delmas Vieuxjeux, offers the most extensive service in Africa — reaching 94 African and Indian Ocean destinations, says Horsfall.
More Japanese join UN force

MAPUTO — A total of 42 Japanese soldiers arrived in Maputo yesterday to serve in the UN peacekeeping operation in Mozambique. The full contingent of 42 Japanese troops, six of whom arrived as an advance party on Thursday, will be engaged in port and airport duties in Mozambique.

The UN military presence in Mozambique is now virtually complete. It is made up of five infantry battalions with a total of 4,721 soldiers.

Bangladesh has sent the largest battalion of 1,320 soldiers to protect the corridor from Malawi to Nacala.

The Italian battalion of 1,008 soldiers is guarding the Beira Corridor which runs across central Mozambique from the Zimbabwean border to Beira.

The 821-strong Zambian battalion is stationed along the Limpopo Corridor from Chucuanacu to Nacala on the southwestern Mozambique border, across southern Mozambique to Maputo.

Some 820 Uruguayans are guarding the main north-south road that runs from Maputo over 1,600 km to Cabo Delgado on the border with Tanzania.

The last of the corridors, in Tete province, is being protected by a Botswana battalion of 721 soldiers. — Sapa-APP.
Posh Maputo hotel for Renamo leaders

Bid to resolve dispute that has stalled the peace process in war-torn Mozambique:

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - The second-poorest hotel in Maputo, the Cardoso, has been booked out to provide accommodation for leaders of the former rebel movement Renamo - and the man paying the bills is thought to be Lomho boss Tiny Rowland.

The United Nations chief representative in Mozambique, Aldo Aglini of Italy, has announced that the hotel will be closed to the public to provide accommodation for Renamo leaders until they can find other accommodation in the capital.

This followed reports last week that Rowland had booked accommodation in the Cardoso for Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in a bid to resolve the dispute over accommodation that has stalled the peace process.

Dhlakama has been refusing to leave his bush headquarters near Managwe until the government provides him with a secure house. He has turned down several preferred houses, including the former colonial gubernatorial mansion, on the grounds that they did not provide adequate security.

Renamo has been refusing to attend meetings of the committees set up to implement the peace accord until the accommodation issue has been resolved.

Dhlakama has now agreed to move from Managwe to the Cardoso until more permanent accommodation can be found for him, according to the daily newspaper, Netnews.
Getting the taste of ‘coke’

MBABANE — Swaziland police have reported an alarming increase in cocaine trafficking from Mozambique through the kingdom for distribution in South Africa.

A police spokesman said that while in the past the route had been for transit, the drug was finding its way to local markets.

He said that the drug was usually smuggled through the Lomahasha border post and Matsapa International Airport.

— Star Africa Service.
Mozambique, SA drawing closer together

MAPUTO — Mozambicans and South African entrepreneurs will mingle in Maputo next week at an event to mark a new era of business relations between the two countries.

The South African Trade Mission is offering cocktails, there will be wine-tasting at the town's smartest hotel and a starlight feast in the hotel gardens.

But the drinks and food are only trimmings on South Africa's most public exercise so far in transforming its image in Mozambique from local bully to friendly business partner.

After Mozambique's independence from Portugal in 1975, the Marxist government in Maputo and the government in Pretoria were enemies. This has now changed.

Trade and Industry Ministry officials in Pretoria said South Africa was eager to expand trade with all its neighbours. "We are eager to broaden our export horizons," an official said.

The three-day event starting on Monday will be the first of its kind since Mozambican independence.

John Sunde, South Africa's trade representative in Maputo and the man behind the seminar, said: "After 17 years, when contact between businessmen on both sides of our border was very limited, there is now a general lack of knowledge on both sides."

The main aim was to increase bilateral trade, but "this will happen only when there is an increase in knowledge and a climate of confidence between businessmen from Mozambique and South Africa."

South African trade with Mozambique is rising, with the balance heavily in favour of South Africa.

In 1991, the last year for which full trade statistics are available, Mozambique came second only to Zimbabwe as an African trading partner outside the Southern African Customs Union.

Total trade between the two countries amounted to R728 million in that year, with R690 million being South African exports to Mozambique.

Partial figures for 1992 show Mozambique slipping into third place behind Zambia.

"We would like to see Mozambique — one of the world's poorest nations — being able to sell more to South Africa," Sunde said.

"We have a preferential trade agreement which allows Mozambique to export goods to South Africa on a quota basis — but generous quotas — and these goods will pay only a three percent import duty in South Africa.

"At present, Mozambican entrepreneurs are not taking full advantage of this, partly because of ignorance which we hope to address through this seminar." — Sape-Reuters.
Mozambique near the Theyere
Renamo cash plea rejected

MAPUTO - The United Nations special envoy in Mozambique yesterday dismissed an appeal by the former rebel movement Renamo for $300 million to transform itself into a political party. "Sure, I need a billion dollars, just for me. But that's nothing to do with the peace process," Aldo Ayello quipped to journalists when asked about the Renamo request made on Tuesday. — Sapa-Reuters
New Chinese VW order saves 700 from lay-off

By DON ROBERTSON

Volkswagen SA will supply a further 17,000 left-hand drive Jettas to China, preventing retrenchment of about 700 workers.

The order, worth more than R500 million, follows one earlier last year for 12,600 second-generation Jettas for FAW-Volkswagen (China) through a venture between Volkswagen of Germany and the Chinese Government.

The first shipment of this R400 million consignment was made in May last year and 10,000 cars have been delivered. It is expected that deliveries for the new semi-knocked-down order will begin next year at a rate of about 1,300 a month.

Trade between China and SA has been in favour of the Chinese. Last year, SA imported goods worth R709 million from China and exported R489 million, most of which was Jettas.

Chairman and managing director Peter Scaife says, “We believe exports of this crucial importance to the present economic situation in the country. The increased order also protects about 700 jobs at VWSA and many more in the component industry.”

Because of the stagnant motor industry, VWSA recently held negotiations with unions about possible forced retrenchment of between 300 and 1,000 workers. A voluntary retrenchment and early retirement programme is still in operation.

Lin Ganwelt, president of FAW-Volkswagen, and his board visited the Uitenhage plant and announced the contract.

He says, “We are pleased to be able to continue our relationship with VWSA and further opportunities for business as the Chinese economy is developing fast and we require this volume to support us through the start-up phase of our factory in, Chang Chun.”

The deal will go a long way to restoring VWSA’s profitability. In its report for the year to December, Volkswagen AG said VWSA suffered a small loss.

Engen going for a London listing

By Zilla EFRAT

Engen plans a London Stock Exchange listing, possibly before the year-end, to boost its international expansion.

Engen investor relations manager Abbas Gani says the main aims of the listing are to raise the company’s international profile and to have structures in place so that we can take advantage of them quickly.

But the proposed listing is not linked to any specific project or acquisition at this stage, he adds.

Engen is believed to be evaluating acquisition options involving oil in West Africa. Its evaluation includes funding its growing exploration in the area.

Engen boss Rob Engel is in London this week to introduce the group to the press, investment analysts and institutions. The group expanded its London office by moving part of its international sales division there a fortnight ago.

Mr Gani says the listing is in line with Engen’s wish to be an integrated business in the exploration and production of half of its crude throughout.

Alfa takes on the biggies

AS covers were whipped off imported Alfa Romeos in showrooms round the country last week, Brian Taylor, managing director of Alfa Romeo Concessionaires, said: “We are not to sell more BMW and Mercedes.”

Alfa Romeo has returned with a range of cars not shown in South Africa before.

Mr Taylor says: “If our prices are comparable — and in some cases more competitive — we believe the discerning buyer will prefer a fully imported European-built car to one built here.”

Franchises to sell Alfa Romeos are “being snapped up at a frantic rate” both for SA and other African countries.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Russian gold forecast

By Zilla EFRAT

“Russian gold forecast”

“Enkom to help Cahora Bassa”

“The Government has accepted a proposal by Enkom to help finance rehabilitation of the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric scheme in Mozambique, says Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister George Bartlett.

The scheme supplies water to South Africa, Mozambique and Portugal and was built in 1963, has worked for only a few weeks.

Zambia buying SA petroleum

Zambia has started importing all its petroleum products from SA after the temporary closure of its only refinery.

Indent Oil Refineries in Ndola is being recommissioned. Zambia Deputy Energy Minister Colonel Patrick Kafulumbe says supplies from SA have already started this week in Zambia, which intends changing some of its petroleum product suppliers to SA.

Nigeria at SA exhibition

“A MAJOR promotional effort is under way in Africa and the Middle East to attract high-level businessmen to South Africa’s largest technology show ever, The Africa Initiative.”

Nigeria, which still has sanctions against South Africa, is expected to send the largest delegation to this five-day business exhibition to be held at Johannesburg’s National Exhibition Centre at the end of August.

SAA heads back to Angola

SAA, in association with Angolan carrier TAAG, will resume weekly flights to Luanda from next Monday. Flights started between Johannesburg and Luanda in 1967 but were suspended in October due to the unrest in Angola. SAA said the new flights will leave Johannesburg at 9.15 am on Mondays arriving in Luanda at 1.55 am.

Racy under investigation

“TRADE AND INDUSTRY inspector has been appointed to investigate the affairs of Racy, which sold its associate three directors at a discount to an sued value earlier this year. The investigation follows the legal recourse offered disengaged minority shareholders.”
Arms: four held

Four Mozambicans have been arrested after traffic inspectors found five AK-47 rifles, five Makarov pistols and ammunition in their car.

The illegal immigrants are being detained at Machadodorp in the eastern Transvaal.

— Sapa

295 21645
Optimism about SA entry to trade group

MAPUTO — South Africa could become eligible for membership of the Southern African Development Conference (SADC) within the next few months, according to John Sunde, head of the South African trade mission in Maputo.

Sunde was a key figure in a seminar held in Maputo yesterday, attended by top South African businessmen and government agencies and aimed at boosting trade between the two countries.

South Africa has been barred from the SADC not by economic factors, but by its political unacceptability, and Sunde was apparently anticipating progress being made in the negotiations at the World Trade Centre when he envisaged early membership.

He told journalists in Maputo that trade between South Africa and Mozambique must be seen as part of a process of “integrating southern Africa”.

Emphasising the importance of southern African economic unity in the face of European union, Sunde said: “There are very important changes in progress. It is essential for South Africa first to be invited into the SADC. We hope to meet the conditions of our incorporation within the next few months.”

There is a big trade imbalance at present, with South African exports to Mozambique running at R690 million in 1991 and R469 million in the first nine months of last year, while Mozambique’s exports to South Africa in 1991 were worth only R38 million.

The seminar held in Maputo was attended by Transnet, the Chamber of Mines, Satour and other South African bodies.
FOUR Mozambicans have been arrested after traffic inspectors found five AK-47 rifles, five Makarov pistols and ammunition in their car.

The illegal immigrants, aged from 15 to 21, are being detained at Machadodorp in the Eastern Transvaal, about 150km west of the Mozambique border.
Natrawl negotiating with Swiss firm.

NATAL Ocean Trawling (Natrawl) was negotiating with Swiss-based Megafish and its associate Eurotrade for a joint fishing venture off Mozambique's coast, chairman Jack Walsh said yesterday.

The multinational wanted to send 10 trawlers to Mozambican waters.

Megafish planned to re-evaluate its investement with Natrawl in July. Walsh was confident the joint venture, Ocean Trawling of Southern Africa, would go ahead.

The expansion of Natrawl's Mozambican fishing activities had been necessitated by the recent liquidation of associate Natal Ocean Trawling (Mozambique), as Natrawl lacked the infrastructure to fully exploit its fishing rights.

Megafish was considering establishing a base for its African operations in SA.
Peace process resumes

MAPUTO — The Mozambican peace process, which has been stalled for more than three months, is set to resume tomorrow with meetings of the commissions that were set up to supervise the process, according to a United Nations official.

The commissions have been stalled by Renamo's refusal to attend their meetings until its demands for accommodation and funds are met.

A spokesman for the United Nations monitoring body, UNOMOZ, has told Radio Mozambique that the main body, the Supervisory and Control Commission, would meet today.

The official did not say specifically that Renamo would attend the meeting but this is implicit since the commission cannot otherwise sit.

Also due to meet tomorrow is the Ceasefire Commission, according to the official. He said the commission supervising the formation of a joint army and the commission on reintegrating former soldiers into civilian life would meet on Friday.

If the meetings take place it will mean that Renamo's objections have been satisfied or dropped. The apparent resumption of the peace process follows separate meetings held on Monday with both Renamo and the Frente government by senior UN officials and the ambassadors of the Western nations represented on the CSC.

After the meetings the government's chief representative on the CSC, Transport Minister Armando Guebuza, said he was optimistic that the commissions would resume their work if Renamo representatives could be brought back in time from their Mozambican headquarters.

Soweto Africa News Service
Mozambican poll on ice

MAPUTO — The UN Operation in Mozambique has proposed postponing the country’s first multiparty elections until October 1994, a full year after the date originally agreed. A new timetable was published yesterday — Sapa-Reuters (2.18)
Mammoth move back home

Peace in Mozambique sets in motion Africa's largest repatriation of refugees. ANDREW MELDRUM reports

THE drums pounded out a catchy syncopated rhythm which was enlivened by the tinkling melody of the marimbas. Scantly clad females sashayed to the twitching music while athletic men punctuated their stomping dance with exuberant pelvic thrusts.

This scintillating performance by the Mozambican National Dance Company was watched with awe by a few thousand Mozambican refugees who crowded round a dusty field at Zimbabwe's Nyamatikiti refugee camp. Young children shouted with glee at the stage antics, and toothless old women ululated and jumped up to give impromptu versions of the dances.

Others in the crowd showed less enthusiasm as they watched the performance, and some of the refugees were almost listless. Despite the carnival atmosphere created by the dancers, many of the thousands of refugees appeared to be depressed.

"We are doing this as a kind of morale booster for the refugees," said Mozambican ambassador to Zimbabwe, Lopes Temeie Ndelana, adding that the dance tour went to each of the six Mozambican refugee camps in Zimbabwe. "The show features dances from all of Mozambique's provinces, especially from Tete, Niassa and Sofala, where most of these refugees come from. We want these people to know they are not forgotten and that we are planning to help them return to their homes."

Getting on stage with the dancers, the ambassador said: "There is peace at home and soon you will all be able to return to your villages and dance.

"Mozambique, Zimbabwe and the United Nations are making plans to help you all return."

We can provide transport and seed packs to help you resettle in an organised fashion. Don't just go back on your own, because you won't get all this help. Wait, and we can help you return with good organisation."

There are well over 250,000 Mozambican refugees in camps in Zimbabwe, and many more who are living with Zimbabwean relatives or working on large farms. This number is dwarfed by the more than one million Mozambicans who are living in camps in Malawi. In addition, there are a few hundred thousand Mozambicans in Swaziland and South Africa.

With peace in Mozambique, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is faced with the mammoth responsibility of repatriating the refugee population. It is Africa's largest repatriation of refugees.

But refugees at the Nyamatikiti camp showed little interest in waiting for international assistance.

"We're not interested in staying here. We want to go back," said Jaime Bento (27), holding his nine-month-old son, Ramalde. "We want to get back so we can grow crops in the next rainy season. We don't want to wait."

Bento has been at the Nyamatikiti camp for eight years since he fled the war in Tete province. He was trained to be a teacher at a Zimbabwean institute and he teaches primary school pupils at the refugee camp. Other refugees were taught skills to be carpenters, blacksmiths and tailors.

Despite the uncertain peace in Mozambique, Bento and several other refugees at the camp were adamant that they intended to return soon. "I don't care about politics. I don't care about Frelimo or Renamo," said Bento. "I just want to go back home by August or September at the latest."
United colours of Europe on the Beira road.

By ANDREW MEADOWS
SYLLABILY equipped with sunglasses and the United Nations trademark blue berets, one thousand Italian soldiers have arrived in central Mozambique.

They speed along the Beira road in white unarmoured vehicles, brandishing UN sub-machine guns and state-of-the-art radio communications equipment. With tins of imported pasta and freshly-baked pizza, the Alpine brigade from Terni is happily settling in for a six-month tour in the tropical plains surrounding Chimanimwe, midway between Zambabwe and Beira.

"We arrived by paroling Italy's northern border in the Alps," said one Italian officer. "We are getting used to this area of Mozambique, it is a bit like the time we served in Turkey I think we can do a good job here."

The sturdy Italian brigade is doing more than makign Mozambique safe for trade and oil. Their crucial task is to guard the 300km road, railway and oil pipeline connecting landlocked Zimbabwe to Beira's Indian Ocean port.

They began without any experience in the Mozambican situation, which can be very tricky," said a British military aide. "But beneath their rusty guns, they are well-trained soldiers. They're quickly finding their feet in Mozambique and should carry on their minefield work.

Additional UN brigades from Uruguay, Japan, Botswana and Zambia are guarding other important transport routes. Brazilian Major General Leite Guimaraes Filho commanded the entire UN force in Mozambique.

Enthusiastic and efficient, the crack Italian force has made sure that traffic is safe along the strategic route. Taxas and other vehicles now drive freely along the Beira road, as well as on secondary roads closed to traffic for years. But by late afternoon, vehicles form long lines, often for over an hour. This has been 16 night-time armed robberies along the road in the past two months, according to military sources.

"The Italian do a good job of keeping the road clear during the day, but at night the road belongs to anyone," said a Mozambican resettlement officer. Theafter-dark danger is posed by the many fighters, from both Renamo and the government, who are armed, poor and hungry.

The UN forces have maintained the ceasefire throughout the sprawling country, but neither of the warring sides, the government army nor the Renamo rebels, have been disarmed or demobilised. Nor have Renamo been given up their arms in the capital and the power struggle continues. Not one to overstep the peace process, Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama and his top deputies remain at their bush headquarters in Manica near Mount Gorongosa in central Mozambique.

It is the lack of progress in disarming and demobilising Mozambique's two opposing armies that is most worrying. Neither the estimated 20,000 Renamo rebels nor the 40,000 government troops have surrendered their arms and given up their weapons. Dhlakama has said his rebels...will only demobilise when all the camps are open.

The major stumbling-blocks to the Mozambican peace process have come from Dhlakama's delaying tactics, and from the lack of a quick, decisive response from the UN in getting the peace plan going. In December last year the UN representative in Mozambique, Italian Aldo Ajello, insisted that the Security Council agree to an ambitious UN mission to Mozambique with a budget of $1.5 million and 4,000 military personnel and 3,000 administrative and monitoring staffs.

Ajello stressed the UN would not make the same mistakes in Mozambique that were made in Angola. He said the elections campaign would not begin until after all army and Renamo troops were disarmed and a new national army comprising fighters of both sides was established. Ajello's Director of UN Operations in Mozambique's administration are working to get all sides to agree to a new timetable for demobilisation and elections, which even the most optimistic say is not possible until mid-1994.
Hartebeestfontein ‘not safe’ for Mozambicans

Almost 4,000 Mozambican miners had been separated from their colleagues and had not been permitted to work underground at Anglovaal’s Hartebeestfontein mine since fighting broke out on May 25. A Mozambican labour office representative said yesterday.

The Mozambican government had not forbidden miners to resume work, but the lack of “minimum security conditions” at the mine meant it was not safe for them to do so, he said.

One Shangaan worker who had defied the ban on underground work had been killed this week by his fellow workers.

The 2,714 workers were being housed under “unmumum living conditions” in an old, unused hostel at the mine, the representative said. The hostel lacked facilities and its sewerage system was failing.

Most of the affected miners had lost all their possessions during the fighting and did not have enough blankets or clothes, he said.

The miners would stay at the hostel for the two-week “cooling-off” period agreed on, but some had been repatriated to Mozambique, he said. They would have to return to the mine within 30 days if they wished to keep their jobs.

According to the representative, tension at the mine had been sparked by the Mozambicans’ refusal to join industrial action called by the NUM. As a result they had been accused of working with management to the detriment of the union.

Of the 17 miners killed, 12 were from Mozambique. He described the incident as an “unprovoked attack on unarmed workers.”

In total 88 Mozambicans had been injured in the fighting. Of these, about 70 men were still being treated in hospital for injuries sustained during the fighting. The representative said they were receiving “inadequate attention” at the mine clinic.

An Anglovaal spokesman said, discussions were proceeding with all interested parties.

One issue which had been agreed was the referral of the investigation to the peace secretariat. “In view of this it would be inappropriate for the company to make further statements,” the spokesman said.
Siemens gets R25m Cahora Bassa contract

A COMPUTER contract signed between Siemens and the Hydroelectrica du Cahora Bassa is an important step in the establishment of a Southern African power grid.

The R25-million deal is for the automation of the power transmission system connected to the Cahora Bassa dam in Mozambique. It involves the design of hardware and software, full simulation testing and installation at the site.

By DON ROBERTSON

It is expected to be commissioned in May and will prepare the hydro-electrical station for a link up with the SA grid. SA drew power from the Cahora Bassa station for three years in the late 1970s and 1980s, but supply was suspended when the power line was destroyed because of hostilities in Mozambique.

Construction of a Cahora Bassa link with Harare via which some of Eskom's surplus capacity will be moved to Zimbabwe is expected to begin soon and a link from the Mammba power station in SA to Botswana through Botswana is under consideration.

Although Eskom has surplus capacity, the 1 400MW from the Cahora Bassa scheme will allow it to utilize this water generated power, rather than burn coal.
Renamo 'violating accord'

Renamo 'violating accord'

MAPUTO — Renamo has been accused of setting up new military bases in central Mozambique in violation of the Rome peace accord.

Renamo's Sofala province representative, Manuel Pereira, denied the allegations.

Muchangage told the Maputo daily newspaper Noticias that Renamo had established three new bases, one in the Gorongosa district.
Resuming old friendships

After decades of colonial and civil conflicts, peace-minded Mozambicans intent on rebuilding their shattered economy say their arms are open to SA investment. But SA businesses, dubious about the red tape and lack of hard currency in what the World Bank calls the world’s poorest nation, are thinking hard before they jump into a long-term relationship, no matter how warm the welcome.

“I have a gut feeling it’s moving in the right direction,” says Gordon Angus, a member of the first SA trade mission to Mozambique since relations were normalised. “But they are not there yet.”

About 60 South Africans — ranging from entrepreneurs such as Angus looking for a niche, to representatives of the Chamber of Mines, Transnet and other big concerns — descended on Karo’s newly renovated five-star Polana Hotel last week for the two-day seminar hosted by the SA Trade Mission in Maputo and attended by Deputy Trade & Industry Minister David Graaff.

“The opportunities are mind-boggling,” says Victor Arnold, a South African on contract to Mabor, a Mozambican company that manufactures tyres for export. “But you have got to know the country. You have to associate yourself with a company or with someone who knows his way around.”

The conference also attracted about 100 of Mozambique’s top business people and government officials but Inocencio Metavel, president of the consulting firm Promvest, says there is still some resistance to SA interest. “There are conservative nationalists who are nervous that SA will take all the opportunities. But if we think like that we will always be poor and if we are poor we will have problems internally. If we want to develop, we must open the country.”

Throughout the sanctions era, SA and Mozambique continued to do business, though the Department of Trade & Industry kept the figures secret until last year. Now, the department is happy to report that SA exported R49m worth of all types of industrial and consumer goods last year and imported R57m worth of products, mainly prawn.

The Mozambicans would like to close the yawning gap. The tariffs schedule — which dates back to 1964, 11 years before independence — is being simplified. The government is pushing export promotion, especially for cashews, tea, cotton and sugar. In 1980 there were only 12 government-sanctioned importers and six exporters. Today, there are 110 importers and 250 exporters.

“We are open for investment in all areas of the economy,” says Augusto Sumburane, director of the Mozambican Office for Foreign Investment Promotion.

He says South Africans have been reluctant to get too deeply committed because they are unsure of the local procedures, and because of the political instability. “They never had a clear idea of the areas of investment opportunities or incentives, and security is a problem that is being overcome.

The devastated economy, however, will need time to heal. The World Bank says 66% of Mozambique’s GDP is international aid, twice the average for Africa, making it the most aid-dependent country in the world. In 1992, just 5% of investment was from the private sector — US$25.3m.

Though there has been progress, exporters still complain about problems such as the 0.5% duty on exports and the seven days’ worth of paperwork to get products out of the country. The annual inflation rate is estimated to be as high as 77%.

“We are trying to adjust institutions made for a centrally planned economy to work in a market economy; this takes time,” says Salvador Namburete, national director of external trade in the Ministry of Commerce. “It’s not just changing the paper, it’s a serious problem of changing mentalities.”

But it’s not just the red tape and anti-business sentiment on the Mozambican side of the border that frustrate would-be investors. South Africans at the conference made a strong pitch for Graaff to intercede on their behalf with the Reserve Bank, which has to approve any cross-border investment.

“The government makes it very difficult to take our money to Mozambique,” said one SA businessman. “They are making excuses of accommodation, but it would be useful if the Reserve Bank assisted investors. It’s even difficult to get approval for a bid bond. It’s diabolical.”
Police seize SAM-7 missiles

**Crime Reporter**

Police confiscated four SAM-7 ground-to-air missiles and four stick grenades early yesterday when they intercepted a group of Mozambicans who entered Transvaal through the Lebombo border post near Komatspoort.

Eastern Transvaal SAP spokesman Warrant-Officer Izak van Zyl said two Frei- mo security force members and one former Freimo member were arrested in connection with the haul.

The arrests came before today's meeting in Cape Town between Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel and Mozambican Internal Affairs Minister Manuel Jose Antonio to discuss the smuggling of weapons into South Africa.

Van Zyl said the men were arrested at a roadblock and that most of the arms confiscated in the eastern Transvaal were smuggled through the Mozambican and Swaziland borders.

A Law and Order Ministry spokesman said talks between Kriel and Antonio would focus on the smuggling of arms, especially AK-47 rifles, into the country.

The spokesman said Kriel would urge Antonio to implement stricter controls on weapons — like the AK-47 which sold for about R500 in South Africa — in the Mozambican army.

Van Zyl said the arrested men were expected to appear in court tomorrow.
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NUM tackles violence

VIOLENCE on mines has always posed a major problem for employers and unions, but recent fighting on gold mines has had a particularly disruptive effect on production and labour relations.

The issue of violence in the Klerksdorp area came under the spotlight at an NUM rally at a Sterkfontein stadium yesterday, an NUM spokesman said.

This was in response to the tense situation at the Hartebeesfontein mine where the situation had not normalised, following recent fighting which left 17 miners dead and nearly 100 injured.

Almost 4,000 Mozambican workers were still separated from other miners and not being allowed to work underground until a full investigation had been completed and tension defused, the NUM said.

Newspaper reports of fighting in the Klerksdorp area last week told of numerous miners packing their belongings and leaving hostels, in spite of a complete lack of job opportunities in the area.

Gengold's Beaure mine was also recently the scene of several outbreaks of violence which led to the mass resignation of almost a third of the mine's workforce. Recruitment to replace these workers started last week.

The NUM has taken some initiative in trying to combat the culture of violence which seems to pervade the mining industry. However, it maintains management has done little to back it in its quest.

Other issues discussed at the NUM rally, were wage negotiations with the Chamber of Mines and the depressed state of the goldfields region.
Three Mozambicans arrested

THREE Mozambican citizens have been arrested in connection with illegal possession of weapons, SABC radio news reported yesterday.

The three men, believed to be members of the Mozambican security forces, were allegedly found in possession of four Sam-7 missiles and four stock grenades in Komatipoort, Eastern Transvaal.
SA-Maputo crime
arms clamp planned

By Chris Whitfield
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — South Africa and Mozambique have struck a far-reaching deal aimed at stemming the flow of weapons into South Africa and clamping down on organised car theft and drug smuggling between the countries.

Swaziland will also be involved in a “Trilateral Crime, Security and Border Co-ordination Monitoring Committee” — the first in the region.

In a joint statement after a meeting in Cape Town yesterday, Law and Order Minister Hermus Kriel and Mozambique’s Internal Affairs Minister Manuel Jose Antonio described the pact as a major breakthrough. They said it was aimed at including the entire southern African region.

In terms of the deal, the following crimes have been identified as a top priority: organised arms smuggling, the organised drugs trade, organised car theft, and syndicates involved in other serious crimes.

The trilateral monitoring committee will deal with training of special investigation units for certain crimes, training border staff in search techniques, and improving existing relations between the police forces in the three countries.

Both Ministers agreed that the extradition of criminals should receive the highest priority.

The statement said Kriel would meet his Swazi counterpart “in the near future” on the strategy “However, to be effective, this plan will have to be extended to countries in the sub-region and further north.”

“It has now become clear that arms smuggling and other serious cross-border crimes have reached such serious proportions that they can only be dealt with on an international basis,” the statement said.

Three Mozambicans who were arrested near Komatspoo, in the eastern Transvaal, on Sunday, allegedly in possession of four ground-to-air missiles, are expected to appear in court today, reports Sapa.

Two of men are alleged to be Freiimo soldiers, the third a former Freiimo soldier. They apparently crossed the border from Mozambique into South Africa.

Banda ‘trailing at polls’

BLANTYRE — Pro-democracy forces claimed a huge lead in initial vote-counting in Malawi’s referendum on one-party rule early today.

The United Democratic Front (UDF), which is fighting President Kamuzu Banda, said that with about one-third of possible votes counted, their side had 89 percent and the ruling Malawi Congress Party (MCP) 11 percent.

UDF monitors taking part in counts at polling stations reported 1.3 million votes for multiparty democracy against 160,000 for continued single party rule by 1 am today. About 4,500,000 voters over the age of 21 are registered.

The UDF said their unofficial figures showed landslides for their side in the northern and southern regions. But the MCP was leading in the central region by 71 percent to 29 percent, they said.

When polling stations closed yesterday, both sides were claiming that victory was within their grasp.

The official result is expected later today — Sapa-Reuter
Crackdown on cross-border smuggling

CAPE TOWN — Government yesterday announced an agreement to set up joint policing with Mozambique and Swaziland to combat cross-border arms smuggling.

The announcement followed talks between Law and Order Minister Herbs Kriel and Mozambican Internal Affairs Minister Manuel Antonio Kriel said he hoped the plan would contribute to a crackdown on arms, car and drug smuggling throughout the region.

The meeting follows the arrest of three Mozambican citizens at Komatspoort for the illegal possession of SAM-7 missiles.

Kriel said the police force of the three countries would work together to train special investigation units and border police in search techniques.

A joint statement said Kriel and Antonio agreed the extradition of criminals "should receive the highest possible priority" and treaties were expected to be signed shortly. A meeting with Kriel's Swazian counterpart was also expected to be held soon.
Demob finally begins

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO: The vital demobilisation of the opposing armed forces in Mozambique will begin on Monday, eight months late, when the first troops move into the United Nations-controlled assembly points.

Full demobilisation is considered crucial if Mozambique is to avoid the mistake made in Angola, where the election was held before the rival armies had been disbanded, with the result that they resumed fighting when the election outcome was disputed.

Aldo Apollo, head of the UN mission in Mozambique, said the first three assembly points would be opened in Nampula and Zambezia provinces.

Government troops will assemble at Namalolo, a town on the railway line from Nacala to Malawi. Renamo forces would assemble at Lurio and Nauene.

Under the peace accord signed in Rome last year, all troops from both sides should have been in the 49 assembly points by October 20.

The process has been held up by delays in getting the UN monitoring forces in place and in providing Renamo with the means to set up offices in Maputo.
Durban’s port can expect competition from Beira

DURBAN — Africa’s busiest port, Durban, could expect competition from Mozambique ports Beira and Maputo as the country moved towards peace after 16 years of civil war, Durban port manager Rudi Basson said yesterday.

On Tuesday the Swanland Sugar Association announced it was rerouting sugar exports through Maputo instead of Durban, as transport to Durban added R20m to export costs.

"With African ports getting their acts together, they will become more competitive," Basson said.

Portnet, which controls SA’s ports, recently unveiled plans for additional berths and container terminals in Durban, which handles more than 2-million tons of cargo and more than 3,300 ships each year.

Portnet has even more ambitious plans for the port at Richards Bay, which is bigger than SA’s other four ports combined and is already one of the most diverse bulk-handling ports in the world, according to its manager, Glen Martin.

The Portnet plan provides for substantial extensions to the coal terminal, provision of passenger liner docking facilities and transformation of the harbour into a rapid ship turnaround centre.

Martin said planning was well under way for an additional 650m of quayside. Other developments mooted by Portnet were the erection of cool storage facilities, extended container terminals and sugar and grain terminals.

Richards Bay handles approximately 1,200 ships and more than 60m tons of cargo a year. — Beuler
Mozambique banks on peace dividend

CAPE TOWN — Mozambique is banking on a hefty peace dividend and an end to severe drought to revitalise its war-ravaged economy.

Finance Minister Eneas Comiche expected GDP to grow 5% this year after shrinking 2.4% in 1993, as the result of “better conditions in terms of peace, weather, the ability to get seeds and tools to peasants, and support from the international community.”

Speaking after a World Economic Forum conference on southern Africa, he said the Mozambican peace agreement held daunting challenges for a country whose per capita income at $80 a year was the world’s lowest.

About 1.5-million of the country’s 12-million people fled the war to neighbouring states, and Comiche said a further 4- to 5-million were displaced within Mozambique. And, under the October peace accord, tens of thousands of soldiers would be demobilised.

Comiche said a key priority was to rebuild infrastructure. He said more than half the country’s schools had been destroyed, along with many health clinics, roads, bridges and commercial facilities.

The country’s extensive rail network was already operating smoothly, though below capacity, he said.

As a result, he envisaged 11% growth this year in output from the transport and communications sector, compared with 3.5% for agriculture, 5% for industry, and 3% construction and commerce.

The World Bank estimated that Mozambique needed $1.5 billion in foreign funding this year, mainly to support economic and social reforms.

Comiche said international donors would meet in Maputo soon to review a request for about $500 million.

Meanwhile it was forging ahead with reforms and measures to streamline investment incentives.

A new investment proposal would be submitted to the legislative assembly soon to achieve “greater objectivity” and speedier approval of investment proposals, and steps to unity incentives for foreign and local investors. A new code of fiscal incentives would also be considered.

He said 200 smallish enterprises had been privatised. This was part of a programme which usually meant joint ventures with private — including foreign — investors.

Comiche said 18 bigger firms and dozens of smaller firms were earmarked for privatisation this year.

He said steps were also being taken to open up and strengthen financial services, following approval for two Portuguese banks, Banco Portugues do Atlantico and Banco de Fomento e Exterior, to operate in Mozambique.

He emphasised that the government was flexible on privatisation “If a foreign investor shows interest, we are open to discussion and to making a deal.” — Reuters
Rebels haggle over price of peace.
Sex slaves of Renamo's child soldiers

OPINION

We must acknowledge the grave problem.

On the 18th of July, I am traveling to the

The problem of sex slavery is a serious concern. It is estimated that there are millions of

According to the International Labour Organization, over 20 million women and girls are

Some organizations have campaigns to raise awareness and advocate for the

The United Nations has called for a global effort to combat sex slavery.

It is important to recognize the

By Chris McGreal: "Maphungu"

"When I was a child, I was trained to

The conflict has forced many girls into

In many cases, these girls are

The International Criminal Court has

The problem of sex slavery is not

It is crucial to address this issue

Source: UNICEF

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The Times

Saturday, 10 October 2015

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IN AFRICA

Maputo artery upgrade as peace arrives

AFTER 10 years of civil war, Mozambique is to upgrade the Maputo transport corridor in an infrastructure development programme launched with $9.3-million from the International Development Association, a World Bank affiliate.

The work could unclog the transport arteries of southern Africa, liberating the export potential of several poor countries starved of foreign currency.

The project involves the most important of Mozambique's three corridors linking huge landlocked areas with the sea and the world markets.

It stretches eastwards from Maputo, serving transit traffic from Zimbabwe, Swaziland and South Africa.

Before Mozambique gained independence in 1975, its three traffic corridors - Nacala, Beira and Maputo - earned $110-million a year.

Mozambique has another programme to upgrade the Beira corridor, which is used by Zimbabwe and Malawi, most of whose exports have been passing through Durban at freight costs among the highest in the world.

The Beira investment, also supported by the World Bank, includes work to deepen the access channel at the port as well as rehabilitation of harbour infrastructure and improvements to rail and road links across the corridor.

The cargo-handling capacity of the three corridors was severely reduced in the war by deteriorating infrastructure, lack of motive power and a shortage of trained workers. Yet their logistic importance remained great enough for Zimbabwe and Malawi to commit thousands of troops to patrol the railway lines to guarantee their security.

Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique are members of the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Committee which has persuaded large donors - including the US, the EC, and Japan - to commit more than $10-billion for the construction of transport infrastructure in the region.

Mozambique's ability to guarantee the security of the transport corridors could turn their promise into reality.

The Maputo investment programme will help the government to attract private capital for extensive development. The venture is expected to attract international attention.

A more efficient corridor should reduce transport costs. Private stakes in its operation may well turn the corridor from a drain on government resources into a money maker.

At its peak performance, the Maputo corridor carried an annual cargo flow of 14-million tons, mostly minerals. But traffic has fallen to about a million tons a year because of declining efficiency and falling consumer confidence brought about by the uncertainties of war.

The Maputo project will involve modernisation of the port and the introduction and improved communication equipment.

Railway regulations are to be upgraded and a wide range of environmental concerns reviewed.

The administration hopes to make the corridor more efficient by reducing the government's role and increasing the private sector's activities. The project will involve an evaluation of the corridor's past performance, resources and potential for new investment.

Mozambique recently undertook a structural adjustment programme, endorsed by the IMF, to make itself acceptable to foreign investors.

The war ended with a ceasefire in October 1992. Food aid is pouring in to relieve shortages reaching crisis proportions.

"Military spending has diverted enormous resources from development," says the World Bank in an analysis of the war's effects.

"Exports have suffered and import costs have risen as transport routes have been disrupted, forcing landlocked countries to use circuitous routes through South Africa. This has resulted in lost revenues and higher costs for these countries - as much as 40% higher for Malawi."

In addition, there has been the heavy burden of emergency assistance to about 7-million people throughout southern Africa who have been forced to flee their homes.

"In financial terms, this alone exceeded $1-billion in the 1980s and over $4.5-billion in 1990s, abandoning figures which are a truly staggering number."

The war in Mozambique claimed up to 700,000 lives and caused 1.5-million refugees in a country of 15-million, consumed well over 40% of the gross national product and destroyed thousands of schools and hundreds of rural health clinics. The costs cut across all sectors of the economy.

THOMAS LAND is an author and foreign correspondent.
Help Mozambican refugees, says OAU

By Joe Latalagomo
Star Africa Service

CAIRO — The Organisation of African Unity Council of Ministers has appealed to the international community to assist Mozambique in the repatriation of over 1.3 million refugees and the integration of more than 4 million displaced persons within the country.

The council resolved at the weekend to call upon the parties in Mozambique to scrupulously observe the spirit and letter of the General Peace Agreement as an essential condition for the restoration of lasting peace.

On the situation in Angola, the council said it was deeply concerned about the catastrophic situation faced by the population due to the resumption of war by Unita's army.

The OAU has once more called on Unita to accept the results of the elections of September 1992 and "strongly condemn Unita for its escalation of military actions and for the persistent occupation of towns and villages which endanger the peace process.

The council appealed to Unita to return to the peace talks with the Angolan government, and to sign a durable ceasefire in order to ensure the implementation of the peace accords.

SA under OAU spotlight

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Open for business again

After the socialist nightmare, there is cautious interest from investors

A scruffy boy begging in front of a seaside restaurant in Maputo doesn't ask for meticais or rands. The favoured currency is the US dollar. “Give me George,” he pleads, referring to the portrait of George Washington on the one-dollar bill.

Mozambicans are good at begging for Georges. The country garnered about US$1bn a year in foreign aid of all types. And with two-thirds of its GDP coming from international donors (some say it’s as high as 90%) it is the most aid-dependent country in the world, according to the World Bank.

But the October signing of the peace accord between the government and the Renamo guerrilla army, after 17 years of civil war, has brought a ceasefire and a new commitment to overhaul the ravaged country and its bankrupt economy. This month 60 SA businessmen flew to Maputo for the first business co-operation seminar since relations between the two countries were normalised.

Even the World Bank has hope. “We’re actually very optimistic about Mozambique,” says Jacomina de Regt, the Bank’s senior programme officer in Maputo. “Very much has already been achieved. Economic and social rehabilitation has already taken away many distortions.” As an example, she points out that practically all price controls have been eliminated, and that last year 5% of investment — $25.3m — was from private investors. “We feel that Mozambique is attractive for investors and interest is growing. For investment to grow, however, a stable political and economic climate is needed.”

Meanwhile, foreign aid is not about to dry up. Thirty donor countries have pledged $250m to cover

- Reconstruction and the repatriation of an estimated 1.5m refugees from six neighbouring countries, including SA.
- Resettlement of 4m-5m “deplacados” (of a total population of 16m) displaced within Mozambique, and
- Reintegration of at least 80,000 armed men into civilian life.

The entire resettlement is likely to take three years. The reconstruction effort includes projects such as clearing land mines, demand for PVC pickup.

While the impact on Sasol will be less dramatic, it certainly improves its long-term earnings prospects. For AECI, it should make a major operating company viable again. It should also improve perceptions of the two groups AECI can be seen to be doing something about one of its problem areas, while Sasol’s move towards greater transparency will be welcomed.

Already AECI’s share is being rerated. On a relatively undemanding yield of 4%, Sasol’s share should offer greater long-term value to investors.

Perhaps, for both AECI and Sasol, it’s a case of better the devil you know. But it remains to be seen whether Sasol, in particular, will ultimately be content with only the strategic foothold it has gained in these markets.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chicamo: policies for a real world

reopening roads, rebuilding schools and health clinics.

The UN, haunted by the fiasco it oversaw in Angola, is keen for this transformation to work. It has about 8,000 peacekeepers in the country, compared with just 300 in Angola.

But, like Angola, says one UN official, Mozambicans have developed a culture of fear, so there are no guarantees of a smooth transition to multiparty democracy.

Renamo, too, acknowledges that debauchery and pledges to avoid a rerun. “Angola won’t be repeated in Mozambique, because Afonso Dhlakama is not Jonas Savimbi, because Renamo is not Unita,” declared a recent editorial in Novos Tempos, the official mouthpiece of Renamo.

The first step is to demobilise and disarm combatants before the eventual election.

Easter said there was a risk the transition, supposed to have been completed by April, hasn’t started, thanks to foot-dragging and late arrival of UN troops.

The UN is hoping that the election, originally scheduled for this year, will come off in October 1994. Government officials say 1995 is more realistic.

Renamo is also balking because of money. It wants $100m of pledged aid to help it transform itself into a political party. Renamo says its forces will not enter assembly points as stipulated in the peace agreement unless its demands are met for money, new uniforms and equipment, food, houses, offices, telephones, photocopying, fax machines and all the resources necessary for political activity throughout Mozambique.

But Aldo Belballo, head of the UN effort in Mozambique, has made it clear that the only money Renamo can expect for its transformation into a political party will come from a trust fund under UN administration. So far $7m of a targeted $10m has been pledged, $6m by Italy.

Meanwhile, Mozambicans are getting on with the huge job of putting their shattered country and its shattered economy back together. Thanks to the end of the fighting in March, the roads are once again passable throughout the country. “The only hang-up is that the services have not yet been created.”

Land of opportunity

Mozambique fact file

- Population: 11,7 million
- Official language: Portuguese
- Head of State: SA President
- External debt: US$77bn
- Main exports: Cotton, coffee, cashew nuts, cloves, timber, fish
- Cultivated land: 100,000km² (28% of arable land)
- Literacy: 25%
to deal with the throngs that are venturing into the countryside, the hotels are full, full, full," according to the tourist guide Time Out. The five-star Polana Hotel, the symbol of Lourenco Marques's former glory, has been renovated by SA's Karos Hotel chain and is looking good.

There's still a long way to go before tourism rebounds to pre-independence levels. Tourism hit its zenith in 1973 when 300,000 foreign visitors — mainly South Africans — arrived in Mozambique. After independence, foreigners were not encouraged to visit, though the war kept most at bay anyway.

Getting there is a lot easier now. Five years ago, there were two weekly flights between SA and Mozambique. Now there are 10 on SA Airways and LAM, the national carrier. About 45% are business travellers. Residents of the capital say the changes are coming fast — though it's sometimes hard for outsiders to appreciate the miracle of functioning air pumps at petrol stations. There are paddle boats at the beachfront, piles of grilled prawns in the restaurants, shiny new Philips appliances in shop windows.

The locals, to whom change often means hardship, are not getting their hopes up too high. After 10 years of anti-colonial struggle, a change of government in Portugal led to independence for Mozambique in 1975. At that point, most of the 160,000 whites in the country of about 10m abruptly left. Illiteracy was 93%. There were 117 doctors. Marxism dictated that the country should be known as the People's Republic of Mozambique (the word "People's" was deleted three years ago).

Between 1982 and 1985, GDP fell on average by 6% a year. In 1987 the Washington-based Population Crisis Committee declared that Mozambique scored the highest grade, 95 out of 100, on its Human Suffering Index.

Ten years after independence, President Samora Machel, an avowed Maoist, relented and asked the IMF and the World Bank to step in. He died in an aircraft crash in 1986. The next year, his successor, Joachim Chissano, initiated Machel's Programme of Economic Rehabilitation.

Indeed, the picture changed dramatically following the imposition of structural adjustment. In 1987-1989 the economy grew steadily, registering an average annual GDP growth rate of more than 4.5%. The progress then slowed, however, with growth of just 1.5% in 1990 and 0.9% in 1991. Last year GDP shrunk by 1.4%, mainly due to drought.

Nevertheless, with the end of the drought, observers are predicting a return to modest growth this year. Government expects 3% and the World Bank is hoping for at least 5% a year for the next five years.

Inflation continues to rage, though certainly not at the 1987 annual level of 163%. It came down to 37% in 1991 and jumped to 46% in 1992 — again thanks to the drought. But those are the official figures. Journalist Carlos Cardoso says his informal survey of money traders pegs inflation at 77%.

What the Mozambicans are looking for is markets for their exports and businesses willing to locate in the country. They like to point out, for instance, that Johannesburg is 200 km closer to the port of Maputo by rail than it is to Durban. The underground wealth of the country is largely untapped and mining companies are welcome to explore.

Mozambicans argue that nationalisation was never the priority. Between 1985 and 1991 more than 120 "intervened enterprises" such as cinemas were privatised and it's government's intention to privatisate all small and medium enterprises and open large firms to private capital or management participation.

Even in 1980 Machel said "The State cannot waste its energies managing a shop, canteen, bar, boutique, shoemaker or hairdresser." But Maputo still sports plenty of signs of its Marxist past. The city's street names are a virtual who's who of communism — Karl Marx, Ho Chi Min, Vladimir Lenin, Friedrich Engels.

Foreign investors are not rushing to put their money in Mozambique. "I have a gut feeling it's moving in the right direction but they are not there yet," says Gordon Angus, who has thought about investing in Mozambique for years and participated in the SA business seminar there this month.

Before Angus invests, he wants to know that business will not be suffocated by government bureaucrats anxious to keep themselves employed.

The bureaucracy is like a great big blob of jelly. It does nothing for development but restricts it. Evolution will have to take place in the bureaucracy. Until that happens, business people will not feel comfortable," Government's stock response everything is under consideration.

"We are trying to adjust institutions made for a centrally planned economy to work in a market economy, this takes time," says Salvador Namburete, national director of external trade in the Ministry of Commerce. "It's not just changing the paper, it's a serious problem of changing mentalities."

That may be, but the crucial mentality — that of the leadership — appears to have changed dramatically.
Skills project started

MAPUTO — Mozambique, which was virtually stripped of skills with the flight of the Portuguese at independence in 1975, has launched a five-year crash programme to help fill the gap.

The R192 million project, funded largely by the World Bank’s International Development Agency, is aimed at providing educational and training facilities and strengthening the public service — Star Africa Service.
Mozambique to get a boost

M APUTO — Mozambique, which was virtually stripped of skills with the flight of the Portuguese at independence in 1975, has launched a five-year crash programme to help fill the gap.

The R192 million project, funded largely by the World Bank’s International Development Agency, is aimed at providing educational and training facilities and strengthening the public service. About half of the expenditure will go towards improving the country’s only university, the Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo.

At present Mozambique has no more than 5,000 university graduates out of a total population of about 16 million — one of the lowest ratios in the world.

The country has been struggling since independence to overcome the desperate shortage of skills caused by the exodus of the Portuguese when the Fretilin government imposed Marxist policies at independence.

Although the government has since abandoned Marxism it has been prevented by the civil war from doing much to build up the skills pool.

In addition to the IDA’s contribution, other funds are being provided by the Swedish International Development Agency and the American Agency for International Development.

A large part of the funds will be spent on catch-up courses for students with inadequate secondary education who have not been equipped them for university entrance.

— Sowetan Africa News Service
Chissano to meet Renamo leader

MAPUTO — The US State Department's top Africa official expressed optimism yesterday over Mozambique's peace process.

Georg Moose, assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, met President Joaquim Chissano and Mr. Alfonso Dhikama, leader of the former rebel Renamo movement, in separate meetings.

Subjects discussed included progress towards Mozambique's first multiparty elections which are expected to be held in October next year.

"I came away encouraged by the determination of both sides to respect the date," Mr. Moose said before leaving for a visit to South Africa.

He said Mr. Dhikama had confirmed to him, during their meeting on Thursday at the Renamo chief's bush headquarters at Manique, that he would travel to Maputo on July 17 to meet President Chissano.

It would be Mr. Dhikama's first visit to Maputo since he and President Chissano signed a peace agreement in Rome last October.

In contrast to his upbeat comment on Mozambique, Mr. Moose was gloomy over the situation in Nigeria because of that government's decision to annul the elections.

Mr. Moose said his visit to South Africa would help to prepare for next week's visit to Washington by President De Klerk and African National Congress leader Mr. Nelson Mandela — Sapa-Reuters.
Mozambique press watchdog

The Mozambican government has set up an independent watchdog body to safeguard the freedom of the press. The Supreme Council for Mass Communication is charged with ensuring the editorial independence and impartiality of the published news media. — Star Africa Service

(2-18)
Maputo asked to help fight smuggling

Kriel's new plan to curb AK-47s

CHRIS WHITFIELD
Political Correspondent

SOUTH Africa and Mozambique could soon be co-operating in a joint campaign to stem the flow of deadly AK-47s being smuggled into the Republic.

Police have identified Mozambique as the main source of weapons being smuggled into the country and have expressed deep concern at the number of AK-47s in South Africa and their use in crime.

On Monday, Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel hosted Mozambican Internal Affairs Minister Colonel Manuel Jose Antonio, on an official visit to South Africa, for a meeting on the issue of AK-47s.

"We intend discussing a joint plan to control the smuggling of weapons into South Africa," Kriel told Saturday Star yesterday.

International role

He declined to discuss what proposals the Government would be putting on the table, "but we will be discussing various plans that we have worked out," he said.

But he did suggest that the international community could assist in combating the scourge by ==buying weapons in Mozambique," "If they really want to make a contribution, they should assist in buying up weapons," said Kriel. He added that it was difficult to assess whether the majority of AK-47s in South Africa had been smuggled in or had come from long-established arms caches.

Figures in the recently released annual report for 1982 of the Police Commissioner General Johannes van der Merwe gave an indication of the scale of the problem. In 1982 there were 129 cases where (South African Police) members were fired upon by people using AK-47 rifles," he said.

Of all the policeman killed on duty last year, 61 percent had fallen victim to AK-47 rifles, compared with 17 percent in 1980. Last year 861 AK-47s were seized by the SAP.

"However, police believe that these African Government to support Renamo forces in Mozambique.

The only statistics available on the number of weapons in the region are from Harare, where press reports quoted military sources as estimating that at least 1.5 million AK-47s had been introduced into Mozambique since the beginning of the civil war in 1977.

Thabo Mbeki said recently that many of the weapons filtering into South Africa were originally sent by the South African Government to support Renamo forces in Mozambique.

"but back with his heart is here". The letter handed Mandela a slip of paper with Gullit's name on it.

Also, a letter to Manoe, which he expressed regret over receiving, said that "to me, in the same sense of love and friendship among friends, it is the right decision to make.

The reason why I cannot attend it deeply linked to my own," Gullit said, and "I will be there to talk about this.

The letter ended: "I am sure you will understand and excuse me for this."

By Pat Henesy

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By Pat Henesy
Harties row drags on

By Paul Bell
Labour Correspondent

The stand-off between 3,700 Mozambicans and the balance of the 19,500-strong workforce at Hartbeesfontein gold mine in the western Transvaal enters its sixth week today as a solution to ensure peace between the two groups continues to elude management, unions and peacekeepers (218).

Seventeen miners were killed—14 Mozambicans and three Shangana-speaking South Africans who were mistaken for Mozambicans—and more than 100 were injured in three days of clashes in May.

The Mozambicans claim they were targeted for attack as part of a strategy by South African miners to secure a set of demands from management. They have not been underground since the attacks and have been confined to the No 2 hostels for nearly five weeks.

A report-back meeting by the various parties—including the Mozambican labour authorities in Johannesburg, the ANC, Cosatu, the National Union of Mineworkers, Goldstone Commission investigators and officials of the local peace secretariat—had been scheduled for yesterday, but was called off.

Arno Steyn, industrial relations manager of mine owners Anglovaal, said the parties had hoped to meet to take decisions. When it was realised they would not be in a position to do that, the meeting was cancelled.

Negotiations were continuing.

NUM's Jerry Majaatladi also reported little progress. He said the NUM's own message to its members at Harties—that the Mozambicans should be allowed to return to work without fear—had been well received at a rally a week ago.

Shop stewards had spent last week taking the message from room to room.

The NUM could not, however, give absolute guarantees for the safety of the Mozambicans because its influence was a factor of its organisation on the mine, where it commands only about 55 percent support.

Meanwhile, 110 Mozambicans have transferred to the Sheba mine near Barberton, where 650 workers were dismissed a fortnight ago after a wildcat strike.
Renamo admits ‘arrests’

MAPUTO — The opposition Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) has admitted detaining a Mozambican government MP and nine other people, in what the government called a flagrant violation of last year’s peace agreement.

The Renamo spokesman in Maputo, Mr Anselmo Victor, admitted holding the group yesterday after the MP’s fate was disclosed in a parliamentary statement.

Mr Victor said “On June 24 we surprised a group of seven armed men and three civilians carrying out illegal activities in our territory.”

In a communiqué, parliament’s permanent commission said Renamo arrested Aurelio Manheca in Zitundo, near the South African border.

Mr Manheca, businessman by profession, Mr Crescencio Manheca and Presbyterian priest Father Luis Mondlane, with seven members of the Mozambican police force, are being held at the southern Renamo base of Salamanga. The communiqué demanded the immediate release of the men. — Sapa-AFP
Move on mine fight

MAPUTO — A delegation from the Mozambican trade union federation, the OTM, will visit South Africa to try and resolve the crisis at the Hartbeesfontein gold mine where at least 13 Mozambican miners were killed in clashes last month.

The Mozambican news agency AIM reports that the delegation, under the leadership of OTM secretary-general Soares Nhaca, will meet with the South African trade union federation, Cosatu, with the mine owners and with the Mozambican miners on the site.
Red faces in Maputo

MAPUTO — Mozambican authorities were yesterday investigating how a drunken man with an AK-47 rifle hijacked a Swazi plane on a flight from Maputo.

The twin-engined Fokker 28 plane of Royal Swazi Airlines, originally scheduled to fly to neighbouring Swaziland, finally landed at Johannesburg’s Jan Smuts Airport on Sunday night.

Mozambique’s Civil Aviation director Mr Paulo Muchanga said an investigation was under way into how the hijacker managed to smuggle the AK-47 on to the plane at Maputo airport.
Two miners killed

MAPUTO - Two Mozambican miners from the Hartbeesfontein mine were dragged out of the taxi in which they were travelling and killed.
Renamo wants more power

MAPUTO The rebel Renamo movement has demanded that its members be appointed provincial governors as a condition of the peace process, the official Mozambique news agency AIM reports.

The demand came as the UN Security Council said it regretted delays in the Mozambican peace process and emphasised that elections must be held by October next year and not be postponed again.

In a unanimous resolution the council asked the Mozambican government and Renamo to “agree without delay to the revised timetable” for carrying out peace accords signed last October.

A spokesman for Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama said the question of territorial administration was a key issue. Unless it was resolved “there will be neither peace nor elections in Mozambique.”

If all 11 provincial governors continued to belong to the ruling Frelimo party, then “the conflict will be maintained. There will be no mutual trust”, the spokesman said. — Sapa-AP-Reuter
Eye doctor, safari gear save the day

Star Africa Service

The South African Government, which once secretly supplied the Renamo rebels in Mozambique, has "done it again". But this time it was done openly and in a good cause promoting the Mozambican peace process.

Diplomatic intervention by the South Africans has helped to get the stalled peace process moving by clearing the way for meetings of the commissions set up to implement the peace accord signed in Rome in October by Renamo and the Frelimo government.

Meetings

The breakthrough came at a meeting in Maputo last month between Renamo chief negotiator Rebel Domingos and a South African delegation led by Derek Auret, Deputy Director-General of Foreign Affairs.

The South Africans were there to find out why Renamo was not attending meetings of the commissions and to urge them to do so. Domingos wore dark glasses and, kept wiping his eyes with a handkerchief. He explained that he had a 50-year-old eye irritation that was not responding to treatment in Maputo.

During the discussions it transpired that Renamo had not attended the meetings because its members did not have suitable clothing.

All they had were the nondescript garb they had worn as guerrillas in the bush and they were reluctant to appear like that before the smartly dressed Frelimo and United Nations personnel.

Auret took a quick decision. "Come back to South Africa with us on our plane and we will get a specialist to look at your eyes while we fix you up with uniforms for your people," he offered.

The offer was accepted and within hours Domingos was being treated by an eye specialist in Johannesburg.

Next he was taken to a shop specializing in outdoor gear and selected more than 190 olive-green outfits of the kind favoured by people going on safari.

After some urgent communications with his office in Maputo about size, Domingos flew back to Mozambique with the outfits and with his eyes on the mend.

Thereafter, Renamo signified its readiness to attend the meetings of the commissions.
Renamo kidnaps timber workers

Soweto 21-11-93

MAPUTO — Renamo has kidnapped 17 timber workers in the central province of Sofala in an apparent effort to assert its claim to govern the areas it controlled at the time the peace accord was signed in Rome last October.

The former rebel organisation has banned the exploitation of timber resources in its areas.

The Frelimo government maintains that nothing in the Rome accord gives Renamo the right to ban economic activity or detain people — Soweto Africa News Service
Soldiers issue threat to govt

MAPUTO — Former members of Mozambique's Presidential Guard have threatened to attack and loot shops if the government does not meet their demand for payment of back wages.

The demobilised guardsmen are also demanding the return of belongings they say were stolen when commandos stormed their barracks to put down a mutiny last March. After the mutiny, 1,276 guardsmen were sent back to their home provinces but a local newspaper says most of them have returned to Maputo "to seek justice."
NEWS IN BRIEF

Renamo base attacked

MOZAMBICAN government forces had attacked Renamo bases in the northern Tete province in violation of last October's ceasefire, a government source said yesterday.

Renamo said on Wednesday two soldiers were captured and munitions destroyed in the July 6 attack. Government sources said the targets were areas occupied by Renamo in violation of the peace accord.
Prison riot
over corpse

MAPUTO — Convicts in a Maputo jail rioted when the prison authorities failed to remove the body of a dead prisoner from a cell.

The body is reported to have remained in the cell for hours after the man had died, apparently from an illness for which he had been given no medical treatment. Police and soldiers were called in to put down the riot.
Renamo drops pay demands

Mozambique's first multiparty election was back on track yesterday after the former rebel group, Renamo, dropped demands that the state pay for its guests at a conference on election law. — Sapa-Reuters.
Poll is back on track

MAPUTO — Mozambique's first multiparty election was back on track yesterday after former rebel group Renamo dropped demands that the state pay for its guests at a conference on election law.

Justice Minister Ali Dauso, who had called off the planned consultative talks because of the funding row, said on Tuesday night that an agreement on the terms of the conference were due to be signed.

Renamo's demand had thrown doubt Mozambique's first multiparty poll due in October 1994 because without the talks an electoral law could not be passed and it would be impossible for a national election commission to be formed. Political observers said Renamo came under pressure from diplomats and opposition parties to drop its demand and pay for its guests from about R35 million it had in a UN-managed trust fund. — Sapa-Reuters
RENAMO to talk

MOZAMBIQUE's rebel group Renamo has agreed to return to a multi-party electoral conference.

UN special representative Aldo Ajello said he had persuaded Renamo to return in a satellite telephone call to movement leader Afonso Dhlakama early on Friday at his bush headquarters in the central district of Mavingue.
Former Mozambique enemies exchange rifles

Argus Africa News Service
NYANGA (Zimbabwe).—Former enemies who fought each other ruthlessly in the Mozambican bush exchanged their rifles at an army base here in a gesture of reconciliation that represents a major step forward in the peace process.

The ceremony was attended by Renamo rebels and members of the Freiimo government army and marked the start of training of candidate officers from the two sides, who will form the nucleus of the new joint national army.

The training will be done at the army base at Nyanga in eastern Zimbabwe by a 30-man British army unit led by Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Martin.

The arrival of the Renamo contingent in United Nations helicopters yesterday ended months of delay by the former rebels in sending their candidates to the officer school. They joined 39 trainee officers from the Freiimo government army, who had arrived by road on Monday.

A further 220 trainee officers will be sent to Nyanga from each side to make a total of 540 under instruction in a six-month course.

In a symbolic ceremony yesterday the Renamo and Freiimo soldiers exchanged their rifles and insignia, which were then handed to Colonel Martin.

The Renamo men said they were very pleased to be joining their Mozambican "brothers" in forming the new joint army.

The British have complained that Renamo's delay in sending its contingent to Nyanga has cost the British government large sums of money to keep the Nyanga base open in readiness to receive the Mozambicans.
Former foes swap rifles

By Cheryl Uys
Star Africa Service

NYANGA (Zimbabwe) — Former enemies who fought each other ruthlessly in the Mozambican bush exchanged their rifles at an army base in Zimbabwe on Tuesday in a gesture of reconciliation that represents a major step forward in the peace process.

The ceremony by members of the Renamo rebels and the Frelimo government army marked the start of training of candidate officers from the two sides for a new national army.

The training will be carried out at the army base at Nyanga in eastern Zimbabwe by a 30-man British army unit led by Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Martin.

The arrival of the Renamo contingent in United Nations helicopters ended months of delay by the former rebels in sending their candidates to the officer school.

They joined 50 trainee officers from the Frelimo government army, who had arrived by road on Monday.

A further 220 trainee officers will be sent to Nyanga from each side, to make a total of 540 under instruction in a 24-week course.

The Renamo candidates were met at Nyanga by Martin.

The Renamo men said they were very pleased to be joining their Mozambican “brothers” in forming the joint army.
Mozambique talks falter after threats by Renamo

**Argus Africa News Service**

MAPUTO — Mozambique's peace process has come under new strain from a threat by Renamo to attack a "strategic target" in retaliation for alleged ceasefire violations by the Frelimo government.

The head of the United Nations mission, Aldo Ajello, has denounced the threat as "absolutely unacceptable."

He said it contradicted a promise Renamo gave to the main monitoring commission that it would never use force to resolve such disputes.

Renamo's threat was made in a statement signed by its chief negotiator, Reinaldo Domingos, which said the attack would mean "the end of Frelimo."

It was made in retaliation for attacks by government troops aimed at ejecting Renamo forces that allegedly occupied new areas in contravention of the Rome peace accord.

Mr Ajello said such attacks would not be the end of Frelimo but rather the end of the peace process.

He said the new row was linked to the dispute over Renamo's demand for the right to govern the areas it occupies.

"A country with two administrations is unmanageable," Mr Ajello said.
Maputo — The Japanese government has offered Mozambique the equivalent of $16.5 million to import buses for sale to private transport companies.

The deal forms part of the Frejmo government's privatisation programme, which involves the sale of state-owned road haulage and vehicle maintenance organisations.

No date has been given for the start of the Japanese deal, but Road Transport Director Lucas Nhamzinga has pointed out that before the buses can operate effectively the many roads that deteriorated during the war and the bridges that were destroyed will have to be repaired.
Moz. groups back Renamo

MAPUTO — Mozam-
bique's "Group of 12" oppo-
tion parties have
backed threats by Ren-
amo to attack govern-
ment targets yesterday.

Mr Casimiro Nem-
tambo said on return
from Renamo headquar-
ters in central Mozambi-
que that the "threats are
a justified warning to
government that if they
attack Renamo positions
two or three more times
it will lead back to war.

Renamo have alleged
government troops
violated a ceasefire by
attacking four of its
bases in July. — Sapa
Renamo leader arrives for talks

MAPUTO — Thousands turned out to see Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama when he arrived for the first time in the Mozambican capital on Saturday.

Stepping off a UN-chartered light aircraft from his bush headquarters at Maringa, Dhlakama said: "After 17 years in the bush, I'm very happy to be here.

"As you know I have many things related to peace to discuss with my brother (President Joaquim Chissano)."

A long-awaited meeting between Dhlakama and Chissano is scheduled for today amid hopes that it will remove obstacles to the 18-month-old peace process.

Dhlakama, almost hidden among journalists and a crowd of several thousand, said he and Chissano would review various aspects of the peace accords they signed last October in Rome.
HEALING WOUNDS: President Chissano, left, and Mr Dhlakama at the joint news conference after yesterday's talks.

Mozambique leaders get down to nitty-gritty today

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama began a second round of talks here today, optimistic after their first meeting yesterday about resolving the differences holding up the Mozambican peace process.

Mr Dhlakama said he was sure the talks would result in agreement, even though yesterday's meeting had seen little progress.

He said Renamo was willing to drop its demand for dual administration — the issue holding up demobilisation of the rival armed forces in preparation for an election.

Renamo was willing to allow the areas under its control to be administered by Frelimo. This apparently means Renamo has dropped its demand to appoint some of the 11 provincial governors.

President Chissano said that in demanding dual administration, Renamo had actually only wanted to secure guarantees of impartiality from the government, the police and the news media.

On the first day of their talks the two leaders set out the issues they would like to see resolved. Today they are to get down to the question of how
Dhlakama and Chissano meet

MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Alfonso Dhlakama met yesterday to try to speed up the transition to multiparty rule. It was their first meeting on Mozambican soil.

Diplomats said the delayed peace process and prospects for democratic elections would figure high in the discussions.

Armed police and bodyguards from Renamo patrolled the route from the complex where Dhlakama was staying to the military club where the talks were taking place.

Chissano, who said he would listen to anything Dhlakama may wish to raise concerning the implementation of last October's peace accord.

Before flying to Maputo on Saturday, Dhlakama said he was concerned about the administration of Mozambique and wanted Renamo to appoint five of the 11 provincial governors.

Government spokesmen said they feared Renamo was trying to rewrite parts of the accord on territorial administration in order to give the former rebels a greater say in the running of the country.

Last month Renamo said there would be no demobilisation of troops and no elections unless the question of who was to run the country was resolved to its satisfaction.

The UN special envoy in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, said he hoped the meeting would iron out problems delaying the implementation of the accord and would lead to a firm date for demobilising Renamo and government forces.

The demobilisation, which should have been completed by mid-April, has not even begun. — Sapa-Reuters.
Cahora Bassa project ‘is still on track’

CONFUSION surrounding the R350m repair project to the Cahora Bassa powerline and the likely loss of important Italian finance will prove to be only a temporary setback, says Eskom CE Ian McRae.

There has been no official confirmation of Mozambican power company head Fernando Juliao’s weekend announcement that the Italian government had withdrawn its $350m grant. It is understood that the SA government is pursuing diplomatic channels to confirm the decision.

Rehabilitating the Cahora Bassa link is an essential part of Eskom’s long-term plans to establish a regional electricity grid joining the hydroelectric resources of southern Africa with its infrastructure. McRae said Eskom was surprised by the decision. However, if confirmed, it was no more than “a temporary hiccup” which might delay the project.

The scheme to rebuild transmission lines connecting the dam to SA’s electricity grid at the Apollo substation near Olifantsfontein in the northeastern Transvaal was a joint venture between SA, Mozambique and Portugal. Their representatives sit on a joint committee with representatives from Eskom and Mozambique’s Hidroeletricas de Cahora Bassa.

McRae said the parties were committed to completing the project, and much work had been done organizing a finance package, which meant alternatives could be found to replace Italy’s contribution.

SA and Portugal have provided guarantees to back bank loans and export credits secured by Mozambique to finance the project in addition to Italy’s grant.

Eskom spokesman Peter Adams said the Cahora Bassa facilities were in good condition, supplying small amounts of electricity to the nearby village. The plant had a capacity of 1 750MW, of which SA was contracted to take 1 450MW, equivalent to 25% of Eskom’s installed capacity.

Eskom’s contribution to the project lay in providing materials and replacing 500km of damaged power lines.
Maputo peace talks produce optimism

Maputo — President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama began a second round of talks today. They emerged from their first meeting in Maputo yesterday expressing optimism about resolving the differences that have been holding up the peace process.

Dhlakama said the first day had produced no concrete results but he was sure the talks would end in agreement.

At a joint news conference he said Renamo was willing to drop its demand for dual administration of the country — the issue which has been holding up demobilisation of the rival armed forces in preparation for an election.

Renamo was willing to allow the areas under its control to be administered by the Frelimo government, he said. This apparently means Renamo has dropped its demand to appoint some provincial governors.

Elaborating on this, President Chissano said in demanding dual administration Renamo had actually only wanted to secure guarantees of impartiality by the government, the police and the news media.
Mozambique places ads for tenders

MOZAMBIQUE has opened bidding for the privatisation of state-owned businesses in a move to repair its war-torn economy, SA Foreign Trade Organisation (Sato) representative Angela Self said yesterday.

The country, rated as one of the poorest in the world, had earmarked privatisation as part of a structural economic adjustment programme to rebuild the economy and further democracy, she said.

The government has invited requalification bids for tenders on 11 businesses involved in metal working, beverages, building materials, water supply, construction, cement, clothing, engineering, architecture and food processing.

Advertisements inviting the submission of tenders from this month to next April were placed in the Economist. Self warned that most state-owned businesses in Mozambique suffered from poor management, obsolete equipment and general neglect.

A revised and enhanced private investment code was being finalised by the government to coincide with the sales of the businesses. This would provide potential foreign investors with tax holidays and profit repatriation benefits comparable to other investment codes.

Companies for sale included beer makers Fabrica de Cerveja and Fabrica de Cerveja da Beira, food group Companhia Industrial da Matola, heavy metal working company Cometal, civil construction company Cela, building materials supplier Dimac, cement producer Cimentos de Mozambique, and the water utility Hiromoc.
Mozambique opens bidding for state firms

(218) CT 25/8/93

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Mozambique has opened bidding for the privatisation of state-owned businesses in a move to repair its war-torn economy, SA Foreign Trade Organisation (Safo) representative Angela Self said yesterday.

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Peace signals from Maputo

Argus Africa News Service 21 Aug 1985

MAPUTO.—A breakthrough in the negotiations between President Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama appeared imminent when it was disclosed yesterday that all 11 of Mozambique's governors had been summoned to Maputo to join the talks.

Renamo had been demanding the right to appoint five of the governors as part of its insistence on a dual administration in the run-up to the election.

As the talks between the two leaders began on Monday Renamo said it was prepared to accept a single administration.
Chissano and Dhlakama buoyed by talks

MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama began a third day of talks in a buoyant mood yesterday despite deadlock in multiparty talks at a lower level.

"Everything's going well," Chissano told reporters at the end of Tuesday's session. They have discussed how to ensure the police, the media and the state administration are impartial ahead of elections due in October next year.

A multiparty conference on a draft electoral law deadlocked on Tuesday over a Renamo demand for an opposition majority on the national elections commission.

Diplomats said it seemed only intervention by Chissano and Dhlakama themselves could rescue the conference — Sapa-Reuters.
Govt transcending all in Mozambique

HILARY ANDERSSON
Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Mozambique's public administration has been functioning on a different plane since President Joaquim Chissano discovered transcendental meditation — and then spread it throughout his government.

Not only does the president and some of his cabinet engage in TM, as it is known for short, but it is now being practised widely throughout the civil service.

After hours, government employees who once hurried home to their families promptly at five are now to be found sitting in incense-filled rooms chanting.

Even in the army, soldiers who were trained to kill are turning to meditation to give their existence a new dimension.

The practice has spread beyond the civil service and now many Mozambicans engage in a daily "exodus from their bodies" through TM.

President Chissano and those of his ministers who have adopted TM say that it has helped to end the war and keep the peace process on track, even if somewhat haltingly. They say it has even contributed to a reduction in crime and to the ending of drought.

Chissano recently travelled to the Netherlands to receive an honorary doctorate from the Maharishi Vedic University, which teaches a special Hindu form of meditation.

Explaining at that ceremony how he introduced TM to his ministers back home, Chissano said: "I told them, 'This will give you peace of mind and relaxation in your body. It will bring coherence in society if many people do it.'"

"I explained that it has the power to improve climatic conditions in our country — and so it did."

Although the Frelimo government has introduced TM only on a voluntary basis, there are indications that not everyone is happy with being encouraged by their bosses to practice it.

For instance, soldiers who are told in meditation sessions to forget past traumatic experiences are indignant. They argue that they are being brainwashed and that their war experiences are part of their dignity.

One civil servant, who did not want to give his name, was glad of the new relaxation he experienced as a result of the meditation.

"It is strange for us," he added. "For so many years Frelimo banned any religion and now they are encouraging this practice. I think it is because Frelimo has turned from socialism and has no ideology, so now it puts its faith in meditation."
Now Frelimo puts faith in meditation

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Chissano: Claims TM has improved weather.

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Banned

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Moz leaders agree to one administration

MAPUTO — President Joaquin Chissano of Mozambique and former rebel leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama have agreed in principle to unite the country under a single administration in preparation for elections planned for next year. They will resume talks today to try to overcome other obstacles still in the way of a comprehensive agreement charting the transition to multi-party democracy.

Mr Chissano told reporters on Saturday that both the government and the former rebel movement Renamo agreed there should be a single administration before the elections.

Mr Dhlakama said Renamo was no longer demanding five new provincial governors, but wanted guarantees that the local authorities would be impartial.

"Everyone was prepared to listen," Mr Chissano said after talks involving 11 provincial governors and Mr Dhlakama's provincial representatives — Sapa-Reuters
The peace accord which ended nearly 20 years of fighting in Mozambique is being held. Hans-Peter Bakker of the Star Africa Service describes how the country prepares to build a new country. Joao Silva took the pictures.

Landmines: the silent so

A day's trek into a country made lethal by years of intermittent planting of landmines has become a way of life in Mozambique. Mines are hidden beneath countless roads and paths. In addition, many of the cleared buildings in villages are booby-trapped. Areas where rice grows tall in the middle of clean, empty villages are booby-trapped. Before moving anywhere it is advisable to speak to the locals. The many people licking or clawing at calloused stumps in rural Mozambique, in the town of Xai-Xai, have learned from exploding mines.

After launch of the peace accord in Mozambique, Portugal seeks further in the transition to independence. There continued being a murder in a post-conflict war of attrition which raged for nearly 20 years. For the most part it was not a clash of vessels but a war in which the Portuguese, especially, were trapped. Some estimates indicate that 100,000 people died in the struggle.

Nearly a year ago the warring states signed a peace accord and agreed on a ceasefire, which has been largely adhered to. In the capital Maputo and in conference halls in Europe, leaders from the two sides have been holding talks over the details of future elections and the constitution.

The government of the United Nations has turned slowly to more normal activities, with more than 6,000 UN peacekeepers patrolling the country and setting up assembly points for the demobilization of the opposing army forces. Mozambican, on the other hand, are being treated by British instructors in Zimbabwe to form the nucleus of a planned joint army.

Desire for peace

The question on everybody's lips is: Will Mozambique have the glorious future? Angolan example and slide back into war just when it is supposed to be the end of peace?

Nobody can answer that question yet. But the answer will be as much in the Mozambican's heartland, where the peasant farmers are slowly returning to their overgrown fields and farmers' homes, as it is in the city center. The political tensions are less in proportion to the average Mozambican's desperate desire for peace.

The provincial capital of Nampula, which a year ago was overcrowded by displaced people and places, now has the body-polluted streets. Only a handful of photographer's men is needed to record the quiet, clean atmosphere. The shops and markets are filled with products under the supervision of a year ago. The Nampula army, gathered behind their brief, are filling the fields.

Nampula is a small dirt track north toward Anguila about 150 km away. The road has not been cleared of mines and UN officials in Mozambique do not dare to travel along it. A few brave – or stupid – workers do move along the road to the Nampula-held district of Namibe.

Both sides are very suspicious of opening up roads that lead to the borders and governmental areas," says a UN official. "Mines are stuffed soldiers and each side wants to leave its own mines in place." In spite of the International Court's clearing of mines by both sides, many thousands of peasant farmers have gone home. In the government-held areas around Nampula and south in the village of Corrego, scores of rusted trucks and old cars, dust from the rusted clay, have multiplied. The newly planted staple food, corn, is growing strongly.

The quiet pastures become fewer and almost disappear after the border between the government and Renamo areas is crossed. Politicians are vague about these borders, but the lines are crystal clear to the people living near them.

Very few people live along the main road in the Renamo territory around Namibe. But when one dares to move off the main truck trail, this overgrown, impassable into the dense tropical forests, one finds small clusters of small, with pots of Renamo leader Amancio Dhalia, a priest in town of three or more, and children run away screaming as strange approach.

Namibe: The main street of this small settlement near the coastal city of Anguila is deserted. Destruction and neglect is evident everywhere.

Only a few cars of life in the still-picturesque town as an old man asleep on the veranda of the once-palatial home of the colonial administrator.

Inside a Frelimo camp – troops at Quixama outline Renamo positions. The government border town of Quixama is guarded by a company of Frelimo troops.

The war continues.

A few minutes later two young, smiling men join the villagers. They are greeted and welcomed by traditions and guarded by a party of Frelimo troops.

Simao Vazende, the government propaganda chief in the province, with equal robustness of killing Renamo and waging peace, gives much the same ambiguous answer: His Renamo counterpart in Namibe to the question: Will you hand over your arms? You are called to do so?

"I don't believe they (Renamo) will give over their arms; we are not going to give our guns. But if they do and our order (to do so), then we will hand over our arms," Vazende says.

Mozambique still has a long way to go, so far as it seems that the UN has found "freedom" from the Angolan slavery by an expanded timetable, which intentionally or unintentionally allows for a cooling period, and by deploying 3,000 members of the UN police mission who are there for an unknown number of years of hatred and death.

This nation will hang the election process and suspensions could still end over the renewed war – just as in Angola. But Mozambique is different. Its leaders are different. Its armies are different and its people are determined to be different.
The accord which ended nearly 20 years of fighting in Mozambique seems to be winning the hearts of many. Hans-Peter Bakker of the Star Africa Service describes how Mozambicans prepare to build a new country. João Silva took the pictures.

**mines: the silent soldiers**

Inside a Frelimo camp, troops at Quixaxe outline Renamo positions. The government border town of Quixaxe is entirely surrounded by trenches and guarded by a company of Frelimo troops.

South to the village of Corano, scores of mud huts — still dark from the night sky — have mushroomed. The newly planted millet field, cassava, grows strongly.

The quiet pastoral scene becomes livelier and almost disappear after the border between the government and Renamo areas is crossed. Villagers are vague about these borders, but the lines are crystal clear to the people living near them.

Very few people live along the main routes in the Renamo territory around Nhambe. But when one does you move off the main track along thinly overgrown bushpath into the dense tropical forests, one finds small clusters of huts, with postures of Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama painted on trees and doors. There are few men, and children run away screaming as strange strangers approach.

Nhambe. The main street of this small settlement near the coastal city of Anguila is deserted. Destruction and neglect is evident everywhere. The only sign of life in the still picturesque town is in the old man seated on the verandah of the once-painted house of the colonial administration.

He sits, peers at the intruder and then shrugs into the dark and grime interior.

A few minutes later two young, smiling men join the visitor. They are greeted amiably enough but then ignored. A few more minutes pass before the encounter is cleared up and the two young men are introduced as the Renamo district administrator and his political aide.

Political representatives and administrators are a new — and still uncomfortable — experience for the once-rebel youth movement which claims to occupy 85 percent of the country.

Renamo is still in the throes of changing from a rag-tag guerrilla movement into a national political party.

The young leader of the two, political representative Cesar Ambel, seems confident. He looks the government Frelimo with a vengeance and has little doubt of an election victory for his party — and for himself.

It is difficult to know what support Renamo enjoys in Mozambique, but in Nhambe it is clear that the rebel movement, despite being blamed for many atrocities during the war, does in fact enjoy strong support. This may be due more to the perceived government injustices of the past than confidence in a future Renamo government.

From Nhambe, another road leads north to the government border town of Quixaxe. Here a small collection of colonial ruins and mud huts — again with the tell-tale tall grass covering the mango trees — is entirely surrounded by trenches and guarded by a company of Frelimo troops.

Stenio Vanzuka, the government forces' propaganda chief in the province, boasts with equal pride of killing Renamo rebels as of making peace with them.

To much cheering from his audience, he gives much the same ambiguous answer as his Renamo counterpart in Nhambe to the question, "Will you hand over your arms when you are called to do so?"

"I don't believe they (Renamo) will hand over their arms, so we also cannot give up our guns. But if they do, and our leaders order us to, then we will hand over our arms," Vanzuka says.

Mozambique still has a long way to go, but so far it seems that the UN has learnt its lessons from the Angola fiasco by imposing an extended timetable, which intentionally or unintentionally allows for a cooling-off period and by deploying a large, multinational peacekeeping force to moderate tempers which can easily flare after so many years of hatred and death.

The arms will remain in the election process and suspicions could still boil over into renewed war — just as in Angola. But Mozambique is different: its leaders are different, its armies are different and its people are determined to be different.

Returning to the fields a local landowner collects tomatoes from his farm. There is no fighting or threat on the outskirts of Hampula town.
Mozambican deal struck on key issues

MAPUTO — Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano and former Renamo rebel leader Ansozo Dhlakama yesterday reached agreement on two contentious issues stalling the war-weary country's fragile peace process.

However, Dhlakama said he would not send his Renamo soldiers to assembly points to be merged with government forces in a new national army until the latest agreements were implemented.

"If they really work, let's see if we can begin," he said.

Under the deal, the government would appoint three Renamo members as advisers to each of Mozambique's 11 provincial governors, Radio Mozambique reported.

The advisers would assist the governors in the reintegration of Renamo-controlled areas into government-held territory.

The government would appoint Renamo nominees to carry out administrative duties in areas under the movement's control.

The second issue on which agreement was reached concerned the policing of the country until multi-party elections, scheduled for October next year.

Chissano was quoted by state radio as saying the government would ask the UN to send police to monitor the activities of the national police force and to help in training.

This would in effect implement a proposal made by UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali last-December for 128 UN policemen to ensure the neutrality of the Mozambican police.

The question of territorial administration had been one of the main stumbling blocks at the talks between Chissano and Dhlakama, which began in Maputo 10 days ago. Before the talks began, Renamo had insisted on being given the governorships of at least three provinces.

Renamo's apparent concession on the issue is matched by the government's agreement to give the former rebels official public duties for the first time.

Chissano, however, appeared to play this down, saying the advisers would be "functionaries and not members of the provincial governments".

A third issue, concerning Renamo complaints that state-owned media were not sufficiently impartial, remained unresolved. Chissano said talks on this matter would continue.

The World Food Programme said yesterday that 34 000 tons of emergency food aid a month would be needed to feed 700 000 Mozambican refugees expected to return home by April.

About 800 000 refugees have already returned to Mozambique from Malawi and several thousand from Zimbabwe, since last October's peace pact halted the civil war. — Saps-Reuters.
Mozambican talks advance

MAPUTO - Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and former Renamo rebel leader Mr. Afonso Dhlakama agreed yesterday on two issues stalling Mozambique's peace process.

Under yesterday's deal, the government will appoint three Renamo members as advisers to each of Mozambique's 11 provincial governors.

Also, the government would ask the UN to send police to monitor the activities of the national police force and to help in training.

-Sapa-Reuters
Africa in brief

Dhlakama back to the bush

MAPUTO — The Mozambican rebel Renamo leader, Afonso Dhlakama, ended his first official visit to Maputo since signing a peace accord last October to end civil war, returning to his central Mampuku bush headquarters on Tuesday 3/9. The final round of summit talks with Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano was cancelled on Wednesday night. Since Dhlakama arrived in the capital nearly two weeks ago he and Chissano claimed to have solved two of the three key issues blocking progress in implementing the peace accord. They agreed on Tuesday on solutions to ensure neutrality in state administration and the police force.
UN chief warns Mozambicans

Maputo — United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has warned the Mozambican parties that the international community will not tolerate long delays in the implementation of the Rome peace accord.

"The implication is that the UN may be forced to review its monitoring and other support on the ground if there are further delays in the peace process, which is already several months behind schedule."

Under the new timetable, the opposing armed forces are supposed to begin gathering this month at the assembly points from which they will be disarmed and demobilised.

Half of them are expected to be demobilised by January and the rest by May.

The UN chief put the blame for the delay in the troop demobilisation on Renamo, saying that “the government has indicated its readiness to send its troops to the assembly areas as soon as Renamo is prepared to do the same.”
NEWS FEATURE  Mines lie hidden beneath countless roads and paths — and peace is fragile

Nampula prepares for a weekend of celebrations to honour the anniversary of its city status.

Mozambique is different...

By Hans-Peter Bakker
Sowetan Africa News Service

"The sides have not been disarmed or demobilised and therefore the elections initially scheduled for October have been postponed until October next year."

POLL DELAY  UN has learned its
Namibe, Mozambique -- Avoiding death in a country made lethal by years of indiscriminate planting of landmines has become a way of life in Mozambique.

Miners lie hidden beneath countless roads and paths. In addition, many of the derelict buildings in villages are booby-trapped.

Visitors take their cue from the locals - or pay the price. Areas where the grass grows tall in the middle of clean-swept villages are best avoided. Before moving anywhere it is advisable to speak to the locals.

The many people limping or crawling on calloused stumps in rural Mozambique testify to the lessons they have learnt from exploding anti-personnel mines.

From being subjected to harsh colonial rule by Portugal, Mozambicans suffered during a vicious independence struggle and then continued being the victims in a post-colonial war of attrition which raged for nearly 20 years. Some estimates reckon that a million people died in the struggle.

Nearly a year ago the warring sides signed a peace accord and agreed on a ceasefire, which appears still to be holding.

The sides have not been disarmed or demobilised and therefore the elections, initially scheduled for October this year, have been postponed until October next year.

Conference halls

In the capital Maputo and in conference halls in Europe leaders from the two sides have been quibbling over the details of future elections and the constitution.

The bureaucratic cogs of the United Nations have turned slowly but today, months behind schedule, more than 6,000 UN peacekeepers patrol the country and are setting up assembly points for the demobilisation of the opposing armed forces.

Meanwhile, officer candidates from both sides are being trained by British instructors in Zimbabwe to form the nucleus of a planned joint army.

The question on everybody's lips is: Will Mozambique follow the disastrous Angolan example and slide back into war just when it is on the brink of peace?

Nobody can answer that question yet. But the answer will lie as much in the Mozambican hinterland, where the peasant farmers are slowly returning to their overgrown fields and where former combatants still eye each other with suspicion, as in the lofty conference chambers in bright cities far away.

Overshadowing the political shenanigans is the average Mozambican's desperate desire for peace.

The provincial capital of Nampula, which a year ago was overcrowded by displaced people and where the few shops lining the badly potholed streets had only a handful of meagre items to sell, is today a much quieter, cleaner metropolis.

The shops and markets are filled with products undreamt of a year ago and Bangladesh UN soldiers, going beyond their brief, have started filling the ragged potholes.

"Both sides are very suspicious of opening up roads that link Renamo and government areas," says a UN official.

In spite of the indiscriminate scattering of mines by both sides, many thousands of peasant farmers have returned to their lands. In the government-held areas around Nampula city and south to the village of Corone scores of mud huts, still dark from the moist clay, have mushroomed.

Around the huts the newly planted staple food, cassava, grows strongly.

The quiet pastoral scenes become fewer and almost disappear after the border between the government and Renamo areas is crossed. Politicians are vague about these borders but the lines are crystal clear to the people living near them.

 Destruction

In the centre of the Renamo territory lies the town of Nangue. The main street of this small settlement near the coastal city of Angoche is deserted. Destruction and neglect is evident everywhere.

The only sign of life in the still- Picturesque town is an old man asleep on the veranda of the once-palatial home of the colonial administrators.

He sits, peers at the intruders and then shuffles into the dark and grinty interior.

A few minutes later two young, broadly-smiling men join the visitors. They are greeted amably enough but then ignored. A few more minutes pass before the confusion is cleared up and the two youngsters are introduced as the Renamo district administrator and his political sidekick.

Political representatives and administrators are a new - and still uncomfortable - experience for the once-notorious rebel movement which claims to occupy 85 percent of the country.

Renamo is still in the throes of changing from a rag-tag guerrilla movement into a national political party.

 Horrible atrocities

It is difficult to know what support Renamo enjoys in Mozambique, but in Nampula it is clear that the rebel movement, despite being blamed for many horrible atrocities during the war, does in fact enjoy strong support.

From Nampula, another road leads north to the government border town of Quixaxe. Here a small collection of colonial ruins and mud huts - again with the tell-tale tall grass covering the no-go areas - is entirely surrounded by trenches and guarded by a company of Praelimo troops.

Mr Simeno Vanocha, the government forces' propaganda chief in the province, boasts with equal relish of killing Renamo rebels as of making peace with them.

To much cheering from his cadres, he gives much the same ambiguous answer as his Renamo counterpart in Namibe to the question Will you hand over your arms when you are called to do so?

"I don't believe they (Renamo) will hand over their arms, so we also cannot give up our guns. But if they do and our leaders order us to, then we will hand over our arms."

Mozambique still has a long way to go, but so far it seems that the UN has learned its lessons from the Angola fiasco by accepting an extended timetable which allows for a cooling-off period, and by deploying a large, multinational peace-keeping force to moderate tempers which can easily flare up after so many years of hatred and death.

The mines will hamper the election process and suspicions could still boil over into renewed war - just as in Angola. But Mozambique is different - its leaders are different, its armies are different and its people are determined to be different.
**Victory not cut and dried for Frelimo**

**Star 8/9/93**

President Chissano ... as Frelimo faces an election defeat, the president and some of his Cabinet have turned to transcendental meditation in the hope of assistance from the supernatural.

**After 18 years in power, Mozambique’s Frelimo government faces an uncertain future as the country moves towards its first democratic election since independence in 1975.**

Frelimo cannot be certain of winning the election, despite having control of the government institutions and a strong influence, if not control, over much of the news media.

Recent polls have shown surprisingly strong support for the former rebel movement, Renamo, in central Mozambique, despite the atrocities inflicted on non-combatant civilians by the movement’s members during the war.

Even in the capital of Maputo, supposedly a Frelimo stronghold, polls have shown significant support for Renamo.

The sheer novelty of multi-party politics alone presents a grave threat to Frelimo. People in the streets who pledge support to Frelimo attribute their allegiance to familiarity rather than to satisfaction with its actions and policies. Any moral authority that Frelimo once held over Mozambique appears to be in danger of being lost.

This is evident even in the day-to-day operation of Maputo. Life goes on on two levels: There is the law. Then there is reality. To survive, Mozambicans public servants shamelessly violate the law.

The soldiers are not paid regularly and so demand bribes from ordinary cars in the city at gunpoint. The nurses demand cash from patients as they lie in their beds, refusing treatment to those who cannot pay.

Other public servants do little work, either because they are paid so poorly or because they lack the necessary equipment.

For a week I watched three gardeners employed by the Maputo municipality weed the same square foot of grass on the street outside my hotel room. And the piles of rubbish which he ate every street corner grew visibly during my stay because the city council cannot provide the vehicles to collect it.

A one-minute telephone call to South Africa at the recently refurbished and glittering Polana Hotel costs R70. Yet the wage of a cook or gardener for one month is R95.

“We know there is some wavering of support,” says Information Minister Rafael Magum, “but in Frelimo we never lose hope because we believe in the generosity of our people.

“We stand for what we have always stood for: the need to liberate the people, to liberate them from hunger, disease and illiteracy. We failed in these policies, which we thought were the best ones, only because we were frustrated by the war.”

President Joaquim Chissano and some members of his Cabinet have recently embraced transcendental meditation, and are trying to spread it throughout the civil service and armed forces through Mozambican society.

It is ironic that it is now that Frelimo has begun to meditate on the possible assistance it might receive from the supernatural, for the gap between it and reality is growing and the town whispers that unless Frelimo comes up with some new ideas it could be in trouble.
Renamo says poll pact is near at last

MAPUTO — Mozambique's Renamo movement says it and the government are finally nearing a solution to a dispute blocking progress towards multi-party elections, the state-run Notícias daily reported yesterday.

Renamo spokesman Jose de Castro told the newspaper that talks with the government were close to a breakthrough over composition of a national election commission to organise the elections.

Disagreements over the issue have paralysed debate for more than a month, increasing fears that the polls may have to be postponed from October 1994 to the following year.

Government proposals that the electoral commission should have 11 people appointed by itself, seven by Renamo and three appointed by the non-armed opposition, it argues that government has key responsibility to organise elections and find funding for them.

Renamo's latest counter-proposal says the commission should have eight government appointees, seven from Renamo and six from the non-armed opposition, arguing this is "more balanced" and will limit fraud attempts by the government.

Justice Minister Ousmane Ali Dauto says that as the UN is to monitor the elections, there is no risk of fraud.

UN special envoy to Mozambique Aldo Ajello has warned that although the UN Security Council is likely to renew its original one-year mandate for peace-keeping in Mozambique until October 1994, "I would be very surprised if they accept to go further."

Ajello said Mozambique must show concrete signs of progress towards elections in October 1994 if it wants continued support.

He offered to step in and do all in his power to facilitate agreement on the new law. — Saps-AFP.
Renamo refuses to attend talks.

MAPUTO The Mozambican government yesterday suspended multi-party talks on electoral law when the Renamo opposition refused to attend a meeting of heads of delegations.

The closed-door meeting was to have discussed a compromise on the composition of the National Elections Commission, which has deadlocked the talks.

Renamo had demanded a public plenary session instead, apparently annoyed that the government proposal had been leaked and published in the state-owned "paper Noticias. -- Sapé-AFP"
Renamo absence halts talks
than a month.

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government yesterday suspended multiparty talks on electoral law when Renamo refused to attend a closed meeting of heads of delegations, the official AIM news agency reported.
The meeting was to have discussed a compromise proposal by the government on the composition of the national elections commission, whose talks have been deadlocked for more

Delegates from the government and four moderate opposition groups attended but Renamo and eight small allied parties refused, demanding a public plenary session instead.
The conference aims to draw up legislation for elections timed for October 1994 in terms of a peace treaty ending a 17-year civil war — Sapa-AFP.
Repatriation to start soon

REPAIATION of Mozambican civil war refugees from Swaziland will begin next week, the representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said at Mbabane yesterday. 11/9/93

Mr. Gary Perkins said 8,000 of the 24,000 refugees registered there hope to settle 500 homes every week for a year. The Swaziland railway corporation said it had hired six carriages.

The repatriation agreement follows last year's ceasefire agreement between the Maputo government and the rebel Renamo. — Sapa-Reuters
Mozambique woos foreign cash

THE Mozambican government has launched the second leg of a privatisation programme to stimulate economic reconstruction and attract foreign investors, a finance ministry official said this week.

This followed an intensive international media campaign advertising the privatisation of certain state-owned companies.

The privatisation programme started on an ad hoc basis in 1988 with the commercialisation of small- and medium-sized enterprises and intensified in 1990 after constitutional changes, including a switch to a free market economy.

To date about 290 businesses have been privatised in joint ventures with local and foreign investors.

Finance ministry director Bonifacio Dias said yesterday the Council of Ministers decided in 1991 to expand the programme to include big businesses and parastatals.

To ensure the programme's proper implementation the government has drawn up a set of guidelines, laid down a legal framework and institutionalised governmental structures.

In adverts carried in last month's edition of The Economist, the Mozambican government issued prequalification bids for tenders on 11 businesses involved in metal working, water supply, construction, cement, clothing, architecture and engineering and food processing and beverages.

It is understood the 11 companies facing privatisation are among 18 bigger enterprises earmarked by the government for privatisation this year.

The programme, which has been approved by the IMF, follows hard on the heels of efforts to modernise Maputo airport to facilitate the privatisation process and the ultimate switch to a free market economy.

But it stops short of tampering with key sectors of the economy including agriculture, mining and certain industries. This tends to confirm that the government has not broken with its socialist past entirely and that it has little faith in the efficiency of market forces.

An informed source doubted if the latest drive was motivated by a desire to appease Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in the wake of the newly-signed ceasefire. Renamo is known to favour a free market economy. The source said the privatisation programme had started long before the two parties moved towards the ceasefire last October.

The civil war in Mozambique has claimed 700,000 lives, created about 1.6 million refugees and consumed about 40% of GDP.

Finance Minister Eneas Comiche recently expressed the hope that the peace initiative would boost GDP by 5% (it shrank by 2.4% in 1992). The country's extensive raw material network was operating smoothly again, he said.

The World Bank estimated that the country would need about $1.3bn this year, mainly to finance social and economic reforms.

A new investment proposal would soon be submitted to the legislature for approval to expedite investor incentives, sources said.

Two Portuguese banks — Banco Português do Atlântico and Banco de Fomento e Exterior — had been given approval to operate in the country.
Mozambican refugees
Frelimo arms link is probed

By NICK OLIVARI

FORMER Frelimo guerrillas and other Mozambicans are training township self-defence units and supplying them with firearms, according to the police.

Thirteen Mozambicans have been arrested since July, and police suspect they have instructed East Rand and Natal youths in the use of weapons.

Three of the 13 have been charged with illegal possession of firearms, bringing to 15 the number of Mozambicans who have appeared on similar charges this year.

Brigadier Paul Abrã, of the SAP, said police had been aware of the Frelimo connection in training SDUs since the arrest of two former Frelimo members in 1992.

Police have since established there are several smuggling networks from Mozambique to the East Rand and Natal, and that weaponry is on offer to the IFP, SDUs and criminals.

Brigadier Abrã said Mozambique authorities were helping the police.
Mozambique talks break down

A conference of Mozambique's former civil-war foes to discuss electoral law has collapsed after six weeks of acrimonious debate.

Conference chairman Justice Minster Ali Dauto closed the meeting on Friday when eight small political groups allied to Renamo announced they would no longer take part.

A spokesman for the eight, Antonio Palange, suggested that Renamo and the ruling Frelimo party draft the law between them.

But Renamo delegate Jose de Castro said his organisation was unwilling to take part without the presence of its allies.

The state-owned Mozambique News Agency described this as "deliberate sabotage" by Renamo and the eight parties.

The dispute was the latest setback in the year-long peace process which several foreign observers fear could break down if differences are not resolved soon — Sapa-Reuters
Mozambique demobilization soon

Catholic Bishop, mission

Fighting rains in Angola
Pupils 'forced to bribe teachers'

MAPUTO — Pupils at Mozambique’s largest secondary school have accused teachers of systematic corruption, including the demanding of bribes to pass pupils in examinations.

The daily news sheet 'Mediafax' reported that it spoke to 12 pupils who said anyone could pass an exam if large enough bribes were paid to the teachers.

For each point awarded the teachers demanded more money, with bribes ranging from the equivalent of R12 to R47. The pupils also accused teachers of deliberately teaching badly so that the pupils would be forced to pay them for private lessons.

Pupils said those who fail to enroll through normal channels can gain admittance by bribing teachers.

The principal of the school told 'Mediafax' he knew nothing about the alleged corruption but said it might be taking place. He said there were 6,000 pupils and only 140 teachers at the school. — Sowetan Africa News Service
Privatisation move

MAPUTO — Moves by Mozambican authorities to privatise the state-controlled news media have been spurred by a threatened wage strike by journalists.

After talks between senior government officials and the Mozambican Journalists Union, a commission was set up to find ways to speed up the approval of new statutes that are legally necessary before any of the news media can be turned into private companies.

The media affected are Radio Mozambique, Mozambican Television, the news agency Amo and the Mass Communications Institute. — Sowetan Africa News Service.
Chissano rejects poll plan

MAPUTO — Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano has rejected a Renamo offer to hold polls before demobilisation, saying this indicated that his former adversaries did not want to stand down.

Speaking in Washington at the weekend, Chissano said he welcomed Renamo's claim that it wanted elections in October 1984, as demanded by the UN Security Council, the pro-government Notícias newspaper reported yesterday.

But he warned that holding elections before forming a single, joint national army, would violate the peace accord the government and Renamo signed last year. "It follows from Renamo's statement that they don't want to assemble their troops (for demobilisation)," he said.

Italy's envoy in Mozambique blamed the UN for pushing Renamo to propose elections before it and government troops were demobilised, the Mediafax newsletter reported yesterday.

Italian ambassador Manfredi di Camerana — whose country brokered the peace pact last October — criticised the "current mediators" of Mozambique's peace process for failing to build trust between the two opposing parties. — Sapa-AFP.
Maputo is now a city of poverty

MAPUTO — Mozambique's capital is a city of pervasive poverty. Statistics released by Mozambique's National Planning Commission show that at the end of last year 70 percent of Maputo's population were subsisting on less than R100 a month.

Only 51 percent of the income came from wages; the rest came from private business ventures, often conducted illegally in the black market.

The figures show that only 38 percent of Maputo's houses have electricity, only 33 percent have piped water and only 20 percent have their own toilet.

Most of these houses are flimsy shacks in the shanty-towns surrounding the city centre.

Not surprisingly, 70 percent of the population rely on firewood for cooking.

What is surprising is that cars outnumber bicycles in Maputo, with 98 people for each bicycle and 79 people for each car.

Civil servants

Among those working at the time of the survey, 34 percent were civil servants.

Despite the poverty, the survey shows remarkably high levels of education, with 82 percent of those over 15 claiming literacy.
Mozambique president warns over Renamo • Drought hits Beit Bridge

**Mozambique**

Renamo must be made to understand that Mozambique's first multiparty general elections cannot be delayed indefinitely, President Joaquim Chissano has told the United Nations General Assembly.

According to the news agency AIM, Chissano warned that Renamo was setting up further pretexts to delay implementation of the October 1992 peace agreement. The organisation was imposing preconditions, many of which had no relation to the peace accord.

He said that Renamo was reluctant to implement resolution 863 of the UN Security Council, adopted earlier this month, which calls on both Renamo and the ruling Frelimo to begin assembly and demobilisation of their forces without the imposition of any further conditions.

Chissano called on the international community to bring pressure to bear on Renamo to stop "manoeuvres" aimed at playing for time, and added that the government would not abdicate its responsibility to hold elections. Despite the failure of the multiparty conference on the future electoral law, the government would continue its consultations with the opposition, and would "spare no effort" to ensure that the elections did take place by October 1994.

He appealed for support, notably for the resettling of an estimated 6 million refugees, internally displaced people and demobilised soldiers and their families. "These efforts cannot succeed without your support," Chissano told the General Assembly.

Africa News Service
Renamo zones opened to all parties

MÁPUETO — Renamo had opened zones under its control to other political parties in line with the peace accord signed last year, Notícias reported yesterday.

"The zones under Renamo control are open to all Mozambique's political parties including Frelimo," Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama said at his central Maringue bush headquarters on Monday, the pro-government paper reported.

Speaking on the first anniversary of the peace accord, Dhlakama said he was still not prepared to demobilise his troops until new preconditions were fulfilled.

He said he would demobilise after only UN monitors were sent to the country to supervise, retrain and re-equip the national police force, following a joint request to the UN last month from Dhlakama and President Joaquim Chissano.

The peace accord signed by the government and Renamo in October last year guarantees freedom of movement and of expression. However, Renamo has prevented free movement of other political parties, as well as government officials including nurses and teachers, in zones under its military influence.

Speaking in Kenya last month, Dhlakama reportedly said he would neither allow free movement nor allow political parties to campaign in zones under his movement's control.

Notícias reported that Dhlakama wanted to see elections held in October next year as demanded by the UN.

He asked the UN Security Council to start an civic education campaign to help prepare Mozambicans for elections. — Sept-AFP
SA violated Nkomati Accord, Pik admits

\[\text{STAR AFRICA SERVICE}\]

Maputo — Foreign Minister Pik Botha has admitted that South Africa violated the Nkomati Accord because the Government was unable to control individuals in the Republic who were opposed to the pact, according to the Mozambique news sheet Mdufax.

Some in the Freimo government suspected that the SADP, or rogue elements within it, continued to aid Renamo long after Nkomati without the knowledge of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Portuguese who had lived in Mozambique are also widely believed to have continued to supply Renamo from South Africa after the signing of the accord.
Chissano turns down Renamo

MOZAMBIQUE'S President Joaquin Chissano has rejected an offer made by the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (Renamo) to hold elections before the establishment of a single, joint national army.

While Chissano welcomed Renamo's claim that it wants elections in October 1994, he warned that elections before the establishment of such an army would violate the peace accord signed by the government and Renamo last year.

"Their offer follows from Renamo's statement that they don't want to assemble their troops for demobilisation," Chissano said.

He further warned that some positions taken by Renamo resembled the behaviour of Angola's Unita rebel movement, which plunged the southern African nation back into civil war after elections meant to cement a peace process.

The United Nations' Security Council has demanded that Mozambique hold elections in October next year.

Italy's envoy in Mozambique has blamed the United Nations for pushing Renamo to propose elections before it and the government troops demobilised.

Mr Manfredi Di Camerana, the Italian ambassador, said the offer was probably a response to UN pressure to have elections held no later than October 1994 and warned that it was a dangerous proposition.

Di Camerana, whose country brokered the peace pact last October, criticised the "current mediators" of Mozambique's peace process for failing to build trust between the two opposing parties.
RELAXED... UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali (left) and President Joachim

Meeting yesterday in Maputo.

...peace bid to hasten in Moz

UN head

Cape Times, Thursday, October 19, 1993

5
Renamo sets conditions for disbanding

MAPUTO — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama met UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali on Monday night and agreed to demobilise his forces until the government disbanded militias and irregular troops.

"We can start demobilisation tomorrow," Dhlakama said, "but only if the government dismantles militias and irregular forces first."

Boutros-Ghali arrived in Maputo on Sunday for a four-day visit aimed at securing a firm date for the start of demobilisation.

The peace process, now a year behind schedule, has stalled on differences between the two sides over implementation and new demands made by Renamo. Diplomats speculate that Boutros-Ghali agreed to visit poverty-stricken Mozambique only after Dhlakama agreed to stop delaying the peace process and allow demobilisation to begin. — Sapa-AFP.
UN breaks deadlock in Mozambique

BOUTROS-GHALI is confident that all obstacles have been removed, paving the way for an election next October. 

Maputo — The United Nations secretary-general has scored a diplomatic triumph by removing obstacles which have held up the Mozambican peace process.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali broke the deadlock between Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama which had delayed the peace process for months.

"Speaking at a press conference after three hours of intensive negotiations between the two leaders, Boutros-Ghali said the peace process had been given new momentum.

He hailed the talks as a very important breakthrough.

As Boutros-Ghali flew to Nairobi for talks over the Somalia crisis, he left with the assurance from both leaders that they would work together to implement the peace programme.

First on the agenda would be the setting of a date "within this week" for the start of the demobilisation of Mozambique's armed forces. This would begin before the year-end.

He said troops from both armies would begin moving to a central point in December, making an election possible in October next year.

A new joint army would be in place by August, opening the way for a free and fair election.

Boutros-Ghali said neither an election nor political campaigning would be allowed until the new army was in place.

"You don't need more than one or two months to prepare for elections," he said.

Boutros-Ghali announced he had resolved all the differences between the two leaders, including differences of opinion on the composition of an electoral commission.

The two leaders agreed that Frelimo would get 10 seats on the commission and Renamo seven. Other parties would take the remaining three seats.

Boutros-Ghali said he was convinced that the peace process in Mozambique would continue and had faith that both leaders would work together "in the best interests of the people of Mozambique".

He added: "I am an optimist, I'm sure when I next visit I will find a new Mozambique."
SA now has embassy in Maputo

President of Rumania visits

PRETORIA. — Rumanian President Mr Ion Iliescu arrived on an official visit to South Africa yesterday. He will meet President F W de Klerk, ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela and IFP vice-president Dr Frank Mdlalose, among others.

Mr Iliescu became president after Mr Nicolae Ceausescu's repressive government was overthrown in 1989. — Sapa

MAPUTO. — South Africa converted its trade mission in Mozambique into an embassy yesterday at a ceremony presided over by Foreign Minister Mr Piek Botha.

After the South African flag was hoisted in the embassy garden, Mr Botha described the moment as “very historic.”

The two governments, foes for most of the years since Mozambique won independence from Portugal in 1975, announced their decision to establish diplomatic relations last month after ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela called for an end to sanctions.

“To be able now to round off the process of normalization of relations is indeed a rewarding moment in my life,” said Mr Botha, who had a working lunch with UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali after the ceremony.

He said that Mr John Sunde, previously the chief trade representative, was now charge d'affaires.

● The Republic of China wanted to strengthen ties with the ANC, President Lee Teng-Hui said in Taipei. The Central News Agency reported that Mr Lee was speaking at a meeting with ANC deputy leader Mr Walter Sisulu, who is in Taipei on a nine-day visit.

● Indonesia plans to end its ban on trade with South Africa and open a consulate. Foreign Minister Mr Ali Alatas said yesterday — Sapa-Reuters
Proud Pik presides at Maputo embassy's birth

MAPUTO — SA converted its trade mission in Mozambique into an embassy yesterday at a ceremony presided over by Foreign Minister Pik Botha.

After the SA flag was hoisted in the embassy garden, Botha said the moment was "historic".

The two governments, foes for most of the years since Mozambique won independence from Portugal in 1975, announced their decision to establish diplomatic relations last month after ANC leader Nelson Mandela called for an end to international sanctions against SA.

SA opened a trade office in Maputo in 1983, when relations were still frosty. Pik Botha inaugurated the present building, in tree-lined Julius Nyerere Avenue, in 1988.

"To be able now to round off the process of normalisation of relations is indeed a rewarding moment in my life," Botha said.

"I think it will symbolise and signify to the world, and in particular to SA, that now is the time to move ahead with investment.

"There have not been battles or war in this country for 12 months," Botha said.

The new ambassador has not yet been named.

After the embassy ceremony, Botha had a working lunch with UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who has been in Mozambique since Sunday.

Earlier, Boutros-Ghali had meetings with Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and PAC leader Clarence Makwetu.

Buthelezi told him Inkatha would not return to the negotiating table under any circumstances.

He said this after Boutros-Ghali had spoken of the importance of negotiations and the high premium which had been placed on them by the international community.

After the meeting, Buthelezi told journalists he thought the multiparty negotiations were off course and that the Freedom Alliance's bilateral meetings with government and the ANC were of more value.

The Inkatha leader was to meet Mozambique's President Joachim Chissano later yesterday.

Makwetu also said he could not comply with Boutros-Ghali's request that the PAC take part in the Transitional Executive Council.

The continued violence by the government made such a step impossible, Makwetu said...

Observers said planned negotiations between Botha and the PAC in Maputo later yesterday appeared unlikely in the light of Makwetu's statements.

— Sapa-Reuters
MAPUTO — In a significant demonstration of the improved relations between South Africa and Mozambique, Foreign Minister Pik Botha yesterday laid a wreath at the grave of former Mozambican President Samora Machel, whom Pretoria has been accused of killing. After Machel died in a plane crash seven years ago officials of the Frelimo government accused Pretoria of having the Russian aircraft into a hillside in KaNgwane with a false navigational beacon. Crowds attacked the South African trade mission in Maputo.

Even after the Margo Commission of Inquiry rejected the false beacon theory and blamed the crash on errors by the Russian pilots, Frelimo officials continued to accuse Pretoria of causing the crash. By allowing Botha to lay a wreath on Machel's grave in Maputo, the Frelimo government appears to have abandoned the false beacon allegation.

Botha yesterday also laid a wreath at the memorial in Maputo to the Louis Trichardt group of Voortrekkers, whose trek ended at what was then Delagoa Bay.

He said the preservation of a Voortrekker monument by a once-hostile Mozambican government bodes well for the future of cultural monuments in South Africa. — Argus Africa News Service
Joyful refugees take the happy train back to Mozambique

**Africa**

**Going home**

**2000 Hours**

**SPRAYS** for the rains where there was drive with the first group to return from Swaziland. The reports from Somalia

Where the potester numbers are exceeding the information-based service numbers, there are some of the country to the country in 10 years are preparing to go home.

**IN ACTION**
Maputo — A new timetable for implementing the Mozambican peace accord has been signed by Frelimo and Renamo.

This put the seal on the breakthrough achieved last week by United Nations secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali in getting the peace process going again.

The agreement has been hailed by the seven official observers — Italy, Britain, the United States, Portugal, France, Germany and the Organisation of African Unity — as “the effective relaunching of the peace process”.

Aldo Ajello, the UN special representative in Mozambique, said that if the Mozambican peace process could be completed successfully, it would set an important example “for the entire continent and for other peacekeeping processes that are not going so well”.

He said success in Mozambique would help restore the dwindling international faith in UN peacekeeping efforts and would counter the idea “that Africa is hopeless”.

Under the timetable, which still envisages a general election next October, armed forces will begin assembling at designated points next month, probably from November 30.

All troops must be at the assembly points by year-end.

Demobilisation will begin in January, coinciding with the start of the formation of the new joint national army.

Demobilisation will be completed by May.

The new army will be operational by September, a month before the election.

Voter registration training will begin in March and voters will be registered between April 1 and June 30. The election campaign will run from September 1.
BEGGING BOWL
Mozambique

Pickings Up Pieces

Soweto, 26/10/98

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

New plan to recycle country's savage murders in Bulawayo
Mozambique to seek aid

HARARE — Mozambique was finalising a new plan to rehabilitate its war-ravaged economy and resettle more than 80,000 fighters, Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi said yesterday in Cyprus, where he is holding talks on the sidelines of the Commonwealth summit.

Maputo would call an international donors' conference to seek support once the plan was finalised.

The government ditched Marxism in 1987, adopting Western-backed reforms which boosted the economy by 7% in the first year. But war and droughts stunted growth in subsequent years. This year GDP is expected to grow 3% to 4%.

Mocumbi said a new plan needed greater emphasis on agriculture. Hundreds of abandoned farms would be offered to fighters who could not be absorbed into a smaller, integrated army. Some farms would be reserved for returning refugees and displaced people. Mozambique badly needed donor support to implement the scheme. — Sapp.

Reuters (2/13)
Welcome back... returning Mozambican Ujen Ndizmende gets a hug from his uncle, Augusto Cerimi, on his return from the Malindza refugee camp in Swaziland

PICTURE SYLVIA MORESCHI

Hi, Mozambique! I’m Ujen, I’ve come home

Boarding the train in Swaziland to return home to Mozambique last week as one of 530 returning refugees was a scary experience for Ujen Ndizmende. The last time he was on a train it was attacked by Renamo and he was lucky to escape with his life.

Despite some warnings, he was still happy. “Happy to be returning home, although I lost many family members in the war. Happy despite returning to an uncertain future after staying in the relatively pleasant refugee camp at Malindza in Swaziland.”

His return with the other refugees to the rural areas of Mozambique was symbolic of the slow return of that country to a semblance of normalcy after 16 years of civil war, as the farmers returned to the land to plant crops and produce food again.

The 30-year-old Ndizmende was born and grew up in the Gaiza district, north of Maputo, and had fled to Boane, a town midway between Maputo and Swaziland, after his father was killed in the war.

After three years in Boane the war reached the town, with regular attacks and people killed. So he crossed the border on foot, seeking shelter in the Malindza refugee camp in south-east Swaziland more than four years ago.

Now he and all the others were returning home voluntarily on the first repatriation of refugees by train in Africa, arranged by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Many of the 24,000 Mozambicans in Swaziland spent up to 10 years in the two camps there, some of the near 1.9 million who fled the war to take refuge in Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

The budget for this enormous repatriation by the UNHCR is $399 million ($710 million) over three years, with nearly half to be spent on economic upliftment and job creation in Mozambique.

Life in Malindza was remarkably good with lots of trees and even a tree nursery to replace those cut down for fuel. According to Father James Somers, who runs it, the camp has always been a peaceful and well-organised place.

“Never had to call in the police once, for all these people in 10 years I think it’s quite remarkable,” he said.

At the station he pointed out some pride to the things people were taking back — beds, radios, wheelbarrows. One man even had chickens in a sling to provide eggs on his return.

Ndizmende said “I was very concerned about the immunity of Renamo and the government, and worried that it might develop into war. I am still a bit worried, but I feel really good to be back.”

His uncle arrived at the station some time after the train to help him. His uncle Clementine Sambone and their six children collect the many boxes, barrels, bundles and bags of belongings accumulated in Swaziland, and the farming tools and seeds given them by aid agencies to help them plant crops on their return.

All that and the poles and roofing iron to build new homes were packed into six goods wagons provided by Swaziland Railways and hitched to the five carriages of happy people who periodically sang of their own homecoming.

On arrival at the home of his uncle, Ndizmende was met by more than just the family who lived in three shacks. Adults came to meet the family they had not heard from in years, and it seemed half the area’s children came to see what all the excitement was about. Some marvelled this; “white men come to visit us”.

Ndizmende himself was amazed by the changes to the town.

“I knew that many people had come to Boane because for a while it was safe and peaceful. But the community has grown a lot and the huts are much closer together. They are now selling things at the side of the road,” he said.

The UNHCR hopes to have a train going from Swaziland to Mozambique every week until all the refugees have returned home.

The scene will become increasingly common before the end of the year, after South African Foreign Minister Pheka Botha and his Mozambican counterpart signed an agreement in Maputo on October 15, setting out the details for the voluntary repatriation of the 300,000 refugees in the eastern and northern Transvaal.

In the Mozambican countryside there are signs of change and rebuilding, a reflection of the “pause”, or peace, that everybody speaks of. Roads are being rebuilt, people are replacing roofs or ploughing over fields previously used for growing crops. Others are weeding crops.

All this was reflected in one of Ndizmende’s final comments “Now it’s peace. Now I have a country again.”
Third-World success story

It’s hard to believe that a country with a national advertising expenditure of less than R35m can support 12 ad agencies. But that’s the way it is in Mozambique, where salaries and rentals are absurdly low by SA standards.

With 16m people, annual advertising expenditure in Mozambique works out at not much more than R2,10 a head. In SA, by contrast, we spent R2,7bn, or about R77 a head, on advertising last year—and that doesn’t include another R45 or so on below-the-line marketing.

Despite being one of Africa’s poorest economies, Mozambique is a rapidly developing market, now heading purposefully down the free enterprise route. Five years ago, says ad-man Mario Ferro, there was only one agency in the country—Intermark—the company he runs. Two weeks ago, the five leading agencies got together to form an industry association.

Intermark’s billings grew by around 40% in real (dollar) terms in 1991 and 1992, but now, under pressure from severe recession and an inflation rate hitting 50% a year, the growth rate has slowed down.

Of course, this is occurring off a low base. Intermark’s billings are currently around US$600 000 (R2m) a year. But that kind of money goes further in Maputo than it would in Johannesburg and it is enough to support a staff of 11. Indeed, until recently, Intermark employed 55 people, but it has trimmed down to a much leaner and more profitable company since it joined the Saatchi & Saatchi Africa network.

Ferro diversification is the answer

Its client list of 17 includes the Berger paint group, BP Mozambique, Banco Standard Totta, the State lottery and two SA companies, Robertsens and Imex International, the export arm of Tiger Oats.

Intermark is still a State-owned company, though Ferro has put up a proposal for its privatisation. The government is committed to privatising State enterprises with the main aim of improving the profitability of the companies, not making money from selling them off to the public.

It is also concerned that the interests of the workers are looked after. The usual formula is to hand 30% of the equity to the management and employees and 20% to public subscribers. The State will initially retain 50% but will gradually pass this on to the employees. In some cases, there may be outright privatisation.

Johannesburg agency Saatchi & Saatchi Klerck & Barrett, which has been the driving force behind the Afrecan network, may end up with a stake in Intermark because the Mozambican government favours this kind of commitment from foreign companies.

But privatisation tends to be a slow process. An easier way to get into business is to set up your own enterprise. This is what Ferro, the 44-year-old former editor of the Maputo daily, Notícias, has also done. He now heads a surprisingly diverse group of 10 companies which includes another ad agency and companies offering public relations and business advice, outdoor advertising services, book and foreign publication distribution, video production and distribution, printing and tourism. These companies are all privately owned by their management and staff.

Diversification is clearly an important way to generate greater profits. Another survival trick in Maputo is to trade equity in your company for office space. Media are undeveloped Mozambique has two daily newspapers (one in Beira), two weeklies and two magazines. There are two TV services with 120 000 sets in use and two radio stations.

Advertising is similarly in its infancy. "African advertising tends to have a multi-

Maputo market SA products on display
Heartbreak road home

Argus Africa News Service

LUSAKA — Mozambicans who sought refuge in neighbouring countries during the civil war ar streaming back home now that peace has returned — but not all are going happily.

For some the road home was, in the words of a Zambian commentator, "paved with broken hearts and broken marriages".

Some were torn between a longing for home and a reluctance to abandon the prosperity they had found in Zambia. As a result, families were broken up.

One woman and her four children left without her husband.

"He was with us on the bus from the refugee centre at Ukwimi," she said. "When the bus stopped for a while at Tetauke he told us he wanted to buy some oranges for the children. He never returned."

Another woman waited as she heard she was to be repatriated. She had put her name down to return but her husband had refused to go. She left without him and without her children.

The refugees at Ukwimi were put in a dilemma because in contrast to the poverty and hardship customary among refugees around the world, they had made good in Zambia. They were lucky that the local chief had allocated to them 310km² of land on which many became prosperous farmers.

Ukwimi was set up as a self-sustaining settlement and the 25,000 refugees achieved a high level of self-reliance. It now has 76 villages, seven schools, four clinics, 73 boreholes and a well-developed administrative base and roads.

Some of the refugees developed small businesses, such as grain mills, and bought cars and even employed Zambians. According to refugee officer Donald Mokela, about 2,000 Zambians employed by refugees may lose their jobs if the settlement is closed. He did not know what government's plans were for Ukwimi.

Mozambicans who sought refuge in Malawi during the war face a similar situation although they have not prospered in the Malawian refugee camp. Domingo Dumbungu is a case in point. He fled from his home in Mozambique's Tete province, bordering Malawi, when it was attacked by Renamo, who killed his father and raped and kidnapped his wife.

With many of the 1.5 million Mozambican refugees in Malawi, Dumbungu returned home when peace came. But he found nothing but starvation and hardship in his devastated homeland and joined the large numbers who now return regularly to their old refugee camp in Malawi.
Talks stall over election law

MAPUTO — Mozambique's government and opposition parties have failed to reach agreement on a controversial election law in spite of promising the UN they would conclude their talks by the end of October.

The government and the opposition parties were due to have concluded the closed-door discussions on the country's electoral law by the end of last month, according to an agreement reached during a visit 10 days ago by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

But according to a report in the local independent daily MediaFax there had been a number of disagreements.

The most serious of these was the demand from the former Renamo rebels that Mozambicans abroad be denied the right to vote, the report said.

Renamo had charged that the Frelimo government could manipulate results of votes cast by Mozambicans living abroad through its embassies.

The government had called Renamo's proposal "undemocratic," and the two sides were trying to compromise, possibly by allowing Renamo to have its own representatives in Mozambican embassies.

Renamo was also against a clause in the electoral law outlawing insulting language during the country's election campaign, arguing that it attacks freedom of expression, the report said.

Mozambique's first multiparty elections are due to take place under UN supervision in October 1994, but the formulation of an electoral law satisfying all parties has proved a major sticking point.

A breakthrough was achieved two weeks ago when Boutros-Ghali convinced all sides to accept a compromise solution on the composition of the national electoral commission.

The UN now hopes that the latest disagreements can be quickly overcome.

On Friday UN special envoy to Mozambique Nido Ajello said real progress was being made on the electoral law.

A final draft of the law still needs to be ratified by the country's National Assembly.

Under the terms of the new calendar for Mozambique's peace process, the assembly should pass the law by the end of November. — Sapa-AFP
for drinking. 

No water, even.

Oh yes, it is not. And there is no water for you. Welcome to the world.

That's where the city today. Some

some day.

The colonizers who ran away are coming back to recolonize.
in Maputo, capital of Mozambique:

Could I not tolerate this water problem for three nights? After all I would be going back home. What about the Maputo residents who have to contend with this situation on a regular basis? I told myself I should sleep and I did.

Monthly water bill

In the morning there was still no water. And when I asked for some, I was given little more than a litre. I used half of the water to wash my whole body, and wondered how I would save in my monthly water bill if I were to adopt these measures permanently.

Mozambique President Joaquin Chissano (left) and Renamo rebel leader Alfonso Dhlakama toast after signing a global peace agreement on October 5, 1992, including an immediate ceasefire to end Mozambique's civil war. At the centre is Italian official Sergio Raffaelli.

Did not flush

I went into the bathroom in my suite and there was no water. The toilet did not flush. There was no water even to drink.

Lima's words of welcome came hauntingly back and I sat on my bed and pondered.

This is Maputo, the capital of Mozambique. And I have no water to drink or to bathe in.

And as I sat there getting angry, I wondered whether I, as a black South African, should actually be complaining. The devastation that has occurred to the Mozambican economy is primarily because that country threw its weight behind our struggle.

The Piki Bothas, who today strut about in Maputo and have opened an embassy, sanctioned and paid for the destruction of Mozambique to ensure that the liberation movements were kicked out.

In return for Mozambique's commitment to our freedom, Renamo was formed and financed by South Africa's white minority regime and hundreds of thousands of lives were lost.

Money which should have gone into economic projects went into the war, a war that has not been won, but which is now being wound down to make way for co-existence with yesterday's bandits.

Back to reality

I was back to reality. But the jazz had been good.

The war in Mozambique is over. Everybody tells you that people can move around the country now, which was impossible in the past. And things are changing.

Mozambique today is just another republic and not the people's republic that it used to be just after independence in 1975. And the colonisers who ran away are coming back to recolonise. Only this time they will leave the people to Freiismo leader and president Joaquin Chissano and Renamo's Alfonso Dhlakama, while they control the economy.

The streets of Maputo are littered with pictures of Dhlakama, who has moved into the city and lives in a house across from the president's office. It will indeed be a short walk if he wins the elections, as he hopes.

The gate to the two-storied house has a banner stating: 'Welcome my Excellency President Alfonso Dhlakama.' Pretty ambitious, some say. Journalists said Dhlakama was being bankrolled to the tune of about R1 million a month in his own organisation, which has its own radio station, too.

For a rebel and a bandit who was batching people in the bush a few months ago, Dhlakama has come far in this world in a short time.

Strike

Journalists in Mozambique are among the lowest paid workers, with earnings around R170 a month. The strike by state radio and other media employees three weeks ago was prompted by huge increases given to state employees with degrees, increases amounting to over R50 000 in some cases.

These increases followed the rise in the minimum wages for agricultural and industrial workers from 44 100 to 53 000 meticais a month and from 58 800 to 76 600 meticais a month respectively.

This translates into about R45 and R60 a month, respectively. The exchange rate is 1 500 meticais for a rand.

The government argued that it had to pay the more qualified people more to keep them in their employ or they would move to international agencies that pay in foreign currency, and pay well at that too.

These agencies are another story. The United Nations contingent to oversee the country's first multiparty elections is in town and there is no doubt about that.

Every fourth or so vehicle you meet has the letters NU emblazoned on its sides. And you find them in all sorts of places, too: sheepruns and bars.

Who said peacekeeping was supposed to be a dull and dreary job — unless you are in Mogadishu or Bosnian.
UN role in Mozambique backed

NEW YORK — United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who recently visited Maputo, has recommended renewing the mandate of the 6,500-strong UN Operation in Mozambique (Onumoz) until elections set for next October.

"Recent developments in Mozambique have placed the peace process on a solid footing and greatly improved the prospects for full and timely implementation of the general peace agreement," he said in a report to the Security Council.

Onumoz was set up in December 1992 to monitor a ceasefire between the government and rebels of Renamo, the Mozambique National Resistance, and to help implement an accord signed in Rome in October last year ending a 14-year civil war.

Elections were originally scheduled for October this year, but a series of problems held up implementation of the agreement and the voting has now been delayed for a year.

The Security Council last Friday approved a one-week renewal of Onumoz, pending receipt of the report.

Onumoz includes about 6,200 troops from Argentina, Bangladesh, Botswana, India, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Uruguay and Zambia and about 300 military observers.

While recommending that the Security Council extend Onumoz's mandate until the elections, the secretary-general said the operation should be reviewed at least every three months, with further commitment, depending on clear progress in implementing the peace accord.

Mr Boutros-Ghali conferred last month with President Jose Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

He said major agreements had been reached between the two sides on several issues, including the assembly and disarmament of Renamo and government troops and the simultaneous disarmament of paramilitary forces, militia and irregular troops — Sapa-Reuters
Mozambican compromise

MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama have reached a compromise solution on whether Mozambicans living abroad should be allowed to vote in next year's multiparty elections.

But new obstacles have emerged in the seemingly endless struggle to reach agreement on an electoral law.

Diplomatic sources in Maputo said yesterday "the problem of Mozambicans abroad is settled". Dhlakama, who had hitherto insisted that emigrant Mozambicans should not vote, has agreed in talks with Chissano that a final decision on the matter will be taken in stead by Mozambique's national electoral commission.

Renamo has the right to nominate only seven of the 21 members of the national electoral commission, and so could well be defeated on this issue.

But Renamo has raised another complaint in connection with the electoral law. It wants its members to be put in charge of 50% of the 131 provincial and district-level electoral commissions. "This will guarantee transparency," argues Dhlakama.

The government has rejected this demand, saying the Rome peace accord which the two sides signed last year gives the responsibility for organising the elections to the government.

Diplomatic sources say this is "an issue about which Dhlakama feels very hot under the collar". — Sapa-AFP.
MAPUTO — The Renamo movement, demanding changes to a draft electoral law, has raised the spectre of a return to civil war in Mozambique.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama’s office on Saturday repeated an objection to voting rights for Mozambican expatriates and added demands for changes in the composition of electoral agencies.

It said analysis of the draft electoral law and the government’s intransigence on questions which Renamo considered crucial had led it to conclude there was bad faith by Frelimo in the process. This could have as its tragic consequence a return to civil war, Renamo said. — Supa-Reuter.
There is a message for South Africa in the growing international impatience with the holdups in Mozambique’s peace process, writes Gerald L’Ange, editor of the Argus Africa News Service.

(Developments in Mozambique are of particular interest to South Africa)

Mozambique’s political parties have been given notice by the Security Council that international support for their country’s peace efforts could be withdrawn, or drastically cut, if there are any more delays.

This is the effect of the council’s decision last week to extend the mandate of the UN operation in Mozambique in three-month increments and not by the full year requested by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

The council agreed to extend the mandate by six months but will review this decision in three months.

The secretary-general is required to report every three months on “whether the parties have made sufficient and tangible progress towards implementing the general peace agreement and meeting the timetable.”

The implication is that if in three months time the parties have not kept to the new timetable agreed to during Boutros-Ghali’s visit to Maputo last month the council could order the withdrawal of the 7,000-strong UN force, UNOMOZ.

Analysts doubt that the council would actually take this step as it would throw the Mozambican peace process into a shambles.

But the exit of UN and other international support could be drastically cut back, making it much more difficult for Mozambique to put a peaceful seal on their civil war and install a universally recognised government.

International impatience with the delays in the implementation of the peace accord signed in Rome in October 1992 has been visibly growing as the peace process has slipped progressively further behind schedule. The process is now more than a year late.

The delay partly reflects the inertia of the UN itself, which was tardy in getting UNOMOZ into place.

The FreiLango government blames the former rebel organisation Renamo for most of the other delays, accusing it of repeatedly raising new obstacles.

Renamo, however, maintains that its objections are aimed only at ensuring that it will be able to compete on level terms with the ruling FreiLango party in the election.

Renamo argues that as a former guerrilla army operating from the bush it has had to go into the peace process without funds or political organisation, whereas FreiLango has the advantage of both, as well as all the advantages associated with running the government.

Before the Security Council met it was told by Boutros-Ghali that while in Maputo he had told both President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama that the UN could only facilitate the peace process, not control it, and that “the political will of the parties to achieve a peaceful settlement must be demonstrated not only with public statements but with concrete action.”

Under tension, the armed forces of both sides are to begin moving this month to assembly points for disarmament and demobilisation, which must be completed by May. The formation of the new joint army must be completed by August.

The law governing the election must be adopted before the end of that month and the election itself must be held by October.

The Security Council resolution emphasised “the unacceptable attempts to gain more time or further concessions or to attach new conditions to the peace process.”

Peace agreement

No party, it said, should “raise any further issues which might jeopardise the implementation of the peace agreement.”

Renamo has risked being accused of flouting this injunction from the start by its latest demand which is for special monitors of the voting by expatriate Mozambicans in the election. It says the government could influence these voters since their ballotting will take place in Mozambican embassies and consulates in foreign countries.

Father Beza must have its own representatives in these embassies or the expatriates must all be barred from voting, says Renamo.

No estimates have been produced of the number of expatriates eligible to vote but it is doubtful that there could be enough to significantly influence the election result if there is a heavy poll within the country, as seems likely.

The UN Special Representative in Mozambique, Aldo Aglio, will obviously have to resolve this issue before Boutros-Ghali’s next report to the Security Council.

In this he will have strong support from the Western diplomats in Maputo and presumably from Pretoria, whose interests will be best served by a properly elected government being put in place in Maputo.

Renamo will probably be displeased, however, by another aspect of the Security Council resolution, this one relating to the policing of Mozambique in the run-up to the election. Concerned that a FreiLango-controlled police force would obstruct free campaigning by the opposition, Renamo has proposed that a strong UN monitoring force of between 3,000 and 10,000 be deployed to ensure that the police are even-handed.

The Security Council, however, has authorised only the 128 police monitors originally proposed for the task. Renamo’s reaction was not known at the time of writing.

Another of Renamo’s concerns that has yet to be fully satisfied is its call for funding to enable it to transform itself from a guerrilla army to a political party and to contest the elections. Boutros-Ghali has expressed his own concern about this issue in his report. He noted that the international fund set up for the purpose had so far received only 5.6 million dollars from a single donor while only 1.5 million was required.

The Security Council’s response was to encourage South African political parties, not just Renamo, once the electoral law has been passed and to urge that voluntary contributions be made to this fund. Thus leaves Renamo uncertain how it is going to be able to afford to campaign properly in the election.

When agreement was reached on the new timetable the seven official observer nations hastened to say “the effective relaunching of the peace process.”

Aglio, who has won wide praise for his energy and shrewd promotion of the process, said that if it could be successfully completed it would set an important example “for the entire continent and for other peacekeeping processes that are not going so well.”

He could have been referring to just about all of the UN peacekeeping efforts elsewhere in the world, many of which are floundering.

As Aglio noted, success in Mozambique would give a big boost to international peacekeeping interventions the world over.

In Mozambique are of particular interest to South Africa, which is in the throes of its own peace process and which is vulnerable to political and economic fallout from a collapse of the peace process on its eastern border.

South Africans might also note from Mozambique’s experience that if their own peace efforts fail they cannot expect unlimited help from an international community that is beginning to grumble under the burden of assisting national communities who are unable to resolve their differences on their own.
There is a message for South Africa in the growing international impatience with hold-ups in Mozambique’s peace process, writes Gerald L’Ange, editor of Star Africa Service

Any more hold-ups and we are out

Mozambique’s political parties have been given more time by the Security Council that international support for their country’s peace efforts could be withdrawn, or at least dramatically cut back, if there are any more long delays.

This is the effect of the council’s decision to extend the mandate of the UN operation in Mozambique in three-month increments and not by the full year requested by secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

The council agreed to extend the mandate by six months but will review this decision in three-month time.

The secretary-general is required to report every three months on “whether the parties have made sufficient and tangible progress towards implementing the general peace agreement and meeting the timetable”.

The implication is that if in three months the parties have not kept to the new timetable agreed to during Boutros-Ghali’s visit to Maputo last month, the council could order the withdrawal of the 7,000-strong UN force, Unamid.

Analysts doubt that the “push” would actually take this step as it would throw the Mozambican process into a shambles. But the end of UN and other international support could be drastically reduced, making it much more difficult for Mozambicans to put a peaceful seal on their civil war and install a universally recognised government.

International impatience with the delays in the implementation of the peace accord signed in Rome in October 1992 has been growing as the peace process has slipped progressively further behind schedule. The process is now more than a year late.

The delay is partly the fault of the UN itself, which was “too in getting Unamid into place. The Fretilin government blames the former rebel organisa-

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Under the new timetable, the armed forces of both sides are to begin moving this month to assembly points for disarmament and demobilisation, which must be completed by May.

The formation of the new joint army must be completed by August. The law governing the election must be adopted before the end of this month and the election must be held in October.

The Security Council resolution emphasised “the unacceptability of attempts to delay reforms or to attach new conditions to the peace process”. No party, it said, should raise any further issues which might jeopardise the implementation of the peace agreement.

Renamo has raised the risk of breaking this injunction from the start by its latest demand, which is for special monitoring of voting by expatriate Mozambicans.

It says the government could influence these votes since their ballots will take place in Mozambican embassies and consulates in foreign countries.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali will report to Security Council on progress towards peace terms.
Mozambique may be the world’s poorest country but it still looks attractive to South African businessmen. Joe Latagomo of the Argus Africa News Service reports from Maputo:

The lifting of sanctions, for example, means that South Africa can now supply products and services to the United Nations Operation

The present nine flights a week between South Africa and Maputo are generally fully booked, while many businessmen drive to the capital despite the risk, albeit slight, of being ambushed by bandits.

Camacho believes that the reasons for this growth in interest in Mozambique are because of its proximity, the competitive prices of South African goods, the lifting of sanctions, increasing acceptance by foreign countries involved with the Mozambican economy of the role that South Africa can play in the region, and the growth in demand during reconstruction.

Supply products

The lifting of sanctions, for example, means that South Africa can now supply products and services to the United Nations Operation in Mozambique which has been prohibited by UN and other sanctions from buying South African products or services.

This had meant that they had to import, at great cost, products from outside the region, or sometimes turn a blind eye to the origin of products which were simply not available in Mozambique but freely available across the border in the Eastern Transvaal.

But who are all these South Africans who are heading for Mozambique?

According to Camacho, there are those who have always been fascinated by the Latin atmosphere imparted by the Portuguese.

Then there are some, probably now in their 30s, who were born in the country when it was a Portuguese colony and left with their parents at independence and who now want to return and at the same time look for business opportunities.

South Africa’s economic situation has also forced some — particularly small businessmen who cannot afford to fly to Europe — to look for opportunities next door.

A small minority, Camacho believes, may be looking at Mozambique as an alternative in case things go very wrong in South Africa.

And, finally, there are fugitives from justice in South Africa for whom Mozambique, still disorganised after 17 years of war, provides a relatively safe haven.

Mozambique imports most of its production inputs and finished products and South Africa has been the biggest exporting country to Mozambique since 1987.

But Camacho points out that South African exchange control regulations have made it difficult for investors who hope to put money into neighbouring countries.

Projects involving a third party, with prospects for short-term profitability, are more likely to get Reserve Bank go-ahead, while the Mozambicans will give preference to proposals for investment projects involving joint capital and the participation of Mozambican partners.

However, Camacho points out, the next South African government will have a priority responsibility in the short term to respond to the expectations of South Africans and therefore will not be in a position to let money flow out even to neighbouring countries.

As Mozambique’s reform programme goes on, and peace seems inevitable after 17 years of war, economic reconstruction will inevitably lead to bigger and better business opportunities for South Africans.

While South Africa has presently not formulated a regional economic policy, there is no doubt that the country will be a major player in political and regional co-operation. For the moment, though, the rehabilitation of the port of Maputo is a priority, and South Africa will be the major client.
Boost for Cahora Bassa dam

PRETORIA — Efforts to rehabilitate the Cahora Bassa dam project in Mozambique have been boosted with the announcement that several international agencies have promised financial help.

Financing of the rehabilitation project was set back earlier this year when Italian backing was withdrawn.

A statement by the South African Foreign Affairs Ministry yesterday said alternative financing was made known during a two-day meeting this week of the permanent joint committee on Cahora Bassa.

The committee groups together parties from South Africa, Mozambique and Portugal.

The leader of the South African delegation, Eskom's Ian McIrae, said the rehabilitation project had been delayed because of a R150 million shortfall.

"Fortunately other agencies like Norad, the European Investment Bank and the European Community have all said they are willing to make funds available to make up the shortfall," said Dr McIrae.

It will be two to three years before the system generates acceptable levels of power — Sapa.
Eskom finds funds for Cahora Bassa

FUNDING had been found to start rehabilitating Mozambique’s huge Cahora Bassa hydroelectric power project, Eskom said yesterday.

CE Ian McRae said the project had been put on hold in September after the Italian government withdrew its promised funding of $40m-$50m. (28)

"Fortunately, other agencies such as Norad (the Norwegian Aid organisation), the European Investment Bank and the EC have said they are willing to make funds available to make up the shortfall."

McRae’s statement followed a two-day Maputo meeting of the Cahora Bassa permanent joint committee, consisting of representatives from S/A, Portugal and Mozambique.

Eskom officials said the project would cost about $120m-$130m. But the exact amount of money required was still uncertain as it depended on what it would cost to clear land mines from the route of the power lines in Mozambique.

The officials said S/A was guaranteeing loans of about $25m through SA banks tied to the sourcing of materials in S/A. Portugal was making the same provision to $30m-$35m, while Mozambique would have to come up with about $35m.

Eskom said discussions would continue on details of the funding, but McRae was confident work would begin soon in S/A on the construction of pylons for the power line and field work would begin after the rainy season ended in April.

It would take two to three years before the system, powered by the dammed Cahora Bassa lake on the Zambezi River in northwestern Mozambique, "is operating at full capacity and with acceptable efficiency" — Sapa-Reuters.
The attraction now is Mozambique

The World Bank has estimated that millions of dollars of foreign aid will be required to support Mozambique's rehabilitation from the devastation of decades of war.

The prospect of getting a share of those funds is a major attraction for the increasing number of South Africans who are exploring business opportunities in Mozambique.

But as the country edges into a stable peace it offers attractions in its own right to South African entrepreneurs. In the past three years South African exports to the country have boomed.

South Africa-Mozambique trade relations changed three years ago with the release of Nelson Mandela. Until then, South Africa had traded covertly, often with its products arriving in Mozambique disguised as those of some other neighbouring state.

Mozambique's 1990 Imports amounted to $777.5 million. South African business, which has a competitive advantage, wants an even bigger slice than its present 24 percent.

Formerly Marxist Mozambique started its move from a command to a market economy through World Bank intervention in 1987 after the dramatic deterioration of its economy between 1982 and 1985.

The country's production capacity is still under-utilised, however, for several reasons: lack of funds to import raw materials and new plant, bad management, poor support infrastructure, unskilled labour, and frequent energy and water cuts.

Between 1987 and 1992, the government privatised 140 small and medium enterprises, and intends to allow the participation of private capital or private management in large enterprises.

But Mozambican banks are not authorised to give credit for the purchase of private companies and shares, which means that most opportunities are not available to locals. This has resulted in resentment at what is perceived to be a selling out of the economy to foreigners, particularly white foreigners from South Africa.

According to Dr Camacho, South Africa's trade representative in Maputo, South Africa increased its exports to Mozambique in value terms by 38 percent in 1990-91. Last year, MOZAMBIQUE may be the world's poorest country but it still looks attractive to South African businessmen, reports Joe Latakgomo of Star Africa Service

that went down to 17 percent, but in the first six months of this year exports have shot up by a massive 40 percent.

In rand terms, exports to Mozambique amounted to R660 million last year, and for the period January to August 1992 to R412 million, while Mozambique exports to South Africa amounted to only R1418 million (about R46.6 million).

The last three years have seen an increasing number of South African businessmen arriving in Maputo to explore opportunities. The present nine flights a week between South Africa and Maputo are generally fully booked, while many businessmen drive to the capital despite the risk, albeit slight, of being ambushed by bandits.

Camacho believes that the reasons for this growth in interest in Mozambique is because of its proximity, the competitive prices of South African goods, the lifting of sanctions, increasing acceptance by foreign countries involved with the Mozambican economy of the role that South Africa can play in the region, and the growth in demand during reconstruction.

The lifting of sanctions, for example, means that South Africa can now supply products and services to the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (Unomoz), which had been prohibited by UN and other sanctions from buying South African products or services.

This had meant that they had to import, at great cost, products from outside the region, or sometimes turn a blind eye to the origin of products which were simply not available in Mozambique but freely available across the border in the eastern Transvaal.

But who are all these South Africans who are heading for Mozambique?

According to Camacho, there are those who have always been fascinated by the Latin atmosphere imparted by the Portuguese. Then there are some, probably now in their 30s, who were born in the country when it was a Portuguese colony and left with their parents at independence, and who now want to return and, at the same time, look for business opportunities.

South Africa's economic situation has also forced some, particularly small businessmen who cannot afford to fly to Europe, to look for opportunities next door.

A small minority, Camacho believes, may be looking at Mozambique as an alternative in case things go very wrong in South Africa. And, finally, there are fugitives from justice in South Africa for whom Mozambique, still disorganised after 17 years of war, provides a relatively safe haven.

Mozambique imports most of its production inputs and finished products, and South Africa has been the biggest exporting country to Mozambique since 1987.

But Camacho points out that South African trade regulations have made it difficult for investors who hope to put money into neighbouring countries.

Projects involving a third party, with prospects for short-term profitability, are more likely to get Reserve Bank go-ahead, while the Mozambicans will give preference to proposals for investment projects involving joint capital and the participation of Mozambican partners.

However, Camacho points out, the next South African government will have a lower responsibility in the short term to respond to the expectations of South Africans and, therefore, will not be in a position to let money flow out even to neighbouring countries.

As Mozambique's reform programme goes on, and peace seems inevitable after 17 years of war, economic reconstruction will inevitably lead to bigger and better business opportunities for South Africans.

While South Africa has not formulated a regional economic policy, there is no doubt that the country will be a major player in political and regional co-operation. For the moment, though, the rehabilitation of the portution of Maputo is a priority and South Africa will be the major client.
Refugees going home

BULANTYRE — About 200,000 of the 1.3 million Mozambican refugees in Malawi have voluntarily returned home since October last year when the country's 17-year civil war ended, according to the Malawi government.

Mr Nelson Mizeke, chairman of Malawi's Joint Coordination Committee on Mozambican Refugees, said a repatriation programme would be carried out in all refugee-holding districts, the semi-official Times reported.

Speaking at a ceremony to mark the demolition of huts vacated by refugees in the southern Ncheu district on Monday, Mizeke said Malawi — which hosts most of Mozambique's 1.5 million refugees — needed more donor support to help rehabilitate areas vacated by the refugees.

Refugees deforested large tracts of once prime land and placed a heavy burden on social services such as schools and hospitals.

Mozambican ambassador to Malawi Mr Amos Mahamane said no refugees had been repatriated yet.

Mozambicans who had returned home had done so without any assistance, and because of the lack of assistance in their country, many refugees had returned to Malawi for food — Sapa-AFP.
MAPUTO — Riots erupted in the Mozambican capital Maputo yesterday after angry residents erected street barricades and marched in protest at the doubling of minibus taxi fares, witnesses said.

Vehicles were set alight in several parts of the city and shops looted in the downtown area, witnesses said. Police were guarding minibus taxis at one heavily patronised bus stand.

The unrest began after people angered by the taxi fare hike began stopping private passenger-carrying vehicles at makeshift roadblocks in the capital's outer suburbs and crowds began marching on the city centre.

Most Maputo workers are totally dependent on private minibuses to get them to work, with the city council's transport division operating only a handful of buses.

The doubling of taxi fares increased to the equivalent of 20 US cents, the flat rate charged by the private taxi operators.

The minimum industrial wage for Mozambican workers currently stands at the equivalent of 13 dollars a month. — Sapa-Reuters
Taxi fare rise causes Maputo riots

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Maputo was at a near standstill today following a day of rioting yesterday by commuters over the doubling of taxi fares.

Public transport ground to a halt with rambutu taxi drivers and city authorities locked in talks since yesterday afternoon.

A strong police presence in the streets of the capital city was keeping the situation under control.

Many workers stayed at home while others walked long distances to get to work.

Mozambique's official news agency, Amo, reports that taxi operators yesterday, without warning, doubled the fare in response to a government announcement on Monday of a 26 percent petrol and 57 percent diesel price increase.

Angry commuters set up barricades and set vehicles on fire. Several shops were looted.

Truckloads of armed riot police were ordered by Prime Minister Mario Machungo to quell the unrest, which died down in the afternoon. There have been no reports of deaths or injuries.

Reuter reports that Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama deplored the unrest, but said people should burn state-owned vehicles instead of privately owned ones.

The doubling of taxi fares to a flat rate of about 50c when the average Maputo worker earns roughly R56 a month is a severe blow to already hardpressed Mozambicans.
Maputo chabs after riots over fare rise

Star 26

BY HANS-PETER BAKKER
STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Maputo — The capital was at a near standstill yesterday following a day of rioting by commuters on Wednesday over the doubling of taxi fares.

Public transport ground to a halt with minibus taxi drivers and the city authorities locked in talks. A strong police presence in the streets of Maputo kept the situation under control.

Barricades

Many workers stayed at home and others walked long distances to get to work.

Taxi operators, without warning, doubled the fare on Wednesday in response to a government announcement on Monday of a 38 percent petrol and 57 percent diesel price increase.

Angry commuters erected barricades and set a number of vehicles on fire. Several shops were looted.

Troops of armed riot police were ordered by Prime Minister Marcio Machungo to quell the unrest.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama reportedly deplored the unrest.

The doubling of taxi fares to a flat rate of about 50c — when the average Maputo worker earns roughly R50 a month — is a severe blow to already hard-pressed Mozambicans.
Balloon deal boosts Mozambique peace

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Mozambique's troubled peace process has made a major advance, with the Freimo government and Renamo reaching agreement on the electoral law after weeks of impasse.

Renamo had objected to expatriates being allowed to vote on the grounds that since they would do so through Mozambican embassies the government would be able to influence their votes.

The deadlock on this issue had threatened to delay the acceptance of the electoral law beyond the end-of-November deadline demanded by the United Nations Security Council.

The impasse was broken when President Joaquim Chissano met Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama and persuaded him to accept that it would be unconstitutional to deny any Mozambican the right to vote.

They agreed to leave it to the National Elections Commission to decide whether appropriate conditions existed for expatriates to vote.

Renamo can still bar expatriates from voting by renewing its objections in the com-

mission, where decisions must be taken by consensus. But in the meantime the peace process is going ahead.

The United Nations World Food Programme said yesterday that it had put rations in place in 26 assembly points that were to open today to receive troops for demobilisation.

Getting the food to the often remote assembly points was a difficult operation in the current rainy season and in some cases it had to be flown in. The food is now stored in large plastic tents provided by Canada.

It was not immediately clear whether the troops would begin to move immediately into the assembly points because Renamo's representatives failed to attend a meeting yesterday of the Ceasefire Commission, which was to have approved the first 26 assembly points.

When all 49 assembly points are operating they will receive an estimated 65,000 government troops and 20,000 Renamo combatants. Most will surrender their arms and be returned to civilian life, but 15,000 from each side will be taken into the new joint army.
Renamo sparks political row

MAPUTO — Renamo has sparked off a political row with a proposal to make people living in areas under its control go to the polls in the October election dressed in clothing bearing a portrait of Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

The Frelimo government has protested that this would contravene a clause in the draft electoral law — to which Renamo has already assented — banning posters or any other form of political propaganda within 500 metres of a polling station.

Renamo defends its plan on the grounds that many of the people in areas it controls may not have anything else to wear, having lost everything during the war.

But the government rejects this logic and has scheduled talks with Renamo in an attempt to resolve the problem.

"People can't say that the vote is secret and then turn up at the polls wearing clothes with pictures or emblems of a political party," said Francisco Madera, diplomatic adviser to President Joaquim Chissano.

Sowetan Africa News Service.
Viability of Mozambique elections threatened

Funds, landmines hold up return of refugees

BY JUSTICE MALALA

The SA Democratic Teachers' Union yesterday urged a meeting with the Department of Education and Training (DET) to defuse the looming confrontation over salary deductions.

Sadtu general secretary Randall van den Heever said while the union was waiting for a response from the DET, its branches would consider action to get the department to stop the deductions. A meeting would be held next week to decide on the various proposals, he added.

The DET has deducted money from salaries of Johannesburg teachers who downed tools in May and August and from others countrywide who took part in the strike.

Van den Heever said some of the actions being considered were the withholding of exam schedules from the DET. The union also reiterated its rejection of the DET's 5.6 percent salary increase offer, saying it fell "far below" its 12.5 percent demand.

The DET could not be reached for comment.
MAPUTO — Mozambique's troubled peace process has made a major advance with the Frelimo government and Renamo rebel movement reaching agreement on the electoral law after weeks of impasse.

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The deadlock on this issue had threatened to delay the acceptance of the electoral law beyond the end-of-November deadline demanded by the United Nations Security Council.
Mozambican peace boost

Warring factions agree to demob

Maputo — An hour before a UN deadline, the government and former rebels cleared the way for demobilisation of their fighters to begin, a UN official said yesterday.

The agreement had been reached late on Tuesday and means 20 demobilisation points for ex-fighters may begin operating immediately. The gathering spots are designed for former army and rebel fighters to turn in their weapons as part of a ceasefire aimed at bringing peace to Mozambique.

"It's a big, big breakthrough," said the UN official.

The UN helped broker the ceasefire agreement reached in October 1992, and envisioned democratic elections being held by the end of this year.

While the agreement is a major breakthrough, there are still another 29 demobilisation points that have to receive approval from both sides before they can be opened. The UN wants all 49 spots opened by December 20.

The UN's special representative in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, had hoped the two sides would agree to open 26 sites on Tuesday, but they were able to agree on only 20.

Sporadic ceasefire violations and constant political bickering had led to fears that Mozambique would go the way of Angola.

Fighting pitted the formerly Marxist government of President Joao Chissano against the Renamo rebel movement led by Afonso Dhlakama. — Sapa-AP.
Mozambique's economy improving

President Joaquin Chissano told Parliament the GDP was expected to increase by 5.5 percent next year. Inflation was expected to come down from 50 percent to 15 percent. Chissano attributed the increase to improved agricultural production, partly as a result of the ending of the civil war but said industrial production was down.

Chissano also reported a large trade deficit, with imports of $1 billion (half of which were donations) and exports of just under $150 million.
Hundreds meet to give up guns

MAPUTO. — Hundreds of Mozambican government soldiers and former rebel Renamo guerrillas have gathered at assembly points to hand over their guns to UN peacekeepers, a UN official said yesterday.

Mr Ton Purcell, the UN official in charge of demobilisation, estimated 800 men from both sides had arrived so far at 20 assembly points opened on Tuesday.

An estimated 62,000 government and 20,000 Renamo soldiers should hand over their weapons to the UN before the end of December. — Sapa
Frelimo, Renamo play ball

Maputo - Hundreds of Mozambican government soldiers and former rebel Renamo guerrillas have gathered at assembly points to hand over their weapons to UN peacekeepers.

Ton Pardoe, the UN official in charge of demobilisation, estimated 500 men from both sides had arrived at 20 assembly points officially opened on Tuesday night.

No more arrived on Wednesday but Pardoe said it may take days for the respective military commands to communicate with their men.

Under the overall plan, an estimated 82,000 government and 29,000 Renamo soldiers should hand over their weapons before the end of the month.

— Sapa-Reuters
Coming home to an unknown, sinister land

Returning home is a bittersweet experience for Mozambican refugees who made new lives for themselves in the countries they fled to during the war, reports Bartholomeaeus Grill.

The train pulls out of Maputo station with a great shudder. Gastigo peers out of the compartment window in disbelief. The train, which is a completely new experience.

Gastigo is on his way to Mozambique — “home”, as his mother tearfully explained while packing his meagre belongings in the morning. Home? Gastigo doesn’t know what that is in Mozambique — no more than a dim memory. He was four years old when he fled on his mother’s back. He doesn’t remember his father, killed by terrorists in 1984 at the height of the war. Since then he’s been living in the refugee camp in Swaziland.

Now peace has returned, to a country destroyed by war and chased as the world’s poorest by the World Bank. The disaster, the 1.2 million refugees, to go home. Some 1.1 million fled to Malawi, 140,000 to Zimbabwe, 23,500 to Zambia, 40,000 to Tanzania, 24,000 to South Africa, and 24,000 to Swaziland. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) is helping refugees return to their pre-war life support.

Gastigo doesn’t know the facts and figures, he just knows that his family is heading to Mozambique. He’s been turned around, he doesn’t know what happens in the displacement camps. The pensive look on the face of the old man with his black artificial leg, the distraught, babbiling child in his threethree-folk, the men with their seven churning chokers taken along by a family — none of it fits somehow. And the closer the train with its 812 passengers gets to the border, the more troubled Gastigo becomes.

“Now,” he says. “The friends, the unstoppable soccer team, the familiar playgrounds — he’s had to leave everything behind. He got used to daily life in the camp in Swaziland. He’s been to school and learned to speak Shona fluently. Wasn’t like much better than across the border, from where only had been empty. News of villagers near to the ground, of famine and drought and attacks by the rebels, who were said to cut people’s ears off and toore the hearts out of their bodies.

Into this unknown, sinister land Gastigo must now return.

Gastigo will remember the day of his departure for a long while. He’ll remember King Mussalii, a title with his four pristive wives, and the story the monarch told of the umhulu, the blanket examiners who were allowed to cose in as sign of hospitality. Young men from the village of Nyala danced the jumbuzu to pacify the guests. Another was disguised in fuld dresses of the guests, and then Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano spoke. “We have peace,” he said. Right now, it’s like the old days. We’re rebuilding our country.

The train rattles through no-man’s land, slowly moving from a poor country to an even poorer one. At the border station, half the village has gathered. Handsplashed, laughter, tears of joy — welcome home! The new arrivals are amazed.

It’s lucky that Cristina is going home by train and hasn’t had to take the road from the border to Maputo which passes all the destroyed vil- lages, the starving children, the cripples, the ocked animals. The hopelessness and misty would have robbed her of whatever self-confidence she had left. At least this way, there’s still hope. Perhaps she’ll find a partner, perhaps marry again. Then all that would be received could be a roof, a little little land, some seed, a small plot. Her greatest wish is to have a new return.

Gastigo’s family on a piece of sugar cane. Last thought. How will it be? He’ll be in another school, a well-equipped one. He’ll find new friends, and white players he’ll be to care not to tread on one of the two million landmines laid by the badmen. But that’s going to last, to listen to some more speeches. On a makeshift stage at Umhulu station, the governor, a United Nations member representatives of Frelimo and Renamo, and President Chissano of Swaziland who accompanied the train, are waiting.

The clouds hang low, it’s drizzling. What about the government spokesman. Praise songs are sung. The older returns sing in Arabic, the younger ones don’t know the words.

The repatriation of the refugees from South Africa is due to start soon. Foreign Minister Pik Botha, who signed the agreement with Maputo, responded anxiously to a question about compensation for the war started by his country. “Ours and for all we don’t like to dwell in the past.”

Bartholomeaeus Grill is the Southern Africa correspondent for the German weekly Die Zeit.

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Distrust delays arms surrender to cement Mozambique peace

MAPUTO — Nearly 600 rebel and government soldiers had arrived at demobilization points to turn in their guns since disarmament began this week, UN envoy Aldo Ajello said.

But Mr Ajello was unhappy with the rate of demobilisation and told a news conference he feared distrust would make each side reluctant to turn in its weapons.

"If each side waits for the other to move first, then you don't move at all," he said.

The country's former warring sides reached a breakthrough late on Tuesday by agreeing to open 20 cantonment sites, clearing the way for demobilisation of forces to finally begin 14 months after a ceasefire agreement was signed.

The decision was reached an hour before a UN-set deadline for the first cantonment sites to open. Had the deadline not been met, the UN Security Council could have opted to scale back its commitment in Mozambique, where it plans to deploy about 7,000 peacekeepers and other personnel to oversee the transition to democracy.

Political squabbles between the government and Renamo rebels have forced several delays in the implementation of the October 1992 peace accord. Elections originally planned for October 1993 have been pushed back a year.

The cantonment sites will provide ex-fighters with the chance to turn in their weapons and apply for acceptance in the new national defence force. Not all will be granted positions in the future 30,000-man army. The number of Renamo and government soldiers totals about 80,000 — Sapa-AP.
Mozambican troops move to UN points

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government said on Saturday nearly 1,400 of its soldiers had moved to UN-supervised assembly points set up under the peace agreement ending 15 years of civil war.

The 40 points, all to open by December 20, will shelter 62,000 government troops and 20,000 guerrillas until January, when demobilisation begins.

Fifteen thousand men from each side will not be demobilised but will be incorporated into a unified national army.

A 540-strong Mozambican corps is being trained by British and Zimbabwean army instructors in Nyanga in Zimbabwe.

The corps will itself train at least 18,000 soldiers essential for stability in the country before general elections next October.

Training each battalion of 1,600 is expected to take up to 10 weeks. The British instructors said they would reduce the number of battalions to 15 if time was tight.

Meanwhile, in Angola, the official state radio reported yesterday that the Angolan government had not yet agreed on "practical ceasefire issues" with Unitas and more peace talks would take place.

Diplomats said on Saturday the two sides, meeting in the Zambian capital of Lusaka, had formally adopted terms for a truce. However, no date for the ceasefire has been announced — Sapa-Reuters
Brown urges US firms to invest in SA

Call to scrap codes of conduct

PETER FABRICIUS
The Argus Foreign Service
WASHINGTON — United States Commerce Secretary Ron Brown has called on states and counties not to impose codes of conduct on firms doing business with South Africa.

It was important that the new leadership in South Africa made its own rules and regulations and that America did not do so for them, Mr Brown said in an address here yesterday to the Conference for National Policy about his trade and investment mission to South Africa which ended last week.

He was asked whether he would urge Massachusetts, in particular, to change its policy.

This year Massachusetts repealed its sanctions but replaced them with a policy whereby US companies doing business there would be monitored to ensure they complied with a code of conduct obliging them to devote some resources to uplifting blacks.

Mr Brown said he would urge Massachusetts and others to change their approach.

One of the businessmen on the South Africa mission had told him that he was going to have to fight within his company to get it to invest in South Africa rather than China or Latin America.

"He told me that if there were obstacles or impediments which made South Africa less enticing he was going someplace else," Mr Brown said.

He said the Clinton administration had an important responsibility to urge state and local authorities to lift remaining sanctions, which were as much of an impediment to investment as federal sanctions had been.

He hoped his visit had sent that signal.

At an earlier briefing Mr Brown said he was convinced that every one of the 25 companies which had taken part in his mission would decide to do some form of business with South Africa.

Mr Brown disclosed that the Administration was discussing the possibility of granting South Africa preferential trade status under the US’s Generalised System of Preferences, which lowers trade tariffs for developing countries.

He declined to put a dollar figure on what this might mean.

SA left out of war-law talks

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG — South Africa is not represented at a milestone meeting of African armies taking place in Nairobi because it is not a member of the Organisation for African Unity.

The five-day workshop, on the law of war, has been organised by the OAU and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

ICRC representative in South Africa Nic Sommer said South Africa’s non-participation was only because of its non-affiliation to the OAU.

Renamo keeps monitors waiting

Argus Africa News Service
MAPUTO — While a number of Renamo soldiers have arrived at assembly points from which they will be demobilised, none has yet checked in with the United Nations monitors, a Mozambican government official said.

UN officials reported that on Sunday 1 580 government troops had arrived at their designated assembly points and 1 423 had checked in.

Mozambican Labour Minister Teodato Hunguana said he found the low Renamo turnout of 423 worrying.
Soldiers of Renamo still to check in

Maputo — While a number of Renamo soldiers have arrived at assembly points from which they will be demobilised, none has yet checked in with the UN monitors, according to the Mozambican news agency AIM.

UN officials reported that by Sunday 1,580 Frelimo government troops were at assembly points and 1,433 had checked in (2.12).

But while 423 Renamo soldiers had arrived at their assembly points, none had checked in, the officials said — Star Africa Service.
Mediator set to announce yet another Angola truce

LUSAKA — Angola's government and its Unita guerrilla foes have cleared the way for an announcement of a ceasefire to try to end the world's bloodiest conflict, diplomats close to the talks said.

The two sides, meeting in the Zambian capital yesterday, had approved all practical steps needed to implement a truce and it was now up to United Nations mediator Alphonse Blondin Beye to decide when to make an announcement, the diplomats said.

But Mr Beye, who has imposed a sweeping news blackout on the talks, apparently wanted outstanding political issues resolved before any announcement was made, they said.

The two sides were expected to debate these issues later.

"All modalities and practical steps on effecting the ceasefire were adopted by a plenary session of the peace conference this evening," a source said.

"These deal with the time-scale of movements of troops into barracks and who will supervise these movements up to the formation of a new national army."

The civil war, which resumed after Unita rejected defeat in the country's first multiparty election in September 1992, is killing about 1 000 people a day.

Patchy start to demobilisation

MAPUTO. — A few hundred Renamo soldiers have arrived at United Nations assembly points in northern Mozambique for demobilisation under the peace accord but none have reported in central or southern parts.

At the present rate of reporting by Renamo and Frelimo troops, it will take until the second week of January to fill the assembly points, says the Mozambican news agency, Aim. Only 20 of the 49 assembly points are operating.

There is controversy over the figures reported by the UN, which the government maintains are too low at 2 665 government and 673 Renamo troops.
UN asks Renamo to 'move faster'

MAPUTO. — The UN special envoy to Mozambique yesterday said he had urged Renamo (Mozambique National Resistance) leader Mr. Anisio Dhlakama to speed up movement of his former rebel soldiers into UN assembly points, as they were lagging behind the army.

UN envoy Mr. Aldo Ajello told a news conference that in the 10 days since 20 UN assembly points opened across the country, 3,000 government troops had moved into them, but only 800 Renamo troops had done likewise. 

Renamo troops who have arrived at the northern assembly point of Mavange have so far refused to hand over their weapons to UN observers, but Mr. Dhlakama assured Mr. Ajello that he would give instructions to all his troops to hand over their guns. — Sapo-AFP
Mozambique takes first steps to vote

ACROSS Mozambique, soldiers of the Freiimo government and rebel Renamo movement are finally moving into UN assembly areas in the first stage of a massive demobilisation operation.

It's 14 months since Mozambique's civil war ended, but suspicion between the two sides has delayed the process. For the Italian head of the UN operation in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, the agreement to open the assembly areas is the triumphant culmination of months of negotiations, cajoling and threats.

But Renamo guerrillas, hampered by a lack of transport and forced to walk long distances through the bush, have so far only been trickling into the assembly areas — at a far slower rate than their government counterparts.

Despite this, Renamo officials insist they are committed to assembling their forces and handing their weapons to UN observers.

At least 300 Renamo soldiers have arrived in the last week at the UN camp of Mavago, in the remote northern province of Nassa, close to the Tanzanian border.

"We don't even know our own co-ordinates on the map, because this area has never been properly surveyed," said Major Paul Komper, the Czech officer heading the small team of UN observers in Mavago.

It is impossible to reach by road and water supplies are already running low.

But for the Renamo fighters, used to the most spartan of conditions, the camp represents luxury.

Few of the soldiers speak the national language of Portuguese. Most have no uniforms. Many appear to be in their teens.

Major Komper said: "We think some of them are as young as 12 years old."

"The Renamo commander denies any of the teenagers did any fighting."

By BARNABY PHILLIPS in Maputo

but that's not what they tell us."

According to the UN, the Renamo soldiers can now either join a new Mozambican national army, or leave the armed forces.

The Renamo commander in Mavago is 25-year-old Major Teme Virgilio.

He is in no doubt where his future lies. "I'm still young, and it's the military life for me," he said.

Major Virgilio was less forthcoming when asked to explain why his men in Mavago were still refusing to hand over their weapons to UN observers.

"We haven't received any orders about that," he said, adding "But don't worry, we are very serious about peace." — The Telegraph, London.
Big turnout for Renamo.

Maputo — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama attracted more than 10,000 to his first public rally in the central city of Quelimane — in the rain.

He said anyone in Zambezia who cast a ballot for the ruling Frelimo party would be voting “for people who despise them” and a return to a situation in which they were discriminated against.

He described the late president Samora Machel as a colonial governor imposed on the country by the Soviet Union.

As Frelimo had “stolen Renamo’s policies when it wrote the 1990 constitution”, Dhlakama said he would delay publishing his election manifesto.

— Star Africa Service
Mozambique takes steps to peace

□ Renamo soldiers refusing to hand over their weapons

HANS-PETER BAKKER
Argus Africa News Service

MAVAGO — Mozambique has taken yet another tentative step towards peace with the move to assembly areas by government and Renamo soldiers.

But Renamo soldiers at Mavago assembly point in the far north — some as young as 12 — are refusing to hand over their weapons.

In contravention of the former rebel movement's agreements with the United Nations and the government, registration is happening without disarmament.

According to General Leão da Silva, officer commanding the UN forces in Mozambique, nine government assembly areas were running according to plan, even if things were happening a little slowly.

"They are doing what was foreseen. They are being checked in and identified. They are handing over their weapons, which are being stored.

"But Renamo soldiers assembling at Mavago and Magunde have, so far, not handed over their weapons. The camp commanders are saying they only received orders to assemble, not to hand over their weapons."

The assembly area of Mavago is very isolated. There are no passable roads leading to the town. The only access is through half-a-day’s helicopter journey from the provincial capital of Nampula.

It is not unattractive when viewed from the air. The tiny hamlet is perched on top of a hill. Red earth contrasts with bright green tarpaulins upon the remains of a handful of destroyed buildings in the centre of town.
these green-topped buildings make up one of 29
designated Renamo assembly points. Here and at
the other assembly points — of which 29 will be
government — the warring armies are to
congregate until they have been selected for either
demobilisation or drafted into the new, united Mozam-
bique defence force.

So far only 20 — 12 government and eight Ren-
amo — assembly points have been opened. By De-
cember 20, says Aido Ajello, the UN Secretary-
General's special representative to Mozambique,
49 should be open and ready to receive the troops.

So far 4 033 government and 687 Renamo troops
have been registered. At registration the troops
have to fill in a four-page questionnaire about
themselves and their families. They are photo-
graphed, their weapons are marked and catalogued
and they are asked to indicate whether they
want to join the new army or be demobilised.

Major Paul Komper, the UN observer team
leader at Mavagou, said 325 Renamo soldiers had
been checked in there, but only 267 had been regis-
tered, without handing over their arms.

"The remaining 57 are children of between 12
and 14 years. We are waiting for orders from Ren-
amo headquarters before registering them," he
said.

Mr Ajello does not appear overly concerned by
Renamo's refusal to hand over its arms. "Renamo
leader Afonso Dhlakama has assured me that there
will be no trouble and they will hand over
their arms," he said.

But he is realistic. "I expect the same as in An-
gola will happen that they will keep many of their
weapons. The answer is to ensure a political solu-
tion. To check every Mozambican with his arms
is a useless exercise and I won't waste any
time doing it."

According to General da Silva, nobody will be
forced to hand over arms.

"If they don't want to hand over their weapons,
we won't force them to. We must believe in their
word. If there is no trust, nothing will work.

The road to elections, scheduled for October
next year, still promises to be a rocky one.

In theory the new army should be made up of
volunteers from both sides. But, according to Ma-
jor Bengt-Ake Folkeston, chief of operations of the
UN observer group in the northern region, the
soldiers are generally not willing to go into the
new army.

"Renamo soldiers, especially, seem to be con-
cerned because nearly all of their 15,000 or 29,000
troops have to go to the new army," he said.

Frelimo's 15,000 share will be selected out of its
much larger army, which it claims is about 64,000
strong.

Troops will have to stay within 5km from the
assembly points during the following few months
leading to full demobilisation. There are plans to
entertain them with visiting shows and to teach
them to read and write.

At one government assembly area in Niassa
province, Aids education posters and more than
7,000 condoms wait for the troops who will begin
arriving there later this month.

According to Major Folkeston, the data from the
registration forms will be sent to Maputo to be en-
tered into a central database, followed by the
enlistment of the second, third groups and the
Troops who will be trained for the new defence force — will be
selected.

Demobilised soldiers will receive money, clothes
and food. And transport will be arranged for them
and their dependents to their areas of origin.

General da Silva said demobilisation had to be
completed by May next year and that the new de-

defence force "must be absolutely ready by Septem-
ber — one month before the elections."

The international community is putting pressure
on both sides to adhere to a rigorous timetable
for democracy.

Mr Ajello is optimistic that peace is fast becom-
ing a certainty in Mozambique.

"They have no choice; both parties have accept-
ed the rules and they realise that neither side can
win the war."

Mr Ajello does not want to spend the rest of his
life in the bush fighting for a cause he doesn't believe
in. He wants peace, and he needs to make sure
people are safe. He knows the futility of fighting
and he wants peace."

According to Mr Ajello, the UN and its tough
mediators will not give in to pressure from pro-
military forces, there is also the real danger that gov-
ernment forces will refuse to be disarmed unless
the opposition agrees to turn over their weapons.

Frelimo forces began to hand over their weapons
this week. The first 15,000 men of the 69,000 to
be disarmed have already handed in their arms.

Ms Phakama doesn't want to spend the rest of
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Frelimo forces began to hand over their weapons
this week. The first 15,000 men of the 69,000 to
Mozambique set for growth


The greater part of spending for the 1994 fiscal year — 58% — would come from donations or credits from the international community, Finance Minister Elias Commiche told parliament this week.

His budget envisages total public expenditure of 2.514-billion meticais (6460m), of which only 1.107-billion meticais (3285m) will come from taxes, customs duties and other domestic sources. Much the same proportions held in 1993, with locally raised revenue representing only 45% of expenditure and the balance covered by the international community.

Projected expenditure is 11% higher than the 1993 figure of 2.364-billion meticais. But revenue would rise by only 7% from the 1.934-billion meticais in 1993.

Despite the end of a 16-year civil war, defence will comprise the largest single item of current spending at 1.566-billion meticais, or 57% of the total — a drop on the 53% in 1993.

Goods and services represent the second largest budget item, accounting for 266-billion meticais (20.5%).

In 1992 GDP posted negative growth of 2.4%. Commiche estimated the 1993 growth rate at 6.6% and expected it to be the same next year.

He said accumulated average inflation was 53% in December 1992. Inflation was now down to about 30% and would fall below 18% by December 1994, he said.

— Sapa-Reuters.
Rebels register but stay armed

FRELIMO and Renamo soldiers begin to move to assembly points and demobilisation. Hans-Peter Bakker of the Star Africa Service reports

Here at one of Mozambique's northernmost assembly points, Renamo soldiers - some as young as twelve - are filling the assembly camp, but still refusing to hand over their weapons.

In contrast to the former rebel movement's agreements with the United Nations and the government, regulations are occurring without disarmament.

General Lekho da Silva, officer commanding the UN forces in Mozambique, said the government assembly areas were running according to plan. "They are doing what was foreseen. They are being checked in and identified. They are handing over their weapons, which are being stored."

"But Renamo soldiers assembling at Mavago and Magunde have, so far, not handed over their weapons. The camp commanders are saying they only received orders to assemble, not to hand over their weapons."

Mavago is perched on a hill. Red earth contrasts with bright green tarps. Under the remains of a handful of destroyed buildings in the centre of town.

Armies

These green-topped buildings make up one of 20 designated Renamo assembly points. Here and at the other assembly points - of which 29 will be government. The once warring armies are to congregate until they have been selected for demobilisation, or drafted into the new, united defence force.

So far only 20 (12 government and 8 Renamo) assembly points have been opened. Negotiations to open the remaining 29 are nearing completion.

To date, 6,844 government and 2,518 Renamo troops have been registered. At registration, the troops have to fill in a questionnaire about themselves and their families. They are photographed, their weapons marked and catalogued and they are asked to indicate if they want to join the new army or be demobilised.

Major Paul Komper, the UN observer team leader at Mavago, said most of the Renamo soldiers had been registered without handing in their arms.

"The remaining 57 are children of between 12 and 14 years. We are waiting for orders from Renamo headquarters before registering them," he said.

Aldo Ajello, the UN Secretary-General's special representative to Mozambique, does not appear concerned by Renamo's refusal to hand over its arms. "(Renamo leader Afonso) Dhikakhu has assured me that there will be no trouble and that they would hand over their arms," he said.

Scared

At Mavago, the Renamo troops appear uncertain and even scared of what the future holds for them. UN team leader Major Komper says registration forms indicated that nearly 90 percent of the soldiers did not want to join a new army, while the Renamo camp commander, Major Virgilino Kirolo, said confidently: "I and my men are eager to serve in the new defence force."

General da Silva said demobilisation had to be completed by May next year and that the new defence force "must be absolutely ready one month before the elections."

Ajello believes that peace is becoming a certainty "both parties have accepted that neither side can win the war," he said.

"I would like to see something stable. The new government must be more of a joint venture than a winner takes all situation."

Despite the optimism, as long as so many Mozambicans remain armed and dangerous, the threat of a return to war will stay. Not only are there an estimated 350,000 armed, irregular militaries who fall outside any demobilisation efforts, there is also the danger that government forces will refuse to be disarmed unless Renamo troops begin to hand over their weapons.

Volunteers

In theory, the new army should be made up of volunteers from both sides. But, according to Major Bing-Ake Folkeson, chief of operations of the UN observer group in the northern region, the soldiers are generally not willing to go into the new army.

"Renamo soldiers, especially, seem to be concerned because nearly all of their 15,000 or 20,000 troops will have to go to the new army," he said.

Frelimo's 15,000 will be selected out of its much larger army, which it claims is about 60,000 strong.

Troops will have to stay within 5km from the assembly points during the following few months leading to full demobilisation. There are plans to entertain them with visiting shows and to teach them to read and write.

At one government assembly area in Nassa province, Aids education posters and more than 2,000 condoms wait for the troops who will begin arriving there any day now.

According to Major Folkeson, the data from the registration forms will be sent to Maputo to be entered into a central database and then the two groups - those to be demobilised and those to be trained for the new defence force - will be selected.

Demobilised soldiers will receive money, clothes and food. And transport will be arranged to their areas of origin.
Mozambican govt cuts taxes

MAPUTO — Mozambican Finance Minister Eneas Comiche yesterday announced a range of tax cuts but said he hoped government revenue would increase as peace returned to the country after 16 years of civil war.

Comiche said that the measures, to take effect with the start of the fiscal year on January 1, would abolish export duty and reduce income taxes and capital gains tax.

Corporate tax, which used to be levied at the single rate of 50%, had been cut for businesses in the "productive sector" — agriculture, industry and commercial activities.

Indirect taxes had been reduced for some items and circulation tax charged on all transactions had been abolished on raw materials and equipment used in Mozambican industries.

Import duties were cut by various amounts.

Comiche said that in spite of the cuts, tax revenue should increase as peace returned to Mozambique. Currently just two parts of the country — Maputo and the central province of Sofala — accounted for 78% of all taxes collected.

He said he hoped that with lower rates businessmen would not be tempted to evade taxes. The measures also dramatically increased the penalties for tax evasion.
Maputo — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has accused the government of "importing" thousands of Tanzanian citizens to boost support for Frelimo in the country's first multiparty elections. He did not provide any evidence.

— Star Africa Service.
Mozambique faces threat of famine

MAPUTO — The spectre of famine is hanging over a large part of Mozambique's northern province of Niassa while thousands of tons of grain are lying unsold in the neighbouring province of Cabo Delgado, the Maputo daily Notícias reported yesterday.

Regional relief officials Matias Silvestre was quoted in the paper as saying the situation was "desolate" in the Niassa districts of Cuamba, Metarraca, Nipope and Mani.

He said about 31,000 people, still living in centres for those displaced by the 16-year civil war which ended a year ago, were at risk. There was an urgent need for food aid and for farm implements so people could resume farming.

Distribution is a problem because the government relief agency is short of vehicles. The regional office in Cuamba has only one truck to cover all the districts in the south.

The UN World Food Programme has promised 400 tons of maize purchased locally. If transport can be arranged, this could remove the threat of famine for a month or so.

Noticias reported last week that in the neighbouring province of Cabo Delgado, 34,500 tons of produce — mainly maize — was sitting in warehouses without markets.

Cabo Delgado businessmen said the EC had promised to buy the surplus grain for food deficit areas but had not yet done so.

Aid policy analysts said many Mozambicans in desperate need of food had no money to pay for it and were dependent on handouts.

At an aid conference in Paris this month, the government asked international donors to help the post-war revival by buying crops from food surplus areas within Mozambique instead of simply exporting their own surpluses.

— Sapa-Reuters
AFRICA

'Unpaid soldiers mutiny and loot

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO - Soldiers, complaining that they had not been paid since September, mutinied and looted shops in Cuamba in Nassa province, northern Mozambique.

Police intervened in an attempt to stop the looting and clashed with the soldiers, but there were no reports of fatalities, according to the Maputo newspaper Noticias.

The official news agency Aim said that over the past 18 months 'mutinies have become commonplace' in Mozambique's undisciplined and frequently unpaid army.

"Repeatedly the Defence Ministry claims the problem of soldiers' wages has been resolved and just as repeatedly military units prove the ministry wrong by staging protests demanding immediate payment of wage arrears."

The latest outbreak of looting came amid reports that the demobilisation of the government and Renamo armies under the Rome peace accord has almost ground to a halt.

According to Aim, 13 of the 35 assembly points now open to receive the troops for demobilisation have not yet received a single soldier.

A total of 80,000 troops from both sides must be demobilised or be put into the new joint army.
UN aid policy boosts Mozambican economy

KATHRYN STRACHAN

MUCH of the emergency food aid for Mozambique was being bought locally, boosting the country's economy, the UN World Food Programme said yesterday.

Over the past year the programme had bought 26,000 tons of maize and beans from Mozambique for $7m. The organisation planned to spend roughly the same amount in the next few months.

The commodities were bought from Agricom and local producers and traders, and the programme insisted that traders guaranteed farmers a fair price. The food was stored in UN warehouses for distribution during the lean season to displaced people and returnees.

The move supported food production in Mozambique as it was difficult for producers to find buyers for their surplus because of poor market networks, the programme said.

It was trying to buy maize and beans locally for all its 1994 projects, and was encouraging other donors to do the same. But the effort depended on support from donors willing to give cash for locally produced food. The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Germany had supported local purchases so far.

Maize production in Mozambique in 1993, the first year of peace, was four times higher than in the previous year. Although the crop produced was far below the country's potential and could not meet its needs, production had shown the first significant improvement in years.

"With good rains and continuing peace, Mozambique is on its way to recovery. But it needs to build a solid food security safety net," said food programme director of operations Philip Clarke. "We are trying to help do that."