Ghana's constitutional reforms in jeopardy

ACCRA. Ghana's early return to constitutional rule is being threatened by a letter which the Consultative Assembly wrote to the government asking for an extension of time for the drafting of a new constitution.

The Consultative Assembly, which began deliberations in August, was expected to complete its work by the end of this month. However, saying it had "too much to do for the country and wanted to do it well," the 235-member assembly asked for an extension.

If the request were granted, the ban on political parties would remain in force.

Obeng Manu, a leading member of one of the emerging political parties, said that if the ban on political parties were lifted late, "we should have to ask for an extension of time to organise ourselves properly because we cannot be in a situation where the head of state, Jerry Rawlings, can tell the public that he stands by the whole country."
Aids, in the end, may be largely Africa's horror

One thing is becoming clear in the Aids pandemic — the world's advanced nations are shaking it off. I doubt Aids will have much effect on Britain or Germany.

The people of the West are obviously showing some sort of sexual restraint and, most importantly, they understand Aids.

According to the World Bank, 90 percent of all known Aids cases are in the developing world — three quarters are in Africa.

One does not have to be clairvoyant to realise that the thought of Aids tearing through Africa's population will not evoke much sympathy in the West.

The thought might even satisfy many who regard Africa as terminally backward and its youth as ineducable when it comes to sexual behaviour.

It is possible that the populations of Africa's more backward nations could be massively reduced leaving this continent vulnerable to renewed colonisation — maybe by Asians this time.

Jill Armstrong, World Bank economist who works in the Population and Human Resources Division of the bank's Eastern Africa Department believes Aids could seriously hamper Africa's already slow development.

In some countries, she says, one in 10 are HIV-infected and the gains made in reducing child mortality are being reversed.

Agricultural productivity is dropping. One reason is illness in the villages — HIV precipitates TB and other potential killers long before Aids develops — and people become too weak to farm. Money needed for fertiliser is being taken up by medical treatment.

Ms Armstrong expects school attendances to drop as children stay home to look after Aids-stricken families. In some regions, she says, Aids has affected more women than men and it is women who raise crops — and families.

She speaks of 10 million orphaned children by 2000 in Africa — many will have to be supported by the elderly because the middle generation will be gone. But the elderly will be financially and physically unable to cope.

Aids in Africa is no longer just a health problem — it is now an economic problem too. Africa needs money. I wonder how it might affect tourism — Africa's one easy way to earn foreign exchange?

Will people be put off coming here?
Algeria faces fundamental Muslim victory

A FRENCH junior minister said this week that the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) which won last week's first-round elections in Algeria would spark revolution if it tried to impose fundamentalist laws.

"The day this regime, when it wins, tells women 'you will wear veils, you can't do this or that', there will be revolution. It's obvious," Kofi Yamgnane, minister for social affairs and racial integration, told French television.

Yamgnane's comments were the strongest government reaction so far on the prospect of a fundamentalist state on France's doorstep.

The Front's victory, likely to open a new chapter in Algeria's history after 30 years of one-party rule by the socialist National Liberation Front (FLN), has alarmed members of France's rightwing opposition and the media who fear a re-run of Iran's 1979 fundamentalist revolution.

The Front hopes to impose a state guided by Koranic law. Many women fear they will be forced to wear veils and be denied jobs and education.

Women's rights activists charged the fundamentalists with planning to return the country to the Dark Ages.

The Independent Association for the Triumph of Women's Rights, the country's largest such organisation, in a communiqué urged Algerians to block the FIS from taking power.

Middle Ages

"Will the FIS voters, just 25 percent of the electorate, be allowed to impose the Middle Ages on all of Algeria?" the group asked. "Will they be allowed to bury women alive?"

The women warned that a FIS-run parliament could provoke civil conflict. They urged voters who abstained last week to turn out for the second round of elections on January 16 and "block the road to the FIS".

Only 58 percent of Algeria's 13.3 million registered voters cast ballots in the first round. Many who abstained are believed to have been women.

The staggering fundamentalist victory came in the freest parliamentary election ever held in the Arab world, featuring 49 parties and 5,712 candidates representing every point on the political spectrum.

Losing parties have contested the results in about 50 seats out of the 440-seat National People's Assembly, mostly charging the fundamentalists with irregularities.

Allegations include pressuring voters outside polling stations, filling in ballots for illiterate voters, and distributing consumer goods to voters in exchange for their support.

Shiites

Algeria's Sunni Muslims are more moderate than the Shiites running Iran. Acting FIS leader Abdelkader Hachani, considered a moderate, has said that Iranian-style people's courts will not be imposed, and that women will not be confined to their homes.

But hardliners contend that women take jobs away from men and spend their money on makeup.

-Much of the party's popular support comes from unemployed young men. About 96 percent of Algeria's 25.7 million people are under 30, and unemployment stands at 23 percent.

Meanwhile, French journalists and academics have ascribed the election result to more disillusions with the National Liberation Front (FLN) than enthusiasm for an Islamic state.

Many hardliners predicted a flood of immigrants will head for France, but Yamgnane said he thought they would rather stay and rebel in their own country.

"I can't believe Algerians are ready to live in total despotism. It's not possible," he added.

Earlier the Foreign Ministry said France was committed to maintaining ties with Algeria.

France retains important economic and cultural links with the country it relinquished in 1962 after a bloody eight-year war of independence.

French politicians believe the rise of the FIS is bound to have reverberations at home, where the number of immigrant Algerians, many of them naturalised, runs into the millions.

Public intolerance of foreigners is growing and the far-right National Front has demanded an urgent repatriation programme. - Sapa-AP
Preventing a Return to the Dark Ages

Steve Kirby reports from Algeria on opposition to Islamic fundamentalism.
New 12-party govt in Comoros

MORONI — The Comoros has formed a government made up of 12 political parties, but dominated by supporters of the Indian Ocean island archipelago’s President Said Mohamed Djohar. Mohamed Taki Abdoulkarim, who ran in 1990 national elections as a presidential candidate against President Djohar, leads the 13-member Cabinet announced late on Monday.

The new government was formed in line with a pact of national reconciliation between the political parties agreed on a week ago. — Sapa-Reuter.
Technology can avert a nightmare

Africa must increase food production, says World Bank

Something has to be done soon...
Ritchie states blamed as Third World starving

Richie States blamed as Third World starves

THE ECONOMIC SUPPORT

up those borders to exclude the Third World exports. Nicholas Schone

A former director has accused the European Community of putting

shows to protect that fragile

The EC and other wealthy

need to make a stand

A form of damage has ensued the European Community of putting

world community should be al-

dressed and the people

Compact and well

World community should be al-

dressed and the people

World community should be al-

dressed and the people

World community should be al-

dressed and the people

World community should be al-

dressed and the people

World community should be al-

dressed and the people

World community should be al-

dressed and the people

World community should be al-

dressed and the people
Africa, like the globe, is divided into north-south, writes James Clarke

Regional focus

delays progress

in Africa debate

When it comes to solving Third World problems can one look at Africa as a whole? From what I gather from Daniel Ntala of Rustenburg — a young man who has been pitched into the global debate, on environment — the task is impossible. It may be pointless too, a bit like trying to visualise Asia holistically.

Mr Ntala (26) recently returned from Paris where he found himself in an all-Africa debate which set out to identify common African problems. The conference — a global one — was organised by the UN to enable hundreds of non-government organisations to refine their ideas for presentation to this year's UN World Summit in Brazil.

The Africa lobby simply failed to gel.

"We discovered a 'north-south' situation within Africa itself," said Mr Ntala. "It was not a conflict. It was simply that North Africa has a different set of problems from the southern half."

It emerged that while southern Africa was concerned with land apportionment, community involvement in decision-making and wildlife as a resource, northern Africa was concerned with severe population pressures and Aids — although not all delegates were prepared to admit these were problems.

"We really failed to find topics which were relevant to all of us," said Mr Ntala.

"But they tried... the four-day conference was supposed to have ended at 6pm but Africa's delegates argued on and on. At 7pm the organisers turned off most of the lights. At 8pm the interpreters went home. At nine all the lights went off and we had to stop.

"We learned only that we were all human beings with problems. But they must be tackled regionally, Africa is too big to be considered as a single region."

Mr Ntala's life over the past 18 months has moved with bewildering speed.

The quiet and modest man who has just joined Botswana National Parks as a community affairs liaison man, was educated near Rustenburg where he became interested in environmental concerns. In 1990, at Wits Technikon studying computer science, he joined Asec, a French-based youth movement for students interested in economics and management.

Out of the blue Asec chose him to speak on behalf of South Africa's youth at a world environment congress in Tokyo; his first flight: his first speech. He handled it so well he was invited to speak in Taipei and Hong Kong on the way home.

Last year he was invited to Harare where he spoke at one of the many congresses associated with this year's UN Earth Summit. Then he was off to Belgium for another.

In March he is off to another World Summit preliminary, in Costa Rica. Then it's Kenya. After that, the World Summit itself.

Apart from discovering the north-south divide in Africa, he was confronted with the global north-south dichotomy — the growing rift between the developed northern hemisphere and the under-developed southern.

As Mr Ntala put it: "The delegates from the industrialised north were very concerned about the ozone layer. The southern delegates were not at all concerned by that. Many had immediate survival problems."
Pana ruined by debts

By MATHATHA TSEDU

AFRICA seems destined for the biggest collective political embarrassment with the imminent closure of the Pan African News Agency.

PANA, created in 1979 as part of the continent’s fight against biased Western coverage which emphasised negative events, owes over R2.8 million in Dakar.

In turn the Agency is owed over R50.4 million in arrear contributions by members of the Organisation of African Unity, most of whom have not paid their dues for years.

Central to the problems that plagued the agency since its inception has been the shortage of foreign currency in many African states, which makes remittances to the agency difficult.

OAU secretary general, Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, said that the collapse of PANA would “seriously undermine the credibility of Africans because PANA enshrines the spirit of Pan Africanism and Africa’s attempt to break from foreign monopoly in the sector of information”.

PANA’s formation lay in what came to be known as the New World Information Order.

This meant that the domination of the flow of information in the world by western agencies such as Reuters, Agence France Press, United Press International and Associated Press, reflected badly on the image of the continent.

Western agencies only sent their reporters to cover major disasters such as droughts or the fall of a dictator.

To counter this, states had to have national news agencies which would exchange homegrown news so that the news are not only restricted to droughts, coups and civil wars.

The link-up of the national agencies is through PANA, which then sends to all affiliated countries and to the Non-Aligned Movement News Pool in New Delhi, India.
MADAGASCAN MIGRANTS DISTRIBUTES

By Jerome Richebourg

Tribune de l'Est

MADAGASCAN MIGRANTS DISTRIBUTES

By Jerome Richebourg

Tribune de l'Est
Algerian govt cancels elections

ALGIERS — Algeria's powerful High Security Council cancelled the general election which swept Islamic fundamentalists close to power in the first round and clamped a security cordon on the north African nation.

After a night of crisis meetings following the resignation of President Chadli Benjedid, troops and tanks ordered in by Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali were guarding government buildings and other strategic points in the capital today.

Late last night, three tanks painted in the colours of the national gendarmerie headed towards Martyrs' Square, a known rallying point for Islamic militants.

Warned

One Western diplomat said doctors in military hospitals had been put on alert, prepared for possible violence if the elections were cancelled.

The fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), which won 188 of the 232 seats in the first round of elections last month, warned it would not allow "the people's choice" to be thwarted.

Temporary FIS leader Abdelkader Hachani said it insisted the electoral process continue.

"Beware the professionals of despotism who want to steal your Jihad (holy war), your struggle and your ambition for an Islamic state," he told supporters in a statement.

Two other parties which won seats, the Socialist Forces Front (FFS) which took 53, and the former ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), humbled with just 16, also called for the elections to go ahead.

But there was strong military opposition to the prospect of the FIS gaining parliamentary power.

Diplomats said Mr Chadli, who resigned on Saturday night, was forced out by the military opposed to his appeasement of the FIS, which has sworn to put Algeria's 25 million people under Islamic Sharia law.

Abdelmalek Benhabyles, chairman of the Constitutional Council that oversees general and presidential elections, took over as acting president after Mr Chadli resigned and last night called the High Security Council into urgent session.

That body later announced that the second round of elections next Thursday, in which the FIS was poised to win a parliamentary majority, could not go ahead.

It also said it was taking charge of all security questions likely to threaten public order and safety.

Two key figures, Defence Minister Khalid Nezzar and Interior Minister Larbi Belkheir, are members of the High Security Council.

Mr Nezzar has effectively run the country twice before, under states of siege imposed after riots in 1988 and Islamic unrest last June which forced Mr Chadli to postpone the original poll.

Major-General Belkheir has wide experience of both security and political matters, liaising between security forces and the military, and holding the post of secretary-general to the presidency.

As Algeria's Arab neighbours kept a close watch on events, Egypt warned its Muslim militants that security forces would not tolerate any attempt to sow instability.

France, former colonial ruler of Algeria, was also watching carefully. Some 720,000 Algerians officially live in the country and Interior Minister Philippe Marchand said: "Incidents that occur in Algeria must not be allowed to cause disruption in France." — Sapa-Reuter.
The fundamental mistake of winning

AROUND THE walls of the Museum of the Martyrs, beneath the massive concrete wings of the memorial to more than a million Algerians who were killed in the war of independence against the French, the stranger to Algiers can see all he wants of cruelty and oppression.

There are shackles, whips and guns. There are monochrome photographs of Algerian "marchers" and tortured men, their faces shattered or running with blood at the hands of General Massu's 19th Parachute Division. There is a showcase filled with the paraphernalia of the French military police, of bullets and cartridges.

Take a taxi from the memorial down to the Rue Larbi ben M'Hidi and you will find another exhibition. This display of much more recent history provided by the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) - the putative winners in the Algerian general elections - contains some chilling parallels with the Museum of the Martyrs.

Here, again, are the broken faces of dead and beaten men, yet they are victims not of the 1954-62 war against the French but of their own army, of the Algerian showdown in the streets of Algiers in June 1991.

It is as if the French bequeathed not independence but military force to the Algerians.

Under the National Liberation Front's post-independence dictatorship, the Algerian secret police practised many of the same tortures as its French predecessors - "electricity with Oriental refinements", as one victim put it. For its part, the Algerian army controlled society even more thoroughly than the French.

No wonder the largest Islamic party was so silent at the weekend in the aftermath of President Chadli Benjedid's resignation. His prime minister had called upon the army - "always an asset to our nation" - to "protect" the people.

In effect, he was telling Algerians that the army would protect them from the FIS, whose 3 million votes in the first round of national elections last month was to be consecrated in a victorious second round on Thursday. For once, there was no talk of "democracy" from the government.

The FIS had taken part in this dangerous process and had made the mistake of winning. Of course it was not that simple. The FIS sought power without responsibility. Its repeated demands for an Islamic republic alienated the 22 million other Algerians whom it would have to represent once it achieved power. And its assumption of "rightness" - its unquestionable faith in the Islamic project - could be breathtaking.

However, in reality, the "body politic" of Algeria was not threatened in the way it first appeared. The Algerian constitution is so cleverly devised that even if the FIS had dominated parliament, the party would not have been able to take over the government. For it is the president who chooses ministers - and the ministers who draw up a political programme. If that programme is twice rejected by parliament, there are new elections. In other words, the government itself - for which the army would continue to control events.

For despite the grey civilian suits and the gaudy bow-tie which Algeria's Prime Minister, Sid-Ahmed Ghozali, likes to flaunt, it is the army which has run Algeria since the French left in 1962. Hitherto, the army's sway was almost omnipresent. The Algerian officer corps arranged that the military should control local councils through the gendarmerie nationale, and that a senior army officer - invariably the regional military commander - would always be represented on the executive of each national government. Scarcely a political or social decision could therefore be taken in Algeria without the involvement of the army.

However, the Algerian army's quiet coup d'etat is, of course, unpopular in the West. The French will see the weekend's events in Algiers as an opportunity to avoid the nightmare of an Islamic "catastrophe" on the southern shores of the Mediterranean - and perhaps Washington, as a rule, always felt happier with generals in control of Arab states. - The Independent News Service.
Backlash looming over halted Algerian poll
More exiles come home from Africa

14/11/92. By ISAAC MOLEDI

ANOTHER 172 exiles returned to the country from Botswana and Tanzania under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees programme yesterday.

The exiles, most of whom have been out of the country for more than 10 years, arrived in different parts of the country on planes chartered by the UNHCR.

Mr Michael Keats, public relations officer for UNHCR, said the first UNHCR-arranged flights from Zambia and Zimbabwe should arrive in South Africa within the next 10 days.

He said the UNHCR funds the activities of the International Office for Migration which arranges air transport for the exiles, and the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of Exiles. This committee organises the immediate needs of the refugees.
Private enterprise 'vital to Africa's economic progress'

LONDON -- Private enterprise was vital if the crumbling, debt-ridden economies of Africa were to make progress, speakers at a London conference said yesterday.

Despite $106bn in development assistance in the 1980s, average standards of living had fallen consistently and the continent's massive debt burden had grown.

"Quite simply, without private sector development, the road to recovery leads nowhere," International Finance Corporation head Sir William Ryrie told a seminar with the title Africa 2000: The Road to Recovery.

Delegates agreed that to promote the private sector, suitable infrastructure had to be in place.

"Financial markets and structures need to be made more competitive," said African Development Bank president Babacar Ndiaye.

Speakers praised current efforts towards structural economic reform, and moves away from state control which characterised many African states.

"The old philosophy which held that developing countries ... are different and that the normal principles of market economics do not apply there, is discredited," Ryrie said.

Oxford University's Percy Mistry said private investment remained far too low.

"Foreign exchange generated through diversified export earnings, private domestic and foreign investment flows, repatriation of flight capital and savings are nowhere near the levels necessary to make the economic reforms ... self-sustaining," Ryrie said governments should switch their efforts to creating conditions for free and fair competition with a minimum of controls over business decisions.

He said a key area was the financial sector. "A healthy private sector requires a healthy, market-based competitive banking system and capital markets system," Mistry said Africa's debt had doubled to $280bn since 1982, and that African countries paid more than $200bn in debt service between 1983 and 1994, more than the whole debt burden in 1982.

British Trade Minister Tim Sainsbury urged African nations to carry out political as well as economic reform in their bid to end poverty.

He told the conference that developed nations could help with debt relief and introduce measures to help investment and trade.

"Africa's problems are well-documented," he said. "The burden of debt is immense. The infrastructure of many African countries has broken down. In many places, there is a struggle to maintain even basic standards of living."

Africa needed "more than economic recovery programmes". There was growing recognition that it also required good management of national affairs. -- Sapa-Reuter.
Africa tops '91 disaster list

GENEVA — The Red Cross Federation said yesterday that 1991 had been a record year for its disaster relief activities, with Africa topping the list of regions which had received its aid. The Federation of Red Crescent Societies said the upsurge had been the result of famine and war in Africa, the Gulf conflict, natural disasters in Asia and upheaval in former communist countries.

Sapa-Reuters
African AIDS figures don't give full picture

By James Caunter

The world's media have been subjected to an avalanche of headlines about the global AIDS crisis. But what many people don't realize is that the numbers quoted are often grossly inaccurate.

According to the United Nations AIDS Program, there are now over 40 million people living with HIV/AIDS worldwide. However, this figure is based on estimates and projections, and it is believed that many of the reported cases may be incorrect.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recently released a report which stated that there were 35 million people living with HIV/AIDS in 2009. However, this figure has been criticized by some experts who argue that it is too high.

In Africa, the situation is even more complicated. The continent has the highest number of people living with HIV/AIDS, with over 25 million people infected. However, it is estimated that only 50% of those infected in Africa are aware of their status.

The lack of accurate data makes it difficult to plan and implement effective responses to the AIDS epidemic. However, it is essential that we continue to work towards better understanding and prevention.

Despite the challenges, there are also some positive steps being taken. For example, the initiation of antiretroviral therapy has saved millions of lives in Africa.

In conclusion, while the AIDS epidemic remains a major threat to the world's population, it is essential that we continue to work towards better understanding and prevention. Only through accurate data and effective responses can we truly make a difference.

---

*STAT* (13/1/92)
5-man presidency to rule Algeria until end of 1993

ALGIERS - A five-man presidency took control of Algeria from former president Chadli Benjeddid yesterday but kept silent on holding elections cancelled when fundamentalist Muslims took a landslide lead.

The cancellation angered the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) which called its militants to prepare for "all eventualities" and the Algerian people to struggle against the new rulers.

In setting up the collective presidency, known as the High Committee of State, the authorities said the "exceptional situation which the country was going through could not continue without risks for the state and republic."

Commentators had expressed widespread fears of a violent reaction from thwarted FIS militants who were blamed for riots last June when 55 people died.

The new High Committee of State was given a mandate to rule until December 1993, a move seen by at least one foreign diplomat as a means of avoiding the risk of a presidential poll which the still-legal FIS might have won.

A former dissident, Mohamed Boudiaf, who has lived in exile since 1964, was named head of the committee.

But one Western diplomat said its makeup was weak and could be dominated by the military member, strongman Defence Minister Khaled Nezzar. - Sapa-Reuters.
Algeria braces for war

ALGIERS - Algerians yesterday braced for military rule and possible violence after Muslim fundamentalists denounced as treason the takeover of the country by an army-dominated council.

"Within the government, they are waiting to hear whether the FIS (Islamic Salvation Front) will take the historic chance of accepting compromise which could guarantee its legal existence," the daily newspaper Le Matin said.

"Otherwise its dissolution will be not far off."

Foreign diplomats expected the authorities, acting in the High Security Council, to declare a state of emergency which would enable them to suspend the constitution and dissolve political parties. - Sapa-Reuters
Muslims ease fears of riots in Algeria

ALGIERS — Muslim fundamentalists, denied an election victory, say Algeria's new leaders are an illegal junta but that the march towards an Islamic state can continue without violence.

Their leaders' careful statements in response to five days of government upheaval eased fears of riots.

Today should have seen the conclusive round of voting in Algeria's first democratic general election. The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), which won 188 seats in December, seemed sure of the additional 25 it needed to take power.

Instead, the day will see the return from 27 years of exile of Mohamed Boudiaf (72), a former National Liberation Front dissident, to head a five-man collective presidency.

He was chosen by a committee of top military and political leaders to replace President Chadli Benjedid who quit on Saturday night, leaving the election unfinished. — Sapa-Reuters.
UN sees weak SA economic recovery

NEW YORK — South Africa's recovery from a recession “largely driven by domestic considerations” is expected to be weak, but the African continent's output is projected to grow by 3 percent in 1992, about the same as in the past two years, according to the United Nations.

An updated report on the world economy issued by the Economic and Social Council placed South Africa among “the smaller developed market economies” that were in recession last year. Finland, Sweden, Australia and New Zealand were named alongside South Africa.

Referring to Africa at large, the report said that as the continent's population grew at about the same rate as the economy, “per capita output will remain unchanged for a third consecutive year, following almost a decade of decline”.

“The threat of food shortages remained primarily in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan.”

“The output decline in these countries and in the Ivory Coast and Zaire largely offsets the modest growth in some of the other oil-importing countries.”

“Attempts at economic reform and diversification in Africa have yet to be translated into sustained increases in income,” added the report.
Army HQ surrounded

BRAZZAVILLE (Congo) — Soldiers surrounded the army headquarters of this central-African nation yesterday and issued a series of demands to the interim government set up to lead Congo from military to civilian rule.

Troops surrounded the radio station and an unidentified officer broadcast their demands that interim Prime Minister Andre Milongo reinstate officers sacked this week and fire his Secretary of State for Defence, Colonel Michel Gangouo, before the end of the day.

The soldiers rejected new officers, friendly to the civilian administration, who were appointed to lead the armed forces on Tuesday.

Mr Milongo had 10 days to name a new military leadership, the soldiers ordered.

They said they would not be held responsible for their actions if Mr Milongo refused, but did not say what they planned.

Troops from the parachute regiment that guards the airport led the protest, surrounding the army headquarters in downtown Brazzaville, capital of this former French colony, and the radio station. — Sapa-AP.
The Spur for Egyptian Fanatics

By Neil Moynihan of the Star Africa Service in Cairo

Tory's recent return to the club was a cause for celebration among the fans, who had been eagerly awaiting his return. The atmosphere was electric as the stadium filled with cheering fans, eager to see their beloved player perform on the field. The anticipation was palpable, and there were high expectations for Tory's performance. It was a day that would go down in history, as Tory's return marked a new chapter in the club's story.
CAIRO - The overwhelming victory in the first round of elections in Algeria by the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front has repercussions throughout the Arab world, where fundamentalists are pushing for power.

In a statement, the Egyptian interior minister has warned its Muslim militants that security forces would not tolerate any attempt to sow instability.

The Islamic electoral sweep in Algeria has brought a much needed boost to local fundamentalists of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, whose influence, partly owing to a severe crackdown by state security, had beenwaning.

In a message of congratulation to an imprisoned FIS leader, a local Muslim leader, Sheikh Abdul Nasser, described the elections as “a good omen that speeds the victory of the Islamic movement in all our beloved Islamic countries.”

A debate last week at the Cairo International Book Fair posed the question: “The state in Egypt: civil or religious?” It was packed with thousands of supporters of the Islamic cause. The spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, Meamoun El- Hodeibi, called for the establishment of an Islamic state in Egypt.

“If people want their affairs run according to their beliefs, it is only natural that the state should be Islamic. The confusion is a product of cultural imperialism,” he said.

In answer to accusations by secularists that an Islamic state would discriminate against Christians and other minorities, Sheikh Mohammed El-Ghazali, an influential writer and speaker on Islamic affairs, said no religion was more tolerant of minorities than Islam.

Critical

The opposition in Egypt has been highly critical of the Western and, in some cases, Arab response to the fundamentalist victory in the first round of elections in Algeria. The banner splashed across Al-Sha’ab, the weekly organ of the opposition socialist Labour party, announced: “A flagrant plot by Western countries and their subordinates against democracy in Algeria.”

The article went on to criticize Western nations who failed to accept the validity of the democratic victory of the fundamentalists as only valuing democracy within the confines of their own borders.

The news of the fundamentalists’ victory in Algeria will not have been welcomed by the Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Egypt is already greatly perturbed by radical Sudan on its southern border. It expressed alarm at the visit of Iranian President Rafsanjani to Khartoum in December. Rafsanjani told a rally that Sudan could have influence on the Islamic movement. A Mubarak confidant, Mahfouz Ansari, of the daily al-Ghomouri, asked: “Could what has happened in Algeria be transferred to its neighbours? The possibility is clearly there.”

Mubarak has been characteristically evasive in his reactions to events in Algeria.

Foreign minister Mr Amr Moussa said Egypt was following events closely, pointing out that Algeria is a sisterly state. He said: “Cairo wishes stability and welfare for its (Algeria’s) people.”

At the Cairo Book Fair, Mubarak was non-committal when questioned by secularists on the fundamentalists’ power surge. He finds himself in a dilemma. While not wanting to give the impression of disapproval, the Egyptian president, at the same time, should not be seen to fully support it.

The FIS victory in Algeria can largely be attributed to the inability of the ruling National Liberation Front to come up with answers to the economic crisis and huge unemployment in the country.

One leading Egyptian secularist commented: “The source of political fundamentalism is failure of the establishment when the individual feels that rational policies have not fulfilled his basic needs.”

Egyptian fundamentalists will once again be tempted to play on popular discontent as prices of basic commodities increase. Mubarak has spent the last years trying to ensure the electorate do not turn in fundamentalists as disillusionment with his policies grows.

Members of the Muslim Brotherhood complain about the violent suppression they have suffered. “The government has hit us hard,” says Mahmoud, “most people are in prison, and the ones who are not are afraid to show themselves in public.”

The group itself, however, is often connected with violence. Gun battles between militants and police are common.

Extremists

Egypt’s warning to extremists comes as no surprise. Moussa told parliament’s defence and national security committee security forces were closely following contacts between Egyptian militants and foreign fundamentalist groups in Algeria, Iran and Sudan.

He said: “Our commitment to democracy does not limit our movement to immediately confront any attempt to break the law or destabilise security whether by religious extremists or others.”
Congo's rulers warn dissidents

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast) — Congo's ruling council held an emergency meeting yesterday to discuss mutinous troops' demands for the return of officers fired by an interim government to end military rule, State television reported.

The meeting came after a tough government statement on Wednesday night ordered protesting soldiers back to their barracks and said those who dis obeyed would be considered coup plotters, a charge that carries the death sentence.

"The army is and must remain de-politicised. It no longer has the right to indulge in politics in the place of the people," the government said.

Its statement was broadcast on Congo State radio — monitored in Abidjan — which was earlier seized by rebel soldiers who also surrounded the army headquarters in Brazzaville.

After several hours, the soldiers abandoned their posts, saying interim Prime Minister Andre Milongo had to appoint a new military leadership.

Groups of dissident troops blocked some roads on Wednesday night, barring people from areas around the airport and a government building where the Army High Command was discussing the crisis. — Sapa-AP.
Algerian leader warns Muslims

ALGIERS — Algeria's new leader, Mohamed Boudiaf, yesterday returned home from exile to take power and warned Islamic fundamentalists a state of law would rule and religion must not be abused.

Mr Boudiaf addressed the nation within hours of arrival from Morocco to a 'red-carpet' welcome, 27 years after being sentenced to death for political activity.

He told Algeria's 25 million people: 'It is not permitted to anyone, individual or group, to monopolise religion for unholy interests. Islam is sacred, and no one must abuse it.'

His statement was seen as a clear warning to the Islamic Salvation Front, which planned to make Algeria an Islamic state after taking an apparently unassailable lead in a general election.

President Chadli Benjedid resigned at the weekend. Diplomats say he was forced out by military and senior officials angered at his determination to see the general election through.

On Sunday, Algeria's interim rulers cancelled the unfinished poll. — Sapa-Reuters.
STATEMENT PREVAILS IN ALGERIA

WORLD

THE WEEKLY MAIL/NEWSPAPER 17 TO 23
Ghana gives nod to reformed SA

ACCRA — Ghana's left-wing government said yesterday that travel restrictions between it and South Africa would be lifted and a direct air link might be established.

Foreign Minister Obed Asamoah told visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen that Ghana's new policy was in line with the decision by other Commonwealth members to lift sanctions gradually in step with political changes in South Africa.

But in remarks quoted by the official Ghana News Agency he added: "Ghana will not invest or encourage investment in Pretoria until all aspects of apartheid are removed and majority rule established".

Since independence from Britain in 1958, Ghana has consistently been in the forefront of black African nations opposing apartheid policies.

But the rapid pace of reform in South Africa has led many African governments to seek trade and cooperation agreements with Pretoria. — Sapa-Reuters.
BOR (Sudan) - Under a boiling sun, the bodies scattered around Bor decomposed quickly.

But, several weeks after the massacre, most are still identifiable as man or woman, adult or child.

There were at least 40 bodies on the last 60km of the road to Bor, a swampy town in rebel-held southern Sudan. All but two appeared to be civilians.

Most lay where they had fallen, shot or speared by men once regarded as comrades in the fight against Khartoum’s Islamic-backed military government.

Others were twisted or dismembered by flocks of vultures.

“When they catch someone like a small boy, they kill him by spear or knife,” said Chief Robert Deng Garang. “If you are running, they shoot you with a gun.”

A complete tally of civilians killed when a splinter group of the rebel Sudanese People’s Liberation Army swept down on Bor towards the end of last year may never be known.

Independent sources say the figure may exceed 1,000. Refugee workers returning to neighbouring Kenya put it as high as 5,000.

The SPLA, which has waged an eight-year battle against domination by the Muslim north, split last August. A breakaway faction accused SPLA leader John Garang of human rights abuses and dictatorship.

FOCUS

Sapa-Reuter

Some of the dead had clearly been killed after being captured. The body of one man sprawled beside the road still had a rope tied around the neck.

A shaken Western aid worker said she had seen one victim castrated. Other relief workers spoke of seeing dead children, tied together by their wrists.

In the nearby village of Baidit, several bodies still smouldered seven days after the attack. Corpses were found with hands and feet together, lay by their sides.

“A lot of them were killed on the way and in the bushes,” said Mrs Dorothy Ayak Deng, who fled from Bor to Ngangala, 250km further south. “My own daughter was killed.”

Officially, the SPLA dispute was about whether the south should seek autonomy within a united Sudan or complete secession. But it quickly reignited centuries-old tribal rivalry between Garang’s Dinka tribe and Nuer who support the splinter group.

Relief workers and visitors to the region say the Nuer swept down into the Dinka strongholds around the town of Bor towards the end of November, raping and pillaging as they went.

Many locals fled into the swamps, but hundreds of women and children are believed to have been kidnapped.

Aid workers believe as many as 100,000 people may have fled south like Dorothy.

“They are very tired and malnourished,” said Mr David Lisamula of the Catholic Relief Service.

“The nutritional status of these people is appalling,” said another relief official.

Most villages were looted of anything worth taking.

Swathes of cotton pillaged from health care centres festoon surrounding thorn bushes. Medicines and syringes litter the ground.

In Jemieza, a sickly six-year-old, Awor, lay on a sheet of tarpaulin. Local people said he would soon die without milk.

Jemieza’s population was swollen by hundreds of people fleeing from the north. Living under trees, they are dependent on relief food just starting to arrive in convoys organised by international relief agencies.

Their future may be bleaker still. Many thousands of cattle have died from disease in the past four months of exceptional rainfall and prolonged flooding.

Dr Adrian Pinto, a veterinarian surgeon with the United Nations Children’s Fund, believes thousands more cattle were stolen in the fighting and many more killed along the roads and in the bush.

To the Dinka of Bor, cattle mean life. Their milk, blood and urine all play an important part in the people’s existence.

Although a ceasefire is now in place between the rival factions of the SPLA, tensions in Bor remain high.

SPLA officers loyal to John Garang voice hostility to the breakaway commander, Mr Riak Machar.

“Riak has created a holocaust,” said SPLA commander Kwoi Manyang. “He has massacred the people and destroyed their homes. It’s an act even the government we are fighting has never done before.”

Machar says the attack was provoked by soldiers of Garang and denies committing atrocities against civilians.

“It was the crossfire. When fighting starts, civilians normally move away,” he said in an interview at his remote headquarters in southern Sudan last December.

He also denies claims that forces under his control included unruly Nuer tribesmen, incited by promises of looted cattle.

The only real winner in the inter-factional fighting in the military junta in Khartoum, it seems.

Some relief workers claim the Sudanese air force has backed Machar’s wing and bombed civilian targets in the south. Peace talks between the two SPLA factions are due to be held in Nairobi early next month.
Kenyan pact could open gate to Africa

While official trade statistics pitched the value of trade between Kenya and SA at about R25m during the sanctions era, the SA Foreign Trade Organisation (Safco) believes the figure could be doubled.

Safco Africa area manager Paul Runge says the figure could reach R50m, but it will be difficult to come up with a precise amount, as trade statistics are in a mess.

After Safco announced on Friday that a mutual cooperation agreement had been signed between itself and the Kenyan Association of Manufacturers, Runge said it was an "open secret" that trade between the two countries had been conducted for years through Mombasa.

The new agreement paves the route for formal trade links and would provide accurate statistics of trade between the two countries.

Commodities had made up the bulk of trade, despite the highly organised nature of Kenya's small industrial sector. Although there were no joint ventures under way, he indicated these could be expected soon. Access to multilateral funding would help to speed up the process.

Trade between the two countries — expected to reach between R40m and R80m for 1992 — was expected to rise by between 300% and 500% in 1993.

The agreement would also provide SA businessmen with a gateway to other African countries.

Kenya was sensible choice of entry for local businessmen as it had a good infrastructure, was English-speaking and was getting its house in order in accordance with IMF demands.

Runge said Kenyan authorities were acting fast to break down bureaucratic structures and corruption which hindered trade development. — Sapa.
Ghana wants airlink

ACCRA - Ghana wants to establish airlinks with South Africa.

The country's secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, said Ghana had shifted its policy on South Africa to fall in line with the decision by the Commonwealth to lift people-to-people sanctions against the Republic.

His government would, however, not encourage trade and investment between the two countries. Policy on South Africa would always be guided by the ANC, he said.

Source: Sowetan Africa News Service.
At their own game
beats capitalists
The Third World

Amrose Evans-Pritchard in London

1975-82
Congo’s leader urged to return home

BRAZZAVILLE — Mutinous troops in Congo told Prime Minister Andre Milongo yesterday to come out of hiding and pledged security for him and his family.

Several hundred soldiers were deployed at strategic points in Brazzaville after demanding the resignation of Milongo’s government on Sunday.

A communiqué from the military high command, broadcast from the army-occupied radio building, called on Milongo to return to his suburban home and guaranteed to protect him.

Military sources said the premier had taken refuge in Boko village, 200km from the capital.

The simmering conflict between Milongo and the armed forces broke into the open on January 15 when a group of soldiers went on television and demanded the sacking of new Deputy Defence Minister Michel Gangou.

The troops said Milongo appointed Gangou to boost his chances in presidential elections later this year. They also demanded the cancellation of changes made in the army command.

Milongo, who was appointed by a pro-democracy national conference last year, refused the order. The mutineers went to the airport on Saturday to prevent Milongo flying to the oil city of Pointe Noire, and occupied state media.

Congo has been run by an uneasy trio of authorities since its national conference. Longtime military President Denis Sassou-Nguesso remains head of state but was theoretically stripped of all but his ceremonial prerogatives.

A High Council of the Republic, elected by the conference, acts as interim parliament with powers to dismiss Milongo’s government.

Military and political sources said the council was in emergency session yesterday and was expected to issue a statement on the crisis. One army officer said members were debating a censure motion against Milongo.

Diplomats and other observers in Brazzaville said most of the rebel troops were from Sassou-Nguesso’s region, La Cuvette.

Sassou-Nguesso, who headed a one-party and supposedly Marxist regime until the national conference, has adopted a low profile since the arrival of full-blown democracy.

But diplomats say he has considerable wealth, loyalists in and outside the army and a degree of support from regional leaders, including his son-in-law, the president of Gabon.

A statement from Milongo’s office sent to news organisations in Paris denied the government had fallen. — Sapa-Reuter.

---

**Group income statement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>30 November 1991</th>
<th>% change 1990</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Turnover</strong></td>
<td>366 753</td>
<td>-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating profit</strong></td>
<td>50 731</td>
<td>-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net finance costs</strong></td>
<td>4 721</td>
<td>9 044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Profit before taxation</strong></td>
<td>46 010</td>
<td>45 496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Taxation</strong></td>
<td>16 535</td>
<td>19 552</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group balance sheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>30 November 1991</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shareholders’ equity</strong></td>
<td>99 331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outside shareholders’ interest</strong></td>
<td>7 239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shareholders’ funds</strong></td>
<td>106 620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net borrowings</strong></td>
<td>939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred tax</strong></td>
<td>2 047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds employed</strong></td>
<td>109 587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property</strong></td>
<td>19 046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other fixed assets</strong></td>
<td>15 650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Retailers look to African markets despite unrest

SA's leading retailers are eyeing mass markets in Africa for possible expansion, despite political uncertainty and economic instability.

Retailers contacted by Business Day were wary of detailing plans for investment in southern and central Africa, but some suggested that entry or expansion into these markets was possible within a year or two.

Those approached included Checkers, Pick 'n Pay, the Premier Group, the Metro Group and OK Bazaars.

Earlier this year, South African companies, including the Premier Group and Barlow Rand, lost millions of rands as a result of damage caused by rioting and looting in Zaire. This raised questions as to whether continued investment was wise.

Metro MD Carlos dos Santos said in spite of the recent civil unrest in Zaire, the group's Kinshasa Cash & Carry venture had been worth the effort. His company would be willing to re-invest in Zaire.

Metro's Zairean business venture started two years ago with a Cash & Carry warehouse which was set to expand when political unrest destroyed the business. The disaster hurt Metro but it has continued exporting goods to various African countries.

"Apart from exporting produce, Metro has investments in Malawi, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Swaziland," said Dos Santos.

Stability

Pick 'n Pay director Sean Summers said the economic situation in Africa was very fluid and his company would continue to monitor developments. Offers to open stores had been received from Angola, Mozambique, Mauritius and Malawi.

Although the Premier Group is experienced in trade with African countries, it is looking for a fair amount of political and economic stability before investing further. "In addition, African states should be able to generate enough money to pay for the goods," said director Gordon Utlan.

Premier still owns a small retailing and wholesaling operation in Lubumbashi in Zaire. In Zimbabwe, it has flour mills and bakeries, selling bread under the Blue Ribbon brand, and has a Cash & Carry store in Maputo, Mozambique. But Utlan cautioned that southern and central African states currently lacked the ability to generate wealth and had weak currencies.

Checkers MD Sergio Marthinengo said the group had no future investment plans for the frontline states. But the group had been approached six months ago to enter into joint ventures with businessmen from Mozambique and Angola.

OK Bazaars financial director Brian Borcherds said: "Yes, we do have plans to invest, but details of future African trade is confidential."

However, he said a healthy political climate was an important factor for a final time and date. Satisfactory financial arrangements, political stability, foreign exchange rates and good infrastructure were prerequisites for investment, Borcherds said.
3 die in Congo street battles

BRAZZAVILLE - Street protests against an army mutiny in Congo resumed yesterday and medical sources said three civilians had been killed in clashes with troops.

More than 1,000 protesters built street barricades in Brazzaville's Baco district in a show of support for fugitive prime minister Mr. Andre Milongo.

The troops stepped in to block the central African country's stuttering progress to democracy.

The army high command and its soldiers demanded the resignation of Milongo and his interim government. They took over the radio and television buildings on Monday.

Medical sources said three people, including a 13-year-old girl, were killed on Monday in street fighting with the army. One soldier was in critical condition. - Sega-Reuters.
Algeria set to reshuffle its cabinet

ALGIERS — Algeria's new military-backed leadership set the stage yesterday for a Cabinet reshuffle in the hope of jump-starting the economy and undercutting Islamic fundamentalists.

Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali, who held the same position under Benjedid, is expected to recommend the merger of several ministries.

Ghozali, who faced strong opposition from Benjedid and is facing a fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), enjoys great support among the young, poor and jobless.

Ghozali, considered a Western-oriented moderate, has joined the military leaders who toppled Benjedid and cancelled run-off elections that would have been won by FIS.

The man who holds the real power is Defence Minister Maj-Gen Khaled Nezzar, who controls the tanks and troops that have taken up positions around the capital since Benjedid resigned. — Sapa-AP.
Congo's leader comes out of hiding to calm masses

BRAZZAVILLE — Congo's Prime Minister Andre Milongo came out of hiding yesterday and appealed for national calm after mutinous soldiers demanded his dismissal.

Milongo went into hiding on Monday as troops called for the resignation of his interim government. The embattled leader has not been seen in public since last week when soldiers invaded radio and television stations and his cabinet at an official building near his home, official sources said.

Milongo recorded a message on national radio and TV, official sources said.

The rebels originally demanded that Defence Secretary Michel Gangou be sacked, but the demands have since escalated to replacement of the entire transitional government. Soldiers earlier broadcast their own communiqué banning marches and demonstrations.

Three people were killed when troops fired in the air to break up demonstrations in Brazzaville on Monday. Demonstrations continued yesterday as thousands of people massed along a main road to Milongo's house. They erected barricades of tree trunks, wheels and burning tyres in the Bakongo district and said they would not allow any soldiers from "approaching." The military later sent five armoured personnel carriers to confront the demonstrators, but there was no immediate move to disperse them.

Government sources said the massive demonstrations and concern for security had delayed yesterday's planned meetings between Milongo and a transitional assembly intended to end the deadlock.

The assembly was formed last year when a national pro-democracy conference ended military rule and stripped military President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of most powers.
Common market planned for African trade area

LUSAKA — The Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for eastern and southern Africa plans to establish a common market for the region before the year 2000, to undermine smugglers taking advantage of price differences and restricted trade.

PTA secretary-general Bingu wa Mutharika said in Lusaka yesterday the grouping would streamline cross-border investments within the member countries.

The PTA and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) had overlapping membership but different objectives, and would hence work parallel to each other, he said.

Heads of state of the PTA countries would meet in Lusaka at the end of this month to decide on whether to combine the SADCC and PTA, and also to work out programmes that would bring maximum benefit to all members.

The PTA counted among its successes the Federation of Industries and Chambers of Commerce.

"Travel for people in the region has been greatly eased by the use of the currencies of member states while much PTA trade passing through the clearing house has also eased movements of goods," Wa Mutharika said. — Sapa.

Wangs Limited

Prospectus

The Company proposes to conduct a rights offer

It is intended to announce that, further to the announcement
change ("the JSE") has granted listings for:

- The offer is to be issued in terms of the rights offer; and
- The rights offer.

The offer are as follows:

- Offer 1992
  - Friday, 24 January
  - Monday, 27 January
  - Friday, 31 January
  - Wednesday, 19 February
  - Thursday, 20 February

The JSE
- Thursday, 20 February
- Friday, 21 February
SADCC set for showdown over multiple membership

THE 10-member Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) is set to initiate a showdown with the SA Currency Union (SACU) and the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) over the issue of member states belonging to more than one of the regional organisations.

The organisations involved, SADCC, SACU and the PTA, share a number of members and currently have very different functions.

But following SADCC's reorientation into an organisation aimed at economic integration rather than economic co-operation, a duplication of activities is expected. The re-orientation of SADCC is expected to take place at its conference at the end of January when its 10 members will replace SADCC's founding memorandum of understanding with a treaty.

Botswana, Namibia and Swaziland are members of both SADCC and the SACU, while almost all the 10 SADCC members are or are about to become members of the 22-member PTA which includes almost all southern and east African states.

A summary of SADCC's conference theme document issued by the organisation says there is an urgent need to rationalise the activities of the three organisations if conflict and wasteful duplication are to be avoided.

"The current memberships in the three organisations will become increasingly unworkable, as the final destination of economic integration of southern Africa is approached," the document notes.

"SADCC member states will ultimately need to consider seriously the viability of belonging to more than one regional integration organisation."

The change in the functioning of SADCC, established to counter SA's domination of the region, come about primarily as a result of changes taking place in SA which is now expected to become the organisation's eleventh member.

The document anticipates that the development of a post-apartheid SA will be followed by a period of economic and social adjustment within SA to redress the legacy of apartheid.

But SADCC expects SA, which it says was responsible for "massive destabilisation" resulting in damages estimated to have cost $30bn in 10 years, to make good the slump in donor funding afflicting the organisation.

At the last SADCC conference in Tanzania, where the decision was taken to review the organisation's founding document, SADCC agreed on alternative measures to ensure the success of its programme of co-operation between states.

Post-apartheid SA is expected to "fill the role of the present co-operating partners (aid donors) through the provision of aid and investment capital to SADCC member states," the organisation said after the conference.

SADCC's document rejects a laissez faire approach to regional integration, although it states that closer regional integration is imperative for SADCC members. The laissez faire approach would be "inappropriate" because of the gross disparities within the region and would tend to entrench existing inequities and imbalances.

SA, which has an economy three times the size of all SADCC economies combined, currently dominates the region and there is a danger of further economic polarisation unless countervailing measures are taken, the document notes.

Penrose Holding
(Reg No 67/0968/06) ("Penrose")

Salient dates of

Equity International (Pty) Limited is authorised to list its ordinary shares on the JSE.

The committee of The Johannesburg Stock Exchange - the renounceable (nil paid) letters of allocation - the new ordinary shares to be issued in terms of the rights offer.

Accordingly, the salient dates for the rights offer are:

- Last day to register to participate in the rights offer
- Listing of letters commences on the JSE
- Rights offer opens - circulars posted
- Last day for dealing in letters
- Last day for splitting of letters (by 14:30)
- Listing of new ordinary shares commences on the JSE
- Rights offer closes, payment to be made by 14:30
A highroad into Africa
Africa's copper output 'is set to fall'

LONDON — Chile will consolidate its position as the leading world copper producer over the next five years, while output in Africa will fall below the levels achieved at the start of this decade, according to forecasts published on Wednesday.

The Economist Intelligence Unit, a private business information company, projected that Chilean output in 1996 would be 2.3 million tons.

It put total world production, excluding the former communist bloc, at 8.8 million tons in 1996, 7.8 million tons forecast in 1997 and 7.4 million tons forecast in 1998.

Zambia's 1996 production is projected at 450,000 tons, down from 496,000 tons in 1996, and Zaire's output is expected to fall to 275,000 tons from 356,000 tons in 1995.

The information company attributed the Chile's expected rise in copper output to the large expansion of the private mining sector, while political instability and the lack of investment were blamed for Africa's poor outlook.

It forecast that the price of copper would average $0.97 a pound this year, compared with $1.06 last year and $1.20 in 1995. The 1996 average was projected at $1.10. — AP-DJ.
LUSAKA — The head of a 20-nation trade group of eastern and southern African nations yesterday cautioned member states against rushing into bilateral trade pacts with SA without careful study.

Preferred Trade Area (PTA) secretary-general Mhengu Wamutarka said reforms in SA had long-term implications for the trade group.

But he said he was concerned at the pace at which SA was moving to establish bilateral economic ties with PTA members.

"This is not a very healthy move because there are a lot of things we do not know about the SA economy, or the strength of our own vis-a-vis SA. 

"We need to make a very sober and thorough assessment of the SA economy and those of the PTA countries to see where we stand and assess the benefits for us," Wamutarka said.

The PTA, formed in 1963 to boost trade and development among its members, holds its 10th annual summit in Lusaka at the end of the month.

The PTA council of ministers starts a five-day session today ahead of the summit.

The meetings will assess progress so far and adopt a strategy for the 1990s aimed at a common market by the year 2000.

Meanwhile, the SA Foreign Trade Organisation said in Johannesburg yesterday that the first official invitations to SA businesses to exhibit at international trade fairs in Angola and Zimbabwe had been received and that the trade organisation had been approached by the Zambian trade fair organisers to encourage exhibitors to participate in their show.

The value of exhibiting in key African markets was demonstrated at last year's Kenya International Trade Fair where SA exhibitors made excellent contacts and sales. — Sapa-Reuters.
Algerian military authorities arrested several hundred Islamic radicals, some accused of attacks on soldiers with swords, daggers and axes. Islamic leaders, deprived of their election victory last month by the military coup, met to announce that they would set up a parallel government. 
**Algerian junta ‘wants civil war’**

ALGIERS — Islamic fundamentalists, reeling from a military crackdown on their leaders and publications, accused Algeria’s rulers of trying to start a civil war.

“The junta persists in wanting to make the blood of people run, seeking pretexts to drag the people and the army into a war...” Rabah Kebir, head of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) political commission, said on Saturday night.

A source close to the forces said Mr Kebir was among “wanted” FIS activists after defying a ban on using mosques for politics.

The FIS has denounced Algeria’s new rulers as illegal for preventing it from gaining power at the ballot box.

Police raided the FIS’s weekly “to arrest journalists” at the weekend and stopped the printing of its Arabic journal Al Mouaqid.

Both carried a call by temporary leader Abdelkader Hachani who, the authorities say, called for rebellion in the army. He was arrested last Wednesday.

The Algerian news agency APS said “troublemakers” had been identified.
Babangida suggests establishing African Defence Force

LUNZEM BINGE

The establishment of a Joint African Defence Force

Joint African Force prior to consult

laced force is another African force prior to consult-
lant. It would be directed for SA to consider

the threats. From this viewpoint, an African

Defence Force existing would be an

International Force was said to be a

way of a non-African entity in the

African Renaissance. There was a

viewpoint that the African Force could be a

way of establishing the framework of the

International Force to control the

situation. The African Defence Force could

be a way of establishing the framework of

international cooperation. However, the

lack of a non-African entity would make

it difficult to establish the framework of the

International Force. It would be advisable to

consider the establishment of a Joint African

Defence Force. This would provide a

framework for the establishment of the

International Force. The African Defence

Force could be a way of establishing the

framework of the International Force. It

would also provide a framework for the

establishment of the International Force.
AIDS epidemic likely to hit African copper supplies

The Aids epidemic will make a gradual, but unavoidable, impact on copper mining in Zaire and Zambia, two of the world’s biggest producers of the metal, suggests the Economist Intelligence Unit in a special report today.

In an otherwise fairly optimistic view of world copper consumption, demand and prices it says: “Essentially, the danger is that skilled workers, supervisors and managers will die of aids faster than replacement can be trained.

“The result will be not a sudden collapse in mine output. Rather there will be a slow but steady increase in the incidence of breakdowns, accidents, delays and misjudgements and, output will suffer.”

The report shows that copper mine production in the two countries peaked at 1.2 million tons in 1974 and gradually fell to 860 000 tons in 1990. The EIU sees their combined output falling to 600 000 tons by 1993 before recovering a little in the following three years.

Mr Peter Parkinson, author of the report, says that transport systems in the African copper belt will always be precarious and will also be affected by the aids epidemic. So the amount of copper in the “pipeline” will tend to increase.

The report points out that Indonesia is emerging to take up some of the slack caused by Africa’s problems and is becoming a “sizeable low-cost producer”. Between 1990 and 1996 the EIU forecasts Indonesia’s copper output will jump by 85 percent to 315 000 tons.

Mr Parkinson suggests copper companies will take a lesson from their precious metal counterparts and in future attempt to stabilise revenue through long-term forward sales and linked loan techniques.

“This may lead to downward pressure on prices, as has happened with gold and silver, and hence to lower profits and/or continued efforts to reduce costs.

“In the shorter run this will be of most benefit to the more efficient producers; in the longer run it will be of greater benefit to those with higher ore grades”. Financial Times.

Western World Refined Copper ('000 tons)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>10,390</td>
<td>10,010</td>
<td>9,530</td>
<td>9,075</td>
<td>8,880</td>
<td>8,530</td>
<td>8,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td>10,520</td>
<td>10,250</td>
<td>9,840</td>
<td>9,360</td>
<td>8,985</td>
<td>8,810</td>
<td>8,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>-130</td>
<td>-240</td>
<td>-310</td>
<td>-285</td>
<td>-95</td>
<td>-280</td>
<td>-282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net imports</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock change</td>
<td>+60</td>
<td>-60</td>
<td>+15</td>
<td>+35</td>
<td>+215</td>
<td>+20</td>
<td>-46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reported stocks</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>958</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price (US cents/lb) §</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: EIU (e) actual, (o) estimated. * from centrally planned economies. Apparent. § dollar equivalent of LME cash settlement price.
SADC merger suggested

LUSAKA  - Members of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for eastern and southern Africa and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) should consider merging to avoid duplication of activities and enhance development in the subregion.

This view was expressed at the meeting of the council of ministers for the PTA which ended in Lusaka on Monday.

"Continued duplication of regional institutions in the subregion, in particular the PTA and SADCC, hinders...integration. The time has come for member states to consider the issue seriously and the sooner the PTA and SADCC are merged the better," the ministers observed.

But an SADCC representative reiterated the commitment of his organisation to continue cooperating with the PTA. He did not see the merger of the two bodies as essential.

The council of ministers was informed that the PTA had received about $80m in assistance from the international community recently.

Organisations which helped the PTA included the African Development Bank, the Commonwealth Secretariat, UN Development Programme, Germany, World Health Organisation, China and Austria. - Sapa.

Now you can put
VOICE, FAX AND LAN TRAFFIC
onto low-cost low-bandwidth Telkom lines that previously only transmitted data.

CHEAPER TALK

Advanced technology for handling Voice, Fax and Lan traffic has previously only been available to very large corporations which could afford to rent Telkom’s high-bandwidth lines.

MICOM

Now, enterprises using low-bandwidth lines for data
drop in UK output
LOW COSTS SIGNAL
British are ahead

AIGNER'S RISING POLITICAL

REGISTRATION IN Masse
SADCC conference to examine SA’s role

MAPUTO — Economic integration in southern Africa and SA’s role in the area are key issues at a two-day formal meeting of western donors and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) states opening in Maputo today.

Ministers and officials met in sectoral groups yesterday to discuss progress in areas ranging from mining to transport, energy and tourism.

The SADCC comprises Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Delegates said the emphasis was on moving away from state control.

SADCC spokesman Kgolokwe Moesi said yesterday the organisation was moving beyond co-ordination to make a viable start towards economic integration.

"It is very important at this juncture that our (donor) co-operation partners should be with us from the start," he said.

As of mid-1991, SADCC projects had received foreign funding of about $3.2bn towards total costs estimated at $8.2bn.

Moesi said the SADCC had never been just an anti-apartheid group. The aim had been collective self-reliance, with the objective of a post-apartheid SA joining it.

An SADCC committee is working on a treaty to create a formal framework leading towards economic integration. Moesi said a draft treaty should be ready for a SADCC summit in August.

The 18-nation Preferential Trade Area (PTA) of eastern and southern Africa starts its two-day summit in Lusaka today after trade ministers at a preliminary meeting called for a merger of the PTA and the SADCC.

Nine of the 10 SADCC members belong to the PTA, but there appears to be little interest in such a merger within SADCC at the moment, and it is not an issue at the Maputo conference.

Asked about Pretoria’s future dealings with the SADCC and the PTA, SA trade commissioner in Maputo David Laxbacher said: "It will be a political decision and one that will be influenced by the future course of SADCC and the PTA."

Meanwhile, government ministers from Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark, who met yesterday for an annual session ahead of the SADCC conference, stressed the need for private business involvement in Africa’s economic development.

— Reuter
African trade doors are opening wider but the big uncertainty is payment

Heart of darkness or pot of gold? Contemplating modern Africa — with poverty and debt spread pretty evenly across most of the territory, and an infamous reputation for corruption — businesswomen and investors tend quietly to choose the first description and look elsewhere with their merchandise. But for SA, there is a fresh understanding of the opportunities and complexities of the continent of which we are a part.

Capitalising on this requires the fortitude of a latter-day Livingstone.

The facts speak for themselves. Of the 45 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, 32 fall into the category of low-income nations which, according to World Bank ratings, means a per capita income of fewer than US$500 a year. In 1990 the continent owed $234bn in long-term external debt — 98% of its GDP.

For all that, in its 1991 World Economic Outlook, the bank predicts a modest improvement in economic growth for Africa as a whole during 1992 — despite rising inflation and a decline in GDP growth in sub-Saharan countries. The current account deficit for the continent will narrow by $1,5bn.

At trade level, that provides a gap. After all, since President F W de Klerk rejoined the world in February 1990, African countries have been opening their arms to South Africans both as tourists and businessmen. Of the major markets all except Nigeria, Libya and Tanzania trade in some way or other with SA and direct air links between Kenya and SA are already in place. Others are in the pipeline.

The process began before de Klerk. Sanc-

tions closed important world doors to our manufacturers but a to-and-fro of trade links with Africa actually expanded during this grim period. For understandable reasons, Customs & Excise does not yet release trade figures between individual countries; however, it says exports from SA to the whole of Africa have risen from $3,4bn in 1989 to $4bn in 1990 and to $5,1bn, according to preliminary figures, for 1991. This trend is expected to increase significantly this year.

Skepticism remains over the depth of the African potential. The central problem is of course: how do they pay? Most often, the answer is not reliably — not without a helping hand. So a confirmed letter of credit is essential. Obviously, countries where others will finance imports and trade generally are those with the greatest potential for SA businessmen. At the same time, such dependence indicates too often a record of default and political instability. With whom do you do business if an elite is displaced? This applies not only to countries which have to endure coups.

Spreading democracy, as in Zambia, is displacing long-time rulers whose followers, over the years, became firmly entrenched in powerful bureaucratic positions.

Nonetheless, in 50% of Africa's countries, development assistance makes up more than 15% of their GDP. For some, it's much more. Investments and imports of low-income countries are financed 100% and 75% respectively by aid. Can this possibly undeserved good fortune last?

The World Bank, for one, is becoming more selective about which countries it chooses to aid. The quantum of aid to Africa has fallen in the wake of revelations of squandering and spending with minimal controls. Strings are now attached to assistance — recipients have to be moving towards democracy, more human rights and environmental protection.

With renewed world legitimacy, we are in a position to help spend what aid flows remain — productively. Safico manager Andrew Maggs comments: "South Africans are well poised to win World Bank tenders for projects north of our borders. They can offer shorter lead times than Europeans and the Japanese; cheaper prices because of the weak rand, close proximity to the countries and technology consistent with the requirements of Africa."

But that means familiarity with the operations of the World Bank — how it is organised, in what lending activities it is involved and how it develops projects.

"There is a set format for bidding for World Bank projects," Maggs says. "People have to identify projects which could use their products or services and learn the tendering techniques."

He reckons there are enormous opportunities for South Africans in the preparation phase of projects. For a start, consulting engineers can design projects which could benefit SA suppliers. The World Bank project cycle moves from identification through prepreparation and appraisal to bidding and board presentation, implementation, supervision and evaluation. Maggs reckons South Africans have a place in all stages.

But the emphasis of the World Bank has shifted from basic infrastructure and industry to more comprehensive programmes aimed at growth, provision of basic services and improvement of income distribution. According to a World Bank document, The Project Cycle, "lending for agriculture and rural development, oil and gas, urban sites and services, water supply and sanitation, small-scale enterprises, education, health and nutrition has been introduced or greatly expanded."

The bank produces a monthly summary of its projects.

Would-be exporters of products and services to Africa also need to know what type of lending the World Bank does. Within the bank four institutions all provide multilateral lending with different objectives:

- The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development lends funds to creditworthy developing countries, with relatively high per capita income, at variable interest rates;
- The International Development Associ-

Kenya cars ... new demand for components
Ugandan leader rejects SA links

Star Africa Service

LUSAKA — Ugandan president Yoweri Museveni has openly opposed the proposal by President Frederick Chiluba of Zambia that South Africa be admitted as an observer to meetings of the Southern and East African Preferential Trade Area (PTA).

Mr Chiluba’s suggestion was made in his opening address yesterday at the PTA conference, of which he is chairman.

He said many African countries, including PTA members, had opened diplomatic ties with South Africa.

Mr Museveni responded, saying the PTA countries would be putting themselves in danger by opening up too much to South Africa because apartheid was still in place there.

● Afro-market on cards —
Page 15
Bush's aid dollars do double duty - as carrot and stick

WASHINGTON — President Bush has asked Congress to keep United States aid to South Africa at the level he doubled it to last year — $80 million, or about R220 million.

And, in his 1993 budget proposals, he has given a huge aid increase to Angola and Zambia.

The increase in aid to southern Africa, and a corresponding cutback in assistance to African countries with poor human rights records, signals the Bush administration's determination to give strong and sustained support to the emerging democracies of the region as well as to change in South Africa itself.

Aid to Angola, whose government the US has yet to formally recognize, is to go up from $3 million to $25 million (about R22 million to R66 million) in 1993 as an encouragement to maintain their ceasefire.

Zambia's aid will more than triple, from $10 million to $35 million (about R28 million to R92 million), following the end of one-party rule.

But aid to Kenya, Zaire, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi and the Sudan — all countries where there have been grave human rights abuses — has been slashed in what is an ambiguous sign of US displeasure.

Last year Mr Bush announced that he would double aid to South Africa, but this was seen as an adjustment for the year and not as a continuing increase. The fact that he has asked Congress to maintain aid at the $80 million level in 1993 amounts to a doubling of assistance in next year's budget.

The total foreign aid budget will be $22 billion (about R61 billion), of which Israel ($3 billion, or about R8.4 billion) and Egypt ($2.2 billion, or about R6.1 billion) will be the largest single recipients. Aid to countries which supported the US-led coalition in the Gulf War will rise significantly.

Countries whose relations with the US have taken a turn for the worse will get less. Pakistan, previously a major recipient, will receive only $50 million (about R140 million) following its decision to pursue a nuclear weapons programme despite US objections.

The Philippines, which terminated a treaty allowing the US to maintain a naval and air base near Manila, will have its 1993 allocation halved.
This diplomat is no more glorified head waiter.
The views that the Azanian People’s Liberation Army (Apla) is reneging on the Africanist philosophy turns logic upside down.

What Apla is doing and what Africanism is all about are two different issues. As early as 1959 Sobukwe said: “Here is a tree rooted in African soil, nourished with waters from the rivers of Africa. Come and sit under its shade and become, with us, the leaves of the same branch and the branches of the same tree.”

Those wise words still hold good even today. Right up to now the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) is the only organisation that preaches and at the same time practices non-racialism in the true sense of the word.

The doors of PAC are open to all the aborigines of Africa who are prepared to abide by a rule of an African majority.

For so-called whites to refuse to come and sit with us under the same tree and become branches of this big tree cannot be blamed on Apla. Actually, what Apla is trying to do, is to force them to leave their privileged positions and to come and identify themselves with the dispossessed and exploited African masses.

What we do not have in the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania are blacks, whites, coloureds and Indians. Instead we promote Africanism.

To say that Apla has launched attacks on unarmed white civilians is not a correct statement. There is a law in the country which empowers whites to buy as much as 27 pieces of weaponry over the counter. Consequently, in 1990 alone, no less than 2.5 million guns were bought by whites.

Compare the number of weapons bought over these years and you realise the seriousness of the situation.

And these weapons are bought for “wartime” use. They are not bought to thwart an invasion.

Instead they are intended for local inhabitants. And to compound the situation the regime has mercenaries assembled in military barracks throughout the country - mercenaries in the form of Buffalo Battalion 32 and 31, Koevoet, Selous Scouts, Renamo bandits together with the CCB and Askaris.

These killers are armed and paid by the so-called unarmed civilians.

Patrick Laurence in his article on Sobukwe’s Ubuntu which appeared in The Star of December 12 is also accusing the PAC leadership of being silent over these attacks.

This also is not true. The PAC leadership has been on TV and the radio on numerous occasions where our case has been put clearly: that matters on Apla should be referred to Apla, and PAC matters are best dealt with by PAC.

What the PAC leadership will not allow is trial by the media.

This thing about misquoting Sobukwe whenever it suits the likes of Laurence does not impress us. Sobukwe did say, on the eve of our campaign in 1960, that Africans were not ready to kill; but he never said they would never kill.

Far from it.

On the contrary, those who worked with him closely just before March 1960 tell us that he rejected the idea of armed struggle simply because they had not prepared for it.

Incidentally, I happen to be one of those who confronted him on this issue. Therefore to say that he would have never advocate what Apla stands for is to state an untruth.

Laurence is correct in saying that whites should abandon their identity as colonists or settlers and to accept Africa and its indigenous peoples without qualification.

Have the whites abandoned their identity? Is it Apla that has named the so-called British Settlers Monument in Grahamstown, the Settlers Way in Cape Town, etc.?

If Laurence’s intention is to marginalise the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania from the people of this country, then he is backing the wrong horse. PAC is the African people and the African people are PAC.

Right now we are inundated with calls for membership forms from throughout. Indeed we are finding it difficult to cope with the demand.

If by marginalisation he means we will not be invited to a brotherhood, then I must as well say that we prefer meetings in open spaces to those in terrorist surroundings.

The Pan Africanist Congress of Azania together with its component structures - Apla, Awo, Azanyu and Paso - firmly believe that there is only one human race and that is the human race to which we all belong. If the whites believe they are a superior race (a Herrenvolk), then it is for them to decide whether they will be happy in the shade of this big tree.

PAC leader Robert Sobukwe never said Africans would not kill.
Five reported dead in clashes

ALGIERS — Five people died in bloody clashes between Muslim fundamentalists and police at weekly prayers, the worst unrest since the military took power, fundamentalists said on Saturday.

The Islamic Salvation Front said in a communiqué that clashes broke out on Friday, the Muslim holy day, between citizens and security forces in 12 of Algeria's 48 departments.

At least five people were killed, the Salvation Front said, and 169 arrested. Most of those taken into custody were imams, or religious leaders, loyal to the fundamentalist party.

The communiqué did not say where the killings took place or identify those who died.

(The Salvation Front said violence continued on Saturday at Oran, the country's second-largest city, at Constantine, the third-largest city, and at Laghouat in the south.

The national police reported on Friday that at least 20 people were injured and 26 arrested as police in Algiers opened fire to disperse crowds at fundamentalist mosques. The reports could not be verified independently.

Premier Sid Ahmed Ghali said some Algerian media reported, might be forced to resign soon, defended the government at an international political forum in Davos, Switzerland, on Saturday.

"... the law forbids that mosques be used as tribunes by political parties, and Islam forbids it," he said. — Sapa-AP.
NEW SOVIET ORDER POSSES QUESTIONS FOR AFRICA

Helen Grange Reports on the Bitter Fruits of the Collapse of the USSR
Food pledges for Somalis pour in

NAIROBI — Aid appeals for starving Somalia have provoked a unprecedented response from an international community which had seemed disinterested in the fate of people in the arid Horn of Africa nation.

The most recent appeal for urgent assistance came from the UN representative in Somalia, Mohamed Sahnoun. The US has pledged 140,000 tons of food aid "as soon as possible" and a group of 33 US soldiers was due to arrive yesterday in the Kenyan port of Mombasa to prepare the relief effort.

France announced yesterday that it would start a 10-day airlift beginning tomorrow to transport 200 tons of food to people in the area of Baidoa.

Britain decided on Sunday to provide £18 million (R55 million) in urgent aid.

Italy said it was ready to send a representative to the Somali capital Mogadishu to try to promote dialogue between warring factions.

On Thursday, Italy said, it was sending food supplies and medicines worth $20 million (R55 million) to Somalia.

Even Israel — which is not recognised by Somalia, a member of the Arab League — said on Sunday it was willing to send food and medical aid.

On Thursday, the UN will resume food airlifts to the southern Sudanese town of Juba.

UN relief flights from the Sudanese capital Khartoum to southern Sudan were suspended last month after the government used planes bearing the UN emblem to transport troops and military equipment to Juba. — Sapa-APP.

Gorbachev attacks Yeltsin

MOSCOW — Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday marked last August’s unsuccessful coup.

Mr Gorbachev called
Local firms could lead mining revival in Africa

LED by SA mining groups, Africa might be on the brink of a mining revival which will provide considerable investment opportunities for overseas companies, says Gencor MD Gary Maude.

Speaking in Paris yesterday, Maude said the mining industry in many parts of central Africa had become run down and inefficient, mainly because of insufficient reinvestment.

At a seminar on mining in southern Africa organised by the French government's Board of Foreign Trade, he said money was available to help African countries revamp their mines, not least from the World Bank. However, potential investors insisted mining reconstruction be done in partnership with major mining groups of proven ability and resources.

SA's mining houses were ideally placed to provide this assistance and many approaches had been made to major groups to manage the rehabilitation of many mines on the continent.

Maude said the prospects for overseas investors were good for two reasons:
- If Africa's mines were to be revived, vast equipment and capital resources would be required, presenting "exciting business opportunities" for overseas companies; and
- The slump in commodity prices presented overseas companies with a chance to do their homework on investing in the African mining sector.

By the time their homework was done, these companies would be well placed to take advantage of the upturn in the commodities cycle when it came.

"This will provide significant opportunities for French companies to exploit a wide range of products to the mining industry. It will provide investment opportunities for French financial institutions too," he said.

Maude noted that SA had more than 80% of the world's manganese reserves, 70% of platinum reserves, 55% of chrome, 45% of gold, 25% of vanadium, and major coal reserves. Investors and exporters of mining equipment could not ignore SA and the country's mining group system which had developed especially to make possible massive new mining ventures to exploit these rich mineral resources.

Gencor alone had 15 gold mines, 12 coal mines, eight chrome mines, five base metal producers and the world's second largest platinum producer, plus 10 projects worth R1.3bn under way. Gencor's new Oryx mine would reach full productive of one ton of gold a month in 1994 at a cost of R1.3bn, and employ 7 000 people.

Maude said: "The major SA gold mining groups have never had a problem raising capital for projects like this. The capital is readily available locally, and the mining house system provides the security and continuity that major investors require."

Gencor, Géocin's mining arm, signed an exploration and mining agreement last year with the French government's mining group, Bureau de Recherche Géologique et Minière.
Plan to lift leopard ban

LONDON—A global ban on trade in leopard skins may be lifted next month, boosting a flagging fur industry and raising fears that Africa's big cats will again fall prey to poaching.

With the number of leopards increasing in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, the countries want to end a 17-year ban on commercial trade in their fur.

The request to revive the lucrative trade for a four-year trial is expected to win strong support at the meeting of the 104-nation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, which opens in Japan on March 2.

There are now around 300,000 leopards in Africa and scientists agree that the animal is no longer highly endangered.

But conservationists fear that reopening the trade will revive popular demand for leopard-skin coats, which nearly resulted in the animals' extinction in the '60s and '70s.

They also believe renewed fur trading would threaten the survival of rarer spotted cats, such as jaguars and cheetahs, which have similar skins.

In Britain, the anti-fur group Lynx is launching a campaign this week to urge Environment Secretary Michael Heseltine to oppose the move.

"Britain must take the lead in resisting these disastrous proposals," said Carol McKenna, Lynx's campaign director.

"Customs officers won't be able tell the difference between a leopard skin and a jaguar skin," she said.

Conservationists are also afraid that renewed trade in leopard skins would find a ready market in countries where fur coats remain popular.

Even in Britain, where the anti-fur campaign has had most effect, fake spotted-cat coats have recently become very fashionable.

"Even if leopards are not longer strictly endangered, we will take a lot of persuading that reopening the trade won't lead to a dangerous upsurge in the spotted-cat skins," said James Martin-Jones, conservation officer at the World Wide Fund for Nature.

But Peter Jackson, World Conservation Union's specialist on big cats, stressed it was impossible to defend the trade ban on scientific grounds as southern Africa's leopards were now too numerous to be classified as endangered.

"We wouldn't oppose an experimental period of commercial trade," he said.

The demand to reopen the leopard-skin trade is one of several controversial southern African proposals that threaten to undermine the conservation basis of the United Nations wildlife convention.

Others, almost certain to be thrown out, include lifting trade bans on products from the endangered black rhino. — Observer News Service.
Drastic action on Sudan economy

KHARTOUM — Sudan has increased petrol prices after floating its national currency and lifting subsidies on a range of commodities.

Finance and Economic Planning Minister Abdel-Rahim Hamdi announced the price rises at a news conference this week.

He said the price of petrol would double from 25 pounds to 50 pounds a litre. Diesel would rise from 15 to 40 pounds a litre.

The price of a loaf of bread, its weight halved, would rise from 50 piastres to 125 pounds, he added.

Sudan, bankrupted by civil war and natural disaster, floated the Sudanese pound on Sunday in a sweeping package of economic reforms. It ended most import controls, increased pensions and the minimum wage and raised sugar prices.

Hamdi said the government was spending $2.8bn on wheat flour and petrol subsidies, and this could not continue for much longer.

Commercial banks now set the rate of the Sudanese pound to foreign currencies each day, based on supply and demand.

The banks bought dollars on Tuesday at a rate of 68 pounds each. They sold at 91 pounds to the dollar. One dollar was worth 15 pounds under the official rate abandoned two days ago.

The switch to a more liberal economic system laid open the way for Sudan to restore its credit with the "IMF. — Sapa-Reuters."
Sudanese rebel camps razed

KHARTOUM — Government troops destroyed two of the biggest camps belonging to the rebel Sudanese Liberation Army, the official Sudan news agency Suna reported yesterday. (1)

The agency quoted armed forces spokesman Maj-Gen Mohammad Gwida as saying troops seized large quantities of weapons from the camps in Southern Kordofan province, in central Sudan.

Gwida gave no details of the action but said troops were in pursuit of rebel remnants. He said government forces also retrieved large numbers of cattle and goats the rebels took from civilians.

Southern Kordofan, southwest of Khartoum, is one of three areas which have seen sporadic fighting during Sudan's eight years of civil war. Most rebel action has been in the south.

Meanwhile, the Sudanese authorities had barred the Red Cross from making relief flights into its southern region from neighbouring Kenya, the organization said in Nairobi yesterday. (2)

Brigadier Meng, an information officer with the International Committee of the Red Cross in Nairobi, said: "We are still negotiating with Sudan's government and that is why we have sort of kept quiet."

Meng said the ban would leave unattended about 14 000 unaccompanied minors who were among an estimated 250 000 refugees who returned to Sudan from camps in southwestern Ethiopia last May. The minors are camped around Nasir, Pothala and Palok, near Ethiopia's border... (3)

Meng said the ban would delay delivery of up to 120 tons of mostly food and medicines to eight destinations in the region, where government troops are battling against two factions of the rebel liberation army. — Sapa-Reuters-AFP.
ALGERIANS — Moslem fundamentalists said Algerian troops shot dead 15 demonstrators during running battles in the mountain town of Batna.

Algeria radio, quoting local security headquarters, said five people were killed and 36 wounded in Tuesday's fighting which started around a court building where a mosque preacher was on trial accused of inciting rebellion.

Security forces sealed off the town and brought in armoured cars.

An Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) source said "several dozen" people — eight of them university students — were wounded during Tuesday's clashes. He said the army used helicopters in the clash.

The Algerian news agency, APS, said the local governor called in the army when para-military gendarmes using teargas failed to quell the growing crowds in Martyr's Square.

A grenade in the chanting, stone-throwing crowd opened fire on the troops, the governor said.

An army captain was among those wounded.

The preacher was jailed for two months. He was one of scores of imams arrested since the Algerian leadership, sworn in last month, started enforcing a law against using mosques for politics — the basic FIS network of propaganda and recruitment.

In the eastern city of Constantine, FIS officials said 10 people were wounded when forces fired on demonstrators.

Three fundamentalists were on trial there. They were among more than 100 arrested throughout Algeria in the battle for control of its nearly 10,000 mosques between the FIS and authorities.

In Laghouat, 300km south of Algiers, newspapers said courts remanded 42 people in custody and granted 33 bail on Tuesday. They had been charged with violence, violating public safety and taking part in illegal meetings. — Sapa-Reuters.
African democracy stillborn

The bright promise of 1991 is already floundering, writes Richard Dowden

OPINION
15 protesters killed in Algeria:

Algiers - More than 15 protesters were killed and over 50 others injured in clashes with security forces in the capital Algiers on Tuesday, according to local human rights groups.

The clashes erupted after the announcement of the result of a presidential election, which was won by the incumbent President, Abdelaziz Bouteflika.

Security forces used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the protesters, who were demanding the resignation of Bouteflika and the end of his regime.

The Human Rights Watch and the Organization for African Unity have expressed concern over the violence.

The government has not yet commented on the incident.
ALGIERS - Street fighting and an escalation of the political confrontation in the capital have brought Algeria's new military-backed presidency and its Muslim fundamentalist opponents to the brink of open conflict.

The presidency, responding to more than 30 hours of clashes between Muslim militants and security forces in the town of Batna, said on Wednesday that force was justified to prevent fresh outbreaks of violence.

The fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front, leading the opposition to the country's new rulers, said troops had shot dead 15 people and wounded dozens in Batna since demonstrations started on Tuesday.

They began after a Batna court sentenced a local preacher to two months for inciting rebellion.

He was one of scores of preachers arrested in a crackdown on the use of mosques for political ends.

Local security forces said the casualty toll was eight dead and 57 wounded. - Sipa-Reuters.
Muslims fight Algerian army

ALGIERS — Automatic gunfire rang out in the east Algerian town of Batna for the third day in succession yesterday as Muslims fundamentalists battled the army and police for control of the streets.

State-run Algiers Radio reported sporadic clashes and shooting in two quarters dominated by the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), the fundamentalist movement leading the opposition to Algeria's new military-backed rulers.

At least 11 people have been killed and 64 wounded in Batna since the clashes started on Tuesday and the Algiers media said yesterday the unrest could signal the start of an FIS insurrection against the ruling High Council of State.

The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), deprived of almost certain victory in parliamentary elections last month, said the army had shot dead 15 demonstrators in Batna, in the Aures mountains 330km southeast of the capital.

The radio said security forces were deployed at strategic points in the town while youngsters tried to block the streets leading to the city centre.

People were queuing for bread, food and fuel, the radio added.

There has also been fighting in the streets of the large eastern city of Constantine.

Seven demonstrators in Constantine had been jailed for between three and six months on Wednesday, the radio said.

The authorities cancelled a second round of parliamentary elections on January 13, three days before polling day. The High Council of State was installed on January 14.

In another sign of defiance, one source close to the FIS said that at weekend prayers on Friday the movement would ignore a ban on partisanship sermons and gatherings around mosques.

Newspapers sympathetic to the Algerian left wing blamed the fundamentalist movement for provoking the violence.

Sapa-Reuters
DAR ES SALAAM — World Bank president Lewis Preston has arrived in Tanzania's main city of Dar es Salaam at the start of a 10-day tour of African countries. 7/2/92
Preston was due to discuss World Bank projects in the east African state with President Ali Hassan Mwinyi and Salmin Amour, president of the semi-autonomous Indian Ocean island of Zanzibar, officials said.

Foreign aid to Tanzania, which has pushed through significant economic reforms since 1986, is set to total $900m in 1991-92.

Preston will also visit Zambia, Zimbabwe and SA.

Meanwhile, the bank's representative in Kinshasa said on Wednesday $30m had been released to support social services in the economically crippled Zaire, where the economy is in tatters with mass poverty, a plummeting currency and inflation running at more than 1 000%.

Banks took advantage of a general strike call this week to shut because they had no cash.

— Sapa-Reuters.
R60m for clean-up

R60m for clean-up

Work is progressing at 10% of the world's largest wastewater purification works north of Sandton.

The R60-million contract has been won by Gills-Mason Construction and the project at the northern wastewater purification works is expected to be completed by April next year. There will, however, be a phased hand-over of some sections before then.

The contract includes 26 circular concrete tanks 25m to 33m in diameter and 5m to 6m deep, four rectangular biological reactors, a 40 000m² balancing tank and a chlorine maze and aeration cistern.

All about Africa

CSIR Information Services has launched the Africa Information Unit to capitalise on opportunities in Africa.

The unit will provide South Africans with information about Africa from databanks, journals, newspapers and specialist reports.

It is also in contact with national and international institutions and research organisations involved in Africa.

The unit's range of specialist services includes a business network database which provides business and government contacts in specific countries.

WEEK IN BRIEF

A SUMMARY of the week's corporate announcements.


TUESDAY: Venter Leisure and Commercial Trailers (Vestel) to list. It will raise R25-million through a private placing of 15-million and a public offer of 4-million shares at 15c. Offer opens 6/3, closes 26/2.

Woo trekkers Pers to raise R6.5-million through the issue of 78 shares for 100 held at R15, last day to register 1/2. Absa retains Central as registrars.

WEDNESDAY: Sanol to issue 10.6% convertible debentures for every 100 ordinaries held at R10.50, last day to register 14/2. CG Smith Sugar prospectus issued. Quagga warns of a possible change of control. FGS to buy Pilkington's 48.4% of Glass SA for R55-million with effect from 31/3.

THURSDAY: Federer members may exchange 100 Federer 94.5 Investec Bank shares. Offer opens 10/2, closes 28/2. Vestel prospectus appears.

FSI, FSI, Walter, W&A warn of negotiations. Otis to raise R7-million, issuing 29 shares for 100 at 220c.

FRIDAY: Eureka buys Computermac subsidiaries for R5.1-million, sells controlling stake in D-Matic. Dates of offer to Daken minority to be revised. Masterfoods chairman gives his version of the company's liquidation.
Algeria declares state of emergency

ALGIERS — The army-backed ruling council yesterday declared a 12-month state of emergency to quell spreading violence sparked by its crackdown on Muslim fundamentalists.

The decree was issued by the five-man High State Committee and announced on national television.

The announcement did not spell out details of emergency provisions. In two previous emergencies in the past four years, security forces were granted broad powers of arrest and detention.

An estimated 40 people have been killed and several hundred wounded in clashes between security forces and fundamentalists in more than a dozen cities and towns.

The latest death included two children in the western town of Relizane, according to the state-run APS news agency. An infant died from teargas inhalation, and a 9-year-old child was killed by a stray bullet. — Saps-AP.
35 die in Algiers fighting

ALGIERS - Muslim militants defied security forces in a second day of clashes in Algeria in which at least 35 people have been killed and more than 100 wounded. Hundreds of people have been arrested.

In the darkened capital city, sporadic shots could be heard on Saturday night as security forces fired in response to stone-throwing supporters of the Islamic Salvation Front trying to erect barricades.

Clashes erupted in other towns, including "intense confrontations" in the small town of Tafere, near the port of Jijel.

State television late on Saturday showed Mr Mohamed Boudiaf, leader of the new five-man presidency which the FIS regards as having taken over in a coup d'etat.

Boudiaf was holding an emergency meeting of the High Security Council, which includes the prime minister and defence and interior ministers, and the army chief of staff. The evening paper El Messa expected the authorities to declare a state of emergency this week.

The clashes in Tafere were sparked by the trial of two imams (Muslim preachers), among scores detained by troops and other security forces in a clampdown on the FIS use of mosques to recruit supporters and spread its demand for an Islamic state.

Courthouses in the towns of Tlemcen and Batna, in the east, were set on fire on Saturday, Algiers radio said, adding that in Tiaret and Batna clashes continued into the evening.

At least 14 people were killed and 66 wounded in running battles up to last Friday prayers in the mountain town of Batna after an imam was jailed last Tuesday. - Sapa-Reuters.
35 die in Algerian clashes

ALGIERS - Muslim militants defied security forces in a second day of clashes in Algiers in which at least 34 people were killed and more than 100 wounded. Hundreds of people have been arrested.

In the darkened capital city, sporadic shots could be heard on Saturday night as security forces fired in response to stone-throwing supporters of the Islamic Salvation Front trying to erect barricades.

Clashes erupted in other towns, including "intense confrontations" in the small town of Taher, near the port of Djebel, east of the capital, Algiers radio and the Algerian news agency APS said.

State television showed Mohamed Bouali, leader of the new five-man presidency which the front regards as having taken over in a coup d'etat, holding an emergency meeting of the High Security Council which includes the prime minister, defence and interior ministers and the chief of staff.

The evening newspaper El Messa expected the authorities to declare a state of emergency during the coming week, especially before a march called by the Islamic Front for Friday in the capital.

Authorities have banned the march by the front which was denied almost certain victory by the cancellation of the second round of voting in Algeria's first multi-party general election last month.

The clashes in Taher were sparked by the trial of two imams (Muslim preachers), among scores detained in a clampdown on the front's use of mosques to recruit supporters and spread its demand for an Islamic state.

Courthouses in the towns of Tiemcen and Barika, in the east, were set on fire on Saturday and clashes continued into the evening in Tiaret and Batna.

At least 14 people were killed and 66 wounded in running battles up to Friday prayers in the mountain town of Batna after an imam was jailed on Tuesday.

The radio said that in Bordj Bou Arreridj, southeast of Algiers, five people were killed in the clashes after Friday prayers, the same death toll as in Oum El Bouaghli, 400km southeast of Algiers.

But the capital suffered the heaviest casualties and most widespread fighting after prayers and on Saturday.

Hospital sources and the radio said nine people were killed and 66 wounded in Friday's battles which sent dense smoke rising over Islamic front strongholds.

The front said its imam Abdelkader Moghal had been seized at his home on Friday night. He was elected the front's deputy for parliament in the first part of the scrapped election. - Sapa-Reuters.
Crowds flock to rival rallies in Moscow
ALGIERS - Algeria's rulers have declared a state of emergency and started legal action to ban the Islamic Salvation Front, the spearhead of violence in which at least 40 people were killed in two days.

Algerian television said the state of emergency which started on Sunday night would last 12 months.

Troops and security forces in several towns have battled FIS militants seeking the resurrection of a cancelled general election their party was expected to win.

Many Algerians said the violence which erupted after Friday prayers was an attempt at insurrection.

More than 200 people were injured and hundreds arrested in running battles.

"Algeria today is on the verge of civil war, God forbid. Algerian blood streamed in the streets," a commentator said after announcing the emergency. - Sapa-Reuters.
8 cops killed in Algiers riot

ALGIERS - Eight policemen were ambushed and killed in the first full day of a state of emergency to crush Muslim fundamentalist unrest, sending political tension spiralling to new heights.

Gunmen with automatic weapons attacked two patrol cars on Monday in the Casbah, ancient heart of the Algerian capital, killing six, Algiers radio said.

Two other policemen were killed 40km outside the city, knifed by accomplices of a man they had arrested. One attacker there was killed.

The radio said the gunmen were veterans of the war in Afghanistan. Guerrillas from that war killed three soldiers in an attack near the Tunisian border last year and authorities said they were linked indirectly to the Islamic Salvation Front.

FIS militants have been battling security forces for days, opposing a crackdown on the use of mosques for furthering their campaign for an Islamic state.

As the situation deteriorated France, former colonial power in Algeria, indicated it was considering evacuating its nationals.

"We are keeping ourselves informed in case the need arises to intervene to organise the evacuation of French people in Algeria. That is not the case today, not by a long way," Defence Minister Mr Pierre Joxe said in a radio interview.

The head of the army-backed, five-man presidency, Mohamed Boudiaf, told the nation on Monday night he had imposed the 12-month state of emergency to fight Muslim fundamentalism as embodied in the FIS.

Sharply attacking the FIS, he announced that about 30 people had been killed in violence.

Hospital sources, radio and the Algerian news agency APS have reported nearly 300 wounded and hundreds of militants arrested since the main violence erupted after prayers last Friday.

"The state of emergency is to combat these people who seek to provoke disorder. The men of the FIS are not for dialogue. When I stretched out my hand, they sent only a threatening letter," Boudiaf said.

He accepted that Algeria's 25 million people wanted radical change. But he insisted security must first be established.

"The state of emergency has a precise framework, to get rid of those who seek disorder and worsen the country's crisis. This is clear," he said.

The FIS only represented three million people, he said.

"Ten million are against them."

Nearly 3.5 million people, out of an electorate of 13.2 million, voted for the FIS in a general election which gave them a landslide lead but was cancelled last month ahead of a second round.

The FIS, in its first communiqué since the Interior Ministry said it was taking legal steps to ban the party, said:

"The FIS is not an apparatus which can be destroyed in closing its headquarters and arresting its men. The FIS is the conscience rooted in the heart of the people."

It called on the people to mobilise to guard their rights.

"Do not give in to weakness and hopelessness, the regime is going to tumble because it is based on blind force, has no legitimacy either from Sharia (Islamic law) or the people," said the statement, signed by fugitive leader Mr Abderazzak Rajaé.

Diplomats said the state of emergency might be a short-term answer but did not solve the basic problems, the poverty and hopelessness which FIS fundamentalism bred.

"If the FIS is banned what way have they of expressing themselves? They will be forced to go underground, to go terrorist," said one European diplomat. - Sapa-Reuters.
'Ban on trade of ivory must stay'

SYDNEY — The African elephant is in renewed danger from poaching despite a 1990 ban on ivory trading, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) said yesterday.

The fund, one of the world’s leading conservation groups, is urging governments to resist pressure from southern Africa to lift the ban at crucial talks in Japan next month.

The WWF will "flatly oppose any resumption of international trade in ivory", John Sherlock, the fund’s director in Australia, told reporters.

Southern African nations, led by South Africa and Zimbabwe, will submit proposals to relax the ban at the meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in Kyoto from March 2 to 13.

CITES, which has 112 member nations, agreed in 1989 to list the African elephant in its Appendix I, which bans commercial trade among members.

But six African countries — South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana, Malawi and Namibia — are pushing for the elephant to be down-listed to Appendix II, which would allow a controlled trade in ivory, hides and skins.

The WWF said the ban had to stay because "there are not sufficient safeguards in place, especially in importing countries to prevent illegally obtained ivory infiltrating a legal trade".

Frightening

A WWF report, released ahead of the Kyoto meeting, said the ban had reduced illegal hunting but was only the first step in establishing an effective conservation programme for elephants.

The report — based on a survey last year in Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, Cameroon, Ivory Coast and Zaire — said stopping the slaughter depended directly on having the money available to enforce anti-poaching laws.

"Given this relationship, it is frightening to note that four out of the six target countries ... have experienced overall budget cuts since the ban began," the report said.

It said aid donors had not provided the funding promised to these states.

Africa looked almost exclusively to foreign donors to help the fight against poachers.

The WWF said that since the ban took effect in January 1990, the biggest drop in poaching had been in Tanzania, which used national and external funds to fight against poachers.

Malawi was the only country which saw an increase in poaching.

Many of the million or so political refugees from Mozambique in Malawi were responsible for killing elephants. — Sapa-Reuters.
ALGIERS — Police surrounded a mosque yesterday where Muslim extremists who hacked two policemen to death took refuge and were holding worshippers hostage, witnesses said.

It was unknown how many suspects or hostages were inside the mosque at Bourj Meafl, 70 km east of Algiers.

The policemen were killed in the mosque’s prayer chamber on Monday with axes and knives by Islamic fundamentalists trying to prevent the arrest of a comrade, police reported.

Funeral services were held in two Algiers cemeteries for the two policemen and six others machine-gunned to death early on Monday in an ambush in Algiers by hard-core fundamentalists.

Sporadic gunfire was heard on Monday night in the Bologhine and Belcourt sections of the capital, strongholds of the extremist Muslim fundamentalists, the so-called “Afghans”, witnesses said.

Afghans, Algerian veterans of the war in Afghanistan, had carried out Monday’s ambush, police said, and seized the arms of the slain officers before taking refuge in back streets.

The attacks signalled a turn to terrorism by extremist elements.

The Algerian League for the Defence of Human Rights yesterday issued a communiqué denouncing the 12-month state of emergency announced in tandem with the ban “a gross violation of judicial norms”.

Mohamed Boudiaf, head of the military-backed government which has declared a state of emergency, called on young fundamentalists to reject violence and “civil war”. — Sapu-AP.
WWF call to lift elephant hunting ban

LONDON — The World Wildlife Fund has called for elephant hunting to be legalised where herds are increasing and properly managed.

And, according to Zimbabwe's Ministry of Environment, a panel of specialists from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites), who are visiting Harare, have recommended that southern African states be allowed to resume ivory exports.

The debate about how to save African elephants is intensifying prior to next month's Cites meeting in Japan.

John Newby, head of the WWF's African campaign, said his organisation was seeking the support of European nations for a "proper conservation policy rather than a simplistic ban".

He added: "The average African would be glad to get rid of the elephant because it tramples his crops and sometimes his children. We must look forward 50 years and find an economic reason for Africa to keep its elephants."

But at this stage, he said, hunting should be permissible only for the skin of the animals and not for their ivory.

The Herald quoted Zimbabwe's Ministry of Environment as saying that the visiting panel of Cites' specialists had recommended that southern African states be allowed to resume ivory exports.

"Their report was favourable towards re-opening of ivory trade," the Ministry said.

"If parties to Cites are objective in their assessment they will find that no other country in the world apart from the developed (states of) Europe and America have a better management system than the ones practised in southern Africa."

The claim by the Ministry comes despite intensive lobbying by Kenya's director of wildlife services, Dr Richard Leakey, for retention of the 1989 ban on ivory trade when Cites members meet in Kyoto, Japan, next month, although Dr Leakey has reportedly offered to support resumed southern African trade in elephant skin and meat.

The Zimbabwean ministry said the country's delegation would seek to have elephant transferred from Cites appendix one to appendix two, allowing regulated trade.

The move would be supported by Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia, which last year launched an ivory marketing centre under the aegis of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC). The move has South Africa's tacit support. — Sapa.
Can Islam marry democracy?

Neil Moorehouse wonders whether Western models will ever take root in Muslim Africa

Opinion
Somali war intensifies

NAIROBI - Shells rained heavily on both sides of Somalia's devastated capital yesterday as a warring chieftain tried to sever his rival's supply route one day after saying he welcomed the United Nation's call for a ceasefire.

The fighting threatened to cut short a UN survey by a six-person team in Mogadishu trying to assess how international relief aid could be delivered to the city and where it is needed most.

Three months of clan-based fighting between General Mohamed Farrah Aidid and President Ali Mahdi Mohamed has killed and wounded more than 30,000 people and forced hundreds of thousands of others to flee Mogadishu.

The United Nations has pledged a $35 million aid package to Somalia, but will not release the funds until a ceasefire is achieved in Mogadishu.

Representatives of the two warlords agreed at UN-sponsored talks in New York on Friday to an immediate ceasefire.

But the fighting has, if anything, intensified since then, with both sides pounding each other with heavy weapons. - Sapa-AP.
Africa deal for Eskom

ESKOM will expand its operations into central and Francophone Africa as a result of a co-operation agreement signed in Sandton yesterday with one of the world's major electricity companies, Electricité de France (EDF).

An Eskom spokesman said several projects such as the upgrading and construction of electricity networks in African countries were being considered.

"We now have a strong and valuable partner with expertise and resources in Africa," he said.

The agreement, signed by Eskom CE Ian McRae and EDF's deputy CEO Francois Allietre, would serve to reinforce the relationship between the two utilities as well as to establish a framework for further international co-operation, a statement said.

"Both EDF and Eskom are historically, geographically and strategically interested in the development of electricity in Africa," said Allietre.

McRae said the agreement was a positive step for electrification in Africa.

The agreement does not bind either company to co-operate on any specific projects, and each retains the right to proceed independently or to conclude similar agreements with third parties."
No let up on ivory ban

By James M. Dorsey

The Star Wednesday February 19 1992
Bringing light and opportunities to Africa

"By transferring electric energy to where it is most needed," says Eskom chief executive Ian McRae, "we believe that not only can we help boost the southern African sub-continent's economies, but also vastly improve the quality of life for all the people of the region." 

The impact of electricity goes way beyond the everyday convenience of turning on a light, a stove or a television. It affects education, health and the environment.

It unlocks the productive potential of the people by enabling them to use power tools and equipment. It allows them to make more skilled inputs by freeing them of time-consuming manual labour.

It provides the cheap, dependable energy that drives mining, industry and business and makes internationally competitive exports possible. It could also be the catalyst to trigger economic growth in the entire sub-continent of Africa.

The resources necessary to generate sufficient electricity for the entire sub-Saharan Africa are abundant, and Eskom - with its 45,000 employees, its skilled base and infrastructure - is confident it is the best placed organisation to drive such an effort.

In fact work on the project, which will link countries and governments in an unprecedented network of co-operation and mutual economic benefit, has already begun.

"The improving political situation will bring about better co-operation between the sub-Saharan countries, and the end of South Africa's isolation," says Mr McRae.

"Power companies have been able to build bridges across political divides, deep-seated conflicts and distrust by appealing to common needs. It becomes increasingly clear that isolation is not the answer for any southern African country.

"We need to stand together to become strong, because help from the rest of the world may not materialise.

"In South Africa, where people have no electricity and where the survival of any future democratic government is dependent upon sustained economic growth and a visibly improved standard of living for the poor majority, Eskom has an equally crucial role to play."

It is one of the Big Five or Six in the world in terms of electricity generation and produces 80 percent of all the power on the African continent.

With the benefit of a new, streamlined management core and a more focused attitude to business, Eskom has committed itself to reducing the real cost of electricity by 20 percent over the next five years, although it already claims to be the cheapest power supplier in the world.

Education has a high priority in South Africa and electricity gives it a specific boost by providing better lighting for studying and reading, and facilitates the use of television and electronic teaching aids.

Public health is vastly improved by electricity. Modern medicines depend on electronic equipment for diagnosis and treatment, sterilising and refrigerating facilities are essential for surgery and drug stocks.

The smoke generated by burning fuels in urban areas is a health hazard.

Electrification impacts on every facet of the economy as well. One of the factors crucial in ensuring that exports of manufactured goods or beneficiated minerals from South Africa are competitive internationally, is cheap, dependable electricity.

The importance of the informal, small business sector as a job creator in South Africa is well known. Once again electricity plays a crucial role.

"Clearly a person without electricity is a disadvantaged player in the economy," says Eskom chairman Dr John Maree.

Apart from the jobs created directly by supplying electricity, there is a multiplier effect that comes into play when electricity reaches a home or a workshop.

It stimulates demand for a hot-plate, a kettle, a TV, and has a ripple effect into the economy.

"If we can electrify 1.6 million homes over the next five years as we plan to do, we would create half a million jobs and our GPD would grow by five percent," says Dr Maree.

Electrification of underdeveloped regions is a long-term investment in the future. It could unite the people of Africa in a strong economic community, and it could play a major role in bringing light, peace and prosperity to our land."
A religious war of words is raging in Zambia between Muslims and the government over the president's declaration late last year that Zambia is a Christian nation.

To loud applause from scores of Christians, Chiluba read the Movement for Multiparty Democracy's (MMD's) manifesto at a gathering in December, which calls Zambia a Christian country "tolerant of other religions".

Muslims in Zambia were outraged by the president's comments, coming hot on the heels of the banning of Muslim radio programmes by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Mr. Stan Kristafor. This ban has subsequently been rescinded after clarification from the government that Muslims have been guaranteed freedom of worship in terms of the constitution.

But with Chiluba's recent declaration, Muslims have asked the government to clarify its position.

Led by their organisation — the United Islamic Organisation (UIO) — the Muslims say that while "the constitution provides for freedom of worship and protection of religious minorities, we feel the president should confirm this and make it clear to guard against smaller religions being harassed," the UIO said.

But President Chiluba's declaration was warmly received by 50 faith leaders of churches.

In Kitwe, a mining city on the Copperbelt province, the Apostolic Council of Churches even warned that government's tolerance of other religions besides Christianity should be monitored closely because some religious forces might take advantage to disrupt peace in the nation.

Council chairperson Reverend Paul Mbandwa says some "fanatical" groups are likely to take advantage of prevailing freedom of worship to confuse Christians — and he has singled out followers of Islam as one such group.

Mbandwa adds that "since Zambia has been declared Christian, Muslims should be given little chance of collaborating with local people".

Mbandwa has issued a special appeal to Zambian youths to refrain from joining Muslim organisations.
### Muslim Contributions to the World

#### Muslim Minorsities Counting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population (Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Population: Independent Muslim Country</td>
<td>245,135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population: EU</td>
<td>8,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population: Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkey</td>
<td>30,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### World Population (Million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population (Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>700,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>1,700,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>100,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Name Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population (Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>700,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>1,700,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>100,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Muslim Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population (Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>700,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>1,700,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>100,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Religious Changes in Our Time

Western Europe is one of the greatest socio-cultural changes in our time. According to the estimates, the growth of Islam in the European Union is a field of study that is gaining momentum. If we look at a world map, we find the Muslim countries are spread across all parts of the world.
By Thoraya Pandy

Muslims in South Africa are considered one of the most self-reliant and active minorities in the world. With a population close to one million of the total population of 35 million, they have suffered and survived — along with other oppressed communities — the tyranny of apartheid's Group Areas Act and forced removals.

"The community has shown an enormous survival potential over the past 30 years," said Hassan Solomon of the Muslim Judicial Council.

Without foreign aid, Muslims have established and successfully sustained mosques, madressahs (religious schools), newspapers, colleges, schools and various welfare institutions.

"The South African National Zakah Fund is a most prestigious organisation with a R2-million budget, providing some relief for the poor and needy," said Solomon, who is also Western Cape chairperson of the Fund.

He said those and other projects had become a reality solely because of the tremendous commitment and efforts of the community.

"In other countries where Muslims are a minority, mosques and other institutions are built on foreign aid."

Solomon said a worrying factor was an increasing domination of the business class and professionals on controlling bodies of mosques, madressahs and other structures.

"Apart from the immense survival capabilities, Muslims have exhibited tolerance towards other faiths and should guard against manipulation and abuse by the government."

"Muslims in South Africa must continue to identify with the rest of the oppressed."

"Experience on the ground has indicated that the role and cultural visions of Muslims can most effectively be realised and protected in alliance with the oppressed."

"Muslims must be involved in mainstream politics in the future and will find themselves more comfortable with the African National Congress (ANC) because of its religious and cultural norms."

Acknowledging the objections voiced by Muslims on the ANC's alliance with the South African Communist Party (SACP), Solomon said it would be unfair to call on the ANC to sever ties with the SACP because of the two organisations' history of fighting oppression.

"The SACP has made it quite clear it is not anti-religion," he said.

FRIDAY PRAYERS: Muslims gather for their main sermon of the week

PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

Islam is one of the fastest-growing religions in the world. In Africa Islam blazed a trail of conquest long before the colonists arrived with their missionaries.

For the past three decades, Muslims have been oppressed in several African states as Christianity gained ascendency. This three-page investigation investigates the problems facing Muslims in Southern Africa:

Highlighting rich traditions at the lifestyle of the community, Solomon said the spirit of "helping" was "alive and an integral part of life."

"In many homes, the bak-en-braaie, samoosas, dalnies and vetkoeks continues and will live on."

"This demonstrates yet another way the community carries forth one of its traditions but it is said that many families are not doing this because of economic hardships," said Solomon.

This year saw the launching of a pilot project introduced in some government primary schools where Muslim teachers have been employed to conduct Islamic Studies.

Various schools catering only to Muslim students and providing Islamic Studies as part of the curriculum are recognised by the Christian government, like Habib College in Athlone, Mahamds Primary and Rahmaniyeh Primary.

"It is my view that religion taught schools should not be propagandists but a means of reaching an understanding of interfaith relationships," said Solomon.

"He who knows one, knows none."

He said "non-sectarian" structures existed in a number of communities where Islamic studies were provided.

Muslims in South Africa do no have however, constitute one united community.

Although there are various organisations possessing different views on the role Muslim should play, they do agree unity is essential.

"Muslims have a religious duty to oppose any oppressor, no matter who they are," said Sheikh Abubaker Najja of the Islamic Council of South Africa (ICSA).

"For over 500 years Muslims have" undergone trauma and have undergone trauma and now look to the times to lead the work of justice." They would not be worthy of Islam if they neglect their duty and the goes South African Muslims a well." ICUSA was formed in the late seven ties and is the only national body according to Najja, with branches throughout the country.

The council has strong international links and ensured the recognition of the South African community with Islamic countries worldwide, it said.

The Muslim Judicial Council (MIC) represents the majority of Muslims in the Western Cape with 9 affiliated mosques — nearly 95 per cent.

Formed in 1945 to cater for the needs of Muslims, it is the most recognised body.

The MIC has three main departments dealing with marriage and divorce, education and the overseeing of halal food outlets.
‘Okay to be a Muslim in Malawi’

By Felix Mpondwa
Biatnnye

IT'S NO LONGER A SHAME TO BE A
Muslim in Malawi," says Muslim
Association of Malawi executive
secretary, Mr. Ibrahim
Milanzi. Milanzi is one of a
young breed of Muslims in this
Christian-dominated country fighting
to maintain the dignity and image of
the Islamic faith after many decades
of it being regarded as a shameful
and backward religion.

In the past, Muslims were called
"anassala," a derogatory term
meaning backwardness in every
aspect of life.

Today, there has been a marked
turn-around in attitudes towards
Muslims.

Concedes Malawi’s Muslim leader,
Sheikh Hussein Mwalu: "Muslims
have now gained a respectable place
because there are educated Muslims
in almost every field, unlike in the
past, when lack of education hindered
them from participating in national
development."

Islam was the first religion to blaze
a trail of conquest in this country. It
arrived with the Arabs during the
ivory and slave trade era.

"Islam wasn’t well-developed till
recently," Milanzi said.

He believes Christianity, which
came to Malawi much later, overtook
Islam in popularity because "Christianity
came well-developed,
what with trade and education sys-
tems."

"Islam continued to be a secret reli-
gen and few people knew about its
teachings and practices."

It was not until the forties that Muslims
came together to form an or-
ganisation of their own aimed at
safeguarding the interests of the reli-
gion.

In 1957 the faith was officially regis-
tered with the colonial government.

But with no educational facilities of
their own, Muslims still remained
uneducated.

Parents found it difficult to send
their children to Christian-con-
trolled schools for fear that their chil-
dren would be converted to Christi-
anity — a requirement at that time.

With independence in 1964, the
government started encouraging
Muslim parents to send their children
to any school, with the agreement that
they would not be forced to convert.

A magnificent mosque, believed to be
the only one of such grandeur in
the Southern African region,
and which cost close to a million
kwacha, is a showpiece of architec-
tural design in Blantyre’s “Asian city"
of Limbe.

More modern mosques have mush-
roomed throughout the countryside,
underlining the fact that Islam is
thriving. According to Milanzi, there
are now 80 new mosques.

A secondary school offering Islamic
and secular education and catering
exclusively for Muslim students with
expatriate teachers from Sudan, Indi-
a, Egypt and Somalia, opened its
doors a few years ago.

Those who excel here went abroad for professional courses in
medicine and engineering.

Under the sponsorship of the Islamic
Development Bank, there are now 15
Malawian Muslims studying in Paki-
stan and Turkey in the two fields,
with the first two graduates expected
home later this year.

Milanzi, who has been executive
secretary of the Muslim Association
for the past five years, believes "image cultivating" develop-
ments are behind the conversion of
Muslims to other religions in the
past. The opposite, he added, is hap-
pening now in that more people are
currently joining Islam than leaving
it.

There has never been any census of
Muslims in Malawi, but Milanzi esti-
mates there are about two million fol-
lowers in this nation of eight million
people.

“The attraction with Islam is that it
is strong on monotheism (the wor-
ship of one God), like Judaism and
Christianity,” Milanzi said.

“Our approach to our religion is dif-
ferent from others. There is a strong
spirit of brotherhood and uniformity
of prayers all over the world.

“Islam as a religion has really grown
big and is being respected in that we
are treated as a non-governmental
organisation which can contribute to
national development.”
A modest call to prayer at Namibia’s only mosque

Graham Hopwood
Kataura

Now ten outside, the four-roomed house looks like any other in Windhoek’s township of Katatura. It serves as an unlikely centre for a national religious movement, yet this is the base for the Namibian Islamic Institute (NII), the country’s only Muslim organisation.

The white-robed imam standing in the yard does not receive a second glance from the children playing in the township dust or the early evening shoppers hurrying to catch the noon-to-close shops.

Only the very inquisitive would notice that this house has been specially adapted to become a mosque, office, reading room and kindergarten.

As dusk falls, mosque leader Hashiem Gudaffi proclaims the adhan not from the loudspeaker across the township’s rooftops but melodiously inside the largest room — the nation’s only mosque.

This modest call to prayer, and the four young men who walk in from the yard to purify themselves before kneeling down to face Mecca, symbolises the Namibian Muslims’ quiet and subtle self-affirming approach to their religion’s role in this newly independent country.

The NII estimates there are about 500 Muslims in Namibia, 0.04 percent of the country’s population, now settled at 1.4 million by the government’s recent census.

Despite their minuscule numbers, the Muslim population has doubled since the UN-supervised transition which brought Namibia to independence in March 1990.

This is mainly due to the arrival of embassy staff from Iran, Pakistan, Libya, Sudan and Egypt and an influx of Islamic businessmen from such countries as Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. About 250 are Namibian Muslims, almost all men.

Before independence, the shaping influence on Islam in Namibia was the Islamic movement in South Africa. Although Muslim taxi drivers and traders have been passing through Namibia from the Cape for decades, the religion did not take root until the late 1970s.

According to NII chairman, Mr. Salimain Jacobs, the arrival of Islam came about through one individual — who having obtained pamphlets on the religion, was intrigued enough to attend a regional Islamic conference in Lusaka in 1978.

He accepted Islam there and returned to spread the word in Namibia. The following year a group of Muslim students from Durban came to visit their Islamic country.

The arrival of Islam came at a time of political turmoil in Namibia. In the late 1970s, following the example of schoolchildren in Swaziland, Namibian schools became centres of anger and protest against the colonial regime.

In this atmosphere the young converts’ first question was: “What role can Islam play in the struggle for independence?”

Although the politicised origins of Islam in Namibia meant the fledgling faith identified closely with the South West Africa People’s Organisation (SWAPO), Jacobs stresses that Namibian Muslims are not directed towards any political affiliation and can make up their own minds.

While he makes no great claims for Islam’s positive advance since independence, the future could well be a different story.

The NII is planning to move its base into thecentre of Windhoek with a bookshop, exhibitions and video presentations to spread the Islamic message. There is also talk of Islamic schools and day care centres.

A growing relationship with Islamic embassies will provide the material support for this expansion alongside the more traditional source of funding — donations from the Muslim community south of the Orange River.

Jacobs says they prefer to convert through the example of the Islamic lifestyle rather than direct preaching. Their most evangelical action is to provide after-school classes for local children, but Jacobs admits this is as much about teaching basic English as Islamic law.

He stresses the unifying aspect of Islam, Namibia’s Islamic community is too small to worry about schisms such as the Sunni/Shia divide. Although they are Sunni Muslims, Namibia’s adherents have close relations with the Shia Iranians in Windhoek — to close the Muslims plans to build a city centre mosque for all Namibia’s Muslims.

With the support from the Muslim world, Islam in Namibia is set to grow, but the faith is still too small to feel the kind of fundamentalist zeal which would bring rapid expansion.

For the moment, Christianity dominates the country.
Islam in Africa

A tale of persecution and resurgence

February 20 to February 26 1992
Africa, Sliding into Darkness
Algeria trims ministries

ALGIERS — Algeria has set up a leaner government of super-ministries to battle Muslim fundamentalist discontent fuelled by debt-induced poverty.

Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali has merged six ministries into three, bracketing transport with posts and telecommunications, culture with communications, universities and research with technology and the environment.
Africa digests its own history

HENRY Ford gained a certain notoriety by describing history as “bunk.” He might have been more accurate if he had likened it to a string of sausages.

Just as sausages come out of the machine as separate but linked units, so history comes out of the funnel of current events in episodic segments. History’s sausages, however, come in different shapes and sizes according to the circumstances that formed them.

Southern Africa’s historical sausages have been shaped by indigenous tribal migrations, by black men’s wars, by European settlement, by colonialism, by the discovery of mineral riches, by white men’s wars, by black men’s liberation struggles and by their independence.

The independence sausage contained too much anti-colonial reaction and Marxist impracticality to have been successful. The turn of history nipped it off and now we are seeing the emergence of its successor: the constitutional sausage.

Almost everywhere in the subcontinent there is a preoccupation with devising new political systems to replace failed ones. Common to them all is a rejection of excessive state control and an acceptance of the right of peoples to choose their governments and economic systems. International attention is turned mainly towards South Africa’s Codesa, but this is not the only one on the go.

The Mozambicans are slowly but surely working out a new constitutional dispensation to end the civil war. Angola’s civil war has been halted, Marxism has been abandoned and the constitution has been changed to allow for a multiparty system, and the first election campaign is under way.

Newly independent Namibia, learning from others’ mistakes, has adopted a generally accepted constitution which so far has worked very well.

Lesotho, after enduring dictatorship and military rule ever since independence, is drawing up a new constitution expected to enshrine multiparty politics. The first election is due this year.

Swaziland still clings to an absolute monarchy but this is being besieged by demands for multiparty democracy.

Zimbabwe, while keeping the Lancaster House constitution, is engaged in a process as radical as adopting a new constitution: a redrafting of the ruling party’s policy to eliminate the major Marxist elements.

In Zambia, the one-party constitution having been amended to allow for democracy, the autocratic government has been replaced by one accountable to the voter.

Malawi remains a one-party state under the virtual dictatorship of the elderly President Banda, but few doubt that when he goes the suppressed opposition will enforce a multiparty system.

Beyond southern Africa, the trend continues. Zaire is engaged, though fitfully, in a Codesa-like conference aimed at ending President Mobutu’s dictatorship. Multiparty systems are being forced into place by popular pressure in Kenya, Tanzania and elsewhere.

Ideally, liberals would like to see the democratic, free-enterprise sausage continuing uninterrupted, boerworms-like, forever. Sadly, this is far from certain. Autocracy has left little for democracy to shape into a viable form — only ruined economies, ravaged infrastructures, bewildered populations and huge debts. To extend the sausagian metaphor, there’s little meat left with which to stuff the skin.

It is possible that democracy and free enterprise will fill the sausage in a relatively short time. But it is more likely that disillusionment will set in among people who still have nothing.

A return to the failed systems of the past seems unthinkable but is not impossible. So our present sausage will either be prematurely nipped off and it will be a thin, lumpy one. But with a bit of luck, our children will see it turn into a big, fat hanger.
Western loan to Algeria 'is imminent'  

The FIS says the authorities have since detained 30,000 people in a crackdown. Officials put the number at 5,000.

Algeria's President Mohamed Boudiaf, who has been an independence war veteran made head of state last month after returning from exile in Morocco, has said the loan will be used to "reprofile" the debt, notably regarding short-term loans.

In January, an army-backed high state council took power in Algeria and called the first multiparty general elections since independence in 1963, which then saw the principal of the debt, imposed at the end of the 1980s, extended until February 29. — Sapa-AFP.
ALGIERS - Clashes between Algerian security forces and Islamic fundamentalists have left 150 dead and 700 wounded.

Some 32,000 Muslim militants have been arrested since authorities began their crackdown on the Islamic Salvation Front, the movement claimed yesterday.

The statistics were published in the official organ of the Algiers bureau of the FIS, the Minbar El Djoumoud.
Marike in plea to aid rural women

Marike de Klerk yesterday committed South Africa to give rural women in Africa “a better place in the sun”.

She was delivering an address in Switzerland to the Summit for the Advancement of Rural Women.

Mrs de Klerk urged the international community to help alleviate the plight of millions of women in Africa who live in adverse rural conditions.

Sympathy for the suffering of African women was not nearly enough, she said.

“They need help. In seeing that they get it, I believe that we, the more privileged women of this world, have an indispensable part to play.

“In this context I believe in the wisdom of the Chinese proverb: ‘Teach a man and you teach an individual. Teach a woman and you teach a family and a nation’.”

She said the answer to many of the problems of Africa and other parts of the developing world — particularly those affecting rural women — lay in helping them help themselves. — Sapa.
Mutiny staged in Niger

NIAMEY — Soldiers in Niger staged a mutiny yesterday, and the West African country’s interim prime minister appealed for loyal forces to save democracy.

Sporadic gunfire coming from an infantry barracks echoed through the capital, Niamey, after midnight, residents said.

In one of a series of concerted actions, mutineers stormed into a television building and interrupted live transmission of the evening news to list 13 demands over pay and other grievances.

Education Minister Albert Wright, standing in for Premier Amadou Cheffou, said troops also freed Captain Malik Bouraina, detained last October and accused of leading soldiers to massacre Tuareg nomads in 1990.

Mr Cheffou, appointed after a pro-democracy national conference last year, was visiting the Niger interior.

Niger, a former French colony of about eight million people, has 4,500 soldiers and para-military gendarmes, officials said.

Their demands included the sacking of Niger’s deputy army chief, Commander Abou Maman, and immediate payment of salary arrears.

Niger is to hold its first multi-party elections this year. — Sapa-Reuters
SAC 28/12/92
Togolese trade delegation here

LOME — The first Togolese trade delegation to South Africa, led by Industry Minister Issa Samanou, flew to Johannesburg yesterday hoping to attract investors.

The group will promote Togo's "export-processing zone." — Reuter.
Moving out of Africa

Activities: Investment company with interests in mining, agriculture and property in Africa and the US.

Controlling: Conafex 53.1%.


Capital structure: 3.8m ords. Market capitalisation: R1.9bn.

Share market: Price: 500c. Yields: 5.4% on dividend; 3.9% on earnings; p/e ratio, 26; cover, 0.7. 12-month high, 860c; low, 500c.

Trading volume last quarter, 20 shares.

Year to Sep 30

- Turnover (US$m) .... 18.7 20.7 32.4 44.0
- Eps pre-profits (US$m) 2.5 3.1 2.6 1.9
- Earnings (SA$m) .... 68 129 112 17.8
- Dividends (SAc) ...... 22.5 23.4 28.3 26.9
- Net worth (SAc) ...... 1 037 1 417 1 330 1 372

About the best that can be said of Afex’s performance in the year to September is that it successfully continued its stated aim of getting out of Africa, but the profits suffered in the process.

Key statistic, according to chairman David Marshall, is that 43.9% of the company’s net assets at year-end were located in the US or elsewhere overseas, compared with 27.5% the previous year.

Major contributor to that swing was that last year Afex got permission from the SA Reserve Bank to transfer to Luxembourg the share portfolio held in SA by wholly owned subsidiary Sussex Securities, through a special dividend in specie. Afex is registered in Luxembourg.

Market value of that portfolio at September 30 was US$7m. Sales from the portfolio since the year-end have realised profits of $3.6m which are now in the bank, according to Marshall.

Included in the portfolio is Afex’s 26% stake in Zimbabwe gold producer Falcon Mines, which is listed separately on the London and Johannesburg stock exchanges. Marshall emphasises the group has no intention of selling that stake.

Falcon is doing very nicely, thank you, even if only a quarter of the taxed profits can be remitted from Zimbabwe in any one year and then at the discretion of the Zimbabwean authorities. The value of the Zimbabwean holdings in Afex’s books have been taken at a conservative figure.

Marshall says he is now happy with Afex’s balance of investments in and out of Africa. The group will “play with the chips” with what it has left in Africa, while overseas the aim is to hold investments in blue-chip equities and a property portfolio in America, which at present is concentrated in freehold property in southern California.

However, Afex has not found the investment market in the US easy. The directors’ report shows a market value of the US investment portfolio at end-September of $244m, compared with a book value of $1.6m, but that is after providing $500 000 against a “permanent diminution in value.”

The trouble is that last year’s poor profit performance could be followed by a worse one this year. Both SA and Zimbabwe remain in the grip of recessions and the severe drought in both countries will hit Afex’s agricultural businesses.

In the US, the property market has been affected by the recession, interest rates are near record lows, and equity markets have done surprisingly well... so far.

Marshall acknowledges Afex’s poor profit performance is of concern but points to the group’s asset value as compensation. He feels the share should be viewed as an asset play, which is confirmed by shareholders’ taking four-fifths of the 1990 dividend declaration in additional shares rather than cash. That option is available for the 1991 dividend distribution and Marshall expects a similar take-up.

The share has limited attractions for SA investors. Main beneficiaries of the group’s operations are the Marshall and Latilla-Campbell families which control it. Only 20 shares were traded on the JSE over the past three months because they are so tightly held and because they are really only half a rand hedge stock.

The future of holding company Conafex is of interest. Its sole asset is the holding in Afex plus some cash. Marshall says Conafex’s role as holding company is not really required because the direct and indirect holdings of the Marshall and Latilla-Campbell families are sufficient to retain control of Afex. He says “something may be done” with Conafex but declines to provide details.
TOKYO — The fate of the African elephant will be on the line next week in Kyoto, Japan, as supporters and opponents of the ivory trade square off at an international convention on endangered species.

"We are very hopeful there will be no resumption of the ivory trade, but the topic is likely to be extremely controversial and it will be a tough battle," Simon Lyster, an official of the World Wide Fund for Nature, said in Tokyo yesterday.

The eighth conference of the signatories to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Cites) is to be held in Kyoto from March 2-13.

The conference will bring together some 1,400 government officials and experts from the 112 signatory countries to consider levels of protection for endangered species of animals and plants in international trade.

The African elephant dominated the last Cites meeting, held in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1989, when it earned classification in the treaty's Schedule 1, so that all international trade in any elephant parts was banned.

Five southern African countries, noting that their elephant populations are growing again, will propose at Kyoto that the elephant be returned to Schedule 2 of the treaty, which would allow a controlled resumption of the ivory trade.

"Any downlisting would be a signal to the ivory traders, and poaching all over Africa is likely to increase," Jeff Cann, who will lead the Greenpeace delegation to Kyoto, said yesterday.

"The proposal by South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Namibia has prompted an outcry among dozens of non-governmental organisations that have flocked to Japan for the conference.

"Greenpeace is especially opposed to any change in the listing, saying it is too early to speak of a "recovery" hardly two years after the ban in the ivory trade took effect on January 1, 1989.

"From 1979 to 1989, the number of African elephants fell from 1.3 million to about 600,000, mostly because of poaching.

"In the absence of official figures from several countries since 1989, Greenpeace has estimated that current herds total between 573,000 and 508,000, with a slight increase in southern Africa, while elsewhere on the continent, numbers are still declining.

"Poaching has increased in recent months in South Africa and Zimbabwe, and the British Environmental Investigation Agency has accused the military in both countries of involvement in elephant poaching and ivory smuggling.

"The debate will be heavily influenced by a report to be released next week by a panel of experts set up at the Lausanne Cites meeting to study the issue.

"Countries such as Spain and Belgium have come out in favour of the South African proposal but most other Western countries, including the United States, are awaiting the panel's report before declaring their stance.

"Elephants have never been threatened with extinction in South Africa and Zimbabwe," said Steve Edwards, an official of the World Conservation Union, who supports a compromise.

"One compromise that might mollify the southern African countries — which otherwise might quit Cites — would be to put the elephant in Schedule 2 but maintain the ban on the ivory trade.

"Resumption of trade in elephant meat and hides — which are used in boots in the United States — would generate income to allow countries to improve their own conservation efforts to ensure sustainable management of their elephant herds.

"Greenpeace and other ecological movements reject any compromise, saying it would be the first step to a resumption of the ivory trade.

"It is universally agreed that since 1990, trade in ivory has completely collapsed, especially in Hong Kong and Japan." — Sapa-AFF.
Kaunda makes plea for unity

JOHANNESBURG — Former Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda has made a strong plea for African unity, saying only a united continent would be able to withstand outside economic and political pressure.

Addressing a meeting of the Institute for Multi-Party Democracy in Johannesburg, the former Zambian leader, who is on a four-day tour here, said small nations across the continent could easily be destabilised, but a united Africa could withstand such pressure.

"They (the world powers) say incorporation into the world economy is good for us. I beg to differ. To base our economic system on the industrialised north is not on.

"The West confers democracy on a government and its people, yet I have never understood the criteria they employ to confer such democracy. Their system must allow for their participation, and even domination, of our economies. It is not in our interests to be incorporated into the world economy, but rather for us to address our inadequacies," said Mr Kaunda. — Sapa.
Ivory ban 'has failed' for future programmes, argues SA conservationist John IlSTEY.
Meeting Africa's needs — the key to SA economic success

NO DOUBT the IMF’s recent disclosure of a lacklustre 2% aggregate growth in the world's major industrial economies for 1992 — down from its October forecast of 2.5% — will be much on the minds of attendants at an Interexec conference in May on how to exploit profit opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa.

Despite euphoria over the progressive lifting of sanctions against South Africa, IMF’s announcement indicates bifurcated, and not rose-tinted spectacles, are what’s needed for local businesses looking to new export markets for their products.

"Obviously we can't ignore overseas trading partners, but if South Africa's economy is to get an export-led kickstart to recovery, it seems increasingly likely that it will need to come from markets closer to home," says General manager Dennis Coe of Interexec Seminars & Symposia.

"Eastern European economies are largely defunct, the major Western markets are sluggish, yet the Nigerian stock market all share index rose by a spectacular 60% at end-December, and we understand Botswana is listed as one of the fastest growing economies in the world."

"Billions of dollars in investment and foreign aid are pouring into Africa annually," he continues.

"This, together with the growing trend towards free market economies, has resulted in many African markets reflecting exponential growth patterns with enduring lucrative and still untapped business opportunities."

The Interexec conference, scheduled for the 5 and 6, will take a look at sub-Saharan profit opportunities for local business and more specifically at how to exploit these openings to the full. Speakers will address in detail how to minimise risks and maximise the chances of successful intra-continental trading, in the fastest possible time.

Guest speaker Dr. Ophelia Jatta, an internationally renowned expert on African economic and business affairs, has visited more than 38 African countries, will deliver the keynote address entitled 'Meeting Africa's needs: the key to South Africa's success'.

The American Harvard graduate holds a BSc in accounting, an MA in international economics and business, and a Juris doctorate in international law.

"Economic co-operation between African states generally, and southern African states specifically, irrespective of political differences, is the vital key to economic upliftment throughout the region," says Jatta.

"The effect of African countries in the past banding together to isolate South Africa from world trade has been to weaken the economies of each and every one of them.

"Just as these countries are now realising the need to bring South Africa back into the Preferential Trade area, it is in South Africa’s own best interests to boost and assist the economies of its neighbours."

"Strengthening ties and not allowing politics to destroy the economic base is more likely to attract foreign investment to the region as a whole, with South Africa the natural economic hub.

A lot of companies burnt their fingers because they did not know how to enter this market properly. They did not fully understand the economics of the region, transport routes and other African peculiarities.

They did not go fully prepared, with their eyes open."

The Interexec conference will focus on the practical and tough issues of business marketing into these areas, says Coe.

An impressive line up of speakers will address subjects of interest to the full spectrum of South Africa’s business community, including manufacturing, engineering, building and the commercial sector.

The conference programme will also encourage participation from delegates and a free exchange of ideas and experience.

Says Jatta: "It’s going to be a very worthwhile exercise, even for those who already know what’s being said. The conference will provide an opportunity for companies to network together and explore joint venture opportunities."

The time has come for South Africa to walk through the front door to the international trade arena and take a leadership role in world business activity.”

For more information on this, contact Interexec Seminars and Symposium at: (011) 893-8467.
Democrats win in Cameroon

YAOUNDE (Cameroon) - Cameroon's ruling Democratic Movement has won a majority in the first multi-party general election in 30 years.

According to almost complete results released here yesterday the territorial administration ministry said that votes for 159 of the 180 national assembly seats saw the ruling party keep 93.

The National Union for Democracy and Progress got 49, and the Union of Cameroon Populations 17.

There were more than 750 candidates from 32 parties. The main opposition parties called for a boycott, complaining that election rules were too slanted in the ruling party's favour.

No incidents were reported and foreign observers invited by the authorities in the West African country said polling was carried out in fair conditions. - Sapa-AFP.
Strike affects Niger business

NIAMEY - A general strike affecting all sectors of business and the administration gripped the Niger capital yesterday in protest at military threats to the country's fragile democracy.

Roads in the capital were virtually empty. Reports from up-country said the strike was being followed in the provinces as well.

The strike was called by trade unions and political parties grouped in a Committee for Co-ordinating the Democratic Struggle to protest at an army mutiny last Friday.

Troops took over the national radio station to press for payment of wages.

The committee, the authorities and the military continued talks at the labour exchange here to resolve the crisis. It had said it would call off the strike provided the mutineers were punished. - Sapo-AFP
Japan sees SA as gateway to African trade

THE referendum and the possibility of future nationalisation in SA were factors causing concern among potential Japanese investors, visiting Japanese academic Anatole Goshi said in Johannesburg yesterday.

He said political instability was a serious threat to investment in SA. Japanese investors were perturbed about the potential nationalisation of SA's mines as nationalisation was not seen as a viable solution to SA's economic problems.

Goshi said Japanese companies had earmarked large sums of money for investments overseas, which included SA. He said Japan had much to offer SA in the way of skills development, trade and manufacturing experience, as well as job creation.

SA was the gateway to trade with the rest of Africa, and Japan therefore hoped to establish regional "headquarters" in the country by the turn of the century, Goshi said.

The Japanese economy had come under pressure from both the US and from recent scandals which rocked investor confidence in Japanese financial and stock-market circles.

Goshi said Japan's prime minister had envisaged a 3.5% growth in GNP for the current year. The Japanese government planned to invest in civic projects. This would provide SA exporters with good opportunities to export goods to Japan.

As a professor of management at Nihon University in Tokyo, Goshi spends about two months each year in SA consulting on ways to approach new business opportunities opening up worldwide.
Egypt looks south for new markets

EGYPT looks set to move south to exploit an untapped African market for its goods at a time when the other economic giant on the continent, South Africa — with apartheid crumbling — is pushing hard to win friends in the north.

This could set the stage for a competition for markets by Africa's two largest economies. President Hosni Mubarak's recent tour of African nations marks a new phase in Egyptian relations as the country turns south for new business.

Hitherto, the volume of Egyptian trade with Africa has been remarkably low. Between 1980 and 1990, Egypt's annual exports to Africa amounted to an average $24 million (about 867 million). Surprisingly, trade with Arab countries is also low.

But Egypt is looking to develop business contacts as well as asserting a greater role in Africa. Omad Gad, under-secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and director of its African department, says the government is seeking to use funds for African development to support Egyptian exports to African markets.

Egypt is also seeking to launch joint agricultural and industrial projects with African countries to encourage commercial exchange throughout the continent.

How to achieve greater cooperation will be another matter. Kamal Hilaly, chairman of the El-Nasr Export-Import Company, believes greater concessions to African exports would support trade.

One major obstacle to the furtherance of trade, according to Egyptian business investors, is transportation. As a sign of its willingness to ease the problem, the government has plans for an inter-African road network.

The development of the African market is part of a move by the Egyptian authorities to a greater market-oriented economy. At present, 85 percent of Egyptian industry is government-owned. Under the new public-sector companies' law, up to 49 percent of the shares in about 350 such companies may be sold on the Egyptian stock exchanges.

The urge for greater cooperation with African nations may also be part of a move among Arab countries to respond to the supposed economic threat posed by the European Community. Some countries in the region see the European economic bloc as an attempt to keep out foreign imports.®
First all-African publishers’ group formed

INDEPENDENT South African publishers were among the founders of the first all-African publishers’ organisation, formed at a conference in Harare last month.

The African Publishers’ Network (Apnet) has been created as an interim step towards the establishment of an African publishers’ association that will stretch across the continent. Among its 11 founding members, all from sub-Saharan Africa, are the Independent Publishers’ Association of South Africa (Ipasa) and publishers from Nigeria, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania and Namibia.

Apnet’s first aim is to create an information network for African publishers who have been isolated by distance, language and the lack of an efficient communications service. This will be done through the publication of a bi-monthly newsletter that will, according to an Apnet statement, “fill an existing information gap about shared problems and experiences, as well as give a clear and unified voice to all publishers in Africa, which has been sorely lacking.” Apnet has also started investigations into the foundation of an African Publishing Institute that would provide training in publishing.

African publishers met in Bamako, Mali, in 1988 to discuss common problems—the beginning of the long process that led to the formation of Apnet. Further meetings of African publishers and donor agencies were held last year in Sweden, New York and Italy.

At the Zimbabwe International Book Fair in August, the creation of a training project was discussed, and the creation of Apnet was the next step—a step made just in time to place these proposals before the various donors, who met in Harare a few days later. The Apnet statement said that “the proposals were sympathetically received by the donors present. Delegates noted with appreciation the need for the coordination of donor aid, with donors widening their interests to include support for indigenous African publishing initiatives.”

The members of Apnet are, in the main, smaller indigenous publishers, and one of Apnet’s long-term aims will be the development of indigenous African publishing. While the larger international publishers provide in-house training, the smaller ones need to pool their resources and assist each other to raise the level of expertise in African publishing.

“There’s a lot of investigation and research to get done,” said Monica Seeber, Ipasa’s training project co-ordinator. “But it was a very exciting conference, and shared experience is the start of shared skills.”

Shaun de Waal
MILLIONAIRE mercenaries and impoverished rural people, two species on opposite ends of southern Africa's political landscape, will each be affected by the outcome of the most heated environmental debate this decade: to ban or not to ban the sale of ivory.

If the ban on elephant products is upheld, rural people will lose the right to make a living from one of their most valuable natural assets. But if the ban is relaxed, corrupt military men who make their fortunes from dealing in the tusks of dead elephants will be rubbing their hands in glee.

These are the homes of a dilemma on which all genuine conservationists in South Africa find themselves. The only way out of the quandary is for this fraternity to lobby strongly against any form of military involvement in the illicit ivory trade.

South Africa's delegation to the eighth international conference of countries that have signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) has gone into the summit at Kyoto in Japan with a potentially progressive position and an unusual array of allies.

The conference, which lasts until next Friday and is billed as a summit that will finally decide the fate of the African elephant, is being attended by a high-powered team of state officials and conservationists from non-government organisations.

They will argue for elephant to be transferred from the Cites Appendix I list of endangered species, which prohibits the trade in products from these animals, to the convention's Appendix II, which will allow legal trade in elephant products to resume.

But, in a gesture of support to those countries which believe a pause in the ivory trade is necessary to stamp out illicit poaching and drive down the price of tusks on the black market, the South Africans will agree to an zero ivory quota until the next gathering of Cites members.

Dr Richard Leakey, director of the Kenya Wildlife Service and Africa's most vociferous proponent of the ban on trade in elephant hide and tusks, has agreed to the compromise — and the South Africans can, for once, rely on extensive support from some unlikely bedfellows.

A central tenet of South Africa's position is that elephant and other animal species are among the only resources that rural communities in many parts of southern Africa can exploit to make a living and, thus, it is important to win the principle that these people be allowed to use wildlife resources in a sustainable way.

In a recent book, *Elephants, Economics and Ivory*, members of the unit argue the ivory ban is having a detrimental effect on innovative conservation programmes in southern, and South, Africa that encourage local communities to participate in the preservation of wildlife rather than to engage in poaching.

But enter the military and things no longer look so good for the South Africans. The London-based Environmental Protection Agency (EIA), a vociferous group of researchers opposed to any relaxation of the ivory ban, recently issued a report which claims that the Mozambican army, the SADF and Renamo and are heavily implicated in ivory wars that are driving some of the subcontinent's remaining herds to extinction.

EIA director Allan Thornton's report is thin on evidence about the SADF's said involvement in this conspiracy. But there been more reliable indications recently that members of the South African military are profiteering from poaching in Mozambique's war zone.

The Defence Intelligence Agency, an undercover unit attached to the United States Defence Department, last month leaked a report which claimed that support for Renamo rebels in Mozambique was still being supplied by elements in the SADF as late as February 1991. The DIA's agent says that his informant, a defector from the rebel movement, provided evidence of "another Renamo connection to South Africa — ivory poaching."

The report cites the informant as saying: "When he was a member of a section he was often tasked to go into a huge area with lots of elephants to kill the elephants for their tusks. He said this group brought the tusks to a camp near the border, where the tusks were given to a group of whites, including a white woman."

Documents captured by the Mozambican army when it overran a Renamo base at Gorongosa in central Mozambique last year record instructions from rebel leader Alfredo Dhlakama to his chief of staff, one General Anselmo, that a consignment of ivory be air lifted to South Africa.

Another document, this time from a Renamo field commander to Dhlakama, says: "We need anti-aircraft weapons. We can provide ivory on a landing strip. When we have the anti-aircraft (weapons), the ivory must be ready to be taken out."

The *Weekly Mail* has also seen film footage, taken by a foreign television crew last year, which shows Renamo insurgents hawking ivory tusks across the electrified fence that separates southern Mozambique from South Africa — in full view of an SADF platoon.
Insurance warning for firms trading in Africa

WITH the general relaxation of sanctions, South African companies trading in neighbouring countries have claimed for damage to assets in those countries or they may find themselves without cover, warns a leading insurance broker.

"In certain instances, these assets were not specifically declared and difficulties were encountered. During sanctions, businesses operating in those countries were, for security reasons, reluctant to disclose offshore assets, and African companies to ensure that foreign property and assets requiring insurance have been fully declared."

Rodney Matlida, a director of PFV.
Muzzled opposition press in Africa finally finds a voice as multiparty politics challenge the one-party state

LOOK WHO IS TALKING

Kambra's pressing trial is taking no chances as it finds itself in the sight of the press

As a watchful eye, the Press Association of Zambia (PAP), representing 1,000 media, has rejected a government attempt to silence the freedom of the Press Council.

PAP argues that the government plan to limit press freedom is a carry-over from the Second Republic under former President Kenneth Kaunda's 18 years of one-party rule in which press freedoms were controlled by self-censorship to please Kaunda and those in the United National Independence Party (UP). Many journalists who opposed Kaunda's policies were regarded as "diagnosed patients" or "outlaws". Others were denied promotions as punishment or were harassed and used to suppress stories considered "harmful". Political pluralism has changed much of this. The opposing independent press - the Weekly Post, the Sunday and Daily Express - have become prominent voices. The Press Council has been recognized by the government and the media.

However, in recent months, the press has faced increasing pressure from the government. The government has been accused of using the law to silence the press and to control the flow of information. The government has also been criticized for its treatment of journalists and media organizations.

The situation in Zambia is a stark reminder of the importance of a free press in a democratic society. The press is a vital tool for holding the government accountable and for ensuring that the public is informed. It is essential that the government respect the right to freedom of the press and ensure that journalists are able to report the news without fear of retribution.

Nevertheless, the government has been accused of using the law to silence the press and to control the flow of information. The government has also been criticized for its treatment of journalists and media organizations.

The situation in Zambia is a stark reminder of the importance of a free press in a democratic society. The press is a vital tool for holding the government accountable and for ensuring that the public is informed. It is essential that the government respect the right to freedom of the press and ensure that journalists are able to report the news without fear of retribution.
SAA may join
African body

SAA may be admitted to the African Airlines Association (Afraa) before the end of the year, giving the airline better access to African markets and improving its relations with other carriers on the continent.

London-based African Airlines reports in its latest issue that Afraa secretary-general Mohammed Ahmed said he was certain SAA would become a member, and that he hoped to welcome the airline into Afraa by the end of 1992.

Several African airlines, notably Air Zimbabwe and Zambia Airways, are reluctant to have SAA as an Afraa member as they fear they would be dwarfed by it and would lose a lot of traffic within Africa.

However, Egyptair, Kenya Airways and Ethiopian Airlines are keen to develop air links with SAA.

SAA spokesman Zelda Roux yesterday said admission to Afraa would enable the airline to foster better business relations with other African carriers. "SAA believes it can offer help to the other African carriers in the way of training and maintenance expertise."
Africa opening up for business
Liquidity doubts still linger

**Activities:** UK-based multinational with mining, agricultural, commercial and industrial interests in 60 countries.

**Controls:** R W Rowland with 14% is the biggest shareholder.

**Chairman:** M J J R Lechizio; MD & CE: R W Rowland.

**Capital structure:** 653,4m ords. Market capitalisation: R5,1bn.

**Share market:** Price: 785c. Yields: 8.2% on dividend; 8.9% on earnings; p/e ratio: 11.2; cover, 1.1. 12-month high, 1 640c; low, 616c. Trading volume last quarter, 6,5m shares.

**Year to Sept 30:**
- Turnover [Gnl] ...... 4 216 5 108 5 476 4 846
- Pretax profit [Gnl] ... 226 273 272 207
- Pretax margin (%) .... 5.3 5.3 5.0 4.3
- Earnings (pl) .......... 23.4 27.1 23.6 14.2
- Dividends (pl) ........ 10.1 14.2 18.7 12.0
- Net worth (pl) ......... 203 222 216 204

Disappointment at the preliminary figures (Fox January 31) was compounded when the annual report revealed that the £66m dip in pre-tax profit would have been even worse but for £39m profit on sales of property and fixed assets — up from only £6m in financial 1990. Treat these as exceptional and adjusted pre-tax profit would be down from £267m in 1990 to £168m — or by some 37%.

Further helping the picture, capitalised interest, mostly on the hotel building programme, rose from £13m in 1990 to £27m.

Another significant item concerns the impact of exchange rate losses — taken below the line — on a reported NAV of 204p a share, barely changed from 1988’s 203p. Management’s efforts over the past three years, in other words, have created no incremental value — and with the lowest earnings since 1985 and dividends since 1988, current results are nothing to crow about either.

At the time of the preliminary, the company blamed the downturn of precious metals prices for “nearly half” the drop in second-half profit. Given the annual pre-tax profit from mining of £777m, this implies a split between the two halves of about £34m in the first half and £23m in the second.

This is in spite of a 22% increase in annual output of platinum group metals in SA and a 42% rise in gold output at Ghana’s Ashanti.

**Lonrho’s Rowland ... what assets can he sell?**

Goldfields — a combination that puzzles analysts.

But all major activities except finance (up a negligible £1m) kicked in lower profits: motor distribution (off 35%), manufacturing (65%) and leisure (30%) all actually did relatively worse than mining.

Hotel and motor distribution interests were hit by recession and/or the Gulf War, but printing and publishing interests generally seem to have done well.

**Record profits**

On the positive side, Lonrho, which claims to be the largest commercial food producer in Africa, turned in record profits from sugar, with an “exceptional” performance from the Malawi estates offsetting lower production, because of bad weather, in Swaziland and Mauritius. Other agricultural operations in Malawi and elsewhere in Africa had a bad year, though.

Geographically, pre-tax profits from Africa fell by only £18m; it was the UK, with a £36m drop, that was the main culprit. The UK contributes 40% of group turnover (£1,9bn) but only 9% (£19m) of pre-tax profit. That compares with 1990 turnover of £2.2bn and pre-tax profit of £55m.

Apart from being a totally inadequate return, this could make it difficult to recoup UK Advance Corporation Tax.

The divisional breakdown in the review of operations is not identical to the profit breakdown in the P&L account, which hampers analysis. But the company is clearly stung by suggestions that it has difficulty repatriating profits from the Third World to its London base, saying that 87% of £238m year-end cash in the bank (1990: £355m) is held in Europe and the US by companies operating in those territories. As long-term loans are £888m, this is a less than total reassurance.

Lonrho does not publish a holding company P&L account or a cash flow statement, making it difficult to gauge the upward flow of cash — which many analysts see as one of its major problems. Ability to repatriate funds, of course, will also be a determining and possibly limiting factor in asset sales.

CE Tiny Rowland says the capital investment programme is winding down, but year-end commitments were still £156m (1990: £170m), including £59m (£79m) on platinum mine. He expects borrowings — and hence gearing — to fall this year, encouraged by asset sales which, other reports have suggested, could raise up to £400m.

That would certainly transform the balance sheet. The trouble is that the best-quality assets are always the most saleable — which may be one reason for the frequent (and as frequently denied) rumours that the platinum interests could be sold to Gencor, with whose Impala Platinum there is already a link.

Another traditional area of concern has been the lack of management depth. What happens when Rowland (now 74) is no longer around to polish the egos of African heads of State? To deflect this, Lonrho last year doubled the number of associate directors (drawn from top management) to 20.

Rowland sees this year as one of “good housekeeping” and says Lonrho “remains soundly based to move back to its normal pattern of turnover and profit.” The group has withheld the (3p) first interim for this year, but this should apparently not be seen as any portent of total distribution.

Rowland underlines the opportunities in...
Billions of dollars ‘wasted’ in Africa

A French expert on Africa has warned that 30 years of international aid totalling $650 billion (about R1 900-billion) “has been a complete waste.”

“The Gross National Product (GNP) of Africa, excluding South Africa, is about equal to that of Belgium, but with more than 450 million inhabitants.”

Professor Bernard Lugan, who has a chair of African history at Lyon University, noted in the daily newspaper Figaro: “In 1960, just before decolonisation, the continent accounted for nine percent of world exports. Today that figure has fallen to three percent.”

“There is also an appalling educational crisis, with 75 percent illiteracy, despite the fact that the EC trains professional cadres. Unfortunately, more than 70 000 African doctors, teachers and engineers have ‘deserted’ by preferring to remain in Europe rather than return home. They are replaced by whites sent out under co-operation projects.”

He concluded: “We must realise that Africa is a failure everywhere except Morocco and South Africa. In 1960, Africa was able to feed itself — today, 150 million face starvation.” — Star Foreign Service.
Frontline ministers hit out at SA

HARARE. — Defence and security ministers of the seven frontline states yesterday accused South Africa of continued attempts to destabilise their countries.

The ministers accused SA of gathering economic and military intelligence from the frontline states.

The accusation came in a statement at the end of a two-day meeting at which inter-state defence and security in Southern Africa was reviewed.

The actions were at odds with the search for peace in Southern Africa in general and in SA in particular, said the statement.

"The ministers observed that as long as apartheid, civil strife and political instability continue in SA, that country will remain the main threat to the peace, stability and economic development of member states."

They noted "with concern" the political hurdles still to be surmounted before a non-racial, just and democratic society could be realised in SA.

While calling for a speedier resolution of the political obstacles, the ministers affirmed their determination to give moral, political and diplomatic support to liberation movements and urged SA political parties to join in the current peace process.

They had taken note of the referendum to be held on March 17 and expressed the hope that the outcome would contribute towards democracy in that country.

The frontline states also expressed support for the peace process in Angola, and urged the government and Unita to continue working for national unity. — Sapa
MORE than 2 million people in Ethiopia’s drought-ravaged northern province of Tigray are threatened with famine, says a radio news report.

A broadcast on the Voice of the Tigray Revolution radio said Mr. Aragay Araya, an Ethiopian relief official, estimated that the region would need about 363,000 tons of grain to deal with the problem.

Ethiopia’s arid northern regions are prone to drought. - Sapa-AP
Ethiopian aid plea

NAIROBI — More than two million people in Ethiopia's drought-ravaged northern province of Tigray face famine. A radio broadcast said the region was again suffering from severe drought. A relief official appealed to charities and the government to seek an urgent solution.
Democracy is bitter medicine for Africa

ABIDJAN - Like puzzled doctors with a patient who won’t respond to treatment, Western government officials, diplomats and academics are gathering around Africa’s bed of pain.

They have a new wonder-drug - democracy.

It costs a lot of money and some early evidence suggests it could provoke a nasty reaction.

To make matters worse, the patient thinks many of the doctors are unprincipled quacks who constantly change diagnosis to mask their past mistakes.

“You cannot flick a light switch and expect democracy to miraculously and magically appear,” said Leonard Robinson, a senior United States State Department official covering Africa.

His government is an enthusiastic promoter of democratic values and now spends much of its aid budget on sending experts - law professors, journalists, election specialists - to lecture Africans on the subject.

After three decades of one-party and military governments which were often installed or overthrown by foreign powers, African nations are under orders to embrace democracy quickly.

The penalty for refusal, for all but a handful of countries with a medicum of leverage, is a cut in aid money on which states increasingly depend for their survival.

Many African leaders who can no longer play off the West against the Soviet bloc feel betrayed. Rich allies who never protested about dictatorial behavior in the past have suddenly discovered the virtues of democracy.

“Without oil or any other strategic asset, Africa will always be treated with contempt and condescension,” the government newspaper in Ivory Coast, Fraternite-Matin, said in a bitter editorial about Western pro-democracy pressure.

Zaire’s President Mobutu Sese Seko, who refuses to quit after 27 years in total command with the help of foreign powers, is publicly insulted nowadays by European politicians.

But the result of the pressure is a rash of pluralist elections from Mali to Cameroon and more to come in former bastions of one-party rule such as Kenya.

Gone are the days when an interior minister popped up on television within hours of polls closing to announce that the incumbent president - the sole candidate - had been re-elected with 99.9 percent of the vote.

In 1992 the voters’ choice is dazzling. Congo’s two million people can pick between 100 political parties. Scores of partisan newspapers push their candidates and observers sent by Western governments scrutinize the electoral process.

Elections worked in Benin and Zambia in 1991 when veteran presidents who once looked impregnable were voted out.

But things are not going smoothly this year. Major opposition parties in Cameroon and Mauritania boycotted polls, saying incumbent leaders were tribalists who would cheat on a massive scale to keep their ethnic group in power.

A Malian was elected to the new multi-party parliament with just four votes - 80 percent of the turnout - because a rebellion by Tuareg nomads made voting too dangerous.

In the Horn of Africa, Rwanda, Chad and Liberia, the spread of civil war further pushed back the prospect of fair elections.

Leonard Robinson, who checked the state of democracy in six West African countries this month, said in Ivory Coast where the government has just jailed the main opposition leader:

“The process of democratisation will take many, many, many years. There will be some setbacks and there will be some dramatic failures.”

But the US deputy assistant secretary of state is optimistic. “I think the process is irreversible. I think it is too late to stop it. I think it is too late to stop democracy.” Robinson said. - Sapa-Reuters
Grasp this hand of friendship

AFRICA is extending a warm hand of friendship to white South Africans as they vote in the referendum today. Pray to God the white voters do not spit on it, for then it might not be extended again for a long time, if at all.

Ironically, the whites will be voting in the referendum primarily as Africans themselves. Whether they like it or not, their Africanism is something that will inexorably influence their destiny, regardless of the outcome of the referendum.

This does not necessarily mean the Conservative Party is wrong in saying in its referendum campaign that its policy of ethnic differentiation is in line with an international trend. That may well be so, but it is not something that can be assured or promoted by a "no" vote in the referendum today.

A negative vote, ironically, is more likely to impede the CP's dream of a separate white existence than to promote it, because it would result in the speedy ruination of the South African economy and could plunge the country into chaos beyond any white control. It would weaken rather than strengthen the whites' ability to decide their own destiny and protect their culture and identity.

While a negative vote would unleash an unprecedented international campaign against the South African economy, a "yes" vote will have the opposite effect. That effect could even go beyond an international effort to boost the South African economy. It could result in the world community using its influence to ensure that Codesa does not lead to the destruction of the values and structures that white South Africans hold dear — those that are compatible, that is, with international democratic norms. And who would want any others?

Beyond that, a "yes" vote could lead to the international community using the very powerful economic levers at its disposal to ensure that whoever governs the new South Africa respects and nurtures democracy and human rights.

There is no guarantee that this will happen, but it is a strong probability. It certainly will not happen if there is a "no" vote. In that event South Africa's whites will be on their own in a hostile world and their chances of survival as a significant ethnic entity will diminish dramatically.

The ability of the outside world to influence the course of events in South Africa should not be underestimated. Codesa is making progress not least because it has strong international support. It would certainly not get this support if it began to block white efforts to secure adequate protection of their identity and their rights through constitutional means — which is the most reliable way to achieve this objective.

It is not only the Europeans and the Americans who would want to protect these things. The Africans, too, have an interest in it. While Africa remains firmly opposed to anything smacking of white domination, it looks to South Africa to play a major role in helping to rescue the continent from economic decline. It recognises that the whites hold the key to prosperity in South Africa, whatever black extremists in this country may say. There is no African government that wants to see whites impoverished, either in retribution for apartheid or for any other reason.

African governments have no interest in seeing South Africa going to economic ruin under racist black domination. They want to see a stable and prosperous South Africa serving as an example and an anchor for the rest of the continent. They know this cannot be done without the whites. But they are not prepared to pay for what the whites can offer by condoning white racism. They have already demonstrated this by their support for sanctions and armed struggle against apartheid at considerable cost to themselves and will no doubt do so again if they have to.

But they would infinitely prefer to see their friendship reciprocated.

(Report by G L'Ange, 47 Sauer St, Johannesburg)
Cites voters, says expert

Emotional factors sway

Emotional words on the

The Virginian-Pilot
Africa is relieved it was 'yes'.

HARARE - Black Africa heaved a sigh of relief yesterday over the white backing State President FW de Klerk received for political reform in South Africa.

Black “frontline” states in Southern Africa had feared a “no” vote in yesterday’s whites-only referendum would lead to violence spilling over into the region.

“We are encouraged by the results, particularly by the fact that this mandate De Klerk has been given will enable him to continue with the peace process,” Zambia’s Foreign Minister, Mr Vernon Mwaanga, said in Lusaka shortly before flying to Pretoria.

He said he would meet South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha today and have talks with other political leaders.

Zimbabwe, whose President Robert Mugabe was elected to chair the “frontline” states at a summit in Lusaka last week, also hailed De Klerk’s sweeping victory.

“This is some of the best news we have received from South Africa and we hope De Klerk will proceed with speed and confidence to establish a multiracial democratic system,” a Foreign Ministry official in Harare said.

Officials said Zimbabwe had put together an emergency plan to cope with a feared influx of refugees if the Conservative Party had won and civil war had broken out in South Africa.

“We are glad our worst fears are over,” one said.

They said they had monitored the situation there through Zimbabwe’s trade mission and an “unofficial” delegation.

In Nigeria, whose President Ibrahima Babangida is current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, officials welcomed the South African result.

“The ‘yes’ vote which has now ended the negotiating process has removed a major obstacle to the efforts to transform South Africa from a racially segregated country to a nonracial, united and democratic society,” a Foreign Ministry statement said. — South African Press Association-Reuters.
Minor changes in Africa from Major changes.
Africa hails landslide victory

HARARE — Black Africa heaved a sigh of relief yesterday over the white backing President de Klerk received for political reform in South Africa. Black frontline states in southern Africa had feared a "no" vote in Tuesday's referendum would lead to violence spilling over into the region.

"We are encouraged by the results, particularly by the fact that this mandate Mr de Klerk has been given will enable him to continue with the peace process," Zambia's Foreign Minister Vernon Mwaanga said in Lusaka shortly before flying to Pretoria.

He said he would meet Foreign Minister Pik Botha today, and have talks with other political leaders.

Zimbabwe, whose President Robert Mugabe was elected to chair the frontline states at a summit in Lusaka last week, also hailed Mr de Klerk's sweeping victory.

"This is one of the best news we have received from South Africa ... and we hope President de Klerk will proceed with speed and confidence to establish a multiracial democratic system," a Foreign Ministry official in Harare said.

In Nigeria, whose President Ibrahim Babangida is current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, officials welcomed the result.

"The 'yes' vote which has now endorsed the negotiating process has removed a major obstacle to the efforts to transform South Africa from a racially segregated country to a non-racial, unified and democratic society," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

"The federal government congratulates President de Klerk, the people of South Africa and all the progressive and anti-apartheid forces for their affirmative stand on this crucial referendum which is central to the country's future.

"Africa and the rest of the world now urge white, black, coloured and Indian groups working within the framework of Codesa to proceed to take appropriate steps towards ending violence, oppression and racism in SA," the foreign ministry said. — Sapa-Reuters-AP.
Electricity for Africa millions

IVORY Coast and South Africa have signed an agreement which will provide electricity to millions of people in Southern, West and Central Africa.

In an agreement with the Ivory Coast, Eskom and its Ivorian counterpart, the Energie Electrique de la Cote d'Ivoire will exchange technical information and consulting services and will co-operate in construction projects, maintenance and staff training.

The two countries, according to Eskom, have interests in the proposed development of large, multinational electricity supply schemes in Southern Africa, West and Central Africa.

Eskom chief executive Mr Ian McRae said at the signing ceremony on March 13 that economic recovery and wealth creation in Africa were closely hound up in bringing electricity to millions of people who still did not have it.

On the same day that the electricity agreement was concluded, South Africa signed an agreement with Swaziland for a joint water scheme, an agreement that will soon be expanded to include Mozambique.

The agreement opens the way for new economic development in the Komati Basin, initially through the building of a R328-million dam at Driekoppies in the Eastern Transvaal, on the Lomati River close to the Swaziland border.

The Lomati rises east of Badplaas and flows through Swaziland to re-emerge in South Africa.
SA extends its links in Africa

SOUTH Africa has recently signed two agreements that illustrate its expanding links with the rest of Africa.

Under a co-operation agreement with the Ivory Coast, Eskom and its Ivorian counterpart, the Energie Electric de la Côte d'Ivoire, will exchange technical information and consulting services. They will also co-operate in construction projects, maintenance and staff training.

The two countries, according to Eskom, have interests in the proposed development of large, multinational electricity supply schemes in Southern Africa and West/Central Africa.

Economic recovery

Eskom chief executive Mr Ian McRae said at the signing ceremony on March 13 that economic recovery and wealth creation in Africa were closely bound up with bringing electricity to the millions of people who still did not have it.

On the same day as the electricity agreement was concluded, South Africa signed an agreement with Swaziland for a joint water scheme, an agreement that will soon be expanded to include Mozambique.

The agreement opens the way for new economic development in the Komati Basin, initially through the building of a R328 million dam at Driekoppies in the Eastern Transvaal, on the Lomati River close to the border with Swaziland.

Later a second and larger dam, costing R432 million at today’s prices, will be built in Swaziland on the Komati River, at Maguga.

At the end of this month South Africa and Swaziland will sign an agreement with Swaziland governing the use of the Komati Basin waters. - Sowetan Correspondent.
Africa's bold journalists need bodyguards

South 2/13-2/1972

When Cameroonian editor Mr. Pius Njawe goes out into the streets of Douala to report a story he does not go alone.

Two bodyguards accompany him at all times. But he is not a fearful man, and he speaks like one of the editorialists in his newspaper, "Le Messager" — in firm, direct, perfectly composed French.

Although only 34, Njawe's commanding manner must partly stem from the position of responsibility he has chosen: for the past 12 years, despite censorship, jailings and the threat of violence, he has put out an independent newspaper in the West African one-party state.

Under his tutelage, "Le Messager" has become one of the most prominent examples of the new brand of independent newspapers and magazines that has emerged in sub-Saharan Africa.

Their arrival marks one of the most heartening developments on the continent in a long time. They are appearing as far west as Senegal, to the east in Kenya, and all the way down to Namibia and Zimbabwe.

These independent newspapers are an important part of the increasing popular demands for democracy in countries until very recently dogged by repressive dictatorships.

The era of African political stagnation is over. The new press has played an indispensable role in giving voice to the upsurge in opposition. In Mali there are 16 new independent papers.

Kenyan editor Mr. Gitubu Imanyara's "Nairobi Law Monthly" has a circulation of 15,000, proving that lawyers are not the only ones reading its sharp political analysis.

As Benin's former president Kerekou complained after his downfall: "It's because of journalists that everything has turned out badly."

The independent editors and reporters are some of the most courageous and genuinely public spirited people on the African continent.

They still face dangers of imprisonment or assassination. Imanyara was imprisoned and chained to his bed in the hospital wing of a Nairobi prison hospital for three weeks last July.

There are also the traditional methods of controlling the press: bribery, or withdrawing government advertising and legal notices from papers that become too outspoken.

On a poor continent, there are even more subtle ways to block free expression. Few African nations produce their own newsprint, allowing governments to restrict the allocation of the scarce foreign exchange needed to import it.

In some countries, the only printing press is controlled by the regime.

Njawe's story in many ways is typical. He started off in journalism at the age of 16 as an office messenger. His first assignment as a sub-reporter was the crime beat.

Three years later he started "Le Messager." At first the paper appeared monthly, concentrating mainly on sports and entertainment — which is how many of the other independent papers on the continent started.

In 1982 veteran ruler Mr. Ahmadou Ahidou appointed a successor, Mr. Paul Biya, who promised reforms. Njawe did not try to defy the censorship system directly. At first, he submitted "Le Messager" to the censors, allowing them the required four hours to look it over.

Then an idea struck instead of handing the mock-up of the paper, he would turn over the final printed version, all 16 to 24 pages.

He recalls with a chuckle: "The first official would have to read the whole paper before passing it on to his chief, the chief would have to read it before passing it on to his chief.

"Before they could all read it, the four hours had passed, and we brought "Le Messager" out onto the streets."

But the regime ignored its own censorship laws and confiscated the newspapers anyway. In July 1990 the government-owned printing company announced that "technical reasons" (shortages of newsprint and film) forced it to reduce "Le Messager's" press run from 80,000 to 15,000, even though the pro-government "Cameroon Tribune" was not affected.

For the past few years, "Le Messager" has not been mincing words. A column in the English-language edition of July 1991 described the Biya government as "reacquisitive, hesitant, undecisive, terrorist, rebellious, hopeless, under-achieving, corrupt, kleptocratic, clientelist, ethno-fascist, paternalistic, mediocrite, tribalistic" and worse.

By August, the Biya regime could stand it no longer. It suspended "Le Messager" and four other independent papers, and then used teargas and clubs to break up a march protesting the banings.

Njawe tried to bring out his newspaper again under new names — "Le Messager" (the feminine form of the same word) and "Le Mensager" — but the government was adamant. Njawe was silenced, and somewhat demonized by the reluctance of Cameroonians to put up more of a struggle.

But his pessimism was premature. In December the Biya regime lifted its ban and Njawe returned to the fray.

In a ringing front-page editorial, he informed the government that the five-month suspension had not cowed him: "Non!" he wrote. ""Le Messager" could not die so promptly!

"Neither the prisons that we have sometimes come to inhabit, nor the physical and moral tortures that we have often endured, nor the weapons that we have had to fight against, nor the assassination attempts and kidnappings that have become part of our daily lot, nor even the seductions of wealth that we have always resisted could taint our faith in our just combat to give birth to a society of liberty and justice."
Plea to UN: 'don’t impose sanctions'

CAIRO - The Arab League called late on Sunday on the United Nations Security Council to "avoid adopting economic, military or diplomatic measures against Libya".

The resolution was passed by an emergency meeting of Arab League member state's foreign ministers.

The meeting, convened at the request of Libya, also called on the Security Council to "resolve the conflict between that country and the United States, Britain and France by negotiation and mediation".

The resolution by the 21-member body came a day ahead of the start of a Security Council debate on proposed UN sanctions aimed at forcing Tripoli to hand over Libyans accused of bombing two airliners.

Britain, the United States and other Western countries have already advised their citizens to leave Libya ahead of a possible embargo on air links.

The Arab League has been working hard to avert a showdown between Libya and the West over the plane bombings, fearing that sanctions could harm the entire Arab region. <Sapa-AFP>
SIMON BARBER IN WASHINGTON

US Policies Aim at Africa From the

Time to Interate

INSTITUTE OF POLICY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

1009 74th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20018

Phone: (202) 429-6300  Fax: (202) 429-6301

james@iprd.org  www.iprd.org

© 2014 Institute of Policy Research and Development

LETTERS

The President's new policy on Africa is a significant step forward in the fight against poverty and instability in the region. It is a welcome development after years of neglect and inaction. However, there are still many challenges ahead.

The policy focuses on four key areas: economic development, security, governance, and human rights. Each of these areas is crucial in achieving lasting peace and prosperity in Africa.

Economic development is a priority for the region as a whole. The policies aim to promote private sector growth and investment, especially in infrastructure and energy. This will create jobs and provide opportunities for the African population.

Security is another key aspect of the policy. It recognizes the need for increased collaboration between African countries to Combat terrorism and other security threats. This will require a coordinated approach, including the sharing of intelligence and resources.

Governance is also a priority. The policies aim to promote good governance and the rule of law at the national and local levels. This will help to build trust and legitimacy among the African people.

Finally, the policy recognizes the importance of protecting human rights. It calls for the protection of civil liberties and the enforcement of international standards. This will require a strong commitment from governments and international partners.

In conclusion, the President's new policy on Africa is an important step forward. However, it will require sustained effort and commitment from all stakeholders to achieve the desired results. The Institute of Policy Research and Development stands ready to support these efforts.
US experts start Africa relief plan

By Hugh Roberton
Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — A team of 13 American relief experts left for South Africa and nine other countries in the region today to assess the impact of what has been described as Africa's worst drought in a century, and to prepare for the shipment of up to 10 million metric tons of emergency food supplies.

The US team will be coordinating an international relief operation which, a State Department spokeswoman said today, was likely to prove so large that "considerable donor assistance" would be needed to cover costs and ensure that a major tragedy was averted.

Negotiations are now under way between the US, the countries of the EEC, Canada, Japan and other potential donors.

Besides South Africa, the US team will visit Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe over the next three weeks, and will be drawing up a programme to provide not just food supplies but also assistance in the fields of health, water and sanitation.

The first hint that a major disaster was looming in southern Africa came from US satellites which form part of the US Famine Early Warning System. Assessments from space indicated that between 70 and 90 percent of crops in many parts of the region had been devastated.

American officials then began formal inquiries in each of the 10 countries. What they discovered set off alarm signals at the Agency for International Development.
NEW YORK - Two human rights groups said yesterday that 14,000 Somalis had been killed and 27,000 injured since November, about 10,000 more than estimated by the United Nations.

The groups predicted that "a famine unequalled in Somalia's modern history is all but inevitable," according to a report from Africa Watch, based in New York and London, and the Physicians for Human Rights, headquartered in Boston.

Criticised

The report, which harshly criticised the United Nations and the United States, is based on two visits in February that included surveys of hospital records, interviews with patients and staff and reports from five international relief groups.

With central electric power and water supplies damaged, the report says epidemics of meningitis, infectious hepatitis and cholera are expected in the rainy season that begins in April. - Sapa-Reuters
The West Versus the Rest

By Richard Dowden

There are countries within the pale and those beyond, writes Richard Dowden.

[Article continues with text]
Unlikely figure of resistance

KINSHASA - Archbishop Monsengwo Pasinya is an unlikely symbol of resistance to President Mobutu Sese Seko, but he has joined a growing number of churchmen taking a leading role in opposing dictators across Africa.

No firebrand, the scholarly, soft-spoken Monsengwo was forced into the role when Zaire's opposition parties proved unable to topple Mobutu.

The Roman Catholic theology professor and author of such papers as "The Notion of Law in the First Five Books of the Bible" was elected president of Zaire's national conference on democracy last year.

Mobutu suspended the conference on January 19, after opposition delegates won control of it.

Humble person

"The expectations of the people are frightening when they put their faith in such a humble person as me," Monsengwo said, adding, "I know the danger of being manipulated is always there."

Initially, he was careful to avoid direct confrontation with Mobutu. When the president failed to follow through on a promise to respect Zaire's conference, Monsengwo virtually accused Mobutu of lying.

Roman Catholic and Anglican bishops in Kenya and Malawi also are taking on their governments. It is a role Roman Catholic churchmen assumed two decades ago when some priests adopted "Liberation Theology" in Latin America. Outside of South Africa, the church had rarely challenged Africa's dictatorships.

Churches in South Africa were among early opponents of apartheid. Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Democracy

Within the last two years, church leaders strongly supported demands for democracy that led to power sharing or new governments in Benin, Cape Verde, Congo, Gabon, Togo and Zanzibar. In Benin, a national conference led by Roman Catholic Archbishop Jirendre de Souza stripped President Mathieu Kerekou of all but ceremonial powers. Kerekou subsequently was defeated in a presidential election.

Roman Catholic bishops in Malawi published a pastoral letter on March 8 accusing Life President Hastings Kamuzu Banda of human rights abuses and calling for democracy. It was the first public criticism of Banda in Malawi. The bishops were summoned to police headquarters for eight hours of questioning, and the shop that printed 16,000 copies of the letter was burned down by men believed to be government agents.

Tribal conflicts

This week, Kenyan bishops accused President Daniel Arap Moi's government of provoking tribal conflicts that killed 60 people. In a pastoral letter, they said the government sought to portray the violence as proof of "the failure of the multiparty system in this country". Moi only legalised opposition parties in December.

In Ivory Coast, where President Felix Houphouet-Boigny has pleased the Catholic Church with multimillion-dollar cathedrals and basilicas, Cardinal

'Expectations of the people are frightening ...
they put their faith in me'

Bernard Yago criticised the government in February for violating human rights.

Signs of the Roman Catholic Church's increasing involvement in promoting democracy are in line with Pope John Paul II's comments during his recent trip to Africa. He urged Catholics to step forward and play a role in their societies, even if their numbers are small.

Some in the church have had to catch up with the new approach. Kinshasa Cardinal Frederic Etsou was almost lynched by a crowd after Mass because he was considered pro-Mobutu. The cardinal then joined Mobutu's critics and lifted a ban he had imposed on priests organising pro-democracy groups.

While Monsengwo and other church leaders negotiate with Mobutu in Zaire, parish priests and pastors have begun leading pro-democracy demonstrations. On February 16, Mobutu's security forces opened fire on Christian marchers, killing at least 32, according to human rights groups.

The Pope condemned the attacks and pressed Mobutu to accept democracy.

Protest march

Priests were dragged from the protest march and singled out for beatings, witnesses said. Officials accused the priests of trying to topple the government. It expelled three foreign priests.

Monsengwo has been protected by guards since armed men invaded his residence last year, and only left after Monsengwo managed to phone diplomats who intervened with senior military officers.

In Kenya, Anglican Bishop Alexander Muge, then one of the government's leading critics, was killed on August 13, 1990, when a speeding truck hit his car head on near his home in Eldoret in western Kenya.

Only three days before, Labour Minister Mr Peter Okondo had told a ruling party rally in nearby Rusinga district that if Muge set foot in the district he would "see fire and might not leave alive".

Muge (44) defied the threat, visited Busia, and was killed in the crash on his way home. - Sape-AP
ABIDJAN — The president of the African Development Bank, Babacar N'Diaye, will pay his first visit to SA starting on Sunday, diplomatic sources disclosed yesterday.

They said an advance party was already in SA preparing N'Diaye's packed 12-day programme.

N'Diaye, a 54-year-old Senegalese, has been president of the regional bank since 1995.

SA is still excluded from bank membership because it is not a member of the OAU.

N'Diaye's visit will herald the start of open relations.

A bank press release on March 10 said membership of a democratic SA was "imminent".

The diplomatic sources said N'Diaye's visit was being organised with the government-owned Development Bank of SA, two of whose officials discreetly attended the bank's annual meeting last year for the first time.

N'Diaye said then he had also invited the ANC although it did not send a representative.

N'Diaye is expected to meet President F W de Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela as well as business leaders.

A growing number of African countries are moving faster than the OAU's step-by-step policy towards SA and edging towards full diplomatic relations.

Trade delegations to and from SA are criss-crossing the continent with many poor black states hoping to attract investment from SA.

Diplomatic sources in Abidjan said Ivory Coast Foreign Minister Amara Essy would fly to SA on Monday.

It will be the first time a West African foreign minister has paid a public visit to SA. — Sapa-Reuter.
SA and the Ivory Coast have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at an ambassadorial level, giving SA only its second embassy in Africa — and the first to be established in about a decade.

SA’s relations with two other African states — the Seychelles and the tiny east coast republic Djibouti — also improved yesterday. The Seychelles and SA announced they would establish diplomatic relations, while Djibouti lifted all trade and travel restrictions.

A Foreign Affairs spokesman said the Ivory Coast embassy was a further sign of SA’s re-emergence as a member of the family of African states.

Foreign Affairs officials pointed out that the Ivory Coast embassy would be the first outside southern Africa.

The only other SA embassy on the continent is in Malawi.

Foreign Affairs said SA’s trade representative in Mauritius would take over as non-resident consul to the Seychelles, which would be opening a consulate in Pretoria. Sources close to government said full ambassadorial relations could be established before the end of the year.

Sapa-Reuters reports that Djibouti said it was lifting restrictions because of the “very positive developments” in SA. The former French colony’s port is strategically located at the mouth of the Red Sea and has the largest east coast container facility north of Durban.

Another positive development yesterday was the start of a tourism promotional visit to SA by Zambian tourism minister Christian Tembo.
Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
S

South Sudan

Let them starve, seems to be government stance

Sudan's current government,
S

Sudan's current government,
Export surge is expected to create new clothing jobs

CAPE TOWN'S clothing industry is widely expected to be a leading creator of new jobs through its exports. According to Mr Ray Jensen, a Wengro consultant, last year's 65 percent jump in clothing exports "may not be a bubble like previous export surges."

The chairperson of the Cape Clothing Manufacturers' Association, Mr Jack Kipling, says Cape Town is expected to provide most of the growth.

He sees this trend increasing employment in the sector by up to 20 percent over the next five years. This works out to 10 000 new jobs in the Cape Town area.

Jensen said the clothing industry was entering its next phase of development. In a research paper he said the clothing industry had taken 40 years, from 1914 to 1955, to grow larger than traditional tailoring. It had taken another 38 years for local clothing production to grow sufficiently to supply 94 percent of domestic demand.

The next phase would be an era of stable clothing exports, which it has been estimated would start at 10 percent of production. Professor Libo Loes of LWC's economics department said: "The clothing sector, in line with its low capital intensity, is by far the most important manufacturing industry, with 48 854 people (or 22 percent of manufacturing employment) employed in the industry."

Although the sector is a major employer, wages may not be attractive for workers.

"The average wage is one indication of this. It suggests that the perception of the sector as a low-wage sector is still intact," Loes said.

"The average per capita earnings in textiles was R5 441, in footwear it was R5 586 and in clothing it was a low R5 631.

"This is in sharp contrast with per capita earnings of R9 596 in all other manufacturing industries," he said.

He also cited low wages in this sector as being a reflection of the high proportion of women employed.

"On top of this, the case of entry into clothing, the nature of clothing production and the low capital out of setting up a factory, tend to result in an industry structure unable to pay high wages."

"The relatively low wages paid in this sector is more than compensated for by its high labour intensity," Loes said.

While estimates for informal employment and wages in this sector are not available, it was likely that there could be a fair amount of unrecorded employment, particularly in clothing, at lower levels, Loes said.

Rural jobs crisis as business pulls out

Rural towns on the periphery of Cape Town — within 45 minutes' drive from the city — face an economic slide as companies withdraw.

Thoraya Pandy reports:

Commonly known as fringe towns, Somerset West, Strand, Paarl, Wellington and Atlantis have experienced the withdrawal of major companies in the last five years, leaving thousands unemployed and forcing many to seek work in the city centre.

A "conservative" estimate puts unemployment at more than 8 400 people in Atlantis after seven major companies pulled out and 17 others restructured workers, according to Mr Karl Cloete of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa).

In the seventies Atlantis was developed as a "coloured town", mainly to accommodate those forcibly removed under the former Group Areas Act.

It was also part of the government's decentralisation policy to create employment for Atlantis residents.

The government offered attractive subsidies to companies, moti-

vating them to invest in the area.

"This led to a huge investment of public funds to provide the necessary infrastructure," said Cloete.

Approximately R300-million in industrial investment was attracted to the town but most companies relied heavily on state subsidies.

Many withdraw from the area after subsidies fell away.

The community, however, committed to "saving Atlantis from ruin", has embarked on a vigorous campaign to address the economic slide.

Community organisations, unions and the local authorities and business are involved in the Atlantis Development Forum to explore ideas in solving our problem," said Cloete.

This forum has been established to address issues concerning the development of the area, economic viability and the establishment of one local authority, he said.

"We are doing everything in our power to keep Atlantis alive and we strongly feel that the government and business must take equal responsibility in achieving our goal," added Cloete.

"There is no work in Atlantis, which forces many to seek work elsewhere and spend a fortune in travelling expenses and long hours away from home."

The situation in other areas, although it does not appear as grim as in Atlantis, is also forcing communities to join forces with local authorities and business to address the problems.

The announcement by Armcor, ASCI and Gans to pull out of Somerset West and Strand has sparked off panic among workers who, when the companies close down, will have to seek employment in the city centres.

"The chances of people finding work are very slim because of the high unemployment rate in the Western Cape," said Cloete.

Wellington has also experienced the closure of five major factories over five years.

In a bid to address this problem, the South African Clothing and Textile Workers Union, the local authority and the municipality have developed a unity of purpose in reversing Wellington's economic woes.

"The main problem we face and most other rural areas — are experiencing is the lack of decentralisation facilities needed to attract new businesses," said the mayor of Wellington, Mr Peter Jurgensen.

"The municipality is exploring several avenues to provide jobs and our town clerk has applied to the state for R7-million to build houses."

"This will create the conditions for at least 150 people over a period of three years."

"Even though the future of these communities appears grim and uncertain, they are committed to finding solutions to maintain their livelihood."

MACHINIST AT WORK: Will the clothing industry spearhead economic growth in the Western Cape?

THIS FACTORY COULD BE NEXT: Last year Indutex, Western Cape (Pty) Ltd retrenched 230 workers claiming a R3-million annual loss. Photo: Yurus Mohamed

March 28 to April 2 1992
Medical cover must for Africa travellers

ANGELS WITH WINGS ... two Medstar ICU nurses and their equipment on standby at an airport near Johannesburg

SOUTH Africans who travel into Africa regularly on business or who stay there for extended periods would be unwise to do so without medical insurance.

George Novis, sales manager for Medstar in Johannesburg, which provides a 24-hour, go-anywhere service to evacuate ill South Africans out of African countries, says people living in foreign Third World states for any length of time face a number of potential medical problems not necessarily encountered at home.

Archaic

"In most African countries if a worker falls seriously ill he should be evacuated as soon as possible to receive the best medical attention available. If not, he could well die."

Mr Novis adds that in most countries of the Limpopo medical facilities range from non-existent and archaic to dangerously old-fashioned. "Informal practice in Africa is to use disposable needles, and many of the medicines — if available — have expired. Because of this and the high risk of AIDS, we never use anything that is available locally, taking all our consumables — including blood — and equipment with us. "It is a fact that 80% of the foreign patients we fly into Johannesburg are HIV-positive, and for this reason our nurses and doctors wear gloves, masks and goggles while attending to them."

He said a lack of foreign exchange in most African countries meant that they either didn't have hi-tech equipment or the money or skills to adequately maintain it.

Basics like X-ray machines and CAT scanners are invariably "out of order" so the diagnosis of the sick or injured is usually under-assessed.

"For this reason we normally fear the worst and take a full range of miniaturised aircraft-compatible ICU equipment — worth about R2-million — on board even for what may sound like a relatively minor problem," said Mr Novis.

However, the difficulties don't end there. Getting into smaller towns at night can be rearranged, but there have been cases where the aircraft flew to a strip but couldn't land. In one instance because the fuel used to light the runway had been stolen, and in another where airport staff were drunk.

Another major problem for Medstar is getting a patient to the airport for evacuation. "There are few ambulances in Africa. In a recent case we had to transport a subscriber, in a commercial vehicle to the airport because the country does not have an ambulance," Mr Novis said.

In 1991 Medstar evacuated patients from Kenya, Congo, Malawi, Angola, Mozambique, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana, most of whom were suffering from industrial or vehicle accident injuries and a variety of infections.

Medstar has a team of ICU nurses who are also aeromedically trained, as well as trauma specialist doctors on 24-hour standby. It also has direct access to a wide range of specialist doctors if required.

Policy

A variety of aircraft are at Medstar's disposal, ranging from Learjets to turboprops and helicopters, depending on requirements and circumstances.

People who plan to travel into Africa or neighbouring countries can take out a travel-assistance policy, available from most travel agents at R50 to R150 for a stay of one to three weeks.

Companies who have staff travelling regularly into Africa can take out a corporate annual policy either through their brokers or from Mr Novis at (011) 393 6311.

The emergency service is also available to anybody on request subject to financial guarantees.
Sub-Saharan depends on SA — the key is aviation

On Wednesday, Aviation Africa 92, the largest ever South African aviation trade show, opens its doors at Johannesburg's Jan Smuts Airport. Major international manufacturers are taking part, and as a result Africa's eyes are focused on South Africa and its aviation industry. Sunday Times aviation correspondent ROGER MAKINGS reports on the current state of the industry, its developments and the challenges that lie ahead.

AVIATION is the key to development in southern Africa — and without it countries north of the Limpopo and south of the Sahara face bleak and ever-deteriorating futures.

Gone are the days when East and West vied for the attention of southern African countries with unlim- ited aid. They have identified larger markets worthy of exploration in the now-liberated eastern Europe with better chances of returns on their investments.

With many of the countries landlocked and road systems in poor repair, the only way they can kick-start their various economies is by trading with and through South Africa, the country which, it would seem, has been given the task of motivating these economies.

Cheaper

To achieve this southern African countries have to improve their aviation infrastructure, says Cor Beek, executive director of the Commercial Aviation Association and organiser of the Aviation Africa 92 show.

"It is far cheaper to extend a runway, upgrade landing systems and lease modern aircraft than it is to rebuild hundreds of kilometres of roads," says Mr Beek, who also points to the obvious benefits of aviation as a means of transport.

"Even if their roads and railways were in good repair, these vehicles have to feed off craft, airport technology as well as related aviation industries have decided to exhibit at the Aviation Africa 92 show at Jan Smuts airport from April 1, making it the biggest in SA since its inception in 1975.

The show now ranks in size with those held in Singapore and Dubai, with global giants like Boeing, McDonnell Douglas, Airbus Industrie, British Aerospace and Aerospatiale exhibiting and hoping for a slice of the expected action.

Contacts

"South Africa is the gateway to Africa — we have the harbours, airports and roads as well as the industry and skilled labour which major companies can use to launch their products. Our entrepreneurs are geared to dealing with the Africans and know their country.

But it is up to South Africa, as the economic power in the region, to get the ball rolling and become the motivating force in the drive to get Sub-Saharan economies going. "Our aviation infrastructure is probably the best in Africa, and because of our proximity it would be advantageous to Africa to come to us for the assistance they will need to upgrade their aviation capabilities," says Mr Beek. Loss-making African airlines are in a sorry state mainly because of bad management, widespread corruption, government interference and a lack of capital.

"We have the expertise to solve all these problems and, in fact, a helping hand is already being extended to some countries to remedy these shortcomings."

SAA has assisted numerous fledgling airlines — Air Mauritius and Air Namibia, to name just two successful operators in southern Africa — by leasing aircraft and crew to them and helping to train their own staff as well as servicing their aircraft.

But how are these cash-strapped countries to pay for the services SAA is able to provide?

Barter

"We could conceivably introduce a system of barter — though a new concept in aviation it is not new in world economics. These countries have an abundance of labour and minerals and some products which they could exchange for South African services.

"This is a problem we will have to solve. If we don't, the whole sub-Saharan continent will collapse eventually, dragging SA with it," says Mr Beek.
Safair's bridging role

SAFAIR, with its wide network of operations, can be described as probably the only truly dedicated African airline on the continent. For years it has been criss-crossing Africa, often in the face of international sanctions, to carry SA-manufactured freight to hard-pressed countries north of the Limpopo. And these countries, until two years ago, would never admit to having dealings with the airline.

"But all that has changed and we are aggressively pursuing new business on the continent — and getting it," says Safair MD Bram Loomes.

He believes the airline is poised to play a crucial bridging role in the return of South Africa to the African economic marketplace, at the same time helping to invigorate trade relations between many of its countries.

"The will to open trade between SA and our neighbours to the north is irresistible, and the need for an exchange of goods undeniable. Also, the demand for a reliable transport infrastructure is overwhelming, and Safair is in a unique position to meet all these requirements," he says.

With its fleet of eight Hercules transport aircraft capable of landing on short, dirt runways, crewed with intimate knowledge of the sub-Saharan routes and topography and a management team that has wide-ranging contacts in Africa, Safair is confident of substantially increasing its foreign-operations turnover. International business had already decided that South Africa should be the conduit between Africa and world markets, and because of poor road and rail links on the continent it would seem that aviation, and Safair in particular, had a pivotal role to play.

Mr Loomes says that Safair, active in Kenya, Angola, Cameroon and Zaire, is flying freight not only from South Africa into Africa but from one African country to another and domestically for some countries.

"Safair is a thoroughly African aviation company, one that is structured and equipped to suit African markets and flying conditions.

Contract

"We know Africa and we understand our customers, and we've gone to great lengths — even in the years when we were shut out — to put together the aircraft, trained personnel and the maintenance facilities that can handle anything the continent can throw at us."

Maintenance is another aspect of aviation that the company is deeply committed to.

Recently it won a contract to do a major inspection of an Angolan Boeing 727 at a cost of R2.5-million, and it has African contracts in the pipeline.

"It is cheaper and quicker for us to maintain African aircraft than for them to be sent to Europe or the US," says Mr Loomes, whose company is licensed to work on Hercules, Boeing 707s, 737s, ATR 72s, BAe 146s and Conair aircraft.

Chris Bester, Safair's general manager of engineering and maintenance, says the airline is talking to several African countries about caring for their fleets, which could bring in business worth R25-million "in the short term and much more in the longer term."

With approximately 12,000 sq m of hangar space and 3,500 sq m of workshop space and spares worth more than R200-million, the company's facilities at Jan Smuts can be compared with the best in the world, says Mr Bester.

But the airline's activities don't end there. With the second-largest fleet of Hercules L-1049s in the world, a cargo-dedicated BAe-146 jet, and two Boeing 707s, it operates scheduled and nonscheduled freight and passenger charter flights — which it plans to expand in the future — from the Cape to Cairo and the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean.

Yes' will boost ExecuJet

THE overwhelming "yes" vote in the recent referendum will significantly boost ExecuJet's business in Africa, says the managing director of sales, Mr Andre de Plessis.

"Companies have been holding back on contracts waiting for the referendum's outcome, but now that it's been positive we can expect business to boom," he said.

ExecuJet specialises in flying major SA company executives into Africa.

"We are popular with SA companies because of our expertise in Africa in getting flight clearances, our wide range of contacts, knowledge of destinations and the range of our Learjets, which enable us to fly non-stop to destinations as far away as Kenya," said Mr de Plessis.

"Flying into Africa is fraught with problems, which include corruption, inferior air traffic control and a total lack of medical services. It is therefore essential to use long-range aircraft that can fly high and fast and do not need to make time-consuming and expensive refuelling stops."

Mr de Plessis says companies involved in construction, road transport and food flying mainly to destinations like Zambia, Zaire, Malawi and Zimbabwe are their biggest customers.
**Libyan attempts to avoid UN sanctions**

CAIRO - A Libyan delegation has arrived in Cairo in a last-ditch attempt to avoid UN sanctions stemming from Tripoli’s row with the West over airline bombings.

About 48 hours before the Security Council was likely to vote on an air and arms embargo on Libya and a reduction of its diplomatic staff abroad, Tripoli sent Mustafa Kharroubi, one of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi’s closest colleagues, and Foreign Minister Ibrahim Mohamed Bashir to Cairo to discuss the crisis with Egyptian officials.

The United States, Britain and France are seeking UN sanctions to force Libya to surrender two men whom the West alleges planted explosives aboard a Pan Am airliner which blew up over the Scottish town of Lockerbie in 1988. Sanctions could start on April 15.

Esmat Abdel Maguid, Secretary-General of the Cairo-based Arab League, said he discussed new Libyan proposals with the ambassadors of a seven-member committee formed by the league to try to resolve the crisis.

Libya’s UN ambassador said last week his country would hand over the two Lockerbie suspects over to the League, but Tripoli later attached conditions to the offer. - Sapa-Reuters
Africa now ripe for the picking

The referendum was the second of two watershed events that have changed the course of South Africa's relations with Africa, and major new developments are likely to flow from it, says Derek Auret, Deputy Director-General of Foreign Affairs, in an interview with GERALD L'ANGE, editor of The Star's Africa Service.

The diplomatic fruits of the "yes" vote in the referendum are likely to start dropping into South Africa's lap quite quickly, according to Derek Auret, who is responsible for South Africa's interests in the rest of Africa.

One of those fruits - the decision by Mauritius to upgrade formal links with South Africa from trade mission to consular status - has already dropped. But much bigger ones are expected to follow soon.

Mr Auret said a number of African governments had already applauded the outcome of the referendum in private communications to Pretoria.

"It was what they had been waiting for," he said in an interview, "and a number of countries will now feel free to move forward to more open relations with South Africa."

Mr Auret sees the referendum outcome as the second major development to have reshaped African attitudes to South Africa. The first was the speech by President de Klerk on February 2, 1990, committing South Africa to reform through negotiation.

"The speech, making a total break from the past, was a watershed in our relations with Africa," he said. "One has the distinct feeling - given the approaches we have had from all sides after that speech and the ones which followed in 1991 and again this year - that Africa had been waiting for some kind of sign that indeed South Africa felt itself part of the continent, that it was worthy of representation within the continent, and that the political intentions which Mr de Klerk announced actually gave substance to the desire of the Government to, among other things, normalise its relations with its neighbours."

"There's a real feeling among African states, particularly in southern Africa, that South Africa is part of the continent, and because of what has happened domestically, is now able to again be a member in good standing."

According to Mr Auret, Pretoria has found much encouragement in a recent statement by Nigeria's foreign minister during a conference in Arusha, Tanzania, that the time had come for his country to take a new look at South Africa.

Future relations between Pretoria and other African countries would depend largely on how they saw their own interests being affected by South Africa's return to the fold, Mr Auret said.

"The primary focus of our African policy in southern Africa, aimed at peaceful coexistence with our neighbours and at developing economic structures and policies which will benefit the subcontinent as a whole."

In following this route, South Africa faced a problem, however, in that other countries had enormous expectations of SA which could not be met from its present resources, especially during the current economic recession. Urgent domestic needs had to take priority.

"Finance of the kind African states need is simply not available. What we do have and are willing to share is expertise, technology and knowledge which are geared to African conditions. We have identified projects - which are not especially costly - which would be of benefit to the broad mass of people."

We are not in the business of going for prestige projects. We simply do not believe that they would benefit the people to whom aid should in the first instance be directed: the people in the streets.

Mr Auret said his department shared the view that the future lay in economic groupings and recognised that government leaders had identified Kenya, Nigeria, Egypt and South Africa as the potential nuclei of economic blocs in Africa. Pretoria had already a mission in Nairobi, and hoped that Egypt and Nigeria would follow soon.

Derek Auret ... a number of African governments have already applauded the outcome of the referendum in private communications to Pretoria.

Mr Auret discounted any suggestion that these blocs could end up in an adversarial relationship.

"The key is co-operation, not confrontation."

Mr Auret was asked how he rate the chances of the African trade blocs achieving significant results, given the poor state of the member states' economies.

"The success of any economic bloc will obviously depend on the ability of its component parts to create economic structures which would be in harmony with those of the others. There are going to be certain rules of the game in international economic interaction and we are not going to be able to interact if we find ourselves outside the rules."

"We will have to have a common approach on the policies which such economic units will adopt. We will have to come up with something which will work, because the operative part is that it must provide benefits. It has to be to the advantage of a country to go into a relationship, otherwise we are not going to secure its co-operation."

Mr Auret said South Africa was well aware of the fear among its neighbours of being dominated by SA and would have to take full account of this in any planning for the future.

"We do not want to dominate the region economically. South Africa is not an economic hegemonist. What we are looking for is to develop economic partnerships with all the countries of the region in order to put something together which can work and which can interact with other blocs."

In the creation of an economic bloc, existing structures such as the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, the Preferential Trade Agreement, the Customs Union and the Rand Monetary Area would have to be considered, he said.

Whatever structure was created should be "the product of discussions between all states in the subcontinent. The approach should not be prescriptive."

"I believe the ultimate structure will have to grow organically out of very close consultation within the region. It is not something which can be imposed by one side or the other."

Mr Auret was asked whether South Africa's growing acceptance internationally had not made obsolete the view frequently expressed by government leaders in the past that SA's road to acceptance lay through Africa.

"That concept was meant more in the political sense and related far more to political acceptability than to economic matters," he said.

South Africa was becoming politically acceptable again in the rest of the world as well as in Africa. In the economic field, it had been trading with African countries for many years, he said.

"The incentives to deal with the emerging economic blocs in the world are now becoming more compelling. People will see that association with South Africa in that context will have as its prime objective the maximising of benefits to the individual countries concerned."

Mr Auret agreed that whatever South Africa did internationally, it would have to do as an African country.

"We are an African country, we will always be one and there's nothing wrong with that.

"Our role, because of what we have been able to achieve, is to try and use those achievements also to the benefit of others who may have been less successful than we have been. But certainly our place is in Africa and where our primary responsibility, our primary objectives should be."
SA soon to become a member of African bank

South Africa can expect to become the 52nd African member state of the African Development Bank "in the very near future", says ADB president Babacar N'Diaye.

But South Africa must first become a member of the Organisation of African Unity.

Mr N'Diaye said on his arrival in Johannesburg yesterday that he was in South Africa to salute all the parties involved in the democratisation process.

The developments in South Africa were much in line with the processes being carried out in the rest of Africa, he added.

The African Development Bank is Africa's equivalent of the World Bank and has a total of 76 members, 51 from Africa and the rest from industrialised nations including Japan, the US and France.

Mr N'Diaye said he hoped his visit to South Africa would lead to the ADB being able to offer its assistance in development programmes in South Africa.

He was optimistic discussions with the political, non-political and business organisations would be fruitful.

The nine-member ADB delegation is scheduled to hold meetings with all the major political groupings including the ANC and Inkatha.

They will also be holding discussions with organised business, non-governmental development agencies as well as the Industrial Development Corporation and the Small Business Development Corporation.

With regard to membership of the ADB, sources close to the agency indicate that South Africa may become a member within the next two years.

Qualification means becoming a member of the OAU.

Mr N'Diaye was invited to South Africa by the Development Bank of South Africa, the ANC and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

He is scheduled to leave on April 3. — Sapa.
Bid to revive east African unity

Almost a decade and a half after the acrimonious collapse of the East African Community, the presidents of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania are to meet today in a summit that could revive what was one of Africa's most prized models. That presidents Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, Ali Hassan Mwinyi of Tanzania and Yoweri Museveni of Uganda have agreed to sit together 15 years after their predecessors went their separate ways reflects the new mood of regional co-operation among their once-squabbling nations.

The move follows the trend for international economic — and even political — affairs to be conducted through economic blocs, with the European Community setting the pace.

It could spur the formation of new economic blocs in Africa, including the one the southern African states envisage around a South African nucleus.

Hopes were high when the East African Community was established on June 6, 1967 after a treaty of co-operation had been signed by presidents Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and Milton Obote of Uganda.

Until then, co-operation between the three countries depended on ad-hoc political arrangements and goodwill under the umbrella of the Colonial East African Common Services Organisation (Eascos).

Established in 1946, Eascos maintained a single currency board for all three countries and operated a common customs union which provided for almost free inter-territorial trade, unrestricted internal movement of capital and relatively free movement of labour.

There was also a common excise and income tax system and an institutional framework for providing common services such as railways and harbours, posts and telecommunications, civil aviation, meteorology and veterinary collaboration.

This structure came under fire, however, for being designed to serve the interests and comfort of the colonial settlers rather than the well-being of the native east Africans. Perhaps for this reason, it remained nothing more than a loose federation.

The EAC was nevertheless one of the first serious attempts in Africa at a true union of nations and peoples sharing common interests.

Some, looking also at the Central African Federation, dreamt of the concept of unity being extended ultimately to a United States of Africa.

The birth of the EAC, with its headquarters in Arusha on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, allowed free movement of people and goods, built institutions of research in agriculture and health, streamlined air, sea and road networks, and established co-operation in a variety of areas including education, mass communication and sports.

No other regional co-operation in the Third World had built as big and as sophisticated an infrastructure as the EAC.

Neighbouring countries Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia sought admission, while international organisations hailed the union as an outstanding example of economic co-operation.

East African Airways became the pride of Africa, flying to all major world destinations and reaping record profits.

One year after its establishment, the EAC was given a major boost through an agreement with the European Community, allowing free entry into Europe of EAC goods in return for tariff concessions for some of their products.

But by 1975 strains had begun to show in the community. Mr Obote had been overthrown by Idi Amin, and Mr Nyerere, in an attempt to restore him to power, poured Tanzanian soldiers into Uganda in an operation that was to be costly economically as well as politically.

The EAC policy-making body, the East African Legislative Assembly, became a platform for accusations and counter-accusations about financial mismanagement. Regular meetings of the heads of state ceased because of political and ideological differences.

Matters came to a head when Mr Nyerere in a fit of anger described Kenya as a "man-eat-man" society, prompting a Kenyan Minister to retaliate by calling socialist Tanzania a "man-eat-nothing" society. In 1977, the model of Africa collapsed in acrimony.

Recently, Mr Nyerere said he shared the blame for the collapse of the community which, he said, was caused by its leaders' stupidity.

Now, 15 years later, the three countries feel they are ready to once again revive the union, which will bring together 80 million people.

The new mood of co-operation was born in Harare in October when Mr Moi, Mr Mwinyi and Mr Museveni met during the Commonwealth conference.

Three months later there were high-level consultations of experts from the three countries in Nairobi.

Last month a conference of foreign ministers was held in Mbarara, Uganda, at which a draft agreement on co-operation was prepared.

The way to the revival of the community was paved partly by Kenya and Tanzania moving from single-party systems of government to pluralism. In addition, Uganda is stabilising after years of internal strife.

Economic observers are excited about the revival and are predicting an economic boom leading to a rise in the average annual growth for the three countries from the current 4.5 percent to 7 percent, a development which will greatly assist in managing their average $11.5 billion foreign debt.
Ghana floats its stake in Ashanti

ACCRA - Ghana is to float one-fifth of its 55% stake in Ashanti Goldfields Corporation on international stock markets, a senior source at the ministry of finance and economic planning said yesterday.

The source said the government hoped to raise $225m by floating the shares on the London, Johannesburg and Hong Kong markets.

Ashanti, Ghana’s largest goldmine, had a record output of 570,000 ounces last year. It is the country’s biggest foreign exchange earner after cocoa.

British conglomerate Lonrho owns 45%.

The source said a consultant from the International Finance Corporation, which promotes investments in developing countries, had been appointed to package the deal.

“It is only when a Ghanaian company is listed on the international stock exchanges that (Ghana) will be taken seriously.”

He said floating the shares would help spur the privatisation programme being implemented by the government, which had already denationalised coffee and cocoa buying.

Sapa-Reuters.
Soft line taken on nationalisation

THE ANC yesterday repeated its softer stance on nationalisation at a meeting with African Development Bank president Babacar N'diaye.

The meeting concluded talks on the role the bank could play in the economic development of a post-apartheid, democratic SA.

Issues discussed were the Bank's operational policies and experience in other African countries, the circumstances under which a new SA government could become a member, and the kind of future programme the bank would implement, a statement said.

ANC officials made it clear at the meeting that nationalisation was not a matter of ideology or doctrine. "We have no hitlist of industries or sectors to be nationalised," ANC economics head Trevor Manuel said.

Nationalisation was merely one of the many economic instruments that could be considered to correct economic imbalances and distortions.

The ANC expressed strong concern at the spate of unilateral privatisations sponsored by government.

It said the selection of industries to be privatised should be left to a future government. N'diaye is leading a nine-member bank delegation on a private working visit to Austria to meet with leading SA opinion leaders.

Sapa-Reuters reports that the bank yesterday said a Sudanese economist had become its first woman vice-president.
Closer links with Ivory Coast likely

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — South Africa and the Ivory Coast moved closer towards establishing diplomatic relations yesterday with the visit to SA by the west African state's Foreign Minister Amara Essy.

He spent time with President de Klerk and Foreign Minister Pik Botha.

Mr Essy conveyed a special message from his president, Félix Houphouët-Boigny, to Mr de Klerk. Mr de Klerk did not reveal the contents of the message.

Mr Essy said developments in South Africa showed what dialogue could achieve. Pretoria and the Ivory Coast had maintained friendly relations since 1971, Mr Essy pointed out.

Mr Essy said his visit sought to "strengthen our relationship". He and Mr Botha had "a thorough discussion on African affairs and bilateral relationships and "we discussed subjects that can be discussed by two African ministers".

"We will report to our respective heads of state to decide on the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries," Mr Essy said.
Scribes' letter to Banda

BY MATHEMBA TSEDI

A CONFERENCE of Southern African journalists has sent a letter of protest to Malawi's leader Dr Kamuzu Banda over the continued detention without trial of a journalist.

The conference, convened by the Botswana Journalists' Association (Bjoa) and held over five days in Gaborone last week, said in the letter that the detention of freelance writer Mr Simon Mhone since December last year had caused great concern.

"Mhone's detention without trial since December 1991 is a flagrant violation of internationally recognised rights of journalists to freely exercise their duties. This is a direct violation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," the letter stated.

The conference called on Banda to release Mhone without further delay. The conference was told that Mhone was a freelance journalist who was detained after filing a story for an international news agency.

Approved

The story had been approved by government censors beforehand, it was said.

It was also declared that in the heat of the filing fight of protests by Malawians who want the overthrow of the Banda dictatorship, many people had been hurt in prisoners where they were locked up and tortured and others killed.

The conference, which included participants from Namibia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Zambia and Uganda, also expressed alarm at Kenya's police harassment of journalists who were accused of "engaging in subversion and subversive activities" during the Kikuyu and Luo-Kakamega conflict.

Bjoa chairman Mr Lamelele Malefo said after the conference that it was a general view that there was a need for the writer to be released.

"We as African journalists are fed of being used by our colleagues in other countries," Malefo said. "We are going to speak out against such threats.

"We want our writer to be released," he said.
Plea for Africa famine aid

BRUSSELS — The European Community made a plea yesterday for more food aid to avert a massive famine in Africa that threatens 60 million people and a half dozen fragile democracies. EC Commissioner Manuel Marín asked the EC trade bloc for an additional 220 million European Currency Units (about $750 million) to add to the total of 385 million Ecu (about $1.3 billion), which have already been approved for this year.

---

Talks focus on future of bank

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

AN ANC delegation led by Mr Nelson Mandela this week concluded talks with a nine-member African Development Bank group led by its president, Mr Babacar Ndiaye.

The talks focused on the future role the bank could play in the economic development of a post-apartheid South Africa.

The meeting, the first working session between the two, discussed the current socio-economic situation in South Africa, the economic policies and plans of the ANC and experiences of other African countries.

Other issues which featured prominently during the meeting were the timetable for the negotiations within CODESA, the installation of an interim government, the bank's own operational policies, the circumstances under which a democratically elected government might become a member of the bank and programmes of action.

Other ANC officials who participated in the meeting included chairman Mr Oliver Tambo, deputy president Mr Walter Sisulu, director of International Affairs Mr Thabo Mbeki, head of economic affairs Mr Trevor Manuel and economic advisor Mr Maxwell Sisulu.

The ANC delegation made it clear that nationalisation was not a matter of ideology or doctrine.

"We have no hit list of industries or sectors to be nationalised," Manuel said, adding, "it is merely one of the many economic instruments that may be considered to correct imbalances and distortions in the economy."

However, the delegations expressed strong concern at the state of unilateral privatisations being implemented by the South African Government.

The selection of industries to be privatised, the ANC said, should be left to the democratic decisions of a future government. The current privatisation programme was simply transferring wealth to a privileged few, they said, and would diminish the stock of assets and resources available to a future government.

The bank and ANC officials agreed that a new government would need considerable new resources to address the legacy of apartheid and the needs of the black majority, such as housing, health, education and access to basic utilities.

They agreed that such new resources would be better transferred in the form of grant or equity funds rather than debt.

In a separate meeting, the bank's team met Mrs Gertrude Shope and Mrs Albertina Sisulu, president and deputy president respectively of the ANC Women's league, to explore possible areas of cooperation in the future.

After learning of the special needs of South African women, Ndiaye pledged to make every effort to mobilise assistance from other institutions - since South Africa is not a member of the bank - for programmes of the ANC's Women's League.
Hope that SA will join African bank

Political Staff 3/4/72

CAPE TOWN — South Africa could become a member of the powerful African Development Bank by 1984, according to its president, Babacar Ndiaye.

Mr Ndiaye, who is leading a nine-member delegation on a fact-finding mission to South Africa, was speaking after a lunch with President de Klerk which was also attended by a number of Ministers and leaders of parliamentary parties.

He has also met members of the ANC, PAC, SA Council of Churches as well as trade unions and development agencies.

Mr Ndiaye said the bank would like to be ready to be operational in the southern African region when this was possible.

South Africa will have to become a member of the Organisation of African Unity before it can join the bank.

Mr de Klerk said the delegation had had wide-ranging discussions on the process of change in southern Africa and the role the country could play in development on the continent.
Africa’s bank will welcome SA soon

CAPE TOWN — SA would soon be admitted as the 52nd member of the African Development Bank (ADB), but would first have to become a member of the OAU, ADB president Babacar N’diaye said yesterday.

Government members said SA’s admission to the ADB would improve contacts with Arab countries as well as strengthen government’s hand in gaining access to the IMF and the World Bank.

Speaking after his lunch meeting with President F W de Klerk and a large party of politicians, ADB president Babacar N’diaye predicted SA would be admitted to the bank “in the very near future” but at the latest by 1994.

He said his delegation’s visit was a fact-finding mission “so that we would look to be operational on day one when that becomes possible”, he said.

SA had great wealth and with its mineral, human and capital potential it could become a great asset to the whole continent.

De Klerk said he had discussed the “dynamic process of change” taking place in SA. The meeting had concentrated on the development of southern Africa and SA’s possible role in the sub-continent.

Also at the luncheon was Finance Minister Barend du Plessis, Foreign Minister Pik Botha, Foreign Affairs director-general Neil van Heerden and his deputy Derek Airey. DP leader Zach de Beer, DP caucus chairman Colin Eglin and CP foreign affairs spokesman Tom Langley also attended.

Development Bank of SA communications manager Frans van Rensburg said the OAU had approved the ADB visit. The route to membership of the OAU was clearly open should Copesa negotiations go well.

Yesterday the delegation held detailed meetings with the IDT, the SBDC, Eskom, the Development Bank of Southern Africa and the Urban Foundation.

The ADB delegation has met the ANC, Nafooc, Nactu, the PAC, Fafcos and other organisations this week and is to meet Inkatha, four KwaZulu and hold meetings with other non-government organisations.

Van Rensburg said ADB had assets worth $55bn and a private sector fund for micro projects.

The ADB group is the largest financial institution in Africa, made up of the Bank, the African Development Fund and the Nigerian Trust Fund.

The triple A-rated ADB is owned by 51 OAU members and 23 non-African nations. Since its creation in 1964, it has approved loans totalling $25bn.

It has diversified in recent years from purely project finance to policy-based lending.
SA to have 83 million people by 2020

Source from the South, popular as 'Rain Minos' and double this. | take over control of the facility.
S A looks at his new role in Africa
African countries move closer to South Africa

Political Staff

On the eve of President FW de Klerk's visit to Nigeria tomorrow, another West African state, the Ivory Coast, announced yesterday that it would establish diplomatic relations with South Africa at ambassadorial level.

The Ivory Coast is only the second country on the continent to establish full diplomatic ties with South Africa — though the government believes more will follow the Ivory Coast's lead.

Both the Ivory Coast decision and the Nigerian visit are an indication that South Africa's relations with Africa are fast normalising despite opposition by the ANC and PAC.

However, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha is expected to hold discussions with a PAC delegation, the first-ever official talks between the government and PAC, in Nigeria.

Consular and trade relations have been established with the Seychelles, while Djibouti is lifting all trade and travel restrictions.
SA in Ivory Coast link

CAPE TOWN — South Africa is to establish full diplomatic relations with the Ivory Coast.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha announced the decision yesterday as the campaign to isolate South Africa continued to crumble.

Djibouti said it was lifting all trade and travel restrictions on South Africa due to "very positive developments" here.

An official statement said the council of ministers had agreed to lift the boycott on all goods for or from South Africa and on goods passing through the tiny Horn of Africa state's port.

Djibouti's port is strategically located at the mouth of the Red Sea leading to the Suez canal and has the largest container facility north of Durban on the eastern coast. — Political Correspondent, Sapa-Reuters.
The media in Africa has always been seen as compliant, and merely spewing Government propaganda.

Local upheavals and human rights abuses go unreported, with front-page prominence given mainly to ministerial speeches.

Indeed, the credibility of the media in many African states is so low that inhabitants rely on European and American radio stations and newspapers to know what is really happening in their countries.

The imminent demise of the Pan African News Agency (Pana), while due immediately to lack of funding by African governments, is also attributable to this lack of credibility. Many papers in Africa, knowing that their own national agencies are contributing state propaganda to Pana, are loath to use its copy as it invariably reflects government views.

While many journalists in Africa have been diligent in their duties and have landed in jails and some exiled, by and large African media practitioners have been ready to turn a blind eye and spike a story that would otherwise anger or displease the authorities.

They cultivated a culture of silence. But with the growing tide of uprisings that are sweeping one party dictatorships for multiparty systems on the continent, African journalists are for the first time collectively trying to come to terms with their responsibilities as communicators.

A conference held in the Botswana capital of Gaborone two weeks ago looked at the experiences in six countries, including South Africa, and charted the way forward towards free media on the continent.

Ugandan publisher and editor Mr James Namakjjo, who spent many spells in detention under the Milton Obote and Idi Amin regimes and who is also a leading activist in African journalist movements, speaking on "Journalism and Africa's democratisation process", said some journalists had unashamedly worked against the struggling people of Africa.

He cited the footage used to close the Zairean TV station in which President Mobutu Sese Seko is shown as descending to earth from Heaven, as proof of the abuse of technology to dupe semi-literate peasants who would see Mobutu as equal to God.

**Vigilance**

Calling for more vigilance and commitment to serving "the people and not the elite that rule over the people!", Namakjjo said the creation of sub-regional organisations that linked national associations and unions strengthens the fight of journalists for a free media.

He said the West African Journalists Association (Waja), the Federation of East African Journalists Association (Feaja) and the Federation of Southern African Journalists (Fesaj) had already been formed to link up organisations and share information and resources.

Zimbabwean participant and news editor of the Herald, Mr Oliver Gawe, pointed out how the Zimbabwean government had gained control of the media in the country when the Mass Media Trust was formed.

Gawe said journalists had first thought that the trust would defend their right to work independently, but soon realised that the politically appointed heads of divisions within the trust only safeguard the interests of their political masters.

"The colonial authorities enacted a series of legislations to muzzle the Press, including banning publications and meetings. One is surprised, though, that after inheriting this whole arsenal of restrictive laws, government has not found it fit to repeal them", he said.

Citing an example, he said Section 17 of the Law and Order Maintenance Act of 1960 provides for a police officer to "ban any private conversation in the street, a house or wherever if they suspect that such discussions are prejudicial to the state."

Participants from Namibia and Zambia also stated that colonial repressive legislations had been maintained and in some cases amended and tightened.

In Botswana, generally regarded as the model of tolerance, a recent incident in which Mr Professor Nalena, a frail 23-year-old freelance journalist was arrested and allegedly assaulted by police for writing a story about a labour strike, has raised tension amongst local journalists who are now calling for the repeal of restrictive laws.

Mr Professor Nalena had been given a secret government document which argued against a 154 percent wage increase already granted to parastatal manual workers.

Nalena was arrested in January this year by members of the Serious Crimes Squad and held under the National Security Act, which provides for 96 hours' detention. He says he was accused of threatening state security by writing the story, and was coerced into revealing his source.

When he refused, he was allegedly assaulted until he bled and was refused food for the 30 hours he spent in the cells.

Government control over state media, where it was used as it was ruling party media, was decired and a call was made for air time to be made available for opposition parties.

**Freedom**

Private newspapers, which are invariably more vocal, are denied advertising because politicians are the rich business people who also advertise in the papers.

With small publications such as Mnogi responsible for the exposés that led to the resignation of Vice-President Peter Mmuati and the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Daniel Kwelakgobe, the concern is not without foundation.

Calls are also being made for the enactment of a Freedom of Information Act and amendments that would ensure that journalists are protected from revealing their sources.

The resuscitation of Fesaj and the letter of protest sent by Boja chairman Mr Rampaho Molefo on behalf of conference to Malawi's President Kamuzu Banda, to protest detention of freelance journalist Mr Simon Mhone, are just two examples of the steps taken that clearly put the journalists in the region on the road to a fight for greater freedom of the media in the sub continent and eventually in Africa as a whole.
ABUJA — A strong plea for unity in Africa to enable it to take on the industrialised world was made yesterday by Foreign Minister Pik Botha and his Nigerian counterpart Ike Nwachukwe.

Unity would result in a stronger SA, Nwachukwe said at the start of talks between the two governments.

People in Nigeria and Africa were pleased with the progress being made at Codesa and would like to see further progress so that everyone could feel happy and welcome in one African family.

"In our view the Boers are one of the several tribes that make up Africa," Nwachukwe added.

Botha said the visit to Nigeria was the most important trip he had undertaken.

"This is a historical fact of Africa — that SA and Nigeria are the two giants of sub-Saharan Africa — and now that apartheid is dead we can meet each other as fellow Africans." 

The visit to Nigeria by President F W de Klerk was a landmark one for both countries. It was a symbol of Nigerian support of the new SA and a signal to the rest of Africa that it accepted that apartheid really was dead, he said.

Botha said there were now no differences of principle between his government and party and the government of Nigeria. "We now feel free and liberated, free to share with our brothers in Africa who believe in the same principles."

While the two men did not go into any details about their agenda before the start of their meeting, the warmth in their opening comments indicated that the talks between De Klerk and President Ibrahim Babangida were likely to result in much closer ties between the two countries. This is expected to be the case in regard to trade and diplomatic relations, as well as to visa requirements.
Nigerian visit puts seal on SA’s return

Sowetan Africa News Service
PRESIDENT FW de Klerk’s visit to Nigeria yesterday put an unofficial but vital seal on South Africa’s re-acceptance in Africa.

And the announcement yesterday that the Ivory Coast is to open an embassy in Pretoria puts an extra shine on that seal. It makes Abidjan the first African capital to exchange ambassadors with Pretoria since Malawi did so more than a quarter-century ago.

These are two of the richest diplomatic prizes that have come to South Africa as a result of the progress being made in Codesa and of the big positive vote in the white referendum. There have been others: the Seychelles disclosed this week it will open consular relations with Pretoria and Djibouti lifted trade and travel restrictions. Still more are expected to follow soon, with Zambia thought likely to open diplomatic relations at a relatively high level.

But Nigeria remains the main prize. Pretoria has always put more value on recognition by Africa’s largest and most powerful state than any other on the continent. The fact that its leader, President Ibrahim Babangida, is chairman this year of the Organisation of African Unity gives additional value to his invitation to De Klerk to make an official visit.

Nigeria is one of four countries seen by Pretoria as nuclei of future economic blocs, the others being Kenya, Egypt and South Africa itself. Pretoria already has a presence in Nairobi and is expected to exchange diplomats with Cairo soon.

De Klerk’s visit to Abuja is considered by some analysts to be a likely prelude to diplomatic relations with Nigeria. There is some uncertainty, however, whether Nigeria would prefer to wait until an interim government is in place in South Africa.

The Nigerians had refused an earlier request for a visit by De Klerk but apparently now feel that the referendum result makes such a visit politically acceptable. Some analysts have suggested that Nigeria has been more than willing for some time to embrace South Africa and needed only a good excuse.

It now finds itself able without difficulty to reject an ANC protest at the De Klerk visit, advising the ANC rather curtly that it considered the visit in Nigeria’s interests and that these interests would always come first. Whether the same attitude would be applied to diplomatic relations is uncertain.

If Nigeria were to open diplomatic relations with South Africa, even at a lower level than full ambassadorial status, Pretoria could really feel its isolation in Africa was over. Other countries would feel free to follow suit. After that, admission to membership of the Organisation of African Unity would have a somewhat academic value - the cherry on the top, so to speak.

The flow of business and government visitors between the two countries reflects a vigorous interest in bilateral trade and this may be a deciding factor. Initially, however, Nigeria may prefer to exchange trade missions, as Zimbabwe and several other countries have done, rather than start with a higher level of diplomatic representation.

The Ivory Coast’s decision was not unexpected, given its role over many years as Africa’s leading proponent of dialogue with Pretoria. South Africa has been allowed to maintain a trade mission in Abidjan for some time but Abidjan has not opened a reciprocal office in the Republic. The presence of a second African embassy in Pretoria is likely to clear the way for others and the sight of black diplomats in flowing robes may soon become a familiar one on the Pretoria cocktail party circuit.

What if Codesa fails? Well, the growing flow of diplomatic recognition suggests that African countries are increasingly taking the view that reform has become irreversible and that, either through Codesa or some other medium, apartheid is destined to vanish. The consensus seems to be that, one way or another, democracy is on its way in South Africa.

Against this the cries by the ANC and PAC that apartheid is not yet dead and buried falter. It is not that Africa is rejecting the liberation movements so much as that it feels that liberation is already at hand and they must now look to what lies beyond apartheid.

While appreciating the political imperatives that make the ANC and PAC take this stance, African countries appear in general to be impatient to get on with exploring the benefits that might be found in dealing with a cleansed and abjured South Africa.

Most African countries are looking beyond the symbolic value of diplomatic recognition to the perceived benefits of trade and technology. Some of the doors that are opening in Africa offer few if any material benefits to South Africa. But others offer considerable profit. For instance, the opening of Djibouti will give South African exporters access to one of Africa’s busiest ports and even richer opportunities will be opened if Egypt removes its present restrictions on South African vessels docking in its harbours.

One way of looking at De Klerk’s Nigerian visit is that Abuja intends it mainly as an acknowledgment of his reform efforts and an encouragement to keep going, with full acceptance being offered as soon as an interim government is in place.

If this is so, then South Africa is likely to be bombarded by diplomatic recognition from around Africa once it has an interim government.
Sudanese mount huge offensive

NAIROBI — Sudanese government forces mounting their biggest offensive against southern rebels in nine years of civil war have advanced to within 100 km of rebel headquarters, relief officials said yesterday. The fighting forced the United Nations to evacuate seven aid workers from the area, UN officials said.
End to deadlock in Rwanda

KIGALI [12/4/97]

RWANDA's five major parties have signed an agreement that ends a political deadlock and will lead to the formation of a transitional government, official sources said this week.

They said the accord was reached on Tuesday, four days after opposition leader Dr. Dismas Nsengiyumva was appointed the new prime minister.

This ended opposition objections to the previous interim government, which contained only one opposition party member.

Nsengiyumva's government will have the task of tackling the guerrilla war in the north and must also attempt to reduce ethnic tensions.

Saba-Reuters
Africa's poor image must rise above
To lure investors,

SIMON BARBER in WASHINGTON
8/10/97/98

The argument that certain countries are unattractive to investors is
inadequate, not necessarily because of inefficiencies in their
governments or policies, but because of the way the world perceives
them. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
(Untc) and the香水ter Development Programmes (AwP) say that
if countries want to attract investment, they must do three things:

1. Improve their business climate.
2. Improve their economic policies.
3. Improve their social environment.

The AwP and Untc have been working on these issues for many
years, but there is still much work to be done.

The first step is to improve the business climate. This means
making it easier for companies to do business in a country. This
includes things like having a stable political environment, good
infrastructure, and a skilled workforce.

The second step is to improve economic policies. This means
making sure that the government is doing all it can to help
businesses succeed. This includes things like having a fair tax
system, providing education and health care, and protecting
property rights.

The third step is to improve social environment. This means
making sure that people are safe and can live in peace. This
includes things like having a strong police force, providing
education and health care, and protecting the environment.

All of these steps are important, and they all need to be
addressed in order to attract investment. But the first step is
improving the business climate. Once this is done, the rest can
be addressed.

Investors want to be sure that their money will be safe and that
they will be able to make a profit. If the business climate in a
country is not good, investors will be hesitant to invest.

So, what can be done to improve the business climate? There are
two main things that can be done:

1. Make the government more accountable.
2. Provide better education and training.

The government needs to be more accountable to the people, so
that they know that their money is being used properly. This can
be done by having elections, providing checks and balances,
and making sure that the government is working for the
people.

Education and training are important because they help people
develop the skills they need to succeed in business. This
includes things like learning how to do business, how to
marketing, and how to manage money.

By working on these three areas, countries can improve their
business climate and attract more investors. But it will take
time and effort, and it will require the cooperation of all
countries and businesses.

The world is watching, and the future of our economies is
in the hands of all of us.
SA ‘must take part in the African economy’

By JOSHUA RABOROKO
A majority-ruled South Africa could become a member of the African Development Bank (ADB) and be integrated into the economic development of the African continent.

The bank sees Africa shaped geographically as a tree, with its roots in Southern Africa, its branches in Northern Africa, and its trunk in the Central, Eastern and Western Africa.

For this tree to survive, for the African vision to be realised, its roots must become an integral part of Africa.

These remarks were made by the ADB’s president, Mr. Abubacar Ndiaye, after his action-packed 11-day fact-finding mission to South Africa.

Ndiaye and an eight-member delegation of the bank arrived in South Africa on March 29, following earlier invitations from the Government, the ANC and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).

During his visit, he met with a variety of political leaders in South Africa, including the State President, Mr. FW de Klerk, the ANC president, Mr. Nelson Mandela, the PAC president, Mr. Clarence Makwetu and the IJP president, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

He was accompanied by his wife Marlyantou, who is a deputy-director (treasurer) of the bank in the Ivory Coast.

She said: “After learning of the special needs of South African women, the bank has pledged to make every effort to mobilise assistance from other institutions — since South Africa is not a member of the ADB — for programmes of women’s leagues.”

In an interview with Sowetan, Ndiaye talked on nationalisation, privatisation, distribution of wealth, the role of women, violence and private sector development.

Ndiaye said during discussions they encouraged all parties to open their doors fully to all races so that political campaigns could be organised around value systems and programmes rather than ethnicity.

“Given the complexity of South Africa’s economy and its heterogeneous society, there will inevitably be friction and difficulties in the transition from an apartheid society to a non-racial democracy.”

He said there was a need for a forum in which the various interest groups could discuss their economic programmes and resolve mutual suspicions in an environment of trust.

“We are heartened by the compatibility in economic development principles espoused by many of the various parties with whom we met.”

He said while privatisation of public enterprises was often needed for reasons of efficiency and to reduce Government deficits, they believed that the need for an early political settlement would argue for caution in that area.

“We think that privatisation is more likely to be sustained if it is undertaken after a democratically elected government has had an opportunity to review the full range of economic options,” he said.

Economic growth for South Africa was likely to be enhanced through nationalisation. Fairer distribution of wealth would be achieved by growth-oriented policies that helped the alleviation of poverty, the provision of education and of vocational and skills training to provide economic empowerment to the underprivileged.

“Better and fairer distribution of new opportunities also means improved access to entrepreneurial capital for low income groups for micro enterprises, and better housing and social services.”

Ndiaye said an economic forum, as suggested by business and labour, could help in addressing any mutual concerns and avoid industrial unrest which would undermine both domestic and foreign investment inflows and encourage capital flight, putting further pressure on the rand.

A more harmonious tripartite relationship should lead to the early promulgation of new and transparent investment policies to encourage growth-generating new investment, both foreign and domestic, especially in export-oriented industries.

Prosperity
The current role of existing development finance institutions such as the DBSA, the Independent Development Corporation (IDC) and the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) needed to be re-examined and redefined to enable them to build on their past records and serve the majority population even more directly.

“Our discussions have convinced us more than ever before that the future prosperity of South Africa lies in its integration into the rest of Southern Africa for the mutual benefit of the entire sub-region.”

“We are pleased to note that our desire for an economically integrated sub-region is shared by all the business groups which we met,” he said, adding, “this dynamic engine of growth can have a spill.”

As a result of sanctions and a freeze in new capital since the mid-eighties to South Africa, the country was now significantly under-borrowed.

He said South Africa needed financial assistance to improve education, health and to create employment for a large segment of its population.
West Africa cut off from world

ABIDJAN—Ivory Coast's external telecommunications remained paralysed yesterday, five days after a fault crippled a regional submarine cable. (1)

West Africa's communications hub has been cut off from the outside world since Thursday.

The alternative satellite communications to Europe are saturated by demand for telephone and fax connections.
Ethiopia asks for hijackers

ETHIOPIA has made a formal request to Kenya for the extradition of four people who hijacked an Ethiopian Airlines plane forcing it to land in Nairobi over the weekend.

The armed hijackers, two men and two women, stormed into the cockpit of the Boeing 727 shortly after takeoff from Bole Airport in Addis Ababa on a flight to the north of the country.

The hijackers, armed with grenades, forced the pilot to head for Kenya.

On arrival in Nairobi, the plane, with 105 passengers on board, was immediately surrounded by Kenyan security officials who began negotiating with the hijackers.
Ivory Coast delegation members, with Serge Bombo, foreground, arrive at Jan Smuts Airport.

Ivory Coast 12 seek SA partners

THEO RAWANA

A GROUP of 12 Ivory Coast businessmen flew into SA yesterday in search of trade contacts and joint ventures. Sponsored by Ivoirian business consultant Honoré de Sumo, the group ranges from coconut butter producers to builders and hotel owners.

The leader of the delegation is Kone Banga, whose housing and construction services company Socugi would like to meet building promoters for co-operation and exchange of experience, and investors with whom to discuss the possibility and terms of financing social accommodation infrastructure at about R100m.

Serge Bombo, a commercial director of coconut butter manufacturer Sloe, hopes to find distributors and a partner in SA.

Aliou Sibi wishes to act as an agent for SA manufacturers or marketing companies of security systems.

Amadou Khabore, a publisher, is interested in buying printing, typesetting and layout (DTP) equipment.

Ouezzin Coulibaly wants to start a pencil manufacturing plant, but requires an investment of about R5m.

Paul Bancho is looking for a partner (finance or construction) for a three-star hotel in Abidjan.

Alassane Hamza, MD of international consulting services ICS CI, is looking for potential importers or exporters to west Africa, who need advice on legal or other matters.

The delegation will be in SA for one week.
NAIROBI (Kenya)  People in the town of Akobo, isolated by a government offensive that has halted relief work in Sudan’s south, are starving to death and are painfully perplexed by the world’s indifference, according to messages made public yesterday.

“Twenty-three people starved yesterday,” the Rev John Jock Chol said in a radio message to the Nairobi office of the Association of Christian Resource Organisations Serving Sudan, or ACROSS.

“Everybody is weak and waiting to die.

“We are hearing radio reports about UN and Red Cross helping Ethiopia and Somalia. Why not Akobo?”

Mr Chol’s plea was distributed to news agencies in Nairobi as a means of publicising a disaster that threatens hundreds of thousands of people with starvation, but has failed to grip the world’s imagination.

In Akobo alone, more than 250 people, mostly children, have starved to death in the past few weeks, according to an ACROSS official.

Akobo has not received any relief food since March when the government grounded relief flights into southern Sudan as it launched a major offensive against rebels who control most of the region.

No food has been grown because of drought, war and lack of seeds. — Sapa-AFP.
Minor changes in Africa from Major...

A lot in common

The significance of the historic meeting between President F W de Klerk and Nigerian ruler Major General Ibrahim Babangida lies mainly in the symbolic value of rapprochement between the continent’s two giants.

Nigeria dominates the west African region, while SA is the economic powerhouse of southern and, potentially, sub-saharan Africa. The accords struck between the two states will form a bridge between Africa’s most populous country (120m) and the most prosperous and technologically advanced.

This, says Stellenbosch Africanist Willie Breytenbach, advances the hope of arresting Africa’s seemingly ineluctable drift towards world economic marginalisation. The Nigerians — and others — see SA as the springboard to Africa.

The immediate spin-off from the remarkably warm encounter between De Klerk and Babangida will be in the setting up and improvement of bilateral relations. This could have important implications for diplomacy and trade. Investment is not, however, expected to flow either way very soon. Though it is an oil-rich State, with oil accounting for over 90% of GDP, Nigeria is in economic straits as a result of years of corruption and mismanagement and the fall in the oil price.

The ANC, meanwhile, has clearly lost another diplomatic round as a result of the De Klerk-Babangida meeting, which it opposed. This follows similar losses for the ANC in relations to Europe, Japan and the US over sanctions, not to mention the ex-East Bloc countries which quickly sought links with Pretoria. Despite two visits to Nigeria by Nelson Mandela, ANC protestations were ignored by the Nigerians in favour of self-interest.

However, all indications are that the question of SA’s membership of the OAU (of which Babangida is the current chairman), as well as of other multilateral organisations such as the African Development Bank, will only seriously come on the agenda after an interim government is formed in SA.

Even then, opposition to SA’s joining may be expected from hardliners Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Uganda, who could insist on such a step only after an elected post-apartheid government is in place.

Yet Nigeria remains the big fish in the OAU and the Commonwealth. Bilateral relations with Abuja, therefore, are critical to SA rejoining the African fold. Most other African States could well be swayed by Nigeria’s pragmatism and back SA membership upon the formation of an interim government — in which the ANC will, of course, play a key role.

Apart from Malawi, which has long stood out as the only OAU member to have formal ambassadorial relations with Pretoria, Ivory Coast last week announced it is to establish full diplomatic relations with SA. Zaire will soon follow suit, as will Zambian, Moroccan and Senegal. Kenyan trade delegations have visited SA and diplomatic relations cannot be far away.

Angola recently opened a charge d’affaires office in Pretoria as a prelude to exchanging ambassadors and Seychelles last week announced it is to set up a diplomatic presence in SA. Strangely, neighbours Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland have yet to announce readiness to exchange envoys — though, like Zimbabwe, they have had trade and consular representation here for years.

According to Breytenbach, Nigeria and SA share a quixotic parallel in their problems of transition to democracy. It is interesting, he says, that in Nigeria bureaucratic and military power is wielded by the Muslim Hausa and Fulani tribes based in the north of the country, who comprise 29% of the population. In SA, the Afrikaners occupy a similar position. The other major Nigerian tribal groups are the Yoruba (20%) and Ibo (17%), in a country with 250 ethnic groups and 395 languages and dialects.

Thus, says Breytenbach, the common problem of the ruling elites is how to share power without losing control? There is no single ethnic group in either country that is big enough to form a majority and govern on its own. Nigeria resorted to military rule, which it has had for all but 10 years since independence in 1960, while SA resorted to apartheid. Both countries are engaged in the process of transition in which, says Breytenbach, the two dominant features are ethnic politics and the option of coalition government.
SA invited to democracy conference

WASHINGTON — The conference will review the struggle for democracy in South Africa. It will also discuss the role of non-African countries, and the progress of the negotiations, which will be monitored by observers from several countries outside Africa. The conference will be held in Dublin from May 25 to 28.

The conference will review the struggle for democracy in South Africa, and will also discuss the role of non-African countries, which will be invited to attend a conference on democracy in South Africa. The conference will be held in Dublin from May 25 to 28.
SA cautious on invite to Africa peace talks

Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA has given a cautious response to reports from the United States that it is to be invited to attend a major conference on democracy in Africa to be held in Dakar, Senegal, next month.

Senegal's Minister of State Mr Abdoulaye Wade said in America this week that South Africa would be invited to the conference where delegates would review the struggle for democracy on the continent.

Up to 47 African countries are expected to attend. Being invited would be a major step in Pretoria's efforts to become part of the African family.

A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday that South Africa had not received an official invitation and did not know if the conference was being organised by Senegal or through the Organisation of African Unity.

"We have taken note of Minister Wade's statement and we are pursuing it through diplomatic channels. A decision will be taken in due course," the spokesman said.

If South Africa did attend, it would probably be represented by senior government officials.

Mr Wade hoped the conference would, among other continuing tasks, be able to monitor progress at Codesa.
TWO regional trade organisations, formerly hostile to SA, are sending delegates to speak at an SA function next week.

The Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) will each send two senior representatives to a trade conference organised by the SA Foreign Trade Organisation (Safoto).

Both groups aim to liberalise trade, encourage economic co-operation and create a regional common market. The SADCC was originally created to reduce its members' dependence on SA.

A senior PTA representative, who did not wish to be named until the conference, agreed this week to attend along with SADCC Regional Business Council chairman Harry Thomson.

The additions to the conference's speakers' list includes multilateral funding agencies and the private sector in Nigeria, Tanzania, Ivory Coast, Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zaire, Botswana, Mauritius, Madagascar, Malawi and Reunion.

"The burning need for regional cooperation in sub-Saharan Africa to create the infrastructure for a prosperous trading bloc and to overcome disasters such as drought will be addressed at the conference," Safoto Africa division head Paul Runge said.
Grid will bring power to the people

For doctors in Africa it is probably more expensive to get details of the world's medical developments than the best health satellite project is that a new health satellite will beam information to Africa every month.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.

The Healthnet project is being conducted by Satellite Life, a United States-based international non-profit agency. Satellite Life was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satellite Life's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and medical data from the ground stations based in medical facilities in the developing world.

In October, the satellite was declared operational and began to transmit medical images to computer stations in the developing world.
Beaming health to starved Africa

A NEW health satellite project will help doctors and academics in southern Africa to get access to vital medical information and to communicate better with their counterparts in other developing countries.

Through the Healthnet satellite network, information from libraries, hospitals and universities in industrialised countries will be beamed directly to medical research facilities and hospitals.

The lack of foreign exchange makes it often extraordinarily expensive to receive the latest medical information in countries like Zambia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Because of limited resources, the University of Zambia was forced a decade ago to cancel its subscriptions to medical journals. In Tanzania, it can cost the equivalent of two-thirds of a week's salary for a doctor to send a fax message, and nearly as much to receive one. And telephone and mail services are often poor. In Uganda, where an estimated 24 percent of the population is HIV positive, current information about the AIDS-causing virus is scarce.

Healthnet hopes to ease communication between doctors in Africa. Its organisers say innovative use of satellite technology will help them receive, receive and communicate with medical centers around the world.

The Healthnet project was begun by SatelLife, a United States-based international non-profit agency. SatelLife was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in a reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, SatelLife's low-orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and receive messages from ground stations based at medical institutions in the developing world.

SatelLife does own the satellite; it bought the operating capacity from Survey Satellite Technology, the British company that launched it into orbit.

The cost of the ground stations — about $7,500 each for the experimental stage — has been covered by such sources as the McArthur and Rockefeller foundations in the US, the Canada's International Development Research Centre has helped by buying 10 percent of the satellite's air time. The operating capacity, a million-dollar item, has been funded by a grant from NEC Corporation of Tokyo.

There have already been promising arrangements between some libraries in Canada and Zambia, for example. And the AIDS Network, a group established in eastern Africa to help spread information about the disease, will also be able to make use of the satellite.

By ALLAN THOMPSON

For doctors in Africa it is prohibitively expensive to get details of the latest medical developments. Now a health satellite will beam information to Africa every month.

Healthnet will help doctors in Africa share medical knowhow

Harare's a step ahead

By ANDREW MELDRUM

The satellite is the heart of the system, and it is a significant step forward for Africa. In the past, doctors in Africa have had to rely on expensive and unreliable means of obtaining medical information.

The satellite is a great improvement, as it allows doctors to access medical information from around the world, even in remote areas. This is especially important in countries like Zimbabwe, where access to medical information is limited due to the lack of foreign exchange.

The satellite is also a cost-effective solution, as it allows doctors to access information without the need for expensive equipment or subscriptions.

The Healthnet project is a great example of how technology can be used to improve healthcare in Africa. It shows the potential of using satellite technology to provide medical information to doctors in remote areas, and it is a step forward in the fight against diseases like HIV/AIDS.

The Healthnet project is just one example of how technology is being used to improve healthcare in Africa. There are many other projects that are working to provide medical information to doctors in Africa, and these projects are all making a valuable contribution to improving healthcare in the continent.

The satellite is an important step forward in the fight against diseases like HIV/AIDS, and it is an example of how technology can be used to provide medical information to doctors in remote areas. It is a sign of the potential that technology has to improve healthcare in Africa, and it is a sign of the commitment of those involved in the project to improving healthcare in the continent.
Telkom wants to talk to Africa

As ageing communications networks in Africa decay and collapse, South Africa’s Telkom may well become the continent’s technological bright in shining armour — once it has sorted out its own problems. By ARTHUR GOLDSTUCK

GETTING a phone to work in Gabonese, it’s a nightmare to people whose livelihood depends on communication. The decay and collapse — not to mention the absence of any real competition — means that governments are left with little choice. Hence the announcement of several new high-speed aluminium alloys for the new system. This will be the first major advance in telephone technology in decades.

One of the barriers to the introduction of new services is the high cost of laying new networks. Telkom is trying to address this problem by working with other telecommunications companies in Africa to develop a more efficient network. The new system, which will use advanced technology, is expected to reduce costs by up to 50%.

However, the new system will require significant investments in new equipment and personnel. Telkom is working with several international companies to ensure that the new system is reliable and efficient. The company is also committed to providing training for its employees to ensure that they are prepared to maintain the new network.

The new system is expected to be operational within the next few years. Telkom is already working with several countries in Africa to implement the new system. The company is confident that the new system will improve the quality of services and help to provide better connectivity for people across the continent.

The geologist has come across a long way from when the pursuit of minerals meant weeks of trudging across desolate plains, carrying a lamp under a blazing African sun. Because, although there is still a lot of fieldwork involved, exploration today is likely to start in front of a computer.

Satellite in orbit one million metres above the earth scans the surface and, in digital form, relays these remotely-sensed images to a ground station. These images are often in wavebands invisible to the human eye and are processed and enhanced by computer. The end result of this formidable technology is a multicoloured picture of a region of the earth showing the presence of geological structures that are associated with mineral deposits.

To ensure our exploration edge and to keep pace with rapidly changing technology, we maintain an in-house research programme to develop and implement new processing techniques. Not to replace our field geologists, just to enhance the way they look at things.

GOLD FIELDS
Nigeria accused of torture and killings

THE Nigerian security forces are carrying out summary executions and routinely torturing suspects to extract confessions, a Lagos-based human rights group claimed this week. Torture victims had been burned, shot, whipped, starved or hung upside down, Beko Ransome-Kuti, head of the Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CDHR), stated in his annual report.

"In spite of the march to civil rule in Nigeria, it is regrettable to note that fundamental human rights are still in chains...1991 witnessed a disturbing rate of extra-judicial killings carried out by the police," the report said. "In 1990 we were able to record 19 cases of such summary executions of accused persons, suspects and innocent commuters. This year (1991) we have been able to record 27 incidents," it said, adding that actual figures could be much higher.

No Rawlings amnesty

GHANA'S leader Jerry Rawlings denied last week that he and his government want a blanket amnesty for themselves before the West African country returns to constitutional rule later this year. Opposition groups backed by Roman Catholic bishops are furious over what they say is an attempt by the ruling Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) to procure total immunity from prosecution before handing over power.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings' regime, which seized power with the PNDC on December 31 1981, has long been accused of severe human rights abuses which may come back to haunt PNDC members if they lose power.

Rawlings said: "Any individual who, for his or her personal interests, abused the office which he or she held under the PNDC, or committed fraud or embezzlement or any other individual offence, is not protected by these provisions," he said.

He was referring to the "transitional provisions", the preamble to Ghana's draft constitution which will be put to a referendum on April 28. The provisions caused a furor when they were made public on March 31.

Rawlings has not yet announced if he will contest presidential elections.

Koffigoh too young

TOGO'S Prime Minister Joseph Korkou Koffigoh, considered a strong candidate for presidential elections due in August, last week was prevented from standing under a new electoral code.

The country's transitional legislature, the High Council of the Republic (HCR), made a last-minute change to the electoral code altering the minimum age for candidates to 45 from a previous 40.

Koffigoh, who is 43, had not yet announced whether he intended to stand in the elections, part of the country's transition to multi-party democracy after 25 years of President Gnassingbe Eyadema's authoritarian rule. The ruling improves Eyadema's chances of being re-elected.
Giving birth to Africa’s big problem

CHILDRENBIRTHING among adolescent African women is a relatively common event, a recent study on 11 sub-Saharan African countries reveals.

The study was conducted by the Population Reference Bureau in collaboration with the Institute for Resource Development/Macro International.

The 11 nations surveyed were Botswana, Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The survey data, presented in a chartbook, determined that teenaged motherhood in the above countries occurs at a time when African “social organisations that traditionally provided support to young mothers are weakening.”

Risks

“Despite young African women’s economic potential and can carry significant risks for both the mother and her infant,” it says.

Mali rated highest with a total of 51 percent of young women, aged between 15 to 19, having been pregnant or with a child during the time of the survey.

Liberia and Uganda had the second and third highest rate of teen pregnancies, scoring 45 percent and 37 percent respectively.

But in most of the countries, a majority of the pregnancies occurred after marriage. In Mali, for example, 80 percent of the teenagers who were pregnant after they had been married and virtually all sexual experience occurred within the context of marriage.

Needs

The survey shows high needs for family planning, especially in Botswana and Kenya where 62 percent of unmarried, sexually active women were not using contraceptives but did want to postpone pregnancy.

It also reveals that adolescent women under 20 years of age are at greater risk than infants of women in the middle of their reproductive years.

The elevated risk is particularly pronounced in

By SIZAKELE KOOMA

Burundi, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Zimbabwe.

The study concludes that sub-Saharan countries should raise awareness about the causes and consequences of adolescent childbearing.

“The data point to the need to consider several types of policies and programmes that could help adolescent women achieve their full potential,” it says.

It lists the policies that should be included as:

Discourage Policies that discourage early marriage and childbearing by providing viable educational and employment alternatives;

Programmes to establish or expand family-planning services and counseling for sexually active adolescents;

Maternal and child health programmes that seek out teenagers whom may not know what health care they and their babies need or where to obtain services.

Mother and children...sexually active women are not using contraceptives.
Giving birth to Africa's big problem

CHILDBEARING among adolescent African women is a relatively common event, a recent study on 11 sub-Saharan African countries reveals.

The study was prepared for an Inter-African conference on adolescent health.

It was conducted by the Population Reference Bureau in collaboration with the Institute for Resource Development/Macro International.

The 11 nations surveyed were Botswana, Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The survey data, presented as a chartbook, determines that teenage motherhood in the above countries occurs at a time when: African social organisations that traditionally provided support to young mothers are weakening.

Burundi, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Zimbabwe.

The study concludes that sub-Saharan countries should raise awareness about the causes and consequences of adolescent childbirth.

The data point to the need to consider several types of policies and programmes that could help adolescent women achieve their full potential," it says.

It lists the policies that should be included as:

Discourage Policies that discourage early marriage and childbearing by providing viable educational and employment alternatives;

Programmes to establish or expand family-life education, for teenagers in and out of school;

Programmes to help young women stay in school, even if they have children:

Information, education and communication programmes aimed at the partners, parents and other relatives of adolescent women;

Policies that increase access to high-quality, appropriate family planning services and counselling for sexually active adolescents; and

Maternal and child health programmes that seek out teenagers who may not know what health care they and their babies need or where to obtain services.

Mother and children ... sexually active women are not using contraceptives.

By SIZAKELE KOOMA

The survey shows high turnover rates. For family planners, it also reveals that increasingly, the overwhelmingly majority of sexually active women are not using contraceptives, but are not timed pregnancies, but are not using contraceptives, but are not using contraceptives.

Risks

In promoting young African women's economic potential, the need to ensure their reproductive years and their childbearing years.

The elevated risk is particular pronounced in the second and third highest estimates of teenage mothers' high, 80 percent of the teenagers had been married and virtually all sexual experience or.
Trying to Prevent Mistakes of Past
Shots fired at millionairess

BY ENOCH MTHEWE

An Esikhawini millionairess was shot and injured while driving away from a Good Friday service, allegedly because she had given South African Communist Party leader Chris Hani accommodation in her luxury mansion in February.

Patty Mncwabe, a prominent figure in the Esikhawini business community had stopped shortly after leaving the church to check a punctured tyre. When she got out of her car, she met a hail of bullets from gunmen stationed at a nearby house.

Mncwabe is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, which has allegedly been subjected to harassment by members of the "A Team", a gang aligned to the Inkatha Freedom Party, since Hani's visit to the Natal township.

According to a KwaZulu Police source, Mncwabe's name has been placed on an IFP hit list. He said she had also been placed under the surveillance of the KZP.

A relative denied that Mncwabe had met Hani or given him accommodation.
Drought Warning to Africa
Wholesale privatisation and the free market cannot be relied on to release Africa's 650 million people from the prison of poverty — so says the United Nations Economic Commission on Africa.

Quentin Wilson reports:

IMPOSING a free-market model on Africa's economy and privatising everything in sight will not be the solution to Africa's economic problems. UN researchers argue that this approach would ignore the situation of most countries on the continent.

In their report, a number of conditions would have to be met before a free market could be considered appropriate.

Until then, "the pursuit of the free-market system will remain a mirage".

If the mirage is to become a workable reality:

• all people must know where the goods are;
• the goods and services should move freely from one part of the country to another;
• investments should move quickly from low-profit sectors to high-profit ones;
• there should be no bottle-necks in production to induce frequent and sharp shortages of goods;
• goods must freely compete with no producer having the lion's share in the production of a given commodity;
• there must be no hoarding.

The UN Economic Commission declared that in Africa "these situations are almost unknown" and therefore hardly provide the right conditions for pure capitalism.

Free-market economy

The report said that "installing a strict free-market economy" would not be a return to normality, but a leap into the unknown.

"The principles of free-market capitalism were written by Adam Smith in 1776, but these principles have never existed in pure form in the real world. Modern capitalism was protected in Europe by mercantilist manipulation of market prices and filled by wealth extracted from colonial empires."

"Also, it is a well-known fact that the startling growth of the economies of Japan and the Pacific Rim (South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Indonesia) in more recent times was accomplished through trade protectionism and active intervention of governments in industrial development."
Kenyans look at JSE

THE JSE and a delegation from the Nairobi Stock Exchange (NSE) this week discussed jointly sponsoring a conference of African stock exchanges.

The Kenyan delegation was on a three-day mission to assess trends on the JSE. It is believed to be the first official delegation from an African stock exchange to visit SA.

JSE president designate Roy Andersen says a conference of African stock exchanges could take place before the end of the year.

He will discuss the issue at a meeting of the International Federation of Stock Exchanges in London next week.

Stock exchanges from sub-Saharan Africa, as well as Nigeria, will be invited, but a venue has not been agreed on.

Mr Andersen says common areas of interest could include technology interchange. The JSE could also learn much about operating in an emerging economy and an African stock exchange was a long-term possibility.

NSE chief executive Job Kihumba says the delegation’s meetings with experts in SA’s financial market were fruitful.

Visiting stockbroker Lawrence Bellcliffe says the NSE has undergone major changes in the past few months. The NSE, which has six broking members and about 60 listed companies, has moved to a board system. Deals were previously struck on the phone and at daily meetings.

Assistance

Foreign investment in the NSE has been inhibited by foreign exchange control and the depreciation of the Kenyan currency in recent years.

Another visiting broker, Chandralal Shah, said there was a possibility that the Kenyans would ask the JSE for assistance in developing the NSE in the future.

The delegation will also visit the Gaborone and Harare stock exchanges.
Africa’s worst drought

Africain 27/11/72

By ANDRE BRETT
NAIROBI - From the Cape to Cairo, Africa is suffering one of the most devastating droughts in living memory and weathermen say the worst may be to come.

Meteorologists, who have been warning the world about the problem for months, blame it on a flat weather condition called El Nino - "the Christ child".

"In continental terms, it's the most widespread drought for decades," says Mr Harold Nontu, Kenya representative of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

"Millions of livestock are dying and crops aren't growing."

Thousands of people are already dying in war-ravaged Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan and the FAO estimates that 20 countries are facing exceptional food emergencies.

Weathermen say the drought that has already swept Southern Africa is rolling north up the east of the continent. They say their warnings have fallen mostly on deaf ears - which means people now have to come up with stocks of relief food.

The name El Nino was originally used to describe seasonal warming of the Pacific Ocean's surface waters off the coast of Peru, but meteorologists later found this process was connected with worldwide atmospheric patterns.

Experts say it is now known to accurately predict the impact of El Nino, or "warm events", but they only occur about once a decade and last from 12 to 18 months.

After the last strong El Nino episode in 1982-83, relief officials estimated that 1 million Ethiopians starved to death because of the combination of one of the worst droughts and a snap-out civil war.

A farmer uses his water sprinkler sparingly.

A much weaker warm episode was recorded in 1986-87, followed by a less severe drought across parts of the continent.

"Our thinking is that this year is going to be much closer to 1982-83," says Mr Wikash Deegile, head of the UN's drought monitoring centre for east and Southern Africa in Nairobi.

Deegile says that east Africa's short rains at the end of last year were inadequate and that the current long rains arrived late and will have a poor distribution.

More frightening is the forecast that the long "Makua" rains in Ethiopia's densely-populated north that normally last from June to September will fail badly, says Deegile, head of the Ethiopia meteorological department in the 1980s.

"Warm events" set off extreme weather conditions around the world, from floods in north-eastern Brazil to droughts in India.

In East and Southern Africa, El Nino events tend to affect rain-carrying bands of low pressure, making clouds disappear.

The warm events have apparently been a feature of the world's climate for a long time. Chinese expert Wang Shouwei has calculated from historical evidence such as tree-rings that 115 have taken place since 1470.

Sometimes the impact of El Nino could become severe as the world's forests are cut down and marginal land is brought under cultivation.

Global warning could also affect the severity of El Nino, a UN conference in Bangkok concluded last November.

Meteorologists started sending warnings to African countries in March 1991 that another drought could be as severe as in the '80s.

"We were able to see east and southern Africa's weather with some six months' to a year's warning," says Mr Jesse Usher, head of the Nairobi-based UN Envi

President's Programme at the Foreign Office.

But the forecasts came too late and the FAO report published recently calls for imports of at least 11 million tons of food in Africa for the year 1991-92. This excludes South Africa, which will have to import 3 million tons.

"Without the mobilisation of the required international assistance, increased human suffering and loss of life will inevitably occur in the months ahead," the report warned.

About half of the food will have to be commercially imported - says Usher.
A CONFERENCE of stock exchange officials from African nations was held last week in Addis Ababa. The meeting was called to discuss the establishment of a pan-African stock exchange.

W Nikolau, director of the Namibian Stock Exchange, said that the conference would bring together experts from across the continent to share ideas and experiences. He said that the establishment of a pan-African stock exchange would be beneficial for all countries, as it would provide a platform for investment and economic cooperation.

The conference was attended by representatives from stock exchanges in Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and other African nations. The delegates discussed various aspects of the stock exchange, including regulation, trading systems, and market structures.

M. J. Khumalo, a member of the Namibian delegation, said that the conference was an opportunity to learn from each other and to build stronger relationships between stock exchanges.

The conference was hosted by the Addis Ababa Stock Exchange and was supported by the African Development Bank.
20 die daily in Ethiopian camp

DOLO - Thousands of skeletal figures came running from all directions when the plane swooped towards the landing strip in the dust-swelt Ethiopian village of Dolo.

On the ground, haggard and emaciated men and women - some clutching bony children - waited expectantly for long-promised food handouts as the party of journalists piled out of the aircraft.

Slowly, the crowds realised this was not to be the day. Dejectedly they turned round and shuffled back to the makeshift camps which surround Dolo.

"There is no food, no water, no medical care. There is nothing here except death," said one camp resident.

Community leaders told journalists that more than 20 people die every day around Dolo, a remote spot near the Somali border.

"Dolo must be one of the most miserable places on earth," said Mr Ben Parker of the UN's Emergency and Preparedness Group.

The camps at Dolo are composed of thousands of flimsy shelters held together by bits of rag and sticks.

Water tankers are nowhere to be seen.

Inside the shelters, children suffering from famine and related diseases lie on dirt floors awaiting near-certain death.

Other children stand around outside, with eye sores and the classic bloated bellies of the severely malnourished.

More than 200,000 former Ethiopian refugees who originally fled into neighbouring Somalia during the 1977-78 Ogaden war have moved into the camps.

These people have now lost everything twice in 15 years - some of the most tragic victims of the turmoil in the Horn of Africa where more than 23 million now face starvation.

About 145,000 Somali refugees who fled months of savage interclan fighting in their own country have also flocked to the camps.

The huge number of people now living around Dolo has dried up the water wells in the area.

Mr Demoz Kebebe, a representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said about 300 tons of grain and 18,000 litres of edible oil were distributed among the people some months ago.

This amounted to a kilogram or less for each person, he said.

The RRC estimates over 7 million people in the country now face starvation. - Sapa-Reuters.
NAIROBI — At least 250 people are known to have died in the past two weeks in a refugee camp in Kenya which houses Somalis and Ethiopians fleeing famine and civil wars in their own countries. Officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) say on average 15 people, mainly women and children, are dying daily at the Ifo camp, one of seven overcrowded camps on the Kenya-Somalia border.

Morine Connolly of the UNHCR said: "Most come on arrival, having walked some 600 km with little food or water. They are in appalling condition, some suffering more than skin and bones and many with gunshot wounds."

**Fleeing**

At the Ifo camp, 152 refugees died last week. In the neighboring Dagahaley camp, housing more than 30,000 Somalis, 400 people died in the last month and 135 are said to be dying every week.

Kenyan officials say more than 400 Somalis and between 800 and 1,000 Ethiopians flock into Kenya every day. The Somalis are fleeing inter-clan skirmishes which erupted following the overthrow of president Siad Barre more than a year ago. The Ethiopians are running away from a drought threatening up to 40 million Africans.

UNHCR is making a special appeal for an extra $15 million ($100.8 million) for relief purposes.

Thousands of skeletal figures came running when the plane swooped towards the landing strip in the Ethiopian hamlet of Dollo.

On the ground, ragged and emaciated men and women — some clutching their sick children — waited expectantly for long-promised food handouts as the party of journalists piled out of the aircraft.

Slowly, the crowds realised this was not to be the day. Defeated, they shuffled back to the makeshift camps which surround Dollo.

"There is no food, no water, no medical care. There is nothing here except death," said one camp resident.

Community leaders told journalists that more than 20 people die every day around Dollo, a remote spot near the Somali border.

The huge number of people now living around Dollo has dried up the water wells in the area.

Demoz Kebebe, a representative of the UNCHR, said about 900 tonnes of grain and 18,000 litres of edible oil were distributed among the people a month ago.

Ethiopia has appealed for 4 million tons of emergency food aid, but only a fraction of this has arrived.

"People are tired of Africa. It just never seems to get any better," lamented an aid worker based in Addis Ababa. — Sapa-Reuters.
Another example of how the process of training can be improved is by focusing on the training environment. The most successful training programs are those that are integrated into the daily operations of the organization. This can be achieved by involving employees in the training process and by creating a supportive learning environment.

Co-dependent Conference

This conference is designed to bring together professionals from various industries to discuss the latest trends and solutions in the field. The conference will feature keynote speakers, panel discussions, and interactive workshops. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with other professionals and learn from experts in their field.

AFRICA MIGRATES INTO AFRICA

A MIGRATES INTO AFRICA

The conference will focus on three main themes: innovation, education, and sustainability. Speakers will address these themes from various perspectives, including technology, business, and government. The conference is open to anyone interested in these topics and will be held in a state-of-the-art conference center. Please visit the conference website for more information and to register.

The conference website can be accessed at [www.africamigrates.com](http://www.africamigrates.com).
Africa puts out welcome mats

In times of dark pessimism, a heartening glimpse of roster prospects
AFRICA BRIEFS

Konare's election assured
MALI's main opposition leader,
Alpha Oumar Konare, a key figure in
the uprising which toppled military
dictator Moussa Traore, is
expected to win the second
round of Mali's presidential elections,
which currently stands at 16 percent
eighteen percent of eligible
voters turn out. The former teacher
won 70 percent of the vote cast. His
rival, Tiebele Mamadou Konate, won
30.07 percent, according to provisional
official results. The trial of ex-president
Traore on corruption charges will start
on April 30. He will stand trial with 39
members of his government, including
his former defence and interior ministers
and army chief of staff.

Senegal, Mauritania resume ties
SENegal and Mauritania re-established
diplomatic ties broken off three
years ago after a border dispute over
grazing rights in August 1989 sparked
bloody riots between the mainly Arab
Mauritanians and black Senegalese.
Human rights groups say that at least
40,000 black Mauritians were forcibly
expelled to Senegal and whole villages razed
by Mauritania's Arab-run army during the clashes.

Mugabe urged to sack cabinet
THE fighters who won Zimbabwe's
independence urged President Robert
Mugabe to sack his entire cabinet. He
was asked over the coals on Saturday
when he addressed the inaugural meet-
ing of the Zimbabwe National War
Veterans' Association, made up of for-
tmer fighters from Mugabe's Zimbabwe
African National Liberation Army
(ZANLA) and rival Joshua Nkomo's
Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary
Army (ZPRA). Numerous fighters
stood up to tell Mugabe their griev-
ances: no jobs, no land, no training, no
money, no influence. They charged
Mugabe's cabinet ministers were just
lining their own pockets and loading
the civil service with relatives and sup-
porters from their own regions.

Compiled by Mark Huband in Abidjan
and The Guardian staff.

A Grenade tossed into a crowded
market wounded 24 people last week in
the city of Cabinda, capital of Angola's
oil-rich northern province. The attack
comes amid spiralling violence as
guerrilla groups battle for independ-
ence from Angola. Last month, sepa-
ratists from the Front for the Lib-
eration of the State of Cabinda (FLEC)
raided Cabinda airport, killed nine
government soldiers and destroyed 10
buses belonging to the Cabinda Gulf
Oil Company, which operates Cabi-
da's oil fields.
Africa on course to grow poorer, Safto event told

THE West had confidence in SA’s future despite the volatile situation, OECD Development Centre director Jean Bonvin said yesterday.

Speaking in Johannesburg at the SA Foreign Trade Organisation (Safto) conference on investment in Africa, Bonvin said, however, all economic indicators pointed to Africa slipping deeper into poverty — when most other regions in the developing world were prospering.

More than two thirds of sub-Saharan Africa is classified by the World Bank as low-income — or having a per capita income of below $500 a year.

Bonvin said Africa’s main burden of the past was its external debt, but conceded this debt was perhaps not as large as that of Latin America. In 1990 African long-term external debt amounted to $23bn, equal to its GDP — with $14bn for sub-Saharan countries.

Official Development Assistance now exceeded 15% of GDP for more than half these countries with two thirds of imports being financed by aid.

Bonvin said the results of aid had been less satisfactory in Africa than elsewhere. It was clear aid favoured the exaggerated growth of the public sector — without making its expected contribution to growth.

He stressed a complete overhaul of public finance in Africa was essential for any revival of the economy.

Solutions included:

☐ Liberalising economies and bolstering political stability to attract foreign investment;

☐ Encouraging local investment by mobilising savings, restructuring the financial system and privatisation; and

☐ Creating an environment for private enterprise.

But Bonvin said the prospect of direct foreign investment in the Third World appeared uncertain — due to a looming world shortage of capital in the 90s.

He said there was the danger that Africa would become the forgotten continent since capital was being pumped into the restructuring of eastern Europe and the Middle East. “The fundamental problem is that Africa needs to change its image so that the investor sees it as a politically stable region, safe for its capital.”

Bonvin gave the assurance that if this was achieved investment capital would flow into Africa under the same yield conditions as in Asia.

Addressing the conference, Zimbabwean businessman Eddie Cross said transport was a vital ingredient in generating economic growth in southern Africa, and more than 90% of regional trade was carried by rail.

Cross, chairman of Cross Holdings and director of the Indian Ocean Export Company, said SA played an important role in the region’s transport infrastructure.

“SA has as many as 10 000 wagons and 50 locomotives north of the Limpopo at any one time, and carries 75% of the region’s exports and 50% of its imports,” he said.

The total rail capacity of the Southern African Development Conference Committee’s (SADCC’s) member states was half that of SA’s, he said.

Angolan ambassador to Namibia Alberto Ribeiro-Kabula told the conference Angola’s infrastructure was in a poor state and there were opportunities for SA businesses to help in Angola’s rehabilitation.

Ribeiro-Kabula outlined transport, energy, telecommunication and urban renewal as the four areas where Angola needed infrastructural aid. — Sapa.
Ghana yes to constitution

ACCRA - Ghanaians overwhelmingly approved a new constitution the military government says will lead to multiparty democracy but opposition groups say could keep Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings in power.

Ghana Radio said yesterday the constitution was approved by more than 90 percent in results available yesterday morning from two-thirds of the country's voting stations.

The radio gave no information on the percentage of the turnout. Opposition groups had been urging voters to boycott it.

There were no reports of violence, though a state-owned newspaper warned opposition groups would try to disrupt the vote. Political parties are banned. An attempt to hold a rally opposing the constitution was broken up by security forces last weekend.

The government has promised to legalise parties next month and move ahead with elections later this year.

Sapa-AFP
WASHINGTON - The World Bank is urgently preparing to help Southern Africa get over a severe drought that could spell disaster for more than 100 million people.

The bank's president, Mr Lewis Preston, told finance ministers gathered for the spring meeting of the bank and the International Monetary Fund in Washington on Tuesday that his agency was actively considering many forms of aid to counter what could prove to be the region's worst drought in decades.

Preston said the drought threatened to set back the considerable progress that countries in Southern Africa had made in overhauling their economies and reducing poverty.

The bank, which has dispatched experts to assess the crisis, believes substantial loans will be needed for critical imports of food, medicine and other supplies.

A report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation called for imports of at least 11 million tons of food in Africa for the year 1991/92, excluding South Africa, which might have to import three million tons.

The World Bank's sister agency, the IMF, is also proposing special measures to soften the blow of the drought.
African business group came to establish links.

A DELEGATION from the African Business Round Table this week visited the country to establish links with local businessmen.

The group comprised secretary-general Mr Etom Alintah from Nigeria, Mr Chris Kimbi from Kenya and Ms Catherine Mwanawambwa from Zambia.

Alintah said they were inviting interested businesspeople to the ABR's annual general meeting in Dakar, Senegal, on May 11.

The ABR, which advises the African Development Bank on private sector initiatives on the continent, also hopes to hold its AGM in South Africa later this year.

Alintah said the group holds two meetings in Africa and the third abroad every year.

"But this year, the ABR seeks to hold the third meeting in Johannesburg," he said.

"Your country has the industrial capacity, we have the markets. We are trying to develop links, contacts and friendships."

He said the group has also established the Private Sector Development Unit which has raised R675 million.

"We offer access to the PSDU for partnerships, equity and loans. As ABR represents business in every African country excluding South Africa, where we offer expanded markets.

"We believe that we should move faster than the politicians in setting up links with South Africa," he said.
LONDON—Britain's Princess Anne said yesterday that starvation threatened 30 million Africans and it was critical that governments and the UN did something about it. The princess, president of the Save the Children Fund, spoke at the launch of a new appeal by the charity for people to miss a meal and donate the price to famine relief.
Algeria's new military council has scrapped the first-round elections which had put the Islamic fundamentalists on a path to govern the North African state. But the desperate measure will not stop the tide of religious dissent in many Arab countries, writes a Special Correspondent:

THE STUNNING electoral victory of Islamic fundamentalism in Algeria was a protest against the corrupt Westernised secular rulers of that country. And though halted in their path for the moment, the result could still give credence to a domino effect on other Middle Eastern regimes linked to the West.

The greatest surprise in the Algerian vote is that it occurred in one of the Arab world's most Westernised countries, where virtually the entire population speaks French and the majority of the young are Western-educated.

In fact, fundamentalists have gained ground particularly in those Middle Eastern states with high levels of Westernisation — in Iran which was very Westernised under the Shah, and in Lebanon, which like Algeria, was a French colony.

The victory of Algeria's Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) comes as a paralysing blow to the efforts of secular democratic forces in the Arab world whose political principles are largely of Western origin. Existing regimes may now hesitate to hold free elections in which those secular forces had hoped to score advances.

While ordinary people may be wary that the fundamentalists could turn into dictators, the general feeling is

**ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS:** Demanding a share of power that they could not be as corrupt as the existing governments.

And the Algerian election results show the parties of the secular democratic opposition enjoy little popular confidence.

As democratic forces lamented their defeat after the Algerian poll, there was jubilation in countries with a strong Islamic presence such as Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Yemen and Jordan.

With the exception of Egypt and Morocco, these are the countries that opposed US-led war against Iraq.

Indeed, the fundamentalist victory in Algeria even draws support from some in the secular opposition because it represents a rejection of Western policy that led to the death of thousands of Iraqis — needless deaths, from an Arab perspective.

Algerians also well remember France's brutal suppression of their independence movement in which close to a million Algerians died.

If secular opposition forces in the Arab countries have been caught off balance by the FIS landslide, the pressure for democratic elections may now come from local fundamentalists demanding free elections and a larger share of power.

If their rulers do not give in, there is the implicit threat that the fundamentalists will attempt an Iranian-style revolution.

It remains to be seen whether Algeria's military council can keep the lid on the pot.

Meanwhile, the first domino after Algeria is likely to be Tunisia which already has a strong fundamentalist movement, Al-Nahda Al-Islamia, led by Rashid Al-Ghanushi.

Like the movement in Algeria, the Islamicists of Tunisia are part of a larger Islamic movement headquartered in Sudan where Ghanushi lives in exile and where he recently met with Iran's president Rafsanjani.

It is clear that while the Tunisian government resists open elections, Islamicists will push for a showdown. Their attack against Tunisian border troops from bases inside Algeria indicates the Tunisian fundamentalists are well-armed.

Next in line could be Morocco. Here the king has little choice but to appease the Islamicists because his legitimacy derives from being a descendant of the prophet.

If Islamicists came to power in all three of these North African countries, the stage will be set for them to connect with the powerful Islamic groups in Egypt, the largest country in the Arab world, with a population of over 50-million. Egypt's Islamic groups have showed their power through the assassination of president Sadat.

In spite of the fact that the government of President Hosni Mubarak arrested an estimated 8,000 Islamicists during the Gulf war, many groups are still at work, specially in the south where government control is minimal.

Egypt is already threatened by Sudan, whose military leader, Omar Al-Bashir, is under the control of the powerful Sudanese Islamic movement led by Hassan Al-Turabi.

Sudan recently concluded an alliance with Iran and its Islamic leaders are in close touch with Algeria's jailed fundamentalist leader Abbas Madani, as well as with Egyptian fundamentalist leaders like Ibrahim Shukri and Mounir Al-Hudaili.

Sudan's Al-Turabi has achieved a position among Sunni Muslims analogous to that of Ayatollah Khomeini in the Shi'a faith.

The final domino could be Israel's neighbour, Jordan, where Islamicists won 40 percent of the parliamentary seats in 1992, despite government obstruction. If another election is held in the near future, the fundamentalists are expected to take over.

Given these circumstances, the Arab world seems destined for greater turmoil as governments resort to more brutal methods to suppress a resurgent Islamic opposition, and the opposing forces predictably respond in kind.

Any help from Western powers to protect the existing authoritarian regimes from collapse is only likely to further fuel anti-Western and pro-Islamic sentiments.

With Algeria's military council ready to use force against FIS supporters, fears are developing of a civil-war in that country. — Pacific News Service.
Pressure mounts for democracy

Africa's democracy movement is on the move. This first of four articles argues that economic crisis is the motor.

Santorri Chamlay reports:

Internal and external pressure is mounting on Africa's autocratic regimes to democratise. As the continent experiences momentous changes, upheaval and uncertainty, its economic crisis deepens.

After three decades of repression and stagnation, in which the high hopes of democracy following successful independence movements in the 1950s and 1960s were buried, the past 18 months have witnessed dramatic changes in several countries.

Throughout Africa, from Mauritania to Lesotho, disillusioned and discontented Africans have been taking to the streets en masse to protest against bad and arbitrary government, systemic abuse of human rights, corruption, the breakdown of law and order and the ever-decaying living standards. They are demanding democratic reforms and are tentatively and painfully achieving them.

The new crusade for African democracy — reinforced by events in Eastern Europe and the growing international tendency to tie human rights violations to aid — has obliged many African dictatorships to convene national conferences on their countries' futures.

Africa is in the grip of an economic crisis which dates back to the late 1970s, because of economic mismanagement, environmental degradation, military conflict, a sharp decline in African commodity prices and the unsustainable weight of its debts.

By 1990, 33 countries were implementing austere SAPs (Structural Adjustment Programmes) or ERPs (Economic Recovery Programmes) as they are called in Ghana and Tanzania.

The ineffective response of regimes to their economic and political crises led to their overthrow by the National Conferences. Some, like Mali's Mr Moussa Traoré who held power for 23 years, were deposed. Others were voted out in relatively free elections.

In Benin, reformist and former Prime Minister Mr Nicéphore Soglo ousted Mr Mathieu Kérékou's military, socialist-style regime in a peaceful election a year ago.

In Zambia, Mr Frederick Chiluba took power last year after almost 30 years of Dr Kenneth Kaunda's socialist-style rule.

Opposition leaders also won elections in Sao Tome and Principe, and the Cape Verde Islands last year.

In Kenya, the new aid criteria — formulated by British Foreign Secretary Mr Douglas Hurd as, 'Those countries tending towards pluralism, public accountability, respect for human rights and market principles' — were coupled with greater dissent at home, and imperiled President Daniel arap Moi to promise elections.

Gambia, Niger, Madagascar, Mali, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Cameroon and Nigeria have also promised elections soon.

Prospects for democracy in Africa look promising. The tentative reforms achieved in countries like Zambia and Benin have resounded across the continent.

Positive changes which have occurred in the countries include: the establishment of opposition parties and independent publica-

---

Index on Censorship, London
DEMOCRACY in Africa is doomed if Western countries fail to prop up the ailing economies, says former Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda. At a democracy conference in Johannesburg this week, he said the developing world did not have a strong economic base to buoy democracy. "If the developed world does not help the developing world, I see a lot of problems coming." — Sapa.
SA set to get stake in $31bn project

SOUTH Africa is well placed to become a major supplier for a $31.2-billion project to improve telecommunications in Africa.

So says African Development Bank department of infrastructure and industry director Konezi Apetey, who attended a conference in Johannesburg this week on regional development.

Part of the project to boost Africa's telecommunications, a prerequisite for development, includes a regional African satellite communications system (Rascom).

Mr Apetey says feasibility studies on Rascom were completed last year. However, the final decision to set up a Rascom organisation will be taken in May at a meeting of African telecommunications ministers in Yaounde, Cameroon.

It is envisaged that Rascom will be a joint venture among African governments and private companies.

Mr Apetey says SA, once it has sorted out its political problems and become an Organisation for Africa Unity member, will be able to become part of Rascom.

SA is well advanced to make much of the equipment needed for the project.

Africa, excluding SA, has about 5.7-million direct exchange lines (DELa). This compares unfavourably with other continents. For example, South America has 21.5-million, North America 133.6-million and Europe 186-million.

The average penetration of DELa in Africa is 0.77 for 100 inhabitants compared with 60 in Europe and North America.

Mr Apetey says the objectives set by each African country in the Rascom feasibility study indicate that telephone density for Africa should reach about 2.5 by the year 2005.

This would require 19.8-million more phone lines at a cost of about $30-billion to African countries. Satellite connections could raise the bill by another $1.2-billion.
AFRICA will slip into deeper poverty while the developing world thrives.

This is according to Jean Bonvin, senior official of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, which groups top Western nations.

Speaking in Johannesburg at a conference on investment in Africa organised by the SA Foreign Trade Organisation, Bonvin said more than half the countries in Africa rely on foreign aid to finance two-thirds of their imports.

Unfortunately Africa has developed a bad name in the investment world as in the past aid has been used to finance the creation of large bureaucracies which contribute little to economic growth.

Any real revival in Africa depends on a new approach which includes a complete overhaul of public finance.

Bonvin said it would be tough to obtain foreign aid for Africa as capital was being pumped into the restructuring of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Africa needs to boost investor confidence and provide investors with real value for money.
Too many, too poor

The world's resources are adequate for the sustained development of the planet, if they are carefully used, says the United Nations Population Fund report.

But certain measures must be undertaken.

"The requirements will be to improve conditions for the world's 1.1 billion poorest people; to meet the legitimate aspirations of the three billion who are neither rich nor very poor; to cut the environmental cost of development and distribute its benefits more equitably," suggests the report.

Progress towards these goals calls, among other things, for slower population growth.

Currently, the world's population is 5.48 billion and will reach six billion in 1998.

"Nearly all this of this population growth will be in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Over half will be in Africa and south Asia, the report says.

Much depends upon action to reduce family size during the next decade.

Population growth is compounded by widespread poverty. This week the United Nations Population Fund released its The State of World Population, 1992 which highlights the population explosion. ZB MOLEFE looks at some figures published in the report.

Part of this action hinges on access to information and the means of deciding the size and spacing of the family.

The solution to this population time-bomb could lie in two areas — development of human and natural resources.

"Ending absolute poverty," improving health and education and raising the status of women could be a solution that would contribute to slower, more balanced population growth.

Special attention should be given to Africa and south Asia "where more than half of the increase in population and the majority of the world's absolute poor are found".
National campaigns ‘can outpace global strategies’

MANY international advertising agencies considering establishing global marketing strategies could be ignoring the power of national advertising, says TBWA head Bill Tragos.

Tragos, in SA to visit associated company Hunt Lazearis TBWA and to address the Financial Mail advertising conference, said in an interview the advertising industry had been hurt by comments that its future lay in global marketing.

Although global strategies, using one campaign to sell one product in an international market, was easier for clients and agency, this did not mean it was the best route to follow.

Advertising had to communicate the numbers and indications arising out of research and interpret them in a way that was meaningful, he said. SA advertising was a good example of advertising that had looked inward and become national following the sanctions era.

Tragos said TBWA, with 16 offices in 10 countries, was different in that it had no “headquarter country”, while other agencies groups were defined by the character of the nations they came from.

The agency’s development over the years was largely the result of it not being dominated by one country.

TBWA was founded by four people from four different nations, so it was born international, he said. The four founder members also had different skills — including business, marketing, creative and account skills — and each had promoted his strength.

Tragos said that in most of the countries in which it TBWA was represented, it had become the creative leader in its market. He spoke strongly against those marketers who said creative agencies did not take enough care of brand-building on their path to chasing awards.

He said advertising had to be memorable and charming, and creative advertising was the best way to build brands.

Good creative advertising was a dialogue between the advert and people, he said. Good advertising also did not need to be big budget, but rather the product of clients and agencies prepared to take risks.

Cape agencies in partnership

Two major Cape-based below-the-line advertising companies have concluded a partnership agreement.

The deal, between Ogilvy and Mather Righthof Searl-Trip and Makini (O & M) and Concept Marketing, will see Concept Marketing absorb O & M’s existing below-the-line agency, Promotional Campaigns (Cape), while O & M will have a shareholding in the new agency.

The two companies said the new agency would offer an enhanced promotion service to O & M’s clients under its new name, Concept/Promotional Campaigns. Current chairman, Martin Feinstein and MD Alan Radmal would remain in their positions.

The agency would be linked to 17 offices worldwide and will focus on consumer promotions, launches and sales promotion.

Feinstein said below-the-line advertising was growing rapidly, accounting for 85% of adspend overseas.

He said supermarkets, shopping centres and showrooms had turned into the battlefields of branch warfare, and strong promotion was a powerful weapon.

The new agency’s client base includes Shell, Arlenco Toys and Games, Lion Match, Warner-Lambert, EMI and Williams.

Saatchi to link up Africa

REPRESENTATIVES from advertising agencies throughout Africa attended a Saatchi & Saatchi Klerk & Barrett conference last week with a clear message — the African network of ad agencies.

Conference delegates said it was anticipated that this “miniature O&F” would herald an African network of Saatchi & Saatchi-associated agencies. About 12 agency groups in 18 countries have indicated they will be part of the network.

Delegates said it was likely the SA agency, which recently formed a partnership with Mozambique agency Institute, would become the major player in the African network, forming the base agency in Africa.

A Kenyan representative said other African countries would benefit in two ways. Firstly, from Saatchi & Saatchi Worldwide’s multinational clients, it’s reputation as a global agency, and secondly, from the major technological advances which would flow through associations with the SA agency.

The benefits of an African network have already been felt. The company has seen a significant increase in business in African countries.

The network would be headquartered in Johannesburg with further offices in other major cities.

Nando’s work

RED Nail advertising, formerly Initiative Johannesburg, has been awarded the prestige Nando’s advertising account.

Nando’s has won numerous creative advertising awards for its radio spots through its previous agency McCann-Erickson.

The account award follows soon after the recent award of the Times Media Limited advertising account to Red Nail. Red Nail was recently incorporated into the D’arcy Masius Benton & Bowles group.

Red Nail MD Jon Chau said the agency would create local and international advertising for Nando’s.

It would be responsible, too, for creating radio, TV, print and promotional advertising.
Japan may host African summit talks

Star Foreign Service

TOKYO — Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa may propose to President de Klerk during his June visit that Tokyo play host next year to a summit meeting of African nations on development.

Government sources in Tokyo said Mr Miyazawa and Mr de Klerk were likely to consider ways to boost bilateral trade and would also discuss opening an air link between the two countries.

Mr de Klerk, who will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Pik Botha, would meet Emperor Akihito during his visit from June 3 to 6.

Japan began to lift its restrictions on trade with Pretoria last June.
R800m aid for Africa

By CHRIS BATEMAN

LONDON. — Food shipments worth over £100 million (about R800m) will begin moving out from ports all over Europe “within weeks” for drought-stricken Southern African countries facing their worst crop failures ever. Experts forecast that up to 40 million people risk starvation in Mozambique, Malawi, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Zambia. Lady Chalker warned that in the next three months another 1.8m Mozambicans alone risked starvation. Yesterday’s British contribution included £7.5m (R37.5m) for Zambia and £5m (R25m) for Zimbabwe in the form of new balance of payments aid. Mozambique will get £5m (R25m) for food shipments and the other £2.5m (R12.5) will go to Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Namibia.
UK Leasing

Investment in developing countries continues to be the focus of many discussions around the world. Leasing companies are looking to expand their operations into new markets, particularly in emerging economies.

ACE Group has announced plans to expand its presence in India, where it currently has a small but growing market. The company has been in India for several years and has been slowly increasing its footprint in the country. With the recent changes in regulations, the company is now looking to expand its operations and take advantage of the growing market.

"We are excited about the potential of the Indian market and believe that our leasing solutions can help businesses grow," said Anthony Jones, ACE Group's CEO. "We are committed to investing in the country and look forward to working with local companies to help them achieve their goals."
Improved growth predicted for Africa

McDonnell Douglas predicts Africa's economic growth will outstrip that of the rest of the world in the short term and that air traffic with Europe will grow by more than 7% over the next eight years.

According to the company's recently published World Economic and Traffic Outlook, Africa could be expected to experience at least 3.1% growth a year over the next eight years.

The rest of the world was forecast to experience only 1% annual growth.

The company attributed the improving African economic growth rate to the change in foreign loan policies, political changes and the reduced influence of former east bloc countries on the continent.

The report also predicted SA would experience growth of about 0.4% this year, compared with -0.5% last year and -1.5% in 1990.

A result of economic growth would be increased air traffic. McDonnell Douglas predicted a 6.2% increase in domestic air travel for Africa this year, with a predicted growth rate of 7% a year for the rest of the decade.

Europe-Africa air traffic the largest volume of which was between Johannesburg and Europe, was expected to grow 7.8% this year, and

Increase 7.5% a year until the year 2000.

This was about 2.4% lower than the forecast world average for 1992 and about 0.4% higher than the forecast global average until 2000.

The company predicted Europe-Africa air freight would increase by about 10% this year, and by 8% a year over the next eight years.

This was in line with predicted growth for the rest of the world.
Three extremists to hang

ALGIERS — A military court in Algeria imposed death sentences on three men in the second trial of Muslim extremists this week. The three defendants in Blida and 13 fundamentalists sentenced to death after this week's earlier trial in Ouargla were all linked to the banned Islamic Salvation Front. The men were found guilty of murdering soldiers in an army camp.

Koreans in accord

SEOUL — The prime ministers of North and South Korea today signed three protocols designed to set up a treaty of reconciliation.
Ethiopia calls for food relief

ADDIS ABABA — Ethiopia appealed to the international community yesterday for emergency food aid.

"Thousands have died, many more have been displaced or have migrated," Ethiopian Prime Minister Tandle Layne said in an address to donor countries and UN organisations. — Sapa-Reuters.
100 killed in cave-in of illegally dug mine

FREETOWN — About 100 people were killed in Sierra Leone when an illegally-dug diamond mine caved in, police said yesterday.

The accident happened on Tuesday at Nyany in the diamond-rich eastern region of the impoverished West African country, which is about 300 km from Freetown.

Police said unlicensed miners dug a tunnel 10 m deep which collapsed.

Those who were in the pit were buried while others who were on the surface were trapped by the cave-in.

Police said the dead included would-be rescuers.

State radio said bodies were still being removed from the scene.

Sierra Leone remains one of the world's poorest countries despite rich mineral deposits. Illegal mining and smuggling are rife. — Sapa-Reuters.
African Round Table

Some lessons for SA

Members of the influential market-orientated African Business Round Table stopped in SA last week to assess the possibility of holding their next annual meeting in Johannesburg later this year.

Business & Technology

But members did far more than stop around for a suitable venue. Acting on the recommendations of African Development Bank chairman Babacar Ndiaye, who visited SA last month, the group is determined to convince local policymakers that a thriving, deregulated private sector offers the best means of achieving sustainable development and redistributing income.

The Ivory Coast-based group is a sort of roving African ambassador for the free market and SA is its latest mission.

Secretary-general Esem Allniah says: "Our aims are to attract foreign investment to Africa, promote intra-African trade and investment and strengthen Africa's private sector."

Allniah, a director of the Nigerian subsidiary of the US-based Ashland Exploration Co, says SA needs to privatise rapidly to help restore economic prosperity. "Government shouldn't worry about ANC opposition to privatisation — it's the right thing to do. Government has no choice. The sooner it privatises, the better for the country economically." He points out that more than 300 state-run enterprises in Nigeria have been privatised in recent years, in spite of stiff opposition from bureaucrats.

He says: "Privatising these organisations has increased efficiency. Government is not as broke as it used to be, goods are now delivered on time, and prices are competitive. Employees now receive their salaries monthly instead of every few months."

Allniah says nationalisation is simply not a viable choice for SA, adding that many South Africans appear to be confusing redistributing wealth through economic growth with the discredited option of redistributing wealth by "robbing Peter to pay Paul."

Allniah met ANC officials and invited the organisation to outline its economic policies to an international audience in Dakar on May 11.

The Nigerian has some advice on what the ANC should say. He stresses that the ANC needs a deregulated economy with free and fair competition. "Government need only provide the infrastructure. In short, government needs to pursue a policy of free enterprise."

He points out that most African countries are competing with one another to produce alluring investment codes to attract foreign investment. His group, he says, publicises this and other economic reforms. "Our message is that the business environment in Africa is improving dramatically as economic and democratic reforms are implemented throughout the continent."

The group would welcome widespread participation from SA, which is the only African country that is not represented. Says Allniah: "SA has the ability to produce and supply, cheaply, many of the products bought from Europe and the East."

Referring to the Nigerian market, Allniah says SA can export technology and services — financial, agricultural and engineering. "SA can especially export finished products in the petro-chemical area, while Nigeria can supply SA with the raw materials for these products."

Formed in 1987 as an informal advisory body to the African Development Bank, the business round table became an independent, nonprofit association in 1990 and has raised US$250m for private-sector development projects.
But members did far more than shop around for a suitable venue. Acting on the recommendations of African Development Bank chairman Babacar Ndiaye, who visited SA last month, the group is determined to convince local policymakers that a thriving, deregulated private sector offers the best means of achieving sustainable development and redistributing income.

The Ivory Coast-based group is a sort of roving African ambassador for the free market and SA is its latest mission.

Secretary-general Esom Alintah says: “Our aims are to attract foreign investment to Africa, promote intra-African trade and investment and strengthen Africa’s private sector.”

Alintah, a director of the Nigerian subsidiary of the US-based Ashland Exploration Co, says SA needs to privatise rapidly to help restore economic prosperity. “Government shouldn’t worry about ANC opposition to privatisation — it’s the right thing to do. Government has no choice. The sooner it privatises, the better for the country economically.” He points out that more than 300 State-run enterprises in Nigeria have been privatised in recent years, in spite of stiff opposition from bureaucrats.

He says: “Privatising these organisations has increased efficiency. Government is not as broke as it used to be, goods are now delivered on time, and prices are competitive. Employees now receive their salaries monthly instead of every few months.”

Alintah says nationalisation is simply not a viable choice for SA, adding that many South Africans appear to be confusing redistributing wealth through economic growth with the discredited option of redistributing wealth by “robbing Peter to pay Paul.”

Alintah met ANC officials and invited the organisation to outline its economic policies to an international audience in Dakar on May 11.

The Nigerian has some advice on what the ANC should say. He stresses that the ANC needs a deregulated economy with free and fair competition. “Government need only provide the infrastructure. In short, government needs to pursue a policy of free enterprise.”

He points out that most African countries are competing with one another to produce alluring investment codes to attract foreign investment. His group, he says, publicises this and other economic reforms. “Our message is that the business environment in Africa is improving dramatically as economic and democratic reforms are implemented throughout the continent.”

The group would welcome widespread participation from SA, which is the only African country that is not represented. Says Alintah: “SA has the ability to produce and supply, cheaply, many of the products bought from Europe and the East.”

Referring to the Nigerian market, Alintah says SA can export technology and services — financial, agricultural and engineering. “SA can especially export finished products in the petro-chemical area, while Nigeria can supply SA with the raw materials for these products.”

Formed in 1987 as an informal advisory body to the African Development Bank, the business round table became an independent, nonprofit association in 1990 and has raised US$250m for private-sector development projects.
SA, Kenya ‘must be a force’ in Africa

PRETORIA. — South Africa and Kenya should become regional African locomotives, along with Nigeria and Egypt in the north, Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said in Pretoria yesterday.

Speaking at a ceremony where he and his Kenyan counterpart Mr Wilson Ndolo Ayah signed an agreement to establish representative offices, Mr Botha said other African countries could then be grouped between these engines.

“Then Africa becomes a voice that can be heard in the world once more.”

Kenya’s economic policy was much like South Africa’s, said Mr Botha, and it was a country with tremendous progress in all walks of life.

Mr Ayah said the two countries should co-operate in order to share their resources “so that we can develop”.

“Because Africa has been relegated to a very backward position in the world for a long time, we need each other to come out of this position.”

There were comparisons between what was happening in South Africa and Kenya.

“We look forward to further economic development for our people internally, so that we can also look outwards towards the Africa region,” said Mr Ayah.

Kenya, like South Africa, was working for regional development and co-operation and Mr Ayah was “looking forward to a better future” for both countries. — Sapa.
African bank conference to focus on SA

ABIDJAN — SA’s membership of the African Development Bank (AfDB) will be one of the main issues discussed at the bank’s annual meeting which opens in Dakar, Senegal, today.

Apart from the main four-day meeting, the AfDB is hosting a special conference on SA in transition which is set to attract keen attention.

“SA will be a major, major thing,” one AfDB source said.

“Pretoria can’t formally be a part of the meeting because it’s not a member yet, but that is clearly the way the bank sees its future going.”

SA is sending Foreign Ministry officials and Southern African Development Bank acting CEO Andre la Grange to promote contacts.

AfDB sources say they also expect SA Deputy Finance Minister Theo Alant and political groups. — Sapa-Reuters.
NAIROBI - Thousands of people marched in the streets of Ethiopia's capital demanding the restoration of the monarchy, Ethiopia radio reported.

The Sunday night broadcast said an estimated 5,000 marchers in Addis Ababa called for immediate return of Abuna Selassie, son of the late Emperor Haile Selassie. Selassie, 12/15/92.

Abuna (78), who is the only claimant to the throne, is presently in exile. - EPA
Aid diplomacy could benefit rich and poor nations

STARR 12/17/92

A couple of generations ago, when a Great Power wanted to impose its will on a small nation it sent a gunboat with an ultimatum: "Do what we want or we will blast you to smithereens". Usually the little nation unhappily submitted and it was not necessary for the gunboat to fire a shot.

Today these things are done with a little more refinement but the method is just as effective. The Great Power simply makes it known that if the small nation does not do what is required of it then its aid will be cut off. In other words, its economy will be blasted to smithereens.

The main difference between the old style and the new is that nowadays the Great Powers usually act in the name of morality rather than out of greed. And because of that, and the fact that they are no longer competing over colonies or ideologies, they tend to act in concert.

So rather than demanding the right to exploit a little country's natural resources or to take over its territory, the Great Powers demand that it abandon totalitarian government, desist from jailing people without trial and torturing them, introduce multi-party and free-market political-climatic norms or clean up official corruption.

That is all fine except that the Great Powers are not always greatly concerned about morality in little countries that have no special importance of their own. High-mindedness has seldom in the affairs of man been as compelling a motivation as self-protection or greed. So the moral arm-twisting tends to be executed with about the same dilgence as the provision of economic aid.

Both tend to be applied only when the Great Power feels like it. And both always seem somehow to be aimed at improving the self-image of the Great Power rather than the living standards of the little nation.

Africa, which has experienced a great deal of gunboat diplomacy in the past, is now being subjected to a certain amount of the newer form of persuasion. But not to a very great extent, for Africa is being marginalised by the Great Powers.

Their attitude seems to be that Africa is actually marginalising itself by manifesting a chronic inability to solve its problems even with aid from the Great Powers, and that the money is better spent in Eastern Europe or elsewhere where the people seem to have a greater facility for self-improvement.

There is a double tragedy in this. It is not only Africa that stands to suffer from it but also the Great Powers themselves. For the African countries will quietly decline in isolation. They will do things like chopping down their rain forests faster than before in a desperate attempt to earn foreign exchange. They will exploit whatever other natural resources they have with increasing-ly less concern about possible environmental damage. Existing deserts will expand and new ones created.

The African countries will burn fossil fuels with minimal concern for air pollution. All of this will alter international norms, exacerbating not least the potentially disastrous greenhouse effect.

Diseases will flourish and may not always condescend to remain in Africa.

Neither will desperate masses who will try to flee Africa for kinder shores, including those of the Great Powers. And, since democracy cannot exist in poverty, human rights will be one of the first casualties.

It would be far wiser, surely, for the Great Powers to approach the problem of declining Africa with more imagination than they have so far shown.

For instance, instead of paying as little as possible for Africa's hardwoods, why not pay inflated prices and make them conditional on the renewal of forest resources? The money would be far better spent on military hardware and the Great Powers could still regard it as a security investment.

"Ask not for whom the bell tolls..."
A Senate hearing is told that, contrary to claims that the US is building military bases in Africa, money is being used to support democratic changes there.

By HUGH ROBERTSON in Washington.

We are realists and we recognize that Africa's military forces have been privileged institutions for over three decades. We know they are reluctant to yield their current institutional power. Like their civilian counterparts, African military institutions are learning a great deal from democratic models of civilian-military relations and it is their continued exposure to, and indoctrination in, democratic values which is a constant theme of our military assistance programmes.

"Our experience has shown that professional military-to-military links are an effective means of communicating these values to African military leaders." As part of the US effort to "make do with less", a regional military fund for Africa was set up last year to allow the US to support a number of programmes such as military civic action, fisheries and wildlife protection, and peacekeeping.

"In the future, the regional fund will also be a source of funding for US military teams which will advise African countries on downsizing (reducing) and restructuring their military forces. Force levels which can be managed and maintained from their own national funds without requiring concessional assistance."

Mr. Woods told the subcommittee that US strategic interests in Africa were "very modest". He added: "We have no interest in establishing a major or permanent military presence. We are satisfied with the arrangements for transit and occasional facilities usage which we do have. We station no troops, have no bases and home-port no ships there."

"There are fewer than 300 US military personnel assigned in sub-Saharan Africa and the majority of those are US Marine guards at our embassies. The balance are almost entirely defence attaches and security assistance staff personnel."
Welcome to Mogadishu

MOGADISHU - "Ah good, they've changed the seat covers," said a United Nations official ushering a visitor into his official car in the war-torn Somali capital.

"A Somali guard in the back was shot dead last week. The bullet came in through the window. The whole back of the car was a bit slippery for a while, a bit gruesome."

Where the guard had bled to death was another young recruit guarding his foreign charges with a battered Italian rifle.

"Hello," he smiled at the visitor. "Welcome to Mogadishu."

Peace and normality, of a sort, prevail in Mogadishu since the factions which ousted President Mohamed Siad Barre in January last year agreed to end an internal feud which has killed at least 50,000, made thousands refugees and reduced the city to bricks and mortar.

Relief food is being handed out. The guns loyal to self-styled President Ali Mahdi Mohamed and his rival warlord, Mohamed Farah Aidid, are almost silent in a city which has known only war for 18 months.

But gun law still rules, there is no recognised government and no foreigner and few Somali men can move around town without armed guards past checkpoints made from refrigerators, broken camshafts or broken tyres.

The guns are in the hands of cheerful young men and could have come from a 1945-1991 guide to the world's second-hand arms market. Missiles have even been ripped from Soviet-made MiG fighters and mounted on looted jeeps.

Daily life is surreal.

Aid workers compare the atmosphere to the cult 1980s Mad Max movies in which Western-style plots were set against the Australian outback wilderness of a post-holocaust age by goodies and baddies in souped-up doomsday machines.

Toyota Land Cruisers and Mercedes-Benz saloons mounted with machine guns and bristling with boys and their weapons scream around the city. Many have been hired by the UN as guards and are called "technicals." No one knows why.

Mad Max

"But in Mad Max, it was obvious that (Australian actor) Mel Gibson was the hero. In Mogadishu, it's hard to know whose side anyone is on, unless their technical is flying a UN or aid agency flag," a European doctor said.

By mid-afternoon, the boys on the technicals have the glazed but chemically alert eyes of Somalis high on Qat, a mildly narcotic leaf grown in Kenya and flown in daily in small planes. Drug ownership is one of the main causes of fighting now.

"Qat is the only thing that keeps these boys going," said Carl Howorth of Care International, who hired scores of men and technicals to keep armed looters away from the first consignment of food to dock.

Ali Mahdi's own men take delivery of their quota of relief food and drive it across the "green line" dividing the city to feed their supporters.

Lawlessness, rampant for months, is now only sporadic. But the potential for a return to anarchy is huge, aid workers say. "One big clash and we could start all over again," said a senior UN official.

There are fantastic but true stories of life in chaos. An Egyptian diplomat was roused from a quiet evening in front of his video by gunmen who stole his television, the video, all his furniture and an expensive Swiss watch.

"Then they came back the next morning and offered to show the watch back to him. He bought it, but that evening they came and stole it again," said a UN colleague.

A "minister" asked the UN to reinstate the city water supply and guided their staff to 17 of his private, commandeered homes which he said deserved priority treatment.

He offered the use of sophisticated drilling equipment he had bought from an aid agency warehouse.

Surrealism reigns supreme. Medecins sans Frontieres and other charities who nurse the casualties of conflict move about in jeeps mounted with the very guns which inflicted so many of the wounds in the first place.

Mr Abdulahi Mohamed Ahmed was a student of behavioural psychology. Now he is a warrior and will happily diagnose Somalia's ills after a good dose of Qat.

Cradling an AK-47, feet draped over a machine gun, he says: "The main problem is Siad Barre. What we are witnessing now is the result of his policies of divide and rule."

The fact that Mr Siad Barre fled 18 months ago and is now in exile does not alter his argument.

"It is his legacy. That is why we are fighting," he says.

It is a bizarre city of 1.2 million people where shell shock or post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as doctors call it, is as common as the weapons that caused it.

"PTSD arises from exposure to a traumatic event outside the range of human experience, in which the person is both terrified and helpless," the American lobby group Africa Watch says.

"In Mogadishu, the events likely to cause it include witnessing or being in firesights, seeing summary executions, being the victim of shelling or witnessing severe injury or the painful death of a loved one."

"If that's the definition, then I reckon about 1.2 million people here have PTSD. Where's my technical? Let's go," the UN official told his visitor. - South African Press Association - Reuters.
DAKAR — The African Development Bank opened its three-day annual meeting yesterday in the Senegalese capital.Insinye by hopes that a post-apartheid SA would strengthen the continent's economy, but worried it could take a decade to reverse falls in living standards since 1980.

The bank is expected to savour a modest improvement in fortunes in 1991, when economic growth for the continent, excluding SA, edged up to 2.5% from 2.1% in 1990.

But with a population of 500-million people growing faster than anywhere in the world at 3.1% annually, individual incomes fell again.

The bank, in a briefing paper, estimated it would take seven to 10 years of sustained, real economic growth at 4% annually to recover per capita income losses suffered in the '80s.

The bank's Babacar Ndiaye told a pre-conference seminar SA had a key role to play as an engine of economic recovery, but Pretoria would not immediately start channeling investments to African nations. Once SA revived its economy, it had a role to play.

He would welcome SA membership of the bank. According to bank statutes, however, SA must first become part of the OAU.

SA officials, who took part informally in last year's meeting of the bank, will attend officially this week for the first time as observers. The ANC will also take part.

Derek Auret, deputy director-general in SA's Foreign Ministry, said regional integration of economies was vital as regional blocs were being formed in North America, Europe and the Far East. — Sapa-Reuters.
Africa Hope

New S.A. Giving

By Erin Lozano

Business

Carole on Currencies

By Carol Johnson

Rand Losing Ground to $ 3.15/1.2

Jan 13, 92

The Star Wednesday May 13, 1992
Europe announces food aid to Africa

The European Community is to provide food aid worth £154 million for African countries struck by drought. Of the 300,000 tons of wheat to be purchased, some 600,000 tons is to be distributed in southern Africa and the Horn of Africa. Maize, beans and vegetable oil will also be supplied. European relief aid will be handled by non-governmental organizations already in the field, including the Red Cross and the World Food Programme. EC officials in Brussels said that as soon as they made purchases on the world markets, particularly South American maize, shipments could begin within a week. The EC itself has a grain stock of about 18 million tons.

Sierra Leone calm with new leader

The calm has returned to Sierra Leone's capital, Freetown, following the military coup last week which toppled the seven-year rule of President Joseph Momoh. A governing council of military officers headed by Captain Valentine Strasser is currently ruling Sierra Leone. Strasser (27) was welcomed this week at a rally by crowds of thousands who greeted him as an example of young, dynamic leaders. As a result of looting and violence in Freetown after the coup, the United States airlifted its nationals out of the country while France evacuated its tourists by sea. It is expected the return to law and order will convince those countries to allow their nationals to return.

Food aid arrives in Mogadishu

In a desperate attempt to stave off mass starvation in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, the distribution of emergency food aid has finally begun. A United Nations-chartered ship which docked in Mogadishu on Sunday off-loaded more than 5,000 tons of wheat. The International Committee of the Red Cross brought relief food ashore from a vessel anchored off Gezira Beach, south of Mogadishu. These food shipments are the first to reach Mogadishu since November, when serious fighting between rival factions forced the closure of the port.
Africa pleads for more debt relief

DAKAR — Africa's top banker yesterday called for more debt relief for his continent, amid warnings that its people are worse off now than in the early days of independence.

Babacar Ndiaye, president of the African Development Bank (AFDB), urged creditors to increase concessions introduced last year on debt repayments of low-income countries, and to extend the easier terms to more countries.

"Clearly, relief measures in place continue to be inadequate," he said, opening the Bank's three-day annual meeting.

Low-income countries were able to meet only four-tenths of scheduled repayments in 1991, he said. He said the continent's economy remained fragile after growing 2.4 percent in 1991, lagging well behind AfDB estimates for population growth of 3.1 percent — Sapa-Reuters.
DAKAR. — Africa's top banker has pressed for more debt relief for his continent, amid warnings that its people are worse off now than in the early days of independence.

Babacar Ndiaye, president of the African Development Bank (AfDB), urged creditors to increase concessions introduced last year on debt repayments of low-income countries, and to extend the easier terms to more countries.

"Clearly, relief measures in place continue to be inadequate," he said, opening the Bank's three-day annual meeting.

Write-downs and other relief trimmed Africa's foreign debt to $971bn last year from $286bn in 1990.

Yet, Ndiaye said, low-income countries were able to meet only four-tenths of scheduled repayments in 1991. Middle income debtors had also suffered severe difficulty meeting debt dues.

He said the continent's economy remained fragile after growing 2.4% in 1991, lagging well behind AfDB estimates for population growth of 3.1%.

Revised estimates released shortly before he spoke showed the economy slowed for the third year in a row in 1991, rather than improving slightly as the Bank reported earlier.

Recession in leading industrialised countries had depressed prices for Africa's commodity exports, while southern Africa was now in the grip of a devastating drought. With a population of over 600 million people growing faster than anywhere else in the world, indiv

Africa in dire need of debt relief — banker

Individual incomes fell again, having dropped by 15% in the 1980s, a Bank briefing paper said.

"People are, on average, worse off today than they were three decades earlier, with poverty and deprivation threatening to expand," it said.

The Bank believed it would take seven to 10 years of sustained, real economic growth at 4% a year to restore per capita incomes to 1980 levels, it added.

To achieve economic growth averaging 5% annually, Ndiaye said, Africa would need more than $60bn a year in foreign funding throughout the 1990s.

Figures released separately showed this was barely half the $130bn annually which the Bank feels is needed to achieve economic growth at the 5% annual rate to the year 2000, indicating a need for Africa to generate substantial resources too.

Ndiaye, declaring that Africa must take the lead in shaping its destiny, said its economies must become viable and reliable homes for foreign and local business. — Sapa-Reuters
Renewed pledge to rescue shaky African economies

DAKAR — Industrialised countries have renewed their commitment to financing a rescue of Africa's floundering economies, allaying fears aroused by aid demands from eastern Europe and the former Soviet bloc.

They told the annual meeting of the African Development Bank on Wednesday, this should go hand-in-hand with reforms by African countries themselves. These ranged from efforts to develop market economies, attract investors, alleviate poverty, protect the environment and curb Africa's 3.1% annual growth in population.

"We will continue to be an active partner in collaboration in extending assistance to (African) countries ... making adequate self-help efforts," said Japan's International Finance Bureau deputy head Sugi-saki Shigemitsu.

He echoed sentiments expressed by delegates from the US, Britain, Canada and the Netherlands.

The meeting was told Africa's economy slowed for the third successive year in 1991, recording growth of 2.4% compared with 3.6% in 1990. Living standards fell again, to their lowest levels in 30 years.

Growth of 4% a year throughout the 1990s was needed just to maintain existing living standards, said UK delegate Peter Freeman.

Conditions beyond Africa's borders were unlikely to help it much and modest gains at best were forecast for commodity prices.

Freeman said the budgets of developed countries were also constrained. This made it unrealistic for Africa to expect any substantial increase in overall aid in the next few years.

Wellington outlined US economic policy towards Africa — helping to meet social and other needs while stressing the merits of democracy and free markets. — Sapa-Reuters.
WHO's Health for All Initiative

WHO's Health for All Initiative targets to eliminate major health problems by 2000. This initiative aims to achieve the following goals:

1. Universal access to primary health care
2. Elimination of major health problems
3. Improvement of health status
4. Promotion of health education
5. Strengthening of health systems

WHO's Health for All Initiative is supported by the global community, including governments, health organizations, and civil societies. It focuses on improving health outcomes and equitable access to health services, particularly in low-income countries. The initiative emphasizes the importance of collaboration and partnership among all stakeholders to achieve its goals.
The aid show hits Somalia

International aid has finally come to Somalia, but experts warn against creating an aid-dependent society, JONATHAN CLAYTON reports.

After months of hesitation, the international aid show has finally come to Somalia and is playing to packed houses.

In the space of a few months, the bombed-out capital of Mogadishu is a city transformed.

Virtually every street now has a feeding centre or make-shift hospital, many hastily set up after the world’s conscience was pricked by television pictures of dying babies.

Mogadishu airport is busier than it has been for years with military transport planes loaded with grain flying for space with light passenger aircraft ferrying in teams of aid workers.

"Things are beginning to go very well now. The other day the airport was like an international one," the UN's special representative for Somalia, Mohamed Sahmoun, said.

Since his appointment earlier this year, Sahmoun has struggled hard to force the world to treat the Somali tragedy with the same urgency it has attached to other world crises, from Cambodia to former Yugoslavia.

"If we had come earlier we could have avoided so much and our work would have been so much easier," he said during Sunday's visit by Irish President Mary Robinson.

Robinson was the first head of state to witness at first hand one of the worst famines of the 20th century.

She too attacked the UN for having been slow to help "the devastated and bleeding people of Somalia".

But the message appears to be getting through.

Hardly a day now passes without the arrival of a senior delegation of one sort or another. Teams of newly-arrived volunteers from non-governmental organisations tour the capital looking for premises to serve as base camps.

But for the Somalis, the newcomers are good news, and not just for the rows of hungry in the feeding centres.

Their arrival has meant a massive influx of funds into the destroyed economy.

Houses rented out in the "aid enclave" of south Mogadishu cost on average $3,000 (about £4,000) a month. Somalis have been employed as secretaries, fixers, cooks, cleaners and chauffeurs.

While praising the developments, many aid experts caution that the world community must act quickly to avoid creating an aid-dependent society. "We have to give them the incentive to go back to the land," said Ian Macleod of the UN Children's Fund.

"It is essential for the international community to provide long-term support," he said.
Ghana: a lesson that needs to be learnt for SA

SOUTH Africans will find a welcoming attitude in Africa only if they behave appropriately and modify their expectations, writes BEN TURKOV.

So WHITE South Africans are taking the first tentative steps into Black Africa, as businessmen or tourists. This is a welcome development, but if it is to continue they had better adjust their prejudices and their behaviour.

Africa is generous and forgiving and forgetting, as the former colonial powers discovered. South Africans will also find a welcoming attitude if they behave appropriately and modify their expectations.

Conditions in Africa have deteriorated seriously in the past few years, and we need to try and understand the reasons. Visitors like Al Venter who went blundering in Ghana recently (Saturday Star, May 9) don't help us to do so.

He mistakenly saw hygiene, muddy drinking water, poverty, joblessness and overpopulation.

What are the reasons for Africa's decline? First there is state tyranny. Venter is right to point a finger at President Rawlings and we could identify many others in Africa. But are we right to be indignant about that? What if we compared, not the standards of Ghana and African, but the repression of PWV SA with that of Africa and we would not emerge very well.

And Ghana is moving to democracy, just as haltingly as we are.

Secondly, there is the economy. Ghana has remitted basically a cocoa producer and exporter, even though its terms of trade for Africa as a whole had deteriorated by 50 percent in the past decade.

While the world's cocoa prices stood up to a fall of 50 percent in one year (1998), its cocoa export dollars to Ghana had to fall. A typical Third World phenomenon (one that cannot be relieved by depending on gold exports, as Venter recommends).

Thirdly, there is foreign intervention. Although Ghana has been the most favoured country in Africa by the IMF and World Bank, its economy has not improved. Most of the social problems to be found in Ghana, unemployment, beggary, and so on, are direct products of the structural adjustment programme imposed by the IMF in return for loans to meet balance of payments deficits.

Ghana also faced redundancies, strike action, and a decline in tourism. As one who travels widely in Africa, I am aware of the difficulties and the sea of problems that visitors have to put up with. There are corrupt officials at airports and I am sure Venter's problems were related to that and not a desire to be unpleasant.

And there are, indeed, problems with food, hygiene and so on, as there are in any Third World country. But Africa has many delights to offer us if we enter it in its own terms. This continent, which has been so battered by bad leaders, wrong policies and a hostile world economic system, remains full of charm and interest.

The people are warm and friendly, their culture is rich and enthralling, and they have learnt much from their experiences. Would that South Africans were willing to learn the lessons of underdevelopment so that we do not go through the same process.

Indeed, if white South Africans were willing to go into Black Africa in a spirit of inquiry, and be a little less judgmental, this continent could escape many of the errors that we seem to be determined to commit out of blind ignorance.

The prime candidate in this country, as it is for Africa, is population control. Foreigners always seem too willing to lay down rules for Africans on this fundamental issue. Equally, Africans reject this, especially in poverty-stricken areas, on the sensible grounds that children are an asset, when production is multiplied by manual work, and where children are the only insurance against insecurity in old age.

Finally, let intending visitors take account of their responsibilities in building a new spirit in human relations in Africa based on mutual sympathy, understanding and respect. We know that white South Africans have much to learn in this area, but we can at least try to enter a new era.

The author is director of the Institute for African Alternatives (IPAA) and author of "Africa: What Can Be Done?"
Africa's bank declares war on poverty

DAKAR — Africa's top development bank has declared war on poverty and one of its key battles will be against population growth, which, at 3.2% a year, far outstrips growth in other continents.

The war against poverty is one of four strategies for the next five years adopted by the African Development Bank (AfDB) at its annual meeting which ended in Dakar on Thursday.

In a continent where economies have been ravaged by heavy foreign debt, depressed prices for mineral and farm exports, civil strife and severe drought, people are worse off on average than 30 years ago, it said.

"If the regional growth pattern of the 1980s is repeated in the 1990s, per capita incomes will fall 20% below today's levels," said Peter Freeman of Britain's Overseas Development Administration.

Yet there is no sign of any wide-spread economic recovery soon in Africa, which must now compete against the former Soviet bloc and eastern Europe for aid.

"The downward trend in the African economy has been aggravated by the rapid rate of population growth. Agricultural production has not kept pace with population growth, with the result that Africa has to depend on food imports," said AfDB president Babacar Ndiaye.

Bank officials say it demands political will and extensive family planning education to change attitudes in African societies which have traditionally valued large families.

Failure will be costly.

"Even if fertility rates were to fall immediately to replacement levels, it would take several decades before the increase in Africa's population growth would be arrested," said AfDB vice-president Perhat Lemos.

Other strategies in the five-year plan include rebuilding facilities damaged by neglect or war, promoting the private sector and setting up an African common market by the year 2025.

Industrialised countries reassured Africa that official development aid, which accounts for more than 40% of all investment in the continent, will continue to flow.

But they said Africa would also need substantial private investment to recover and it could attract this only if African states developed market economies, upheld the rule of law and made appropriate reforms to tax and other economic legislation.

The World Bank estimates that returns on private investment in Africa have fallen from over 20% in the 1960s to 3.5% in the 1980s. Returns in south Asia average 26% or more, the meeting was told. — Sapa-Reuters.
LAGOS — Ousted Somali president Mohamed Siad Barre arrived in Lagos from Kenya yesterday and was granted temporary political asylum by Nigeria's military government.

The foreign ministry said it was giving him and his family temporary asylum as part of efforts by Nigeria, current leader of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), to bring peace to Somalia.

Foreign Minister Ike Nwachukwu has been sent to Somalia to try to arrange national reconciliation talks in Nigeria's new capital, Abuja.

Mr Siad Barre was forced out of the Somali capital Mogadishu in January 1991. He crossed into Kenya last month after warlord Mohamed Farah Aideed attacked his stronghold near the border. — Sapa-Reuters.
No magic wands around for that economic miracle

THE floodgates to the rest of Africa are opening up rapidly for South Africa. Sanctions are teetering on the brink, and their end is bound to be hastened by the call for their abandonment by the deputy president of the African National Congress, Walter Sisulu.

The visit by President de Klerk to Nigeria has cleared the way for trade and other links between the two African countries with the greatest economic clout. A political seminar held in Cairo, which was attended by South African and Egyptian academics and politicians, also forged new links.

Except for Zimbabwe and, to a lesser extent, Namibia, opportunities for South Africa’s trade links now exist with the entire continent.

Apart from the European Community and some of the countries in the Far East, the markets of Africa hold the greatest prospect for South Africa.

However, the great test for Pretoria is likely to be its success in developing economic co-operation within southern Africa.

Superficially seen, an economic grouping would appear to offer great advantages to all 10 countries in the region. But the difficulties of establishing structured institutional relations are formidable.

These difficulties are rigorously examined by the South African economist, Jemond Blumenfeld, in a study sponsored by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London.

His central theme is the relationship of dependence and interdependence among countries of greatly varying economic strength and political agendas.

Blumenfeld cites as one reason for caution the, as yet, uncertain future strength and prosperity of the South African economy itself.

A second reason he advances is the uncertain future economic prosperity of the region as a whole, including the scale of cross-border economic relations. This will depend upon the political stability in the region, and upon the domestic economic policies pursued by each of the governments. Future stability remains an open question.

Beyond these reasons, Blumenfeld argues that the conditions for translating the “need” for economic co-operation into effective practice are not matched by evidence of a general desire for reconciliation and rapprochement.

Blumenfeld goes on to say that effective economic co-operation universally requires politically difficult choices and adjustments, including surrender of some sovereignty.

“The experience of the Southern African Development Co-operation Conference (SADCC) has confirmed that sovereignty is not likely to be surrendered very readily in southern Africa, with or without apartheid.”

It would therefore be prudent to discount grandiose ideas about a southern Africa Common Market.

“The belief that in the post-apartheid era, conflict between South Africa, on the one hand, and the neighbouring states, on the other, will evaporate, is too simplistic partly because the nature and duration of the transition to majority rule in South Africa and because the characteristics and strength of the post-apartheid economic system are still too uncertain.

“There is — and will remain — throughout southern Africa a legitimate fear that South Africa, however governed, will always exercise overweening economic power over its neighbours. This fear will need to be addressed before there can be any prospect of creating a prosperous regional order.”

Blumenfeld believes that, in practice, the emphasis on regional economic co-operation is likely to remain on more ad hoc and essentially bilateral arrangements.

Blumenfeld discounts the scope for Western policy in the region. His cautious conclusion is that southern Africa may not be capable of the “economic miracles” which Western Europe and the Pacific Rim have achieved.

“There has been too much economic dislocation in southern Africa and there remain too many political imponderables and too many reasons to fear the alternative scenario in which the region would be consigned to increasing despair and decline.”
African skies can be a risky venture

INVESTIGATE first, should be the watchword for South African tourists eager to see Africa as it opens its doors to the south. But we can also expect increasingly available and affordable holidays on the continent.

Travel agency MD Eric Thorne generally welcomes the lifting of the travel restrictions by several African countries following the current and planned political changes here.

But he advises potential holiday-makers to visit their travel agents for advice before plunging themselves and their families into holidays which can turn out to be very different to what was expected.

While Africa is offering previously unavailable holidays at very competitive prices, Mr. Thorne includes destinations such as Mozambique, Madagascar, Zaire and Angola in his “be careful” list.

But Kenya and Zimbabwe rate favourable ticks in a prospective South African traveller’s notebook.

“In many cases, the tourist infrastructure of these destinations is insufficiently developed to cater to the needs of travellers accustomed to first world standards,” he warns.

Mozambique, for instance, offers very little in the way of top quality accommodation outside the Polana Hotel in Maputo.

“Yet the towns are still very much Portuguese in style, the seafoods and the wines are in the top class, the nightlife is colourful and remains exotic and extravagant.”

Mr. Thorne reiterates that prospective tourists should get information regarding visa conditions and whether any levies are imposed from a travel agent before setting out, adding: “And, make sure conditions are suitable before taking your children along, too.”

Madagascar he rates as a good example of a country lacking in infrastructure. Few good roads exist which means visitors must largely rely on aircraft to move from place to place.

Avoid

Angola and Zaire he describes as destinations which South Africans would be wise to avoid at present because of civil unrest.

But many African countries will eventually become favoured destinations, he predicts.

“South African tourists are proving keen to discover their own continent as well as going abroad.”

Heading the popularity stakes are Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi and Mozambique, he says.

TRENDS REPORTER
African bankers seek links

ABUJA — West African bankers will seek ways of linking national currencies to help boost economic integration and fight poverty at talks which started in Nigeria yesterday.

"Harmonising the currencies is critical to the survival of the subregion," said Tony Nnachetta, a manager with Nigeria's Alpha Merchant Bank.

He said the region's central bank governors and officials from the West African Clearing House and the West African Bankers' Association would discuss the issue at meetings this week.

Senior bankers from the region and representatives of the World Bank, the IMF and the UN economic commission for Africa were also expected to attend.

Nnachetta said it was vital for West African nations to move quickly towards economic integration, especially in the light of an emerging single European market with a common currency.

West African nations were examining regional policies that could cushion their fragile economies from possible adverse effects of a single European market after 1992.

Bankers believe that lack of convertibility of West African currencies hinders trade between economies of the region.

The clearing house, a multilateral payment scheme formed in 1975 to promote regional trade by facilitating use of national currencies, was underused by regional businesses.

The 16-member Economic Community of West African States has also been slow in moving towards a common monetary zone.

Nnachetta said monetary co-operation would be achieved only if the region's dominant currencies took a leading role.

The CFA franc, linking 13 mainly former French colonies in a common currency zone, and the Nigerian naira are well placed to play this role.

The CFA, underwritten by France, is the region's strongest currency, ex-
changing at 50 to one French franc since 1948.

France indicated parity would remain after a common European currency, in spite of pressure from the World Bank and finance institutions to devalue the CFA franc.

The naira, though considerably weakened by a recent 43% devaluation against the dollar, was the currency of West Africa's dominant economy.

Nnachetta said efforts towards currency harmonisation should go beyond the subregion to embrace the whole continent, with the SA rand also playing a key role. — Sapa-Reuters.
A continent of health hazards
At a glance, SA shows Africa the way.
African bank set for high-level SA talks

TWO African Development Bank consultants will meet leading SA officials during the next two weeks to discuss SA's role in regional integration.

The visit is part of a bank study on economic integration in southern Africa, and will address the implications of recent SA developments for the rest of the region.

A copy of the study's objectives shows the consultants will examine the possibility of SA dominating production, investment, trade, monetary and policy areas.

It said SA was bound to heavily influence sub-regional integration "by the sheer size of its current and potential national output and the high level of management capacity in the public and private sectors".

The study will reassess SA's economic relations with other countries in the region, particularly those of the Preferential Trade Area and SA Development Co-ordinating Conference, in order to establish mutually beneficial exchanges.

The two bank consultants are Oxford International Associates MD Martin Meredith and financial adviser Percy Mistry.
Touring Africa is definitely not for the faint-hearted

Those supposedly intrepid explorers who “discovered” the hinterland of Africa for British colonialism were not really all that intrepid after all, at least not as intrepid as the modern traveler in Africa has to be.

When they disembark from their wide-bodied jets, today’s light-skinned visitors face health hazards that never confronted Livingstone, Burton, Speke, Moffatt and company after they had stepped ashore from their sailing vessels.

True, the European explorers and missionaries did risk death from a variety of diseases besides the threat posed by wild animals and indigenous inhabitants with a low regard for the sanctity of foreign life.

And because of their propensity for going out in the midday sun they ran a high risk of sunstroke, with or without their pit helmets and felt spine pads. It is also true, that despite having consumed large quantities of quinine and other unpleasant medicines, one or two were killed and were shipped home in a barrel of brine or coffin with its lid screwed down very tightly.

Most, however, lived to tell their tales.

Today’s travelers, on the other hand, face hazards that Livingstone and company might have qualified at. The average American tourist runs a greater risk of being knocked down by a taxi driving on the wrong side of Independence Avenue than Livingstone or Stanley ever ran of being knocked down by a charging rhino near the source of the Nile.

And the visitor from Tanzania stands more chance of being mugged outside his hotel than Burton or Speke stood of being robbed at spearpoint in Turkana territory.

But these risks are palty beside the medical hazards. For instance, if today’s tourist is not very careful about his nocturnal activities he could end up with AIDS, which is not something that Henry Morton Stanley ever had to worry about.

Our tourist could get AIDS anyway if he is unlucky enough to end up in a hospital, where the chances of acquiring the HIV or the Hepatitis-B virus from a second-hand hypodermic needle or intravenous drip are not inconceivable.

It is not for nothing that they call the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka “the departure lounge”. It was in this hospital that the main operating theatre was closed down recently because it had become an infection pool. Instead of repairing the ventilation system when it broke down the hospital had installed fans which simply blew germs from one side of the theatre to the other - for six months.

The watchword in travelling in much of Africa is: "Don’t let anybody stick a needle in you for any reason, and don’t let them put you in a hospital as long as you have the strength to cling to the door frame."

The canny foreigner ventures nowhere in Africa today without taking out coverage from one of the emergency services that for very reasonable premiums undertake to fly in with a medical team and evacuate you within hours to the nearest country with a safe hospital.

Whatever else he might do, however, the one thing the foreign traveller must never, never do is buy black market medicines. Anyone foolhardy enough to want them can get these mediations at the informal markets that thrive in places like Maputo and Luanda.

They will probably be marketed by a shabby vendor at a makeshift stand situated between a stall selling offal and another offering stolen motor spares.

Long after the expiry date on the label, they stand baking - and no doubt changing their chemical composition - in the sun, visited frequently by flies. The label may identify the contents as antibiotics but they are just as likely to be motion-sickness pills or haemorrhoid suppositories.

After police had raided one such stall in Maputo’s dambungahones market it was found, for instance, that a bottle of liquid labelled “injectable penicillin” was actually salt water.

It could have been worse, I suppose. It could have been battery acid.
Cameroon cholera scare

YAOUNDE — Cameroon's Health Ministry has called on inhabitants of the capital Yaounde not to drink well water or eat uncooked green vegetables after at least two people died of cholera.

Reports by Star Foreign Service, Sapa, Reuter, Financial Times and Associated Press.
Bank’s plan for region is welcomed

TIM COHEN and SHARON WOOD

THE ANC yesterday welcomed an African Development Bank study on southern African regional integration.

Two consultants to the bank, which has strong links with the OAU, arrived in SA on Monday to oversee the large-scale project which has been in progress for six months. ANC economic planning department deputy director Max Sisulu said the study was particularly important because it was looking at practical, short- to medium-term measures which would assist regional integration.

The ANC was involved in the study and taking part in its steering committee, Sisulu said.

The steering committee had been set up to oversee the work of the study team. It was meeting at regular intervals to review the progress of the study.

The study would be undertaken in conjunction with the ANC’s own study on regional integration being undertaken by the academics at the University of the Western Cape.

The ANC was also participating in the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) study on regional integration and specific ideas being proposed by the Preferential Trade Area (PTA).

Sisulu said it made sense for the ANC to take on board the regional dimension when examining the restructuring of the SA economy.

The ANC would be in favour of close cooperation between the bank and a substantially restructured Development Bank of Southern Africa, Sisulu said.

A document outlining the study’s strategy said it would analyse economic and social conditions in countries in the PTA, SADCC, SA and Madagascar.

The study aimed to identify complementary economic activities, potential for trade growth and the constraints on capital flows within the region.

The two principle objectives of the study were to review alternative scenarios for the process of regional integration and to develop viable strategies.
Banker has big plans for SA

DAKAR — Africa's top banker talks openly about what few dared dream until now — a common market stretching from Cape Town to Cairo.

African Development Bank president Bahsacar Ndiaye believes that eventual integration of a democratic, nonracial SA into the continent's mainstream will bolster its weak economies and give it an effective voice in world affairs.

Once SA recovered from sanctions and recession and tackled substantial housing, education and other apartheid backlogs, it would act as an engine of growth in southern Africa and beyond, he said.

"Then, when Africa takes off, it will have a different voice in international forums. They will listen to us," he told a seminar ahead of the Bank's annual meeting in Dakar this month.

The African Development Bank, the OAU and the UN Economic Commission for Africa, have endorsed proposals for the formation of an African economic community by the year 2025.

Ndiaye did not underestimate challenges lying ahead.

He warned bank members that when SA did join its ranks, it would do so initially as a borrower rather than a contributor of resources despite its mineral and other riches.

Elsewhere in Africa, people are now worse off on average than in the early years of independence, the Bank says.

The continent has been wracked by severe drought, civil war, weak world prices for its mineral and farm exports, and a $27bn foreign debt bill. Its population growth of 3.1% a year is the highest in the world.

The Bank estimates Africa will need economic growth of 4% annually over the rest of the decade, almost double that posted in the 1980s, just to restore 1980 living standards. Ndiaye believes a recharged South African economy, which accounts for 40% of sub-Saharan output, will make a difference.

Ndiaye has proposed a special fund to provide aid to SA's Third World sector.

The Bank already is preparing to help SA the moment it becomes eligible for membership. — Sapa-Reuters.
"40 000 massacred in Chad"

N'DJAMENA (Chad) — An estimated 40,000 people may have been executed or died in detention during the eight-year reign of Chad's former president, Hissene Habre, according to a study published yesterday. The study, by a Justice Ministry committee, is a searing indictment of a regime it says routinely tortured its enemies to death and left them to perish in squalid prison cells.
African banker sets sights on Cape-to-Cairo market

By Rory Channing

DAKAR — Africa’s top banker talks openly of what few dared dream until now — a common market stretching from Cape Town to Cairo.

Babacar Ndiaye, president of the African Development Bank, believes the eventual integration of a democratic, non-racial South Africa into the continent’s mainstream will bolster its weak economies and give it an effective voice in world affairs.

Once South Africa recovers from sanctions and prolonged recession and tackles substantial housing, education and other backlogs built up under apartheid, it will act as an engine of growth in southern Africa and beyond, he says.

"Then, when Africa takes off, it will have a different voice in international forums — they will listen to us," he told a seminar ahead of the bank’s annual meeting here in mid-May.

The African Development Bank, the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, have endorsed proposals for the formation of an African economic community by the year 2025.

Mr Ndiaye says the continent resembles a big tree rooted in the south. "For this tree to be complete, for this organic tree to survive, the roots must become an integral part of Africa."

The ADB is involved in an extensive study on southern African regional integration and two members of the bank have been in South Africa to study the impact of SA’s inclusion into regional economic and trade bodies.

Challenges

Mr Ndiaye does not underestimate challenges laying ahead.

He has warned bank members that when South Africa does join its ranks, it will do so initially as a borrower rather than a contributor of resources despite its mineral and other riches.

Elsewhere in Africa, people are now worse off on average than in the early years of independence, the bank says.

The continent has been wrought by severe drought, civil war, weak world prices for its mineral and farm exports, and a $370 billion foreign debt bill. Its population growth of 3.1 percent a year is the world’s highest.

The bank estimates Africa will need economic growth of four percent annually over the rest of the decade, almost double that posted in the 1980s, just to restore 1980 living standards.

Mr Ndiaye believes a recharged South African economy, which accounts for 40 percent of sub-Saharan output, will make a difference especially at a time the single European market looms, as do similar blocs in North America and Asia.

"We need South Africa, at that level, in order to fight against marginalisation in Africa," he said.

The bank already is preparing to help South Africa the moment it becomes eligible for membership, which would be when the OAU opens its doors to Pretoria.

Mr Ndiaye has proposed a special fund to provide aid to the Third World sector in that country where the lot of the five-to-one black majority stops far short of that for whites.

The bank, whose foreign shareholders include the industrialised nations, could help not only with direct loans but by mobilising resources from other institutions, he says. — Sapa-Reuters.
AFRICAN BRIEFS

**Kenya denies child massacre**

The Kenyan government has denied reports that President Daniel arap Moi’s Kalenjin tribesmen massacred children in the latest outbreak of unrest. The government’s security secretary, William Kimutai, took the unusual step of issuing the denial after rumors of the massacre swept Nairobi and sent scores of people fleeing villages in areas north-west of the capital. He also denied allegations by opposition leader Jaramogi Oginga Odinga that Kalenjin were undergoing terrorist training. At least 130 people have been killed since violence erupted at the start of the year between the minority Kalenjin group and other tribes.

**Airlift for hungry Somalis**

A DAILY airlift of emergency humanitarian aid has begun to the Somali capital, Mogadishu, where tens of thousands of people are facing starvation. The Lutheran World Federation is using Hercules C-130 transport planes to fly high-protein food, medical and other essential supplies from Nairobi and Mombasa to support the Mogadishu operations of the Save the Children Fund and Medecins Sans Frontieres. It is planned to airlift at least 1,000 tons of aid over the next month.

**SUDAN prepares for talks**

SUDAN has named a nine-man government delegation for peace talks with its southern rebels in Nigeria on Sunday. A Khartoum newspaper reported that the team would propose some form of federal rule.

**Ghana lifts political ban**

Ghana’s military government this week lifted a 10-year ban on politics, but opposition politicians went to court saying the new law aimed to restrict them and help the soldiers keep power. The permission for political parties to register is part of a programme to return to civilian rule, culminating in presidential and legislative elections in November and December. However, 29 prominent politicians said they would boycott the registration to protest against its ban on using the names of political parties that existed before the military coup in 1981.

**Bids from oil firms**

FIFTEEN foreign oil firms have offered to invest up to USS 1.2 billion in Algeria to recover a billion barrels of oil over 20 years, the state-owned energy company Sonatrach said. Industry sources said United States, French, Japanese, Italian, Norwegian, Danish and Canadian companies had shown interest in a call for bids.

**Party HQ torched**

THE headquarters of Uganda’s Democratic Party, one of the main groups in Yoweri Museveni’s coalition government, has been destroyed by fire. Party officials blamed it on Robert Kituruko, the party’s secretary general, who described several men broke into the two-storey building before dawn and torched the party’s offices on the second floor.

**Diamond crackdown**

SIERRA LEONE’s new government, cracking down on diamond smuggling, said this week it had suspended four Swedish mining experts from their jobs and was investigating the accounts of a Swedish-owned firm, Intertrade Prospective Mining Company. — Compiled by Peter Biles in Nairobi and foreign staff.
Scores of remote villages in southern Chad are currently facing the early stages of famine after heavy rains last autumn destroyed crops and farmers sold off previous millet stocks following good harvests without retaining supplies in case of future hardship, writes Mark Higdon in N'Djamena.

Up to 400,000 villagers throughout Chad's Moyen-Chari region have been without adequate food since March, according to a five-week survey of 85 villages carried out by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which was completed last week.

In most villages examined in the survey, people were found to be eating roots or attempting to gather sufficient wild nere flour to make bread. The nere roots are now the only food enabling survival.
null
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.

Guerrillas are fighting mini-wars against government troops or rival forces in nearly a dozen African countries, from Somalia to Mozambique, Liberia to Rwanda.

Nearly every second news report from Africa refers to some rebel group or other. They used to be considered revolutionaries and freedom fighters. Today hardly anyone knows what they stand for.

Until the mid-1970s, African guerrilla movements enjoyed a great deal of sympathy. This is particularly true of those that fought against Portuguese colonial rule in Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique, or against the medieval regime of Emperor Haile Selassie in Ethiopia.

Many of these rebels claimed they were fighting not only for political freedom, but also against social oppression. But Africa never generated the aura of revolutionary idealism that surrounded some Latin American guerrilla groups and charismatic leaders such as Che Guevara.

Many rebel movements were quickly caught up in the slipstream of Soviet foreign policy and their ideals quickly became little more than a red, communist figleaf which they wore to get military aid from Moscow.

Today's rebels - for the most part - do not have any ideals at all. Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor can claim to have toppled the bloody regime of dictator Samuel Doe, but when asked about his ideology he does not quite know what to say.

"I guess I have to find one. It is not what Charles Taylor believes in, but what the people of Liberia want," he told the British-based magazine New African.

In Somalia the trend away from political ideals towards "rebellion without policy" has been taken to extremes. The rebels who drove out dictator Mohammed Siad Barre fought only for themselves. "Basically they are no more than gangs of armed bandits, which are now fighting each other," a Western diplomat said.

Poverty keeps increasing on the continent, and an improvement of the economic situation

Charles Taylor: When asked about ideology does not know quite what to say.

Che Guevara: A charismatic guerrilla leader surrounded by revolutionary idealism.

is not in sight. Those in power can ensure that when scarce resources and foreign aid are distributed, their own tribe, or clan, gets the lion's share.

Bearing this in mind, the United Nations has manœuvreved itself into a difficult position with its attempts at mediating in the conflict in Somalia. The UN peace mission in Mogadishu has given two big banditas (interim president Ali Mahdi Mohammed and his rival, General Mohammed Farah Aidid) a place on the world stage," said an expert who asked to remain anonymous.

"It might have been better to isolate the two warlords and only to negotiate with forces that did not take part in the fighting," he said. — DPA.
FRANS ESTERHUYSE
Weekend Argus
Political Correspondent

IMPORTANT new strides have been made by South Africa in its bid for acceptance by Africa and for eventual full membership of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Africa specialists said further rapid advances could be expected in the coming year, depending on progress at Codesa's constitutional negotiations.

They saw this as a possible result of this week's visit of South Africa by an OAU delegation led by Nigerian Foreign Minister Major-General Ikie Nwachukwu.

The delegation, received in South Africa "with open arms", observed proceedings at Codesa 2, monitored the continuing violence, and the delegation had talks with President De Klerk.

Significantly, Mr Nwachukwu suggested a federal system would be best for South Africa and, at the same time, commented publicly that the delegation believed Mr De Klerk was sincere about introducing a nonracial democracy.

This, viewed against the background of Mr De Klerk's recent highly successful visit to Nigeria, is seen by analysts as a further breakthrough for South Africa's relations with Africa. It is seen as an example of black Africa's key role in African politics. Nigerian President Umaru Dikko Buhari was also chairman of the OAU, and his country is the only African leader in the Economic Commission for Western African States (Ecowas).

Africa specialist Professor Willie Breytenbach of the University of Stellenbosch said the signs were that South Africa might be invited by next year to become a member of the OAU.

Such a move would depend on whether South Africa had a form of interim government by then, which seemed likely.

Professor Breytenbach told Weekend Argus some "hardliners" in the OAU might insist South Africa not be given full membership until a new democratic constitution had been fully implemented, but they would be in the minority.

When he addressed the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers in New Delhi last September, he found the Nigersians were the most eager of all the Africans to start lifting sanctions against South Africa immediately. Zimbabwe was the most reluctant.

Nigeria was an important component in Pretoria's "big four" strategy for cooperation in Africa, involving South Africa, Egypt, Nigeria and Kenya.

The plan aimed at improved inter-regional cooperation. It could also lead to a re-division of Africa, not according to colonial criteria, but based on economic realities.

Nigeria is the best example of federalism in Africa. It embarked on this road in 1960 when it became independent with only three federal regions. However, ethnic, religious and other regional realities compelled the Nigersians to increase their regional states from three in 1960 to 20.

Professor Breytenbach said there were some striking parallels between South Africa and Nigeria.

Neither Nigeria nor South Africa had a dominant ethnic group, and yet both were ethnically deeply divided societies.

In a sense, South Africa's problem of moving away from apartheid was very similar to Nigeria's attempts to move away from military rule.
Banker sees SA as
Africa's lifeline

AFRICA's top banker talks openly of what few dared dream until now - a common market stretching from Cape Town to Cairo.

African Development Bank president Babacar Ndiaye believes the eventual integration of SA into the continent's mainstream will bolster its "weak economies and give it an effective voice in world affairs."

Once SA recovers from sanctions and the prolonged recession, and tackles substantial housing, education, and other backlogs built up under apartheid, it will act as an engine of growth in southern Africa and beyond, he says.

"Then, when Africa takes off, it will have a different voice in international forums. They will listen to us," he told a seminar ahead of the bank's annual meeting in Dakar.

The African Development Bank, the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa have endorsed proposals for the formation of an African economic community by the year 2025.

Ndiaye says the continent resembles a big tree rooted in the south. "For this tree to be complete, for this organic tree to survive... the roots must become an integral part of Africa."

Ndiaye does not underestimate the challenges lying ahead.

He warned bank members that when SA joined its ranks, it would do so initially as a borrower rather than a contributor of resources, despite its mineral and other riches.

Elsewhere in Africa, people are now worse off on average than in the early years of independence, the bank says.

The continent has been wrought by severe drought, civil war, weak world prices for its mineral and farm exports, and a R75.6-billion foreign debt bill. Its population growth of 3.1 percent a year is the world's highest.

The bank estimates Africa will need economic growth of four percent annually over 10 years, almost double that posted in the 1980s, just to restore 1980 living standards.

Ndiaye believes a recharged SA economy, which accounts for 40 percent of sub-Saharan output, will make a difference especially at a time when the single European market looms. "We need SA, at that (locomotive) level, to fight against marginalisation in Africa," he said.

The bank is preparing to help SA when the OAU opens its doors to Pretoria.

The bank, whose foreign shareholders include the industrialised nations, could help not only with direct loans, but by mobilising resources from other institutions, he says.

Philippe Liéard, of the World Bank's International Finance Corporation's private sector arm, said the size and variety of SA's economy and its creditworthiness, would appeal to firms looking for safe lending opportunities in Africa.

Ndiaye sees SA as a potential buyer for Africa's raw materials, a source of technology, a regional manufacturing base for multinationals and a financial or services hub.

Botswana Finance Minister Ronald Sebgo hailed major diamond producer Debswana - which his government owns jointly with the foreign arm of the De Beers group - as a model for cooperation with South African companies or their affiliates.

Some African officials fear economic domination by SA, giving it undue political clout. But ANC president Nelson Mandela insists there is no cause for such concern.

-Sapa-Reuters
Day of unity and African solidarity


Since then, this day has been celebrated by free Africans collectively and to re dedicate themselves to unity, solidarity and struggle.

The charter was itself a milestone in that it became a crucial tool to meld together two divergent points of disagreement by the proponents of the OAU, which were formed into the Casablanca bloc and the Monrovia group - in ideological terms, the revolutionaries and the moderates.

The Casablanca bloc supported the assassinated Congolese Prime Minister, Mr Patrice Lumumba, and called for a political Union of African States.

They vehemently opposed neocolonialism and were anxious to avoid "cold war by proxy on our continent".

The Monrovia group were for gradualism and functional co-operation in attempts to achieve African unity.

They adopted the principles of the inviolability of African frontiers and non-interference in each other's affairs.

Dr Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Mr Abdal Nasser of Egypt, Mr Sekou Toure of Guinea (Conakry) and Mr Modibo Keita of Mali were in the Casablanca bloc.

These leaders advocated continental unity of the African people.

Sir Tafawa Balewa of Nigeria, Mr Leopold Senghor of Senegal, Mr Tubman of Liberia and Mr Sylvanus Olympio of Togo were in the Monrovia group which favoured federalism and economic co-operation.

The Casablanca-Monrovia conflict came to an end after much consultation.

Persuasive work was done to sink all the differences and "perform one clear and honest duty" unite all the states of Africa and liberate the rest of the continent.

The OAU was then set up on this day, 25 May 1963, and became a symbol of unity and struggle by the African people.

The OAU, in its 29 years of existence, has been a disappointment in several important areas of conflict where its non-interference made it an insensitive body to the inherent problems in Africa.

For instance, it was non-comittal during the Nigerian Civil War and lacked inspiration to stop the activities of French mercenaries in 1978 from interfering in the affairs of Zaire.

Critics of the OAU pejoratively call it a union of African heads of state rather than that of the African people.

However, its strong point has been the assistance the organisation has given to the Liberation Committee.

The OAU has supported the armed struggle of the liberation movements in Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Namibia until these countries won their independence.

Since the advent of unpopular super-power relations, members of the OAU have shown an acute insensitivity to the struggle of the African people in this country and displayed a sense of political burn-out.

They are seen more and more in South Africa desperately seeking the way out of economic miseries through the promise of Mr Pik Botha's "Marshall Plan" for Africa.

In his recent visit, Nigerian Foreign Minister General Ike Nwohujikwo even advised the option of federalism in a settlement of South Africa's constitutional problems.

Africa Liberation Day truly demands a re-visitisation of the hopes and "visions of the founding fathers" of this organisation and a clear focus which has not become imperative in order to free our country now.

KWAME NKRUMAH

JULIUS NYERERE

Africa has only seen a change of flags and a succession of despots in the service of the ex-colonial master. The African workers and peasants are still regarded as doormats for the way to the enrichment of a select few and their partners overseas.

Colonial mentality still holds sway and many look down upon themselves for being Africans.

There is a need to work for the liberation of Africa and achieve continental unity on a political level.

The need to formulate a common market and distribute the mineral and natural resources evenly in Africa and establish great industrial complexes needs to be emphasised further.

President Julius Nyerere had said at the sixth Pan Africanist Congress in Dar es Salaam in 1974 "that as long as black people anywhere continue to be oppressed on the grounds of their colour, black people everywhere will stand together in opposition to that oppression in the future as in the past."
Africa sets out tentatively on the road to democracy

LONDON - Democracy edged forward on the African continent in 1991 and - officially - there are only two one-party states left, the International Institute for Strategic Studies said in its annual report last week.

But the turbulent Horn of Africa had unstable regimes in Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and Djibouti, the report said in a section on Africa.

"Officially, by the beginning of 1992, only Sudan and Malawi were wholly one-party states," it said. "While not all other states had fully embraced a multiparty system, political competition was widely permitted."

They included Zaire, where President Kenneth Kaunda was defeated and stood down in 1991, and Kenya where President Daniel arap Moi "finally accepted the principle of multiparty politics."

But in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia's new President Meles Zenawi had failed to liberalise the economy, the report said.

Meles had also manipulated politics to give his Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front and its allies a built-in majority on the ruling assembly.

Somalia "slid fast into anarchy" late in 1991 with President Ali Mahdi Mohammed failing to stop inter-clan fighting and to fulfill promises to maintain a broad-based government and a multiparty system.

Sudan's military leader, Omar Hassan al-Bashir, in power since 1989, "appears to be a convenient figurehead" for the fundamentalist National Islamic Front, which controls all the levers of power, the report said.

"The soaring influence of fanatics and their hostility to external advice has accelerated Sudan's political and economic decline."

In Djibouti, guerrilla attacks from the Afar ethnic community in the north in 1991 "considerably changed Djibouti's image as an oasis of stability," the report said.

President Hassan Gouled, it added, "governs the territory as his personal fiefdom, with a few of his Issa (clan) cronies" controlling power structures.

The report said South Africa's multiparty constitutional talks and a referendum among white voters endorsing reforms were hopeful signs.

"Nevertheless, the danger remains that marginalised groups, including white right-wingers, radical black parties... and Inkatha may all take matters into their own hands."

President FW de Klerk and African National Congress leader Mr Nelson Mandela must involve the Zulu-based Inkatha movement more closely: "Failure to do so will almost certainly condemn South Africa to continuing instability and violence." - Sapa-AP
Sudan aids Afghanistan

KABUL - Sudan, one of the world's poorest countries, has sent six planesloads of food aid to Afghanistan, a senior Sudanese official said here on Saturday.

Mr Ga'ali Al-Mahdi, heading a delegation from the Sudanese Khartoum government, said the 150 tons of sugar had been handed over to the new mujahideen government in Kabul as a "gesture of Islamic solidarity".

Al-Mahdi, director of the political department of the African country's foreign ministry, said his delegation was investigating what other food aid to send to Afghanistan, under a fragile peace after 14 years of war.

He said Sudan, where one of Africa's longest-running civil wars is being fought between the Khartoum government and southern rebels, had overcome the famine which hit parts of the country two years ago and now exported food.

"There are still food problems in the rebel areas," he said. - Sopa-Reuters
Parties fail to settle wrangle

ACCRA - Ghana's government and opposition said at the weekend that they had failed to settle a wrangle over a new law on political parties and a high court would have to rule in the dispute.

High court judge Mr. Kwadwo Amponsah had asked the two sides to try and settle their differences amicably in the interests of the country's smooth transition to multiparty democracy.

But lawyers said they had been unable to agree and Amponsah was forced to adjourn the court until Tuesday, when the court will issue a ruling.

The dispute centres on a law passed by Ghana's ruling Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) days before an 11-year ban on multiparty politics was lifted on Monday.

The law partly prevents the country's political clubs and associations from adopting the names of parties banned since Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings' 1981 coup.

Spa-Reuter
Zinc boost for Tunisia

TUNIS — Economics Minister Sadok Rabah laid the foundation stone for a zinc and lead mine in northwestern Tunisia yesterday with Klaus Zeitler, president and CE of Toronto-based Metall Mining Corp (MMC). MMC, in which the German multinational Metallgesellschaft AG has a majority stake, is the main sponsor and technical partner in the project, which will produce 38,000 tons of zinc and about 8,000 tons of lead a year.

The mine, developed by Société Miniere de Bougrine, calls for a total investment of $75m.

The International Finance Corporation, a subsidiary of the World Bank, has provided a $14m loan and an equity investment of $2.1m. Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft has provided a loan of $11.3m.

The mine, at Bougrine near the town of Le Kef, will be the first privately owned mine in Tunisia. Tunisia already produces between 8,000 and 18,000 tons of zinc a year. — Reuters.
The Ngwag Correspondent

Develops on border

Starvation tragedy

DURBAN — A legend is

The Angas, Thursday May 26 1993
Africa is Starving

In Somalia, the war has created a humanitarian crisis. Somalis and their livestock were killed by famine. The region is in a state of emergency. The United Nations, American and European relief organizations are rushing in to provide food and water. The situation is desperate.

The government of Somalia has collapsed. Aid workers are being attacked. The United Nations has appealed for more humanitarian aid. The crisis is worsening.

Somalia has been suffering from drought and conflict for years. The United Nations has called for international action to prevent a full-scale famine. The situation is grave.

In neighboring countries, food prices have risen sharply. The crisis is affecting millions. The United Nations is calling for more aid.

The United Nations is appealing for $1 billion in emergency aid. The crisis is the worst in decades. The United Nations is urging the international community to act now.

If action is not taken, the crisis could worsen. The United Nations is warning of a full-scale famine. The situation is desperate.

The United Nations is appealing for more aid. The crisis is affecting millions. The situation is grave.

The United Nations is calling for international action to prevent a full-scale famine. The crisis is the worst in decades. The United Nations is urging the international community to act now.

If action is not taken, the crisis could worsen.
Sudan sorry for bombing town

KAMPALA (Uganda) - Sudan has apologised for the bombing 12 days ago of a northwestern Uganda town and will compensate the victims, it was reported yesterday.

*New Vision* newspaper said Sudan’s Foreign Minister Mr Ali Ahmed Fahloul delivered the apology and the compensation offer to President Yoweri Museveni on Sunday.

Fahloul, the newspaper reported, said Sudan will also compensate the victims of three raids prior to the May 14 bombing of the border town of Moyo.

No casualties were reported in the latest raid, a spokesman for Sudan’s embassy here said. He said the pilots apparently mistook Moyo for Kajo Kaji, a Sudanese town nearby.

The spokesman said Sudan believes the rebel Sudan People’s Liberation Army has moved its headquarters to Kajo Kaji from Torit, which is threatened by a government offensive.

But Mr George Garang of the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association, the rebels’ humanitarian wing, said the rebels never were headquartered in Torit.

“Torit is just another town we control, and Commander Garang is always moving,” said Garang, who said he was not related to the rebel commander.

Relief workers in Nairobi in radio contact with Torit said the town was calm and under rebel control yesterday as Sudan and the insurgents began peace talks in Nigeria.

Government troops launched a major offensive in February and have ejected the rebels from several towns. - *SA Press Association*-AP.
Africa’s troubles slow Premier down

THE Premier Group, which is seeking to expand into black Africa, is finding that political unrest there is obstructing trade and slowing development.

Premier says an expected business boom after the lifting of economic sanctions against SA is being delayed as protests shake dictatorial rulers and governments battle guerrilla rivals.

The food and pharmaceuticals group questions predictions that it and similar SA conglomerates will soon become the region’s engine of economic growth.

Payment and transport problems, corruption and a lack of investment have been worsened by civil disturbances, deputy chief executive Gordon Utian said.

“The politics is causing huge problems,” he said.

“The whole industrial cycle in Africa is not working. One’s got to be very, very careful about us being the engine of Africa. Africa needs investment more than trade.”

The company, politically liberal with a history of contact with the ANC during its exile years, has seen its Africa trade take some hard knocks.

In Malawi, 15 wholesale outlets were looted and R1.5m in goods stolen in unrest earlier this month.

In Zambia, rioters looted and destroyed a subsidiary’s wholesale cash-and-carry business in Kinshasa and Premier’s retail network in Lubumbashi last year.

The rioting also put paid to a plan to take over milling operations run by Gecamines Development, the food arm of Zaire’s state-owned copper group, Gecamines Exploitation.

“Where we were poised to go into Zaire, we’ve now had to withdraw,” Utian said.

He said a reshuffle of Mozambican government officials in December “put us out of business” as preferential tariffs negotiated with their predecessors were scrapped.

Referring to problems in Angola, he said: “This lack of infrastructure, lack of an ability to get something done, people on the ground, systems and operations that work — it’s just not there.

“In addition, as sanctions crumbled, individual SA traders were entering the scene, opportunists who climb into a situation to make a quick buck.

“There is an enormous amount of bribery,” Utian said, adding that despotic African leaders still sought control of their economies and paid only lip service to capitalism.

Last year Premier split its Africa trade arm, Premier International — a small part of its total business — into trading and investment operations. The company’s Metro trade arm now has 200 wholesale outlets in southern Africa.

Company results do not isolate International’s performance from other group activities but Utian said International probably had not traded profitably over the past two years despite a rise in SA trade with Africa generally.

SA trade with the continent, mainly with southern Africa, rose by a hefty 180% to R5,22bn in 1993 from R2,57bn in 1987, Safco said. But exports to Africa are less than one-tenth of SA’s total exports.

Utian said any rise depended on stability in black Africa and the lifting of sanctions against Pretoria to allow aid to be conducted through SA.

“What I’m hoping for is that when sanctions are taken off SA and you get donor countries and World Bank money coming back here, we will be able to start an investment chain up into Africa.

“We are going to have to start investing in Africa if Africa is going to return to normality,” he said. — Reuter.
Africa will feel tremors in US

FOR reasons which are the source of inconclusive debate, South Africa seems destined to be more acutely affected by the whirlwind of scandal and change now raging through the US Congress than just about any other country.

Four out of the six Democrats on the House of Representatives Africa sub-committee, for instance, have been decimated by its force already, the career of a fifth is in peril, and the whirlwind has yet to spend itself.

Great movers and shakers like Mervyn Dymally, the sub-committee’s chairman, and Howard Wolpe, the sanctions activist, have announced this for one reason or another they will not be standing for re-election.

Stephen Solarz, perhaps the most influential force in shaping policy on South Africa in the House, has been exposed by the banking scandal as one of the most tireless and persistent issuers of cut cheques on Capitol Hill. His New York constituents, who normally doze through scandal and muddle, are said to be indignant but he intends seeking their endorsement yet again.

Who will fill the vacuum left by the men who made South Africa the focus of national attention, who got sanctions, enacted over the threatened veto of President Reagan, and who have set the pace on almost all issues involving the country?

There are no obvious successors in sight. The drawing of new constituency boundaries, the banking scandal and a rebellion by voters against incumbents, has caused more members of Congress to withdraw from politics than at any time since World War 2.

But far right South Africans who might derive satisfaction from seeing old adversaries bowing out, or being booted out, might pause for cold reflection.

Whatever faults he may have, Stephen Solarz is one of the few people who today resists a tidal wave of indifference towards Africa, which threatens to engulf Congress and the administration. He is a prime mover behind the Solarz-Dellums initiative which proposes setting up a multi-billion dollar investment package for South Africa, and there is every reason to wish him well in his quest for re-election.

By contrast the focus on Africa has both dimmed and shifted. What interest is still there is shifting from the reconstruction of South Africa to such issues as human rights in the rest of sub-Saharan Africa, and the drought in the region as a whole.

Criticism of the regimes in Kenya, Malawi, Zaire, and the Ivory Coast now transcends the residual criticism of Pretoria, concern about the drought too often includes the dismissive observation that the country best equipped to cope with the disaster is South Africa.

Most recently, the Congressional Black Caucus, which used to keep the spotlight on South Africa, has found its attention wrenched away by the riots in Los Angeles and elsewhere.

Even the ANC reportedly is feeling the cold blast of indifference. Its US fund-raising campaign, under the stewardship of the Reverend Walter Fauntroy, is said to have proved a huge disappointment.

The only forceful new personality to emerge as a possible replacement for the loss of apartheid stalwarts on Capitol Hill is Carol Moseley Braun, who defeated incumbent Senator, Alan Dixon in the Illinois Democratic primary and who now stands a better than even chance of becoming the first black US Senator.

For the time being, US policy on South Africa seems destined to be shaped on Capitol Hill by the Senate’s surviving South Africa enthusiasts. Among them are Senator Paul Simon of Illinois, Senator David Boren of Oklahoma and Senator Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas.

It is they who will have to hold the fort as an era in South Africa’s relations with the US comes to an end, and fresh blood in Congress ushers in another. — Stan Bureau.
Ghana violence

At least 63 people have been killed in ethnic clashes at the weekend between Gaaja tribesmen and Nawuri in northern Ghana which left villages burned to the ground, regional officials said. Government sources said the death toll in the fighting could be as high as 80.

Rwanda talks

PEACE talks between Rwanda's government and rebels are scheduled for early next month in Paris, the Rwandan ambassador to Uganda said this week.

Zenawi plea

ETHIOPIA could defeat famine and feed itself if the world helped repair an economy wrecked by civil war, President Meles Zenawi said. He asked an aid conference for food for nearly eight million hungry people, but added that "as they are being fed, they must be equipped to produce their own food as quickly as possible".

Sudan army push

PEACE talks between the Khartoum government and southern rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army opened in the Nigerian capital, Abuja, on Tuesday. At the same time, Sudanese security sources said a push by government forces had forced the rebel leader, John Garang, to flee his headquarters.
It would rather help Africa hurt's those
world bank aid for

Ewen Turlock
610-392-7172

powerful solution (in order to improve)
the world's of the countries,
the bank money to those
in need. It's not just a
financial aid, it's about
empowering the people
in those countries to
help themselves.

Powerful solutions make a
difference. It's not
just about giving money,
but about giving hope.

The World Bank is the
right choice to help.
They have the
experience and
resources to make a
difference.

So let's work together to
make a difference in the
world. It starts with a
small step, but can make
a big impact.
SABC in a flap over airwaves overhaul

Broadcasting proposals accepted by Codesa are exacerbating the tense atmosphere at the SABC, reports FERIAL HAFFAJEE

THE South African Broadcasting Corporation is in a flap over proposals accepted by the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) which could severely clip its wings. If the proposals are rubber-stamped in a future constitution, major decision-making powers will be vested in an independent broadcasting authority.

And adding to the SABC's troubles is a wage strike being held by workers which has not bred casters into disarray as skilled and unskilled workers have taken to the streets, demanding theabolition of the airwaves.

Though most of the top brass at the corporation are keeping mum while they hammer out their future with the drafters of a new broadcasting code, many SABC managers canvassed by The Weekly Mail expressed grave concern because they believe the state is becoming intolerant of the airwaves.

But the corporation's employment figures show there is still a long way to go before more than 50 percent of the total staff are blacks, and 80 percent of the staff is male.

Last year the corporation was divided into five units to engineer its corporate image and make it a profit-making concern. In the ensuing restructuring exercise, many top executives were transferred sideways, some were retrained and much less room was left for the unions.

Two senior employees committed suicide, more and more are leaving to become radio- and television producers. This is a cause for concern for the future of the corporation, which is already being asked to take measures against broadcasters who violate those guidelines.

The corporation has not yet stations in Lesotho and Namibia. Negotiations are also afoot in Zambia and Zimbabwe, where M-NET has already approached 2,000 stations to be linked to it. It is believed that it is not yet the only one to broadcast its programming to those countries, but M-NET has better distribution networks, its license fee is cheaper and it can afford to pay channel fees.

M-NET does not, however, seem to be doing enough or to spend enough money to market its network. This, according to a top M-NET official, is because "too many people are watching the wrong station." M-NET has not yet obtained all the rights to broadcast its programming to those countries, but it is working on it. And M-NET has also been accused of being too much in the hands of the network "and that he is not negotiating with the channel to set up a broadcasting operation in the country." M-NET's officials are investigating possibilities in Nigeria. "It didn't go so well," an M-NET official said. "Things just don't pass over correctly. We think that Nigerian audience was a little too much to bear for a ship at eighty-ton M-NET." M-NET is negotiating its relationship with the SABC and is looking at setting up stations in other African countries, the SABC is working towards an even closer relationship with CNN. Already, SABC has permission to broadcast CNN material in its programming. Now, according to the corporation, it has the technology needed to conclude a deal with CNN much like the M-NET/BBC one to encrypt and distribute the American service in Africa.

SABC is also involved in heated discussions with another international pay-TV consortium. "But what makes it different is the SABC source, in that we don't know what our future will be. Our new mandate as a broadcasting authority might prevent us from generating income by diminishing our subscriber base.

The new scrambler for signals is a complicated as the scramble for Africa of another era. At the moment, it seems that no one can agree on who should pay for the signals, and not the future. The system is not yet a perfect system and the cost of the signals has been exceedingly high.

The new scrambler for signals is a complicated as the scramble for Africa of another era. At the moment, it seems that no one can agree on who should pay for the signals, and not the future. The system is not yet a perfect system and the cost of the signals has been exceedingly high.
African publishers plan new venture

From Guy Berger,  
SOUTH 31/3/1992

The first step to a continent-wide association of African publishers was taken in Prague this week with the setting up of a working group to explore media issues.

SOUTH is a founder member of the group which involves South Africa's independent press and newspapers from Tunisia, Cameroon and Kenya.

The move coincides with a flurry of independent papers being launched across Africa as democratisation sweeps the continent.

Independent publishers Mr Gitobu Imanyaro, jailed several times by Kenya's authorities, and Mr Pius Njawe, severely harassed by the Cameroon government, are also involved.

The working group is exploring Africa-wide co-operation on press freedom, news exchange, media policy and training.

It intends seeking support from Unesco and the world newspaper industrial body, FIP, for a conference that could formally launch an African independent publishers' federation.
ADDIS ABABA — Ethiopians danced, drank and sang until the early hours yesterday to celebrate the end of a night curfew in force for 17 bleak years of Stalinist rule.

All over the capital, nightclubs stayed open and the sound of music roared this city of 3 million.

"This is a rebirth," said the owner of a club whose premises had been forced to close before midnight every night since ousted dictator Mengistu Halle Mariam came to power in 1974.

"I shall have to go out now and get some pretty girls to placate my patrons. Business came to life one day after the curfew was lifted."

Addis Ababa held a party all night, toasting its new freedom in Tej, a deceptively mild-tasting honey-based brew, as well as with beer and imported whisky.

The curfew, which Ethiopians feared because it was the time Mengistu's dreaded secret service could operate freely, was lifted on Thursday, a year to the day that Addis Ababa was captured by a rebel army sweeping in from the north.

The head of the transitional government of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, Meles Zenawi, announced the lifting of the curfew this week.

He said it was the right of every Ethiopian to enjoy his or her freedom without limitations, and every nightclub in town threw open its doors to one big party.

In the past, bars and clubs used to close as early as dusk so that people could get back to their homes before curfew. Ethiopians said Mengistu's secret police used the curfew to drag suspected opponents from their homes and shoot them, or take them away for interrogation and torture.

The government says tens of thousands of suspected rebels disappeared under Mengistu's 17-year rule, during which he tried to impose Marxism on the peasant economy of one of the world's oldest but poorest countries.

New clubs have sprung up since Zenawi and his army seized power, but they too had to close until the curfew was lifted. They include up-market Western-style nightclubs where the sounds of Ethiopia's favourite daughter, singer Aster, mix with the more modern music of hip-hop and rap. — Sapa-Reuters.
Africa demands fair share.
20 killed for land.

LOME - Twenty people were killed and 40 wounded, some seriously, in a tribal clash over a land dispute at Sotoboua in central Togo on Saturday.

Radio Lome reported yesterday that Territorial Administration and Security Minister Yao Komlavi had appealed for calm in the small West African state. Soweto (11/1/92)

Komlavi said the wounded had been taken to the Sokode regional hospital.
The radio did not name the tribes involved in the clash..."Sapa-Reuters"
Food train exercise no piece of cake

IMAGINE a train so long that the locomotive would reach Harrismith before the last truck left Johannesburg station.

"Obviously there is no such train, but that is how long it would be if Spoorset had to transport this year’s drought relief maize in one go!

"Out of the 11 million tons of grain, some of it bought, some of it supplied by the United Nation's World Food Programme, Spoorset is transporting 8.5 million tons — the biggest transportation exercise in food and aid relief in the world. Even the Ethiopian drought relief effort involved only 2 million tons of food.

South Africa gets 4.7 million tons, Zimbabwe 2 million, Zambia 200 000 and Malawi 600 000, while small amounts are going to Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland.

"This adds up to a total of 5 700 trains, each with 38 trucks, with each truck carrying 39 tons of grain.

"The only exercise that comes close is the Kuwait Emergency Recovery Programme, the restocking of Kuwait with everything from food, rubber bands and generators to fire engines and springs after the country was devastated in the Gulf War.

"In fact the American logistics company that organised the recovery programme has been brought in to assist Spoorset’s logistics subsidiary, Viemax Logistics.

"The Americans say that in this operation the volumes are far bigger and the multiple destinations complicate the issue.

"The logistics are staggering. At any time, about 20 ships from Argentina and the United States are on their way to South Africa to unload grain in ports that are geared for loading and exporting.

"Machines that pump grain into ships stand idle, while cranes lift the huge loads on to railway trucks to be carried to silos all over South Africa and neighbouring countries. Suctioning the grain off the ships would be easier, but that damages it.

"In fact, this is what makes this exercise different from other Spoorset operations. Spoorset transports between 50 and 60 million tons of coal a year, but that is comparatively easy to load and unload.

"You have to be more careful with maize and wheat. It’s going to land up on somebody’s plate," said Viemax project manager Shaun McCormack.

"The grain that is not going through South Africa is being landed at Walvis Bay in Namibia, Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, and Beira, Nacala and Maputo in Mozambique.

"Getting the food from the ships to the countries that need it is not easy.

"Malawi, for instance, is just not geared to unload consignments of loose maize, so contractors have to put Malawi’s grain into 50 kg bags.

"A third of the Zimbabwean and Zambian consignments also have to be bagged — a total of 36 million bags.

"Spoorset has to know where its trains are at any given moment, whether they have been unloaded, whether they are waiting at Beit Bridge or which trucks can be brought back for reloading.

"At the moment, it is all being done by hand. In the grain operations room at Spoorset’s headquarters in central Johannesburg, ships are marked as arrows heading steadily across the map from the United States and Argentina.

"One, stationed just above Cuba, is marked ‘biploaked’. The crew muddled over a pay dispute while sailing through the Caribbean and diverted the ship to Cuba, where its cargo of about 30 000 tons of maize is rotting in the tropical heat and humidity.

"Other charts show exactly how many tons have been transported so far by ship and by train, where the loads in transit are, and how much each train and ship is carrying.

"Twenty shiploads have arrived so far at Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London. About 230 are still expected.

"People sit working on charts and watching the boards, keeping track of every movement, and co-ordinating the exercise for the least possible waste of time and transport.

"The American logistics company is going to computerise the whole system for Spoorset. From the moment a purchase contract is signed, before any grain is loaded from silo to ship across the Atlantic, it will be logged on the computer.

"That will give three to six months’ planning time, as opposed to the current 14 days — the time it takes for a ship to sail between the Americas and Africa.

"Spoorset will also be linked to satellite and UN input to keep track of trains and the unloading beyond South Africa’s borders.

"The huge operation started in April and has yet to hit its peak.

"And what if the drought carries on?" We’ll just have to do it all again," said Spoorset communications adviser Jacques Pienaar.

"The Star Africa Service reports that the supply of maize in Zimbabwe has improved dramatically and the long queues have disappeared."
CAPE TOWN — The Department of Foreign Affairs had not invested in a project in a west African state, but had been involved with a businessman there on a project which had led to SA being able to overfly Africa, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha said yesterday.

Speaking in a House of Assembly debate on a question by Tom Langley (CP Soutpansberg), he said the department had invested in a project in 1983 in a European company which included a printing company.

A west African diplomat had been introduced who was said to be able to influence people in Africa and smooth the way for oil purchases.

The 20 percent share in the business in Europe was to print a publication that would give a more balanced view of the situation in South Africa.

Funds in excess of R1 million, in the form of share certificates given to this person, could not be recovered.

The Auditor-General had said in his report that the department could not be blamed for mismanagement or illegal dealings.

Jasper Walsh (DP Pines) said the money lost in this transaction was a mere fraction of the cost of apartheid, which had caused people to act furtively and clandestinely to overcome the problems of sanctions.

Mr Botha agreed with him, saying abnormal times called for abnormal methods of dealing with people. — Saps.
A curate's egg view on Africa

Weekly Mail Report

The worldwide recession is butting and the world may see growth in excess of one percent this year, according to the International Monetary Fund's latest World Economic Outlook.

However, the report predicts that the South African economy will grow this year, the report bodes well for South African exporters whose sales abroad have been depressed by the two-and-a-half-year slump.

However, many African nations are unlikely to see much growth. While the continent will benefit from the increase in commodity prices as the recovery picks up in industrialized countries, drought will stifle the effect of this in southern Africa.

The report says the success of other African regions hinges on the structural adjustment programmes being undertaken there. Noting that growth in developing countries with high and fluctuating rates of inflation has been much lower than those with low inflation, the report also cautions against a lack of fiscal and monetary control in developing countries, which, it says, is the primary reason for the rise in deficits.

Kenya and Nigeria are singled out as countries where free market-oriented structural reforms are falling because the governments have failed to address market rigidities and large price distortions caused by past excessive control.

But the report expresses faith in the IMF-sponsored structural adjustment programmes which, it says, should be strengthened as they have improved the creditworthiness of various countries.

As far as the former Soviet Union states are concerned, the report argues that as harsh as economic reform may be, it is best to be bold and implement market reform from the very beginning.

Key elements of assistance given to this region thus far include technical assistance, financial assistance to build up foreign reserves and finance essential investments; and the opening of markets to products from these states.
Aid for Africa a matter of life and death

11 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

By Victoria Brimmer

June 15, 1992

The Guardian Weekly
Perils of travel through Africa

SOUTH Africans travelling in Africa have been warned by a medical expert to take precautions against certain diseases, some of which are potentially fatal.

“The major risk which faces any business person in Africa is contracting numerous infectious diseases,” Dr Simon Robson, deputy director of the Medical Research Centre of the University of Cape Town, told members of the South African Foreign Trade Organisation.

He said the major diseases were malaria and cholera, but there was a growing danger from hepatitis-B.

“Looking at hepatitis-B, the facts for Africa are frightening,” he said. “Estimates are that between eight and 15 percent of all Africa’s inhabitants are chronically infected with it. However, between 70 and 95 percent of the continent’s inhabitants have been exposed to the virus.”

The disease, which affected the liver, was transmitted through human body fluids and could be contracted from inadequately sterilised hypodermic or surgical needles, he said.

It was now suspected that it might also be transmitted by blood-sucking insects such as bedbugs.

Robson advised business people to try to travel in pairs or groups and arrange for a member of the party to see that any needle or syringe that was about to be used on another member of the party came from a sealed pack.

Travellers should have themselves vaccinated against hepatitis B before going to a part of Africa where there was a high risk of infection, he said.
SA firm sorts out Africa's gem finds

SOUTH African technology is putting a sparkle into Africa's diamond industry.

Van Eck & Larie (VEL) of Johannesburg — the minerals and metals division of Bateman Project Holdings — has supplied modular diamond recovery plants to Angola, Zaire and Guinea. It has also received inquiries from the Central African Republic.

VEL is executing orders for four projects for Brazilian company Odebrecht, which is managing the exploration and extraction of diamonds in the Quango region of Angola on behalf of Endiama, the State mining corporation.

Three senior VEL officials are visiting Angola.

In November 1991 VEL supplied Odebrecht-Endiama with a modular recovery plant to be based in Luanda. The plant incorporates the new technology of X-ray sorting machines.

The modular plant concept has played a major role in VEL's success as a supplier to Africa's diamond industry. A modular plant is a self-contained unit or several self-contained ones — modules — which when assembled in the correct sequence make up a small-scale treatment plant.

VEL identified a need in the market for transportable dense media separation (DMS) plants. Plant design is based on the principle of transporting the module with pre-installed equipment, resulting in minimum re-erection time on site.

**Gravity**

In DMS diamonds are separated from gravel by gravity. Diamondiferous gravel is fed into cyclones (centrifugal devie) and mixed with the dense medium. The higher specific gravity of the diamonds causes them to sink in the medium.

The first modular plant — a 10-ton-an-hour (tph) DMS ordered by Brazil Diamante for prospecting gravel in Namibia — was developed in 1987.

Since then VEL has supplied 40 DMS units, either self-contained or associated with complete installations. About 70% of the plants designed and supplied have been for Africa.

Director Robert Abate ascribes VEL's success to providing "African solutions to Africa's problems".

VEL's equipment has been tried and tested for African conditions.

VEL is also active in South Africa. Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Villiers officially opened Alexander Bay Development Corporation's (Aldex) multimillion-rand 300 tph Rietfontein South diamond treatment plant, designed and built by VEL.

VEL is also involved in design and supply of plant for the De Beers Venetia project.

VEL equipment has been adapted to marine diamond recovery off the Namibian coast and the company has equipped vessels belonging to various companies.

**Mobile**

VEL's reach extends far beyond Africa and it has been involved in most diamond treatment plants around the world. These range from 5 tph mobile prospecting plants — the standard prospecting tool in the industry — to the largest facilities in the world at Argyle in Australia.

In the past five years VEL has supplied plant to China, Burma and a country in the Middle East.

In addition to diamond recovery, VEL is involved in metallurgical process engineering for the extraction of other minerals, including coal, base metals, gold and platinum.
Why the World Points Fingers

There are many reasons why the world points fingers. One of the main reasons is the perception of power and control. When a country or individual holds power, it is natural for others to feel threatened and to point fingers in accusation or criticism. This can lead to tension and conflict between nations or groups. The desire for recognition and validation can also drive finger-pointing, as people seek to assert their own identity and worth. Cultural differences can also play a role, as different societies have different norms and expectations for how conflicts and disagreements should be handled. Overall, the world points fingers as a way of communicating, reacting, and responding to the world around us.
Geared up for wider role in rest of Africa

The main objectives and functions of the CSIR are to undertake, foster and manage broadly based market-driven R&D, and technology transfer in support of industry, to meet the needs of community interests. Its scope lies in its scientific and technological expertise in the fields of aeronautical systems, building, earth, marine and atmospheric science, energy, food science, forest science, information technology, materials science, microelectronics and communications, production, roads and transport, textiles, water, and advanced computing and decision support.

But the CSIR’s specific strength lies in what it refers to as its Africa-specific expertise. This is catering to the fact that with the fundamental limitations on human and financial resources, SA cannot attempt to move on a broad front like developed nations do. It therefore sees its role in mounting highly focussed research programmes of specific importance to southern Africa.

This allows it to participate in the global scientific and technological effort and serve as a bridge for transferring advances in relevant areas of science and technology to the southern African marketplace in customised science and technology packages.

Blending this expertise with financial and technological muscle of First World countries in collaboration with African countries could prove a valuable mechanism for sustained development. The organisation has already made scientific and technological inputs to 14 African countries. Its contributions are mainly in three fields—infrastructure, quality of life and industry. Examples of such work include:

- A method developed so people in the Comores can make use of the abundant supply of volcanic ash for building instead of depleting coral and beach sand;
- Various small contracts have also been undertaken in neighbouring countries such as Swaziland and Botswana, including the evaluation of locally available brick making materials;
- In the transport arena, a contract for the rehabilitation of Malawi’s national road network and planning of its transport system was undertaken. Advice was also given on the management of road construction projects in Lesotho, Swaziland and Botswana, and an inspection programme of Zambia’s road network is still underway. The CSIR is also active as a consultant on the development of harbours in Mozambique and Namibia;
- In the energy field, research is being done on smokeless fuels and smokeless stoves suited to densely populated under- and semi-developed areas in various parts of the continent.

This ties in with CSIR developed fluidised bed combustion technology that uses low-grade coals or even wood chips for steam and power generation.

Scope

The CSIR will most probably become involved in the development and provision of the technology needed for the provision of low-cost electricity reticulation in under-developed rural areas of central and southern Africa.

Together with Eskom, there is scope for the CSIR’s involvement in a broad project to utilise the vast hydro-electric potential of the Congo Delta.

The CSIR was selected as the adviser to the engineering consultants for part of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project, and a rapid test method for the alkali-aggregate reaction (AAR) which gives useful results within 12 days compared to the 12-month ASTM test, was developed.
Experience enhances working in Africa
First World know-how for the Third World

THE CSIR’s role in SA and in Africa generally is already well known, with the organisation having conducted many projects in collaboration with other African countries.

The focus of these projects has fallen on infrastructure, quality of life and industrial development, with the CSIR harnessing First World technology for many Third World applications.

When it comes to building, many low-cost building methods have been developed and applied in a number of African countries.

In the transport arena, the contract sponsored by the World Bank for rehabilitating Malawi’s road network was awarded to the CSIR, and the organisation has also acted as advisor on road construction and inspection projects in several other countries.

Energy projects include research into smokeless fuels and stoves, as well as other appropriate technologies. Investigations are also underway into low-cost electricity reticulation in rural areas in central and southern Africa.

Water projects include the CSIR’s role as expert adviser to engineering consultants for the Katse Dam, part of the Lesotho Highlands water project.

In Namibia, it treated the Khan River’s water and investigated Uranium effluents, while CSIR researchers have also advised Lesotho on an aquatic weed problem and undertaken effluent and eutrophication research in Botswana, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Chad.

The introduction of protein, vitamin and mineral enriched foods and soya-based foods developed by the CSIR is being investigated in various countries.

The agricultural industry can benefit from satellite imagery provided and interpreted by the CSIR. This has wide applications for both agricultural and environmental planning in countries such as Botswana, Malawi, Zaire, Zimbabwe, and Zambia.
Narcotics are Africa's newest foe

A drive through is coming over the African continent, says Simon Bayham.
Food drive to save millions in top gear

SHARKEY ISAACS
Staff Reporter

TRANSPORTS's operational centre is a hive of activity as the program to save the lives of millions of people threatened by famine in drought-stricken Southern Africa moves into top gear.

Staff work round the clock preparing for the big crunch between now and September when ships will discharge millions of tons of grain at harbours in South Africa and Mozambique.

Operations co-ordinators Mr Andrew Wilson (Spoornet) and Mr Simon Swanich (Portnet) are hard at work tackling one of their most challenging jobs so far as big shipments of maize arrive at ports from Cape Town to Beira.

During the next few weeks they will have to deal with delegates from dozens of countries as they co-ordinate the progress by ship and rail of 8.2 million tons of desperately needed maize.

Delegates from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Botswana will make regular visits to the office on the seventh floor in the Paul Kruger Building in Wolmarans Street, Johannesburg.

While Mr Swanich routes ships to various ports to discharge cargo, Mr Wilson will deal with rail transport.

The biggest task, they say, will be to co-ordinate the incoming shiploads with South Africa's rail system and the systems of neighbouring countries.

More than 250 ships carrying grain are expected to arrive in Southern Africa in the coming months and these will have to be directed to harbours, including Cape Town, with available facilities.

The vessels are mainly bulk carriers but a few barges are also expected.

"What we are trying to do is ensure that the transportation of maize does not disrupt the running of routine services, on our side of the border and theirs," said Mr Wilson.

"That means getting maize trains on the shortest possible route when other trains are not running. So far everything is going smoothly."

Of the 8.2 million tons to be transported by Spoornet, 4.4 million tons are destined for consumption in South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland.

Zimbabwe will get two million tons from South Africa through Beit Bridge, Malawi will get 800,000 tons and Zambia one million tons via Malaw and Botswana.

Zimbabwean officials believe they will be able to handle the daily influx of almost 7,500 tons of maize. Of that, 5,000 tons a day will be for the country's own use.

Most will be coming through South Africa, but about 2,700 tons a day will come through the R207 million Beira harbour. Because of the limitations of the Beira Corridor rail service to Zimbabwe, which is being rehabilitated, 1,000 tons will be transported by a fleet of trucks escorted by Zimbabwean soldiers to protect them from raids by "bandits" operating in war-ravaged Mozambique.

While the drought may pose a threat to peace, it is bringing old foes together. This was seen in Pretoria recently when officials from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana, Mozambique and South Africa met to decide how best to distribute the incoming maize.

Mr Wilson believes all his rounds of face-to-face dealings with officials in "frontline" states have resulted in strong relationships.

In spite of initial opposition from Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe to South Africa's key role in the operation, officials agreed to set up a coordinating body to oversee the project.

Delegates at the meeting were officials rather than politicians in deference to Zimbabwe's fears that South Africa would try to make political capital out of the situation.

Mr Swanich said: "The size of the maize shipments is not the main problem — 8.2 million tons make up barely four percent of the 200 million tons Transnet handles annually. We are used to handling such large consignments."

Mr Wilson believes the main problem will be trying to co-ordinate all the parties involved in the operation.

They face the problem of trying to co-ordinate incoming ships and the railway systems of five, possibly six, different countries so that there are no unnecessary delays.

Officials have to be ready to deal with any mishap which could cause bottlenecks — rough seas, a derailment and even war.

Meanwhile, tensions surrounding the distribution of the relief maize are rising in Zimbabwe and the battle over scarce resources in Mozambique can only intensify while the drought continues.

In Zimbabwe the government is using riot police to guard maize deliveries after outbreaks of violence when hungry people tried to grab food as the grain trains arrived.
AFRICA BRIEFS

Food aid looted
- GUNMEN at the airport in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, have looted six tons of food as well as drugs down in to save starving children, according to relief workers.

Kaunda steps down
- AFTER being jeered and hooted down at a rally where he was due to speak, former Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda announced that he is to retire from politics in August at the general congress of his United National Independence Party (Unip).

Malawian leader still detained
- MALAWIAN authorities failed for the second time to produce detained democracy campaigner Chakwita Chihana in court on Tuesday, prompting his lawyer, Bazuka Mhango, to accuse the Banda government of crampling human rights.

Peace troops die
- THREE Senegalese peacekeeping troops have been killed by Liberian rebels in a 10-hour gun battle in the far west of Liberia.

$500-million for drought
- DONOR nations have pledged $500-million to alleviate problems caused by southern Africa's severe drought, it was announced in Geneva, Switzerland, on Tuesday.

The detention of Chihana, a regional trade union leader, sparked unprecedented anti-Banda government riots in Lilongwe and Blantyre. — Compiled by foreign staff with Kathy Evans, Mark Hubbard in Aahdjan and Andrew Midrak in Harare.
Tabloid is Popular
First Egyptian

Sweatman Thursday, June 11, 1992
Zanzibar sets minimum wage at $14,28 a month

ZANZIBAR—Zanzibar has raised its minimum wage to $14,28 a month in a heavily aid-dependent budget announced this week. Finance Minister Amina Salim Ali presented a 1992/93 budget of $87.3 million in development spending, mainly on projects to build up the Indian Ocean islands' dilapidated infrastructure and encourage the growing tourism industry.

International donors, who financed the budget by a total of $87.2 million, have since the mid-1980s tried to get Tanzania and its semi-autonomous Zanzibar islands to cut public spending. Diplomats say they have had little success.

Zanzibar's economy went into sharp decline after a bloody revolution that overthrew Arab sultanate rule in 1964 and the adoption of socialist policies.

The economy is trying to end its dependence on exports of clove spices and diversity into tourism and other exotic products such as seaweed, used for health foods and medicines.

Zanzibar has little foreign exchange to service its $476 million external debt and is seeking relief on this.—Sapa-Reuters.
Ethiopia elections on despite gripes

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopia's transitional parliament decided yesterday that regional elections should go ahead on June 21 despite calls for delay from 18 political groups.

The powerful Oromo Liberation Front and other ethnic groups have complained of fraud and intimidation in voter registration and preparations.

But the national election commission said it found no reason why the elections could not go ahead.

After heated debate the national assembly, made up of 30 political factions, voted 45 to 12 in favour of the planned date.

The elections will create 14 regional governments that give a large measure of autonomy to Ethiopia's many ethnic groups.

Sapa-Reuter.
Democracy in crossfire of Rwanda civil war

RUHENGERI (Rwanda) - Democracy is caught in the crossfire in Rwanda, an innocent bystander in a civil war between the army and guerrillas in the mist.

Democracy is a gorilla, one month old. He was given his name by the park ranger who found him in Rwanda's northern Virunga mountains on the borders with Uganda and Zaire.

His plight could be a metaphor for the whole country, whose transition from army-backed one-party rule to pluralist politics is being slowed by a 20-month conflict with strong tribal overtones that echo Rwanda's bloody past.

The civil conflict's first gorilla casualty was Mithi, a 24-year-old male found shot dead not far from his mountain nest.

Bullet wounds

He was hit four times. "None of the bullet wounds was in the chest, which suggests that he was not charging anyone," said Mrs. Elizabeth Mefio, a British-born scientist in charge of the park's veterinary centre.

Mithi was an ambassador for Rwanda's apes. He was filmed in Gorillas in the Mist.

It is not known who killed Mithi - the rebels who stage hit and run raids from bush hideouts or the Rwandan army.

But it seems likely a combatant heard a noise in the misty mountains, suspected it was an enemy and let loose with an automatic weapon.

"We've all debated who was responsible but I'm absolutely sure it wasn't done on purpose and it wasn't bringing him back," said Mefio.

What worries her and other experts watching over 310 gorillas that roam the park is that it is a precedent and a sign perhaps of troubled times ahead.

The conflict, can be heard nightly from Ruhengeri, a small town where tourists base expeditions to visit the apes in the wild and, crouched in the bush, watch them peel and feed.

Unexplained bursts of automatic weapons, mortar and artillery fire rock the town nightly after an 8pm "curfew" comes into force, hardly the noise to make tourists feel secure.

Nervous

It is a nervous town, a week ago soldiers fearing they would be sacked and lose their R84 a month salaries if the government and rebels signed a peace pact went on a looting spree here and in other garrison towns.

The Rwanda Patriotic Front rebels are mainly exiled members of the minority Tutsi tribe.

Centuries

They ruled the country in a feudal way for four centuries, until the majority Hutu people rebelled against them in 1957.

The ensuing carnage has never been accurately documented but it is thought at least 100,000 people: were killed and countless thousands made refugees.

The rebels want them to be allowed home.

The government rejects this, saying Rwanda is already the most densely populated country in Africa and its terraced hillsides and mountain tops can support no more. - Sapa-Reuters.
Desmond Colborne finds a change of heart in north Africa

Marrakesh lays out red carpet

Morocco, in the far north of the African continent, and South Africa in its deep south, have hitherto had a rather remote relationship. But in recent weeks South Africa has been in the news there. Events such as the establishment of a direct telephone link, prospects of air connections and more co-operation in other areas, have featured prominently in the Moroccan newspapers.

South Africans have also been visible conference guests, notably in Marrakesh.

A conference there, opened by the crown prince and organised by the International Chamber of Commerce, was attended by representatives of the Chamber of Mines, Sachs, Saffa, South Africa Foundation, Barlow Rand and Engen.

In the corridors of the conference, opportunities were taken to get to know Moroccan businessmen, including those in charge of the country's largest group which is interested in links with South Africa. Back-up was provided by the recently established South African interest office in Morocco, run by a senior diplomat, Reinhardt Mostert.

Moroccans and South Africans have similar worries. On the one hand, they share Africa's problems, particularly the danger of population growth dramatically outpacing economic growth (Morocco's population has swollen from 12 to 22 million in just 20 years). On the other hand, they both fear that Europe, which has its own priorities, might turn away from them, particularly as regards investment and market access.

Both countries have a common interest in an outward-looking Europe and in featuring themselves as gateways or bridges from Europe into Africa.

"Morocco," says King Hassan, "is like a tree with its roots deep in Africa and its leaves spreading towards Europe."

Both link Africa to Europe as hubs or clearing houses, and catalysts for economic and cultural exchanges in their areas.

Morocco has for long been a crossroads between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, between Europe and Africa. A minority of Moroccans have African features. They are descendants of the slaves brought from the south, some to serve in the sultan's armies. They, however, don't seem to suffer from colour prejudice.

Anti-semitism hardly exists in Morocco. Jews were living in Morocco before the rise of Islam. Their numbers were reinforced in 1492 when Jews were expelled from Spain and many came to Morocco.

Economically, as well as in other areas, links with France are strong — 700,000 Moroccans work there and there are 800 French companies in Morocco. France accounts for about 30 percent of total foreign investment, followed by Britain and Germany.

Agriculture is still the foundation of this economy, accounting for half of those employed — Moroccan oranges are the main competition for Outspan on the European market. Among mining products, phosphates are the most important — Morocco is the world's biggest exporter.

With a 3,000 km coastline, fishing is also important, but the biggest money-spinner recently has been tourism.

Whether it's business in Rabat or Casablanca, haggling in the bazaars of Meknes or Marrakesh, or touring in the Saharan south, there is a lot in Morocco for South Africans to discover.

Desmond Colborne is Paris director of the South Africa Foundation.
The Crisis of Development in Africa 6

International Issues
Boost for African industry

THE UN Industrial Development Organisation (Unido) is stepping up its drive to develop industrial projects throughout Africa this year.

It already has 50 investment projects worth $30m planned, and hopes to have further pledges of funds when it holds an investment forum in December on behalf of the 16 states of the Economic Community of West African States.

Since 1986 Unido has channelled $44m into more than 150 projects. These range from the supply of low-cost housing materials in francophone Africa to a $1m polypropylene bag company in Mali.

It has also facilitated investment promotions on behalf of many African economic groups and countries such as the SADCC and Nigeria.

The Nigerian forum attracted 400 sponsors and resulted in 78 letters of intent and seven agreements concluded on the spot.

Unido also prepares investors' guides to individual African countries as well as organizing presentations and promotional tours to industrial nations.
**BRIEFS**

of the meeting made no mention of a ceasefire to end the nine-year civil war, but both sides promised to meet again.

**New food aid to Somalia**

A second major shipment of emergency food aid for famine victims in Somalia is being off-loaded from a United Nations-chartered ship in Mogadishu. UN officials expressed confidence that the aid would reach the victims despite recent "incidents" of looting at Mogadishu's port and airport.

Relief flights to the capital's international airport have been suspended as a result of the looting and planes are being diverted to an airstrip north of Mogadishu. There is still disagreement about the proposed deployment of 500 UN soldiers to protect relief convoys in the country.

**Rastas to boycott reburial**

Rastafarians will stay away from the reburial of Ethiopia's last emperor, Haile Selassie, because they believe he is God and do not accept his death, says their national leader: "We have never accepted the purported death of the king of kings. We hold his person as sacred," said Bertran Moody in a letter to the State-owned newspaper.

Selassie's remains were found buried 7m under a latrine in the Imperial Palace grounds in February—18 years after the revolution that overthrew him—and they are to be given an Ethiopian Orthodox Christian reburial on July 23. At the time of Selassie's disappearance, the government said he had died of natural causes following an operation, but most Ethiopians believe the emperor was murdered by former dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam.

**Sudan's rebels attack Juba**

The rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) says its forces attacked the southern capital, Juba, this week and briefly occupied the government's Southern Command Headquarters. The SPLA says the Sudanese army suffered heavy casualties before the rebels had to withdraw to the outskirts of Juba, where they claim to hold six captured par- tisans in southern and western areas.

It is understood that the government has now imposed a night-time curfew in Juba, which has been under siege from the SPLA since 1983. This week's attack came three days after an inconclusive round of peace talks between the government and the SPLA held in Nigeria. A joint communiqué issued at the end
DIFFERENCES between developed and Third World countries over who will pay to clean up the environment remained a stumbling block at the Earth Summit last night wrote NICHOLAS SCHOOON.

RIO DE JANEIRO — At the largest gathering in history of presidents and prime ministers which convened in Rio de Janeiro yesterday, an impasse over Third World aid was still blocking final agreement.

Developing countries continued to hold out for stronger commitments to aid to finance a shift to ecologically sustainable and less environmentally destructive economic growth.

Small groups of Ministers from rich north and the poor south have been negotiating over a few crucial phrases in a paper on finance. A late-night plenary session at the Riocentro conference centre on the outskirts of the former Brazilian capital was being organised in the hope that it would break the deadlock.

The UN Conference on Environment and Development heard yesterday from British Prime Minister John Major, President George Bush and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Major said the UK stood ready to give extra aid for environmental projects in the Third World. He announced that the UK favoured the developed countries putting $2 billion (R5.6 billion) to $3 billion (R8.4 billion) into the World Bank’s Global Environmental Facility. Britain’s share, he told reporters, would be £100 million (R500 million) spread over several years.

Kohl, who spoke immediately afterwards, trumped Major by saying Germany wanted a $4 billion (R11.2 billion) replenishment of the facility. Germany’s share of that sum would be about 2.26 billion (R400 million).

The facility is intended to meet the extra costs in Third World countries of protecting the global environment. It could finance projects to reduce emissions of climate-changing greenhouse gases, protection of tropical forests and conservation of habitats.

Major had been expected to dwell heavily on the need to stop explosive population growth. In the event, he only gave the issue a brief mention.

He told the plenary session: “On our efforts are pinned the hopes of billions of people. It falls to us to try to reconcile their diverse and sometimes divergent needs.”

“...The contrasts are striking. In today’s world more people are healthier and live longer than ever before. And yet more people than ever before, one billion of them, live in abject poverty.”

Although the quarrel over aid continued, last night it looked as if agreement would be reached over a set of forest principles. Those principles were intended to highlight the planet’s trees as a crucial global environmental resource, and call for their rational exploitation and conservation. — The Independent.
Africa’s newest menace

SIMON BAYNHAM tracks the continent’s drug trafficking web

DURING the past decade, Africa has become a revolving door — and also a major centre of consumption — for the drug trade.

The narcotics business has become one of the most serious threats to the stability and economic development of the continent: a scourge that has ramifications well beyond the misery it inflicts on millions of malnourished Africans.

The abuse of narcotics greatly affects the Third World, where 20 percent of the globe’s 46-million illicit drug users live. World expenditure on illicit drugs and psychotropic substances now comes second only to armaments. The term “drug abuse” refers both to the non-medical ingestion of drugs intended for legitimate medical treatment and to the misuse of drugs (for instance, hallucinogens) with no accepted medical purpose.

Since the early 80s, the drug invasion has been facilitated by the geography of the African land mass. On the West African coast, the Ghanaian and Nigerian drug barons obtain their consignments of cocaine from Colombia, the Latin American state whose name has become virtually synonymous with drugs mafiosi of truly terrifying regional power.

On the Horn and in East Africa, the trail originates in the Southeast Asian “Golden Triangle” (the highlands of Burma and the northern regions of Laos and Thailand) and in Southwest Asia’s “Golden Crescent” (southern Afghanistan, northern Pakistan and parts of Iran). It is in these regions that much of the world’s illicit opium crops are refined into heroin. By 1990, one-third of the heroin intercepted in Europe had been transmitted via Africa.

Other known conduits include North Africa, a centre of traffickers in the depressing methaqualone (Mandrax), and Central Africa, where the airports of Bangui, Kigali and Kinshasa play a decisive and clandestine role in the lucrative onward trade into Western Europe.

Further south, the routes into South Africa out of Lumbumbashi (Zaire) and Lusaka (Zambia) are facilitated by small networks of mainly Greek entrepreneurs operating out of Johannesburg.

Already, considerable quantities of Mandrax are trafficked from the Indian subcontinent to South Africa; and cocaine (a stimulant) — which until 12 months ago was not a problem here — has the potential to become as serious a threat as Mandrax.

Figures released recently by SAP Commissioned General Johan van der Merwe show that the drug trade (for both transit and consumption) has become a multi-billion-rand industry in South Africa. According to the SA Association of Retail Pharmacists, 90 percent of worldwide Mandrax production is sold in South Africa, and 50 percent of all dagga seized worldwide is confiscated locally.

As well as causing widespread suffering and deaths among addicts, the drug racketeers engender corruption and violence, and many users resort to theft and prostitution to support their habits. It wreaks havoc on the lives of thousands of families.

One southern African state that tops the list of drug-trafficking countries is Zambia, where more than 50 percent of Africa’s significant illegal drug seizures monitored by the UN occur.

More widely, and more ominously, it should be stressed that heroin, cocaine, amphetamines and other narcotics can be injected — a practice that presents a risk of infections, including the AIDS (HIV) virus.

African governments are not in a position to tackle these issues alone. The basic challenge facing this continent’s policy-makers is to fashion a co-operative strategy that addresses both the demand and supply side in conjunction with the international community.

South Africa has already tabled new legislation which, when approved, will qualify it to sign and ratify the 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, a convention which provides a comprehensive cocktail of measures to enable countries to act together in the fight against drugs.

But unless the rest of Africa follows suit, a new epidemic of momentous proportions — the “Fourth Horseman of the Apocalypse” as it has been aptly described — will be added to Africa’s woes of war, famine and AIDS.

Dr Simon Baynham is director of research at the Africa Institute of SA
Bank raises $315m on Japanese market

THE African Development Bank had raised $315m through a well-placed 10-year bond issue on Japanese capital markets, bank resource mobilisation division chief Paul Saidi said on Friday.

The bank had raised more than $2.1bn on Japanese capital markets since it started issuing bonds on international capital markets in 1982. Yen-denominated debt amounted to 32% of the bank's total debt.

The bank preferred to raise money on Japanese and US capital markets because they offered very attractive rates and lower costs, Saidi said.

The bond's coupon rate was 6.2% and had been priced at 99.8% to yield 6.227%.

The funds raised through the latest bond issue would be used on development projects in bank member countries.

The bank went to international capital markets about five times a year to raise money for African development projects, Saidi said. The bank intended to place a bond issue in Euroyen, where borrowing would be done outside Japan but would still be yen-denominated. "The timing of this depends on market conditions."
Altech seeks African solutions

ALTRON subsidiary Altech is gearing itself for a major export drive into sub-Saharan Africa.

In the group's 1992 annual report, executive chairman Don Snedden said Altech's location, commitment to the continent and experience of African conditions, would give it the edge in finding "African solutions for Africa".

While the group would take advantage of every opportunity in the developed world, the main thrust would be in Africa.

The group was negotiating significant joint-venture agreements with a number of administrations. The successful conclusion of these negotiations would combine local and Altech expertise.

In the year to end-February Altech reported a 7% increase in earnings a share to 88c on a higher turnover of R230m. A total dividend of 27c (26c) was declared.

Reviewing the results, Snedden said late deferrals of government expenditure had held sales at the previous year's levels. But considerable progress had been made on diversification programmes, offsetting reductions in government expenditure with contributions to turnover which promised to be more significant in future.

The annual report disclosed that Altech's telecommunications and systems division, Altech Electronic Systems Group, showed a 10% decrease in turnover to R665m, or 63% of group turnover. Altech Electronic Distribution Group increased turnover by 34% to R235m, or 19% of group turnover. Altech Industrial Electronics group's turnover rose by 5.7% to R138m, or 13% of group turnover.

The technology development budget came to R111.6m, or 12% of group turnover. The development of a number of new products had reached fruition. These included Barcel, a telecommunications suitable for rural areas, a computer-based vehicle tracking system and a new electronic detonator for the mining industry.
African states scramble to lure foreign tourists

AFRICA was spending vast sums of money developing a tourism infrastructure and was becoming more desirable as a destination, the German magazine Afrika-Post reported recently. Afrika-Post 16/6/92.

It said tourism was likely to topple the motor industry from its international number one spot. African countries were scrambling to get a piece of the market.

The payoff had been a doubling of German tourist travel to Africa between 1987 and 1990. Seychelles had made itself particularly attractive, drawing 90,000 holidaymakers annually, almost all from Europe.

Countries along the Mediterranean coast had always proven popular. Visitors to Morocco increased 48% in 1991, but more and more tourists were heading south of the Sahara, the magazine said.

The Ivory Coast, Mauritius, Gabon and Cameroon had tourism industries that were close behind traditional foreign exchange earners such as sugar and textile production. Even SA, “the only industrial country on the continent”, was recognising the importance of tourism for economic growth, Afrika-Post said.

An indication of the importance African countries were giving tourism, was the creation of new ministries devoted exclusively to the industry and an increasing environmental sensitivity to hordes of visitors.

Tanzania had earmarked a third of its territory for reserves and nature parks, and planned to spend $70m on building and renovating hotels. It hoped to treble the size of its tourist industry.

Ghana and Togo were also developing tourist infrastructures. Senegal had billed itself as “the gateway to Africa”.

SA was the fourth highest earner of foreign exchange from tourism in Africa.

Tunisia was way ahead of the rest, earning DM736m in September last year.

Kenya was the top sub-Saharan tourist earner on DM125m. SA earned DM135m in that period.
Minister on trade visit

MOROCCAN Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali arrived yesterday on an official visit that would pave the way for a Moroccan trade delegation expected in SA next week.

Filali was one of several senior African representatives who arrived at Jan Smuts Airport yesterday, in transit to other destinations.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha said at the airport that Mozambique President Joachim Chissano, Botswana's President Quett Masire, Swaziland's prime minister and Rwanda's foreign minister had all shown up.

Meanwhile, the Singapore Trade Development Board said yesterday a business delegation would visit SA from June 28 to July 3 to establish contacts and explore trade and investment opportunities.

The delegation will include representatives of food and beverage, leisure, property development, commodity trading, electronics, marine services, telecommunications and packaging companies, the board said. — Sapa-AP.
Algiers - Fewer than one in five Algerians voted to re-elect former President Chadli Benjedid in 1988 but the government gave a figure of more than 80 percent, according to a report published by the newspaper Assalam yesterday.

The Arabic-language paper said Chadli, who resigned last January midway through his third term, received a "yes" vote from 18.84 percent of the 11,634,338 voters in December 1988. The official results said he won 81.17 percent support. According to an interior ministry report which the newspaper called "the real results", 50.19 percent voted against Chadli, the only presidential candidate. In the capital Algiers only six percent backed his candidature.

The rest of the ballot papers were spoiled. - Sapa-Reuters.
Peace eludes Rwanda despite peace talks

KIGALI - Camped between the bougainvillea and the satellite dish were 20 or so French soldiers.

Assault-course lean and dressed for action, they were a reminder that the Lilliputian central African state of Rwanda has a giant reputation for violence.

Rwanda has probationary membership of the new world order - democratic elections are promised, a newly-freed Press flourishes and free market reforms are in place - but bloodshed haunts its past and clouds its future.

"There is a potential for violence in this country of which everyone is aware. It's in check at the moment, but much will depend upon how the move to democracy works out," said one Western envoy.

He and other diplomats believe Rwanda is at the crossroads with one way leading to peace and democracy, and war and rule by presidential decree in the other direction.

The French troops camped at the Franco-Rwandan Cultural Exchange Centre in Kigali were part of a 150-strong detachment flown in this month to join about the same number protecting foreign nationals because of a guerrilla war, a series of terrorist attacks and an outbreak of army looting.

The day the troops arrived rebels attacked the northern town of Byumba, 80km from the capital in the most daring strike of a 20-month-old guerrilla war.

The raid also coincided with the start of peace talks in Paris between the Rwanda Patriotic Front rebels and the transitional government.

"I detect an absence of fair play," Prime Minister Mr. Dianas Nsengiyavere said in an interview.

"I thought we were all supposed to be talking." Government officials say the war is complicating plans to usher in multiparty democracy after 19 years of one-party rule under President Juvenal Habyarimana.

It also has tribal overtones, dating from the 1950s when the Hutu majority rose against the Tutsi minority which had ruled it as feudal lords for four centuries. At least 100,000 people were slaughtered.

The rebels are mainly Tutsis, with some Huts backing and saying they want democracy, integration into the national army and the right for untold thousands of Tutsi refugees who fled earlier violence to return without reprisal.

The human rights group Amnesty International said this month that 1,000 Tutsis had been executed in reprisal killings since a Patriotic Front invasion from Uganda in October 1990.

"We can't hold elections until the war has ended, that's clear," Nsengiyavere said. "You cannot have democracy without peace."

But peace seems elusive despite agreement at the Paris talks to hold further negotiations with Zaire, Senegal and Tanzania as mediators.

Nsengiyavere confirmed that the rebels were now active in two more northern communes along the border with Uganda, where many of them served in the guerrilla army that brought Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni to power in 1986.

Looting

While the war drags on, Rwanda's armed forces have grown from 10,000 to 30,000 men. Widespread looting by young recruits so worries the government that the heads of the armed forces and gendarmerie, both close associates of Habyarimana, were retired last week along with four other members of the top brass.

Much of the looting occurred after soldiers heard Nsengiyavere say on state radio that the costly army would have to be pared if peace came.

"The army is key in all this. What can you do with these soldiers if peace comes? And what to do with them if it doesn't?" said an African diplomat.

"It's not very encouraging," Sapa-Reuters
Press gets off its knees in Africa

The lavish image is slowly changing, reports Cindy Shim from Kinshasa
BEIJING - Chinese President Yang Shangkun will make state visits to Morocco, Tunisia and the Ivory Coast between June 29 and July 11. This will be the first visit by a Chinese head of state to these countries, a spokesman said, calling the tour a "great event in the relations between China and African countries".

He will discuss bilateral and international issues. - Sapa.
Togo leader kidnapped

SOLDIERS in Togo kidnapped a human rights activist and opposition leader in the latest of a series of human rights abuses critics blame on the military government of President Gnassingbe Eyadema. Mba Kabesemewho's wife Felicite witnessed the abduction, was beaten and taken away by a soldier on Sunday evening, a statement from Prime Minister Joseph Kokou Koffigoh's office said.

More die in Chad skirmishes

ARMED Chadian dissidents based in Nigeria claim to have captured territory inside Chad after fighting in the past two weeks. The rebels say they killed 150 government troops, a figure denied by the government which said it lost only 19 men. Fighting erupted on May 24 and has continued around the border post of Fororo, sources in the capital N'Djamena said.

A 500-strong rebel army known as the Movement for Democracy and Development (MDD) claimed it had secured a permanent presence in territory west of N'Djamena. The government claimed it has repelled the rebels who first invaded from Nigeria in December 1991. Compiled by Mark Huband in Abidjan and Andrew Meldrum in Harare.
Press turmoil in Libya

Sirte, Libya - Turmoil over foreign policy has deepened in Libya's Press, just as its parliament debates whether to hand over for trial in the West two men accused of blowing up an Pan Am passenger jet above Scotland.

Sudan 1916/92

2 shot dead in Algeria

Algiers - Security forces killed two armed men in gunfights, including the chief of a group which ambushed and wounded three gendarmes in western Algeria at the weekend.
The imposition of Islamic law in several African countries has stripped women of rights. In Sudan women have been subjected to abuses since the National Islamic Front-backed government came into power three years ago. Rehana Rossouw reports: South 20/6 - 24/6/92

SUDAN has seen an unprecedented erosion of women's rights since General Omar Hassan Ahmad Al-Bashir's National Islamic Front (NIF) seized power three years ago.

A report by the United States-based Fund for Peace says the Bashir government's unwritten women's policy includes the humiliation, detention and torture of female students, professionals and wives of political prisoners.

Sudanese women enjoyed access to education, civil service jobs, held important positions in national ministries and local government and thrived in prestigious fields such as law and medicine.

But in 1989, one of the first acts of the Bashir regime was to ban all women's associations not affiliated to the NIF.

More than 20,000 people, most of them women, were dismissed from their jobs because they were associated with groups opposed to the NIF.

Crude official statements regarding women suggest some may have been dismissed solely on the basis of their gender.

One pronouncement by Bashir in January 1990 described the ideal Sudanese woman as one who "should take care of herself, her children, her home, her reputation and her husband".

A government announcement in 1991 said all Sudanese women should appear in public only in proper Islamic dress. A presidential decree was issued later by the governor of Khartoum requiring women to wear Islamic dress.

"Not only did the new dress code cost Sudanese women the freedom to make personal decisions about what to wear, but it was also completely impractical as it was modelled on the Iranian chador (Islamic dress with a head cover, usually made of synthetic black material) which is not suited to Sudan's sweltering climate," says the report.

Bashir announced that by May this year all women in public places, offices, streets and institutions should wear veils and opaque dress.

The report says: "Appeals to the public to co-operate with the police and report women who fail to comply, as well as official statements saying women can be flogged and forced to stay in their homes, indicate that the intention is to enforce the decree.

"Many women say they interpret the pronouncements as an attempt to make all men become 'dress police'. They report about a woman who was stabbed to death for uncovering her headscarf in public." The Bashir government's attitude to women is also evident in its promulgation of orders prohibiting women from leaving the country unless accompanied by a male guardian or relative.

The government of the eastern state issued a local decree stating that women must be in their homes between sunset and sunrise. Some local authorities have prevented women from driving cars after 3pm.

A July 1991 "family law" forbids women from visiting their parents or close family except on "reasonable grounds".

Women have been stopped when walking in the streets or driving in the company of men and asked to produce documents to establish their relationship.

The report says one of the most notable and tragic of the Bashir regime's violations of human rights has been the introduction of the physical abuse of women.

"Even under the most brutal of previous dictatorships, strong cultural traditions demanding the protection of women prevented female dissidents from being subjected to the mistreatment visited upon their male counterparts.

"In a particularly disturbing departure from past practice, female NIF members have reportedly been trained to torture female detainees. Violations have included detention, torture and killings."

Bothaina Doka, a nurse at the Khartoum Civil Hospital was accused of being a supporter of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement. She was gagged with her bra, strung up by her hands and feet and beaten for over 12 hours.

Treatments meted out to women dissidents include shootings for refusing to comply with orders, sexual abuse by security officers and imprisonment without charge. In jail, they are also denied medical care and access to family members, including babies they have to breastfeed.
Now Visser puts Pep in the Brits

AFRICA's largest retailer Pep aims to take on the nation of shopkeepers by opening 200 stores — it has already opened 17 in Scotland — in Britain in the next few years.

Group chairman Christo Wiese says Pep is furthering its international operations within Africa beyond Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland and Botswana, where Pep Botswana shares were listed last week.

Taking note of the hazards of trading in Africa, Mr Wiese said Botswana had been most successful and would likely be the springboard for entry into Mozambique, Angola and Zimbabwe.

The UK chain will trade as "Your More Store" under the guidance of former Pep Stores retail MD Johan Visser, who entertained members of the Investment Analysts Society with an impromptu speech as part of a Pepkor group presentation on Thursday.

He claimed he was not in Scotland on account of his English or for the weather but to relish the challenge: "I'm a retailer and I know my business."

Having been involved in the opening of 300 stores in Pep's Southern African stable in the last four years, 200 in the UK does not daunt him.

"Many people do not understand what being poor really means, or that living on £100 a week makes you count every 20p. A third of the UK population is in the DE income group, nine million earn less than £100 a week and three million are unemployed.

"That represents a low-income market 10 times the size of SA's working population in the same bracket."
ADDIS ABABA — Ethiopians voted yesterday in the first democratic election in Africa's oldest independent nation, but a powerful faction warned that alleged irregularities could spark a new civil war.
AFRICA

Front says no to poll in Sahara

ALGIERS - The Polisario Front, which claims the Moroccan-annexed Western Sahara, has warned the authorities in Rabat against going ahead with planned elections in the territory.

In a statement, it also appealed to the United Nations secretary-general and the chairman of the Security Council to intercede with Morocco to preserve a ceasefire in the territory and "give peace a chance."

The statement said the presence of a UN contingent in Western Sahara was a sign both of the territory's "special status, distinguishing it from Morocco, and of the will of the international community to see it de-colonised once and for all."

The Polisario Front, which has been at war with Moroccan forces since the annexation in 1975, accused the government of wanting to reduce the UN mission to "a simple trip by tourists invited just to applaud a grotesque spectacle and a parody of the mandate of the United Nations and the authority of the Security Council in Western Sahara."

General elections are being prepared for Morocco at a date yet to be fixed, and according to the Interior and Information Minister Driss Basri, they will take place in the disputed Saharan territory too.

The elections, which had been scheduled for two years ago, were postponed by King Hassan II to allow the organisation by the United Nations of a self-determination referendum for Western Sahara.

While having long conceded the principle of such a referendum, the king has also repeatedly made clear that the Sahara is and will remain Moroccan. - Sapa-AFP
SA ‘least safe African country for unionists’

CAPE TOWN — Despite improvements in SA, it remains the least safe place on the continent to carry out trade union activities, says the International Confederation of Trade Unions.

In its annual review, it said 47 trade unionists were murdered in SA between March 1991 and March 1992. Most of these murders could be attributed to right-wing death squads.

However, union sources quoted in the survey stated that the highly organised nature of the violence and professionalism shown by the killers suggested the existence of a third force, including elements of the police and security forces.

The survey, released in Brussels, said revelations about the secret funding by government of the Inkatha-linked trade union Uwusa and other groupings, including an “intelligence service on trade union activists”, were confirmation of dirty tricks against trade unions.

It referred to plans, uncovered in February, for the assassination of prominent union leaders.

Collective arrests and mass dismissals completed the grim picture of SA given in the survey, questioning the government’s commitment to the reform programme upon which it claimed to have embarked, the union body said.

In many African countries trade unions had been in the forefront of the fight for democracy.

In some of them the rulers, resisting the winds of change, had resorted to the use of force to suppress the pro-democracy movements.

Worldwide, 200 people were killed as a result of anti-trade union repression, and the survey rated Colombia, China, Guatemala, El Salvador, Iran, Peru, Sudan and SA as the world’s most dangerous places for trade unionists.

Two thousand cases of detention of trade unionists were documented in the 45-page report which described many instances of death threats, abduction, disappearance, harassment and spying aimed at trade unionists.
ALGIERS - Para-military gendarmes have arrested two Algerian journalists from the Arab-language popular weekly *Ech-Chorouk*. "Our director Ali Fodil and colleague Saad Bouakba are still detained after being taken on Sunday," a journalist said yesterday. *Source:* 23/6/92

About 30 gendarmes detained four journalists on Sunday but released two after about six hours.
Plan for regional electricity grid starts to pay dividends

ESKOM CE Ian McRae is starting to see the rewards of five years of “slog” trying to sell his idea of an electricity grid for sub-Saharan Africa.

“Things are starting to move quickly now, it’s very exciting,” he says.

Ten days ago Eskom signed a co-operation agreement with Zambia’s Electricity Supply Corporation, involving the supply of services and exchange of technical information.

Eskom and the Ivory Coast’s Energie-Electrique de la Cote d’Ivoire have also reached agreements. The two utilities will not only co-operate regarding services and information but will team up on construction projects, maintenance and training.

Other developments bringing the grid a step closer include a feasibility study into linking Zaire, SA, Angola and Namibia under SA co-ordination.

Negotiations are going ahead to try secure funding for the rehabilitation of the Cahora Bassa Dam System. Mozambique has secured an SA government-guaranteed loan from the Italian government for Cahora Bassa’s rehabilitation but is still $40m short. The World Bank, African Development Bank and European Investment Bank have been asked for assistance.

He says agreement has been reached on links between Cahora Bassa and Zimbabwe and tenders will probably go out in August. SA is looking at taking up excess capacity from a hydro-electric project on Angola’s Namibian border. A project under construction on Angola’s Capinda River will have to link into the grid for full use.

The possibility of a coal-fired station in Botswana is being investigated and work is being done to link Kenya and Tanzania to Owen Falls in Uganda.

McRae says it will probably take eight to ten years before the grid is a reality. But important elements have begun to be put into place. Behind the idea of a regional power grid is McRae’s belief that power is central to economic growth. The region, comprising the 18 countries from Zaire, Uganda and Kenya southwards, has a population of about 200 million but less than 10% have access to electricity.

On the positive side the region is blessed with a wealth of power generating sources, he says.

The idea is to develop viable power-generating projects in all countries. A grid is essential for smaller countries which need to export power to make electricity affordable.

McRae says the drought has highlighted the need for power connections between countries.

Zimbabwe is in dire straits because it imports power from Zambia, which is conserving its resources as the water level of Zambia River and its dam drops. A power link between SA and Zimbabwe would have been tremendous help, he says.
Major World Bank contract expected to go Altech's way

Altech expects to be advised within the next few days of the award of a major contract in central Africa, one of a few offers submitted against World Bank regional development projects.

Altech, the largest locally controlled electronics and telecommunications company in southern Africa, with a turnover in excess of R900m, has initially targeted sub-Saharan Africa as part of its comprehensive export drive, says market development executive Keith Crosby.

Altech believes the prime requirement of the region is a strong and effective telecommunications infrastructure. For this reason the group has already focused its skills and facilities on a number of countries.

Crosby says SA companies have a wealth of experience in infrastructural development, which is sorely needed in Africa.

He says Altech wants to strengthen relationships by becoming involved in operating, maintaining and developing telecommunications networks to meet the needs of the customer, not simply supply products.

When it comes to World Bank tenders in sub-Saharan Africa, Altech is up against the world's multinationals.

Altech's southern African experience gives it a distinct competitive edge but a lack of finance is its downfall. Crosby says finance is a major problem confronting the company's southern African activities.

Its overseas competitors have, in some cases, access to soft loans from their governments, while SA currently feels it has not got the money to spare on such loans.
SA BUSINESSMEN ARE SCARED OFF BY SHORTAGE OF FUNDING

AFRICA's lack of money is the major limit to business, says Absa International assistant divisional manager Pieter Louw.

His view is supported by every ARDE member interviewed. Searce funds are the most important element, deterring SA and other businessmen from grabbing a wealth of opportunities, ranging from trade in almost anything to technological and management transfer, restructuring roads, ports and banking institutions to setting up wealth-creating projects in agriculture, mining and tourism, says Louw.

One way to overcome the money problem is to use aid or development funds. SA's membership of the African Development Bank will be an important breakthrough in this regard and Louw is optimistic it will happen soon, provided SA's political process keeps going.

But relying on aid money is essentially a short-term, project-based approach rather than a solution for ongoing business in Africa, he says.

Louw believes the key to doing successful business in Africa is to invest in the development of countries' resources. SA companies need to put money into grassroots development projects which will ultimately facilitate exports, he says.

The pay off for SA businessmen is that in the longer run countries will be able to use their export proceeds to pay for SA goods and services.

Serious

"South Africans serious about long-term prospects in Africa have a major role to play by investing now," says Louw.

Unfortunately, there are too few SA companies which are committed enough to exports and a long-term presence in Africa, he says.

SA's banking sector has an opportunity to help establish financial intermediaries in most countries to the north. Credible financial institutions, supported by sound government economic policies, are a pre-condition to trade.

Reliable financial institutions would also encourage the wealthy sectors in these countries to put their money into the formal economy rather than operate in the informal parallel markets which thrive almost everywhere in Africa, he says.

SA's banking system can not be imposed anywhere but local banks can provide manpower and technical support.

Absa International helps establish payment mechanisms for companies trading in Africa.

Louw believes that political issues in Africa are important, but that they cannot be the short-term obstacles.

Countries' current political structures should be evaluated and weighed up against resources and political and economic policies.
Firm suited to meet power needs

ROSHERVILLE Engineering believes it is ideally placed to serve Africa's power industry.

Since the early 1990s, Johannesburg-based Rosherville Engineering has dealt with the complex maintenance of power-generating equipment, including turbines, transformers and switchgear.

Recent visits to and from neighbouring countries have shown that there is a keen interest in establishing co-operation agreements or joint ventures with SA companies like Rosherville.

It says the recent World Energy Council meeting highlighted the fact that the eyes of the First World are focused on eastern Europe, forcing African countries to acknowledge their interdependence. They have also realised that the costs of using overseas expertise are enormous.

It has therefore become vital to use local resources and develop local skills. Rosherville is the perfect partner, having realised early on that rehabilitation of well-tried equipment to prolong its life holds advantages over buying new equipment.

Rehabilitation costs, a fraction of the cost of capital goods and existing staff do not need to be re-trained.

Spares can be manufactured locally, again at greatly reduced costs. And spares can be upgraded by using more sophisticated materials.

Rosherville has created a large infrastructure of equipment and skills. It has also developed a pool of diverse experience in problems relating directly to the African environment, for example unique weather conditions.

Rosherville hopes that its ideal positioning to service southern Africa needs will allow it to play a role in maintaining heavy power equipment but also in upgrading the sub-continent's skills levels.
Rennies reveals links between freight firms

RENNIES' freighting subsidiaries Renfreight and Manica have come into the open about their relationship after years of pragmatic coverage during the sanctions era.

Manica, which celebrated its 100th anniversary this year, historically marketed its freighting service exclusively outside SA and built up an extensive southern African network encompassing more than 40 locations north of SA's borders. It invested more than R100m in assets in Africa when many other international concerns were pulling out of the region.

Its links with SA and sister company Renfreight were covert. Manica brokers omitted SA completely and its head office had a London address.

The new Renfreight was formed through the merger of the air and sea operations of Renfreight Air Cargo and Renfreight Forwarding in April this year. They have concentrated on the SA market for over 150 years.

Although operating on different markets, the two companies always worked together but it is only recently that they have been able to publicise that fact.

Renfreight CEO Eddie Stead says the reason for coming out into the open was the groundswell of demand for effective support by SA businesses wanting to trade in southern Africa. This was reinforced by African and international attitudes to SA with the changing political climate in SA and the southern African region.

Manica CEO Gary Hopcroft says the restructuring would have taken place whether SA was reaccepted internationally or not. The group made a business decision to concentrate its efforts on freight management. However, political developments made it easier to do this by deepening the Manica-Renfreight relationship.

He says there are no plans to merge the two companies into one as both have strong, well-known images in their respective markets.

Manica will continue to focus north of SA, while Renfreight will target the local market. Their collaboration will continue but will be more openly marketed as a plus to clients, in SA and Southern Africa.

Agreement

Overseas clients doing trade with southern Africa, including SA, are targeted through an international agency agreement with LEP International, one of the world's leading freight forwarders and other agents.

Stead says the two groups have positioned themselves to follow the international trend to expand freight forwarding to embrace all aspects of freight management.

They will still be involved with traditional clearing and documentation functions, but not in isolation. Traders are no longer satisfied with such a limited service, but rather want a total freight management package tailored to their specific commodity, he says.

Besides clearing freight, Renfreight will consult on packaging and transport from point of supply to consumption.

Manica and Renfreight's extensive presence on the ground in all southern African countries means that they are aware of economic and political developments affecting freight such as infrastructure, substation of railway lines or changes in customs regulations.

As experts in their field, Manica and Renfreight deal with all these concerns on behalf of their clients.

Hopcroft says while there has not been a visible increase in cargoes yet, he believes regional trade has grown. Renfreight has seen a marked increase in queries from SA businessmen wanting to trade in Africa.

Hopcroft says there has also been a tremendous increase in operations in Zimbabwe through the Open Geographical Import Licensing Centre which promotes rehabilitate in industry. Manica is moving heavy machinery and equipment needed for the rebuilding.

He says Manica and Manica's main opportunity is in managing exports/imports, ranging from agricultural products from Malawi and Zimbabwe, to copper from Zambia and Zaire.

Another large opportunity lies in the management of aid projects. Hopcroft believes aid bodies will start looking to SA to ensure effective distribution of aid.

The largest short-term prospect is the distribution of food aid especially to Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia.

Stead says astronomical volumes of maize are involved and while Renfreight is glad to be involved in its management, all SA resources are going to be stretched by the aid programme. In fact the entire region's infrastructure will be taxed.

He says this is just one example where regional collaboration is vital.

The region needs the decrease dependence on aid and pull together to make the region work.

Hopcroft has the same sentiments. "We need regional solutions."
Time to tap into Africa's tremendous potential

AFRICA is seen as a poverty-stricken, AIDS-ridden and marginalised continent by many. But astute businessmen, including South Africans, realise they could tap into more than $10bn in development aid allocated to Africa every year, much of which is never spent because appropriate projects are not identified.

They also see the enormous potential of the Sub-Saharan market of more than 450-million people with spending power contributing to annual GDP in excess of $220bn.

Changes

They know that SA is believed to have made about R10bn from exports to Africa last year and that trade north of the borders grew 46% in 1989, 20% on top of that in 1989 and a further 22% last year.

Sweeping political changes of the past few years and the growing interest in doing business in Africa has swelled membership of Safto's Africa Business Development Group (ABDG).

Chairman Ian McRae says the group has also been forced to reassess its role and restructure to meet the changed needs and circumstances.

Surprisingly, most players say changes started before President FW de Klerk's landmark 1990 speech.

ABDG manager Paul Runge says things really started happening in about 1989, with the Cuban withdrawal from Namibia and its subsequent independence.

"The whole of Africa is a village and things have a ripple effect," Runge believes the last domino to be topped will be the dropping of trade sanctions by Tanzania and Nigeria.

Spornett's Andre Heydemynch says the thawing of east-west conflict made Africa less strategically important and foreign countries are no longer pumping in money.

Foreign donors also became increasingly disillusioned with Africa's continued deterioration and have focused mainly on eastern Europe for development assistance.

Runge says De Klerk added momentum to these developments, opening Africa's doors to SA.

Many SA concerns can now admit that they have been doing business in Africa for years and others are considering joining them.

Checklist

Political stability is first on the checklist when looking at the risk profile of countries in Africa, says Runge.

"Has the country had, or is it planning, multiparty elections?"

Safto conference a hit

SAFTO's recent two-day conference on southern African trade and investment was such a success that a follow up is already being planned for next year.

The conference highlighted current trade and investment opportunities in the sub-continent and speakers and delegates came from as far afield as Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, the US and Europe.

Organisers of the conference say SA delegates in particular showed a new awareness of the need for regional co-operation. Fruitful contacts were made.

A publication of the conference's speeches and presentations will soon be available from Safto for R159.

Next is an agreement with the IMF.

Lack of finance remains a major constraint to trade and other work in Africa and SA's membership of the African Development Bank is seen as essential.

Other important factors to be considered are market size and diversity, colonial heritage and geographical location. Good physical access is important to do successful business, says Runge.

Attitudes

Proximity to SA and things like landing rights, visa arrangements are important.

SA businessmen also need to look at countries' attitudes to SA, language, economy diversity, maritime agreements and inspection services agreements. An SA representative on the ground also helps, he says.

Zimbabwe remains the biggest market for SA, buying a quarter of all SA exports, says Runge.

Zambia is another well established market. Recently acquired markets for SA include Kenya, Angola and Madagascar and very new markets are Tanzania and Nigeria.

To do good business, says Runge, countries need good physical access.

Markets to which SA has access but where there is minimal activity include Gabon and Morocco, which Runge believes should be explored more.

He says SA companies should prioritise their efforts in Africa. "Now that we are no longer desperate for any contact outside SA, we can choose where and which projects and markets to become involved in."
Sweeping political changes of the past few years has swelled membership of Safta’s African Business Development Group. And astute businessmen are realising they can tap into more than $10bn in development aid allocated to Africa every year but mostly never spent because appropriate projects were not identified. TANIA LEVY reports.

Africa is keen to see what SA has to offer

SA WILL be present for the first time at the OAU All-Africa Trade Fair after being invited to exhibit at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair, which runs concurrently.

SA’s virtual inclusion in the OAU fair, one of the largest trade events on the continent, is a sign that it is on the brink of full re-acceptance by Africa.

“It is an absolute coup,” says Safta’s international trade fairs marketing executive Ann Matthews. “It shows the OAU’s obvious desire to include SA and proves that trade overcomes political boundaries.”

Before last August’s Nairobi show, SA had not taken part in an African trade fair. Since then it has been included in the Angolan Building Fair in April and the Zimbabwe National Trade Fair last month, which led to the invitation to the Zimbabwe Regional Export Fair.

It will take place in Bulawayo from September 2 to 4, in conjunction with the sixth OAU fair, which takes place every four years at a different venue in Africa.

It is attended by African and international visitors and usually includes exhibitors from most of the 51 OAU member states.

Booked

Safta has already booked space for 29 exhibitors and companies already committed are from light industry, mass feeding products, agriculture and mining.

Matthews says there has been a huge surge in invitations to SA to participate in trade fairs, particularly in Africa.

South Africans know little about most potential markets after years of sanctions and foreigners are also curious to see what SA really has to offer.

She believes the invitations will continue to flow in for the next year or two.
Noristan hopes for a slice of the aid pie

PHARMACEUTICALS group Noristan is keen to become involved with aid bodies such as the Red Cross and World Health Organisation, says export development manager Darryl Moss.

But until SA is accepted as a full UN member, local companies like JSE-listed Noristan will be boycotted by health aid bodies which spend billions of dollars a year on medical assistance and products in Africa. Their aid is the ‘major part of many countries’ health budgets.

In some cases, such as Mozambique, it is the only medical spending. “This obviously represents a tremendous opportunity for us,” says Moss.

Source

He is optimistic that the aid agencies are eyeing SA companies to source products in the near future. Noristan already exports 31 pharmaceutical products to other African countries and about another 100 are in the registration process. The company has been exporting to Malawi and Zimbabwe for many years. It now also exports to Mauritius and Angola.

In the past two or three years Noristan has started expanding into other African countries. It has been identifying marketing partners, started registering products and setting up distribution channels in various countries, including Zambia, Congo, Zaire, Madagascar, Tanzania, Kenya and Burundi.

Moss says that within 10 to 15 years sub-Saharan Africa will be one common market of some kind.

“It makes sense to concentrate our African export efforts on countries likely to be part of that market.”

Noristan’s main export markets are Malawi and Zimbabwe. In the past 18 months, Kenya has grown to become the third largest.

Moss says the world is one pharmaceutical arena, so Noristan finds the same competitors everywhere, namely large multinational organisations like Glaxo and Smithkline Beecham and local pharmaceutical firms like Adcock and SA Druggists.

French companies like Roussel have a huge presence in former African colonies, he says. Competing with them is difficult but SA companies are used to high competition levels from local market where there are many competing for a relatively small market. SA is also a very sophisticated medical market.

Advantage

Moss says SA has a strategic competitive advantage in sub-Saharan Africa but it is difficult to convince other SA businessmen of this.

“Africa is seen as poverty-stricken, AIDS-ridden, and marginalised continent with no money. I suppose there’s an element of truth in this but it is also a market of more than 433-million people with a 1999 GDP of R2.23 trl.

“And they can pay if they want something badly enough.”

“To be successful it is important to try build long-term trust and good relationships.

“Africa is different,” he says. “Business works very much on contacts, while Europe works more on the economic motive. In Africa there are few decision makers in business, South Africans need to know them and understand their country’s politics, economics and social structure.”
Bordeaux offers port as gateway to Europe

A DELEGATION from the Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce and Industry arrived in SA at the weekend to promote its harbour as a gateway to Europe.

Chamber spokesman Robert Beynal said yesterday that the city had a long history of trading with the rest of the world, and had well-developed communications network with which to assist foreign traders looking at Europe.

He said Bordeaux also had substantial investments in Africa, and SA businessmen could benefit through joint ventures with chamber members.

He said vast amounts of aid were flowing into Africa. To date SA had been excluded from taking advantage of these, but by setting up joint ventures with the French could make use of international funds to expand into Francophone countries.

Beynal said Bordeaux was also a gateway to Spain and Portugal, while UK ports offered access only to northern Europe.

Meanwhile, a Moroccan trade delegation signed a mutual co-operation agreement with Safco yesterday.

Safco international division GM David Graham said the agreement would be significant for SA trade opportunities in Morocco.

Only mixed maize products 'for now'

PRETORIA — Pure white maize products were no longer available on shop shelves, Maize Board GM Peter Cowie said yesterday.

He said the mixing in of at least 70% yellow maize with white maize for the production of maize products was inevitable because of the drought.

It was not possible to obtain sufficient quantities of quality white maize elsewhere in the world to supplement SA's supplies, he said.

Yellow maize, which was mainly imported from the US and Argentina, was the best quality available.

Cowie said although there was a difference in colour, the mixed maize product was as nutritious as that produced from standard white maize.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Affairs Department said many trainloads of grain had been despatched to neighbouring countries ravaged by the drought.

It said the first meeting of the Strategic Group for the Southern Corridor would be held in Johannesburg today. The group coordinates imports for southern Africa.

From April 7 to June 30, 40 vessels had unloaded more than a million tons of grain at SA ports.

During this period, 187 trains had been despatched with grain to Zimbabwe, 15 to Zambia, 23 to Malawi, eight to Botswana, two to Swaziland and 14 to Lesotho.

The department said SA would have to import 3-million tons of maize and 1-million tons of wheat to meet local demand. — Sana-Reuters.
Burundi is eager for trade benefits from the new SA

BUJUMBURA — “SA whites have had blondest for years,” the Burundi’s Prime Minister Adrien Sibomana told his guest.

“But with majority rule coming, I think they may have to get used to brown,” he added, with a twinkle in his eye.

Sibomana was making a play on words which had nothing to do with the hair tint of SA women and everything to do with the prospect of a majority-rulled SA’s entry into African economics.

He hopes that when trade ties with SA are formalised his tiny central African state will be able to export to the south its dark beers, whose brewing it learned from its former colonial master, Belgium.

All over East and central Africa governments which publicly shunned SA because of apartheid are preparing for the day when it shakes off the shackles of 30 years of economic sanctions and begins to use its untapped economic power.

SA businessmen, whose trade links hitherto have been confined to nearby states such as Zambia and Zimbabwe or carried out secretly because of sanctions, are mounting trade fairs in Kenya and Tanzania to put their wares on display.

Countries dependent on former colonial masters in Europe for imports are now seeing what they can get from a major economy which, if not on their doorstep, is just at the end of the garden path.

“We could save 8-billion Burundi francs (about $48m) in importing from SA,” Sibomana said. Burundi’s import bill was about $12bn in 1999.

“And we could save time, too. It takes up to three months to get things from Europe. But if the stuff came from SA, it could take as little as two weeks.

“Even if we sold the South Africans nothing, we would be saving money,” he said. “But we must export there to balance the exchange. I think there are lots of possibilities.”

Burundi is an economic dwarf. “We have coffee and tea and that’s it,” said a young businessman. “That doesn’t give us much chance for expansion.”

Western diplomats and economists say Burundi has, however, managed scant resources carefully and avoided many of the pitfalls of waste which have befallen better-endowed neighbours such as Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire.

Its currency has been set loose and the fact that it commands a black market premium of only 15% over official rates is a sign that the economy is responding well to “the surgeons from Washington” (the IMF and World Bank), diplomats say.

Compared with many African capitals Bujumbura is a village — but one where the telephones work, government officials are at their desks and answer calls and IMF and World Bank remedies have been carried out vigorously without public outcry.

“We have followed the reform programme with discipline and we have explained it to the people. Sibomana allowed us to make considerable progress,” Sibomana said.

Economic growth was a modest 3.5% in 1999 but has averaged 3.5% in the past two years. Inflation has been brought down from 8% in 1990 to around 5% this year, according to Western estimates.

Some 25 firms are to be privatised out of a total of 84 state companies, including parts of the vital coffee monopoly and the tea industry.

Coffee production in 1991/92 was 33 747 tons, according to the Burundi Coffee Company, and is expected to be 35 000 tons in the coming year.

Half the production is sold to private exporters under privatisation plans, putting the nation’s biggest foreign exchange earner partly in the hands of the free market. — Sapa-Reuter.
SA entry into ADB eagerly awaited

SA: Membership of the African Development Bank (ADB) is eagerly awaited, as possibly the most important development still to happen for SA business in Africa.

Earlier this year, the bank's president, Babacar Niaye, visited SA and said he was confident it would become a member in the next two years.

SA was officially represented for the first time at the bank's annual meeting in Dakar this year and in May, two ADB consultants were in SA to assess its possible role in southern African regional integration.

Denied

However, SA will be denied membership and therefore access to billions of dollars of ADB loans until it is included in the Organisation for African Unity (OAU).

Last month an OAU delegation came to SA to monitor violence and attended Codesa 2 as observers.

The OAU delegation leader, Nigeria's OAU ambassador Olusegun Olusola, is on record as saying the OAU was disappointed with the stalemate reached in negotiations but satisfied that progress was "nevertheless" being made.

It must be clear that the precondition for SA's OAU membership was the "establishment of an elected interim government and an elected constituent assembly which will be responsible for drawing up a new constitution."
Projects

Proce.
Opening trade doors forces Safto to rethink

SAFTO's Africa Business Development Group (ABDG) has been forced to take a critical look at itself as more and more trade opportunities open up in Africa. With more than 80 members, including SA's top companies, the ABDG acts as a facilitator, helping SA business and industry establish links in Africa.

It also acts as a conduit for African countries seeking to make contacts in SA and is increasingly the voice dealing with government on African issues.

ABDG chairman, Eskom CE Ian McRae, says the ABDG has had to take a hard look at whether it is meeting members' requirements regarding Africa.

"The ABDG must change," he says. While the changes in SA and Africa's political arena and resulting trade opportunities mean a greater role for the ABDG, McRae believes it needs to be restructured.

"We have already started breaking into smaller groups to better meet the differing needs of member companies."

Categories

McRae says there are two broad categories of ABDG members: those involved in construction-related projects and those involved in buying and selling-type trade.

While he believes there is still scope for a broad umbrella body to co-ordinate activities and plenary sessions where all members come together, these should be less frequent than the smaller group sessions.

Rennies business development manager Craig Lee says he would like to see the ABDG become more proactive and dynamic. It should strive to develop a clear so that it is recognised as the main trade body to deal with in the region.

He would like the ABDG to go beyond its role as information provider and contact facilitator. It should get out into Africa, and pull members with it, he says.

RMS Holdings group export consultant Jean Labesse says that since about 1988 the ABDG had been aware that isolation was thawing and SA would be increasingly re-accepted into Africa.

He agrees that its role needs re-assessing and says this is taking place.

"Before it was the key to opening doors, now that they are open the ABDG needs to play a more in-depth and focussed role, helping members successfully enter markets and identify the best projects."

Unanimous

ABDG members are unanimous on the indispensable role it plays in communication.

Noristan export development manager Darryl Moss says the ABDG plays an important role as an information clearing house.

It is virtually impossible to get market information out of Africa, he says.

Most African countries do not have up-to-date trade publications.

McRae is adamant that members should not expect the ABDG to do their groundwork for them. If companies want opportunities they need to look for themselves, get out there and sell themselves. The ABDG cannot do their marketing for them.
Railways hold the key to region's economic health

A HEALTHY transport system is a sine qua non for southern Africa's economic revival, says Spoornet international traffic manager Andre Heydenrych.

The railway network is vital for international trade, development work or investment.

It is the backbone of the economy, he says.

Already about 60% of trade in the region involves rail transport, with the rest using roads.

A serious drawback is the minimal rail interconnection between neighbouring states in the region, says Heydenrych.

Only about 7% of trade in southern Africa is internal. Most takes place with overseas countries, so rail routes have traditionally been export-oriented, linking towns with ports, rather than with other towns.

Colonies

Zimbabwe, SA, Botswana and Zambia are linked only because they are all former English colonies.

Heydenrych says the rail network is a "jewel in the crown" and the link between the two countries was once the shortest route between Europe and Asia.

The line between Mozambique and Malawi has been rehabilitated, but this work and running of trains is seriously hampered by Renamo activities, he says.

While the north-south route is in reasonably good condition, there are areas of disrepair such as the Victoria Falls bridge.

Streamlined

This would enhance rail's competitive edge over road, offering clients a streamlined and co-ordinated service and a single body to deal with.

But other railways in the region fear Spoornet's strength, believing it would take over their operations, he says.

This could be avoided by giving each railway an equal ownership in the joint corporation.

We have no desire to dominate but would rather learn from the centre. We are part of the continent and realise we have to all work together," he believes with time the distrust of SA will break down. But he admits the idea of a regional railway is "very much a dream."

Even if agreement were to be reached, it would probably take up to 20 years to become a working reality.

The practicalities of making it happen would be very difficult given the disrepair and destruction of lines over the years.

Heydenrych says Zaire, Malawi and Angola's rail lines are in the worst state.

The Benguela line, between Zaire and Angola, alone would need hundreds of millions of dollars to rehabilitate.

The line between Mozambique and Malawi is out of commission.

The Maputo-Zimbabwe link is being rehabilitated but this work and running of trains is seriously hampered by Renamo activities, he says.

While the north-south route is in reasonably good condition, there are areas of disrepair such as the Victoria Falls bridge.

Drought: Spoornet rolls to the rescue

SPOORNET will spend more than R50m to move the millions of tons of maize which will flow into drought-stricken southern Africa in what has been called the biggest ever food and aid relief transportation exercise.

But Spoornet international traffic manager Andre Heydenrych warns that funding will run out by year-end and leave SA in debt.

"Spoornet is spending millions in good faith but it is a risk," he says.

Spoornet can only hope the international donor community will realise the large investment being made by companies like Spoornet and sister company Transnet.

In a year when SA is expected to export 5.5m tons of maize and import at least 150m of wheat, about 2.5m tons of maize will be moved from Zambia to Zimbabwe.

Zambia will receive R900m worth of maize from SA for about 800,000 tons to Malawi.

"The Mozambique and Malawi lines are out of commission. The Maputo-Zimbabwe line is being rehabilitation but this work and running of trains is seriously hampered by Renamo activities, he says.

While the north-south route is in reasonably good condition, there are areas of disrepair such as the Victoria Falls bridge.

Transport systems will be stretched to capacity to move the millions of tons of maize relief.
Moroccans seek trade ties

By Stephen Cranston

Ray Brown, MD of Langeberg Holdings, SA's largest fruit and vegetable canner, has expressed surprise that a Moroccan delegation is hoping to sell fruit into the local market.

Speaking to The Star from his office in Bellville, Mr Brown said that SA was already a major exporter of quality canned fruit and vegetables.

"Morocco grows certain fruits like dates which are not grown in commercial quantities here," says Mr Brown, "but I am quite confident that there is no market for volume imports of beans, peas and tinned deciduous or citrus fruits."

The Moroccan trade delegation was introduced to the media yesterday and included government representatives as well as representatives of the private sector from the travel agency, canned fish, canned vegetable and shipping industry.

The delegation, which will be in the country for the rest of the week, is headed by Mohammed Mouhir Bensaid from the Moroccan Centre of Export Promotion. SA has already opened a trade office in Rabat, the Moroccan capital.
Bid for fair Morocco polls

RABAT - Four Moroccan opposition parties said yesterday they had asked the palace to set up an independent national commission with extensive powers to ensure honesty in this year's elections.

The government has already announced official multiparty commissions to supervise the rural, municipal, and legislative elections. The elections, the first in eight years, will take place in stages over the next six months.

The opposition said in a statement the electoral laws and the regulations governing the official commissions were "unclear and ambiguous" and did not reflect a national consensus as promised by King Hassan.

The four parties sent the statement to Mr. Ahmad Reda Guedira, King Hassan's senior political adviser.

"The best way to achieve a national consensus is to set up an independent national organisation for the elections ... with clear attributions and sufficient powers ... and the necessary prerogatives to be able to follow all electoral operations and ensure they are healthy," the statement said.

The nationalist Istiqlal Party and the Socialist Union of People's Forces, who have formed a Democratic Bloc with three minor left-wing groups in the opposition, have been campaigning vigorously to prevent any attempt by the administration to rig the elections.

A senior government source has dismissed demands for an independent electoral body. He said elections were always organised by the administration. - Sapa-Reuters.
Painful lesson for Rwandan minister

Democracy and Development (MRND), which has ruled since independence in this tiny central African country for 19 years.

Habyarimana, in his first official comment on the attack, which is being investigated, said he was sure it was motivated by robbery.

"I'm sure it was pure burglary and that there were no political motives," he said.

"But let's see what the inquiry says," he added.

Habyarimana denied the attack followed his demand for fair and free national examinations for secondary school entrance that would end "cheating" which favoured children from Habyarimana's northern home area.

Teachers who were fair, he said 50% of the government's exam papers were being prepared, cut off the building's telephone and put police at the door to avoid any leaks.

The incident highlights recent regional tensions in a country of seven million whose history is stained with the blood of one of Africa's most savage outbursts of tribal killing.

It also points to the tension Rwanda will have to negotiate to join the short list of African nations which have successfully won independence for democracy, diplomacy and peace.

Uwilingiyimana, a 38-year-old former teacher, is a member of an opposition dominated transitional government installed by Habyarimana in April to prevent a fragmentation of power.

It was a pledge he made last year when he was re-elected to his seat: "It is too early to talk about a return to democratic order." But politicians such as Uwilingiyimana, the minister for primary and secondary education, aready the president is deliberately obstructing progress towards democracy, he is participating in the process so that he can be able to know it remains with him.

Exams

Fixed school exams, the alleging, gave Habyarimana's northern region a better chance of passing jobs in the most densely populated corner of Africa.

Some 100,000 children aged about 15 sit the exam to compete for 18,000 secondary school places which would enhance their chance of leaving the cash poverty economy for filled jobs in the civil service or business.

All over Africa ruling elites have bestowed such privilege on members of their tribes or their allies but Rwanda's north-south division has nothing to do with tribalism.

Rest

About 85 percent of the population belongs to the Hutu tribe. The rest belong to the Tutsi people, which ruled the majority for centuries on feudal kings.

In the 1950s the Hutu rebelled against the Tutsi and at least 100,000 people were slaughtered. Tribal strains still exist but are minor compared to the north-south fissure, Rwandans say.

Habyarimana comes from the northern Rwanda.

Uwilingiyimana, from the Republican Democratic Movement (MRND), is from Burera, capital of one of nine northern provinces.

"In 1951, for instance, three kids from Burera made it to university school whereas in the head of state's province of Kage, 140 did," she said.

"I said when I was appointed that only the brightest children will get the places."

Power

After he seized power in 1973 Habyarimana announced a policy of "regional balance", which opposition politicians say masks favouritism for northerners in every branch of government.

Ten thousand school children and their teachers marched through the streets in protest at the attack on Uwilingiyimana.

The exams were duly sat, and the results are due August.

"The top civil servants are all MRND appointees and are given the ability to delay the publication of the results," she said.

"But they will be posted so everyone can see them. Habyarimana abolished the public display of results as he took over, but not this time, everyone will see that it's fair," she said.

Sappi

Growing trees for generations

Without trees, there'd be no front page news.

No trees. No pulp. No newspaper. Without paper, nothing will be printed. That's why we're planting trees for the future.

For growing trees is creating the background for tomorrow's news.
15 die in land feud

LAGOS - Young Tiv tribesmen killed 15 women, including Taraba State's only woman member of parliament, in a raid on their Jukun neighbours last week, Nigeria's National Concord daily reported.

Kasuwa Agbu (27), who was elected in the central eastern state last December, had her throat cut when the Tiv launched a reprisal raid on Akwana village over a long-running land dispute.

The mutilated body of one of her brothers was also found.

Police had detained Agbu and her brother as they were driving in the region before the raid, because her brother was armed.

Skirmishes between the two communities have frequently broken out in the past two years, claiming more than 100 lives last December alone, according to reports reaching Lagos at the time. Several villages have been destroyed.

The latest attack was in reprisal for the killing of a young Tiv woman after a row over the suspected theft of a bag of fertiliser. - Sapa-AFP.
Madagascar drops socialism

PARIS — A year after hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets to demand change in Madagascar, Premier Guy Razanamasy said yesterday that the country would drop socialism by the end of this year. Mr Razanamasy was in Paris on a private visit, but met with Premier Pierre Beregovoy, and leading business officials to discuss French investment in his country.
Hooyo’s lonely vigil for the dying children

T HE coughing children with tuberculosis call her "hooyo" – the Somali word for mother. Other aid workers in this war-shattered country refer to her as the Mother Teresa of Somalia.

Italian Annalena Tonelli has treated sick Somalis for 23 years and plans to press ahead with her mercy mission in this sandswepied, seaside town despite a lack of supplies, a shortage of staff and threats on her life.

Grey-haired and fair-skinned, the saintly mother of Mercy’s sick runs a TB clinic for 400, a pediatri c hospital housing 100 children, a feeding centre where 2,500 hungry kids eat each day, and a school for recovering patients. She does it all with only one doctor, one nurse and a handful of untrained Somalis.

Despite her heroic work, she is realistic about the bleak prospects for Somalia, where two million face starvation.

"It’s terrible because there is no hope for the people of this country. The good ones have gone. Others are dead," said Annalena as a tiny sick child clung to her shoulder for security.

Three-year-olds hold the hands of one-year-olds as children march from the armed guards at the gate to the other rows of children sitting under trees in the centre’s shaded courtyard, holding empty oilcans, waiting for their meagre: portions.

Smoke from the fires under the vats of boiling rice wafts through the doorway into the courtyard where the children wait, singing songs of Allah. They clap when the adults arrive lugging the large pots of food.

Most of the food donated from Western nations intended for centres like Annalena’s never makes it: "Sometimes it’s stolen from the beginning. Sometimes it’s stolen later," said Mario Neri, an Italian doctor – the only doctor – working with Annalena.

Armed locals frequently threaten Annalena, attempting to force her from the clinic so they can reclaim for themselves the old buildings that house her patients.

On September 8 an armed faction evicted 400 of Annalena’s TB patients from their beds in the church that she had converted into a hospital.

Recently a bomb exploded outside her room on the second floor of the clinic, a white-washed: stucco building that once served as the Bank of Rome office. The blast caused her to move across the street where Dr Neri lives above his sick children.

At the pediatri c hospital children with distended bellies stand in line waiting to see the doctor. In the dimly-lit halls, between the maze of overcrowded rooms, children – most of them skin and bones – lie on grass mats side-by-side along the floor.

One frail stick figure lies motionless on the ground, staring blankly ahead as he receives intravenous support, too weak to swat the flies that cover his face.

In July alone 154 children died in the hospital. "In the future of this country there will be nothing – only anarchy," said the ponytailed Neri, a self-proclaimed communist who has devoted 12 years of his life to working among the poor in Africa.
140 Somali refugees perish in shipwreck

GENEVA — At least 140 Somali boatpeople have died in a shipwreck off the Yemen coast, and 1400 other people still need help on the vessel, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said yesterday.

The bodies of 34 children and seven others were washed up on Yemeni beaches across the Gulf of Aden from Somalia and about 100 other corpses were on the boat among the survivors, a UNHCR spokesman said. Rescue operations by the Yemeni navy were complicated because many of the Somalis were apparently suffering delirium after their two-week odyssey in the Gulf of Aden on a ship where temperatures reached 50 deg C.

Some of those aboard had died of hunger and thirst. — Sapa-AFP.
Ethiopia orders American to leave

ADDIS ABABA - The transitional government yesterday ordered the head of the 65-member US election observer team to leave the country for interfering in Ethiopia's internal affairs by addressing a political rally.

A spokesman at the US Embassy said the expulsion was the result of a misunderstanding by the government and the opposition's distortion of comments the American made on Sunday at a rally organised by Ethiopia's largest opposition party, the Oromo Liberation Front.

State-run news media said Mr Edmund Keller, a University of California professor of political science, had been ordered on Tuesday night to leave the country within 24 hours for "violating the code of conduct of the observers' group".

Under terms set by the national election commission, international observers were to make no public statements while in Ethiopia.

Keller's team was the largest contingent among 200 international observers monitoring Ethiopia's first-ever democratic elections on Sunday. The voting, by secret ballot, was to elect regional assemblies.

Sapa-AP.
go on trial

leaders

Millitant

AFRICA HIGHLIG'TS

students arrest a wounded youth at the end of a march in cannes, venetia. the students were demanding the resignation of president carsos, and the arrest was made during a demonstration on saturday. the suspect, a member of the new youth socialist group, was taken to the police station for questioning."
Africa can aver the lunar landscapes

FACE OF HUNGER: Doubt is raising the kind, people and animal of Africa

"The face of hunger is rising. Doubt is raising the kind, people, and animal of Africa."
Chaos blamed on saboteurs

BRAZZAVILLE — The Bishop heading Congo's provisional parliament has blamed the chaotic organisation of Wednesday's parliamentary elections on saboteurs and said results in several districts would have to be annulled. "We are uncovering a network of saboteurs," Monsignor Ernest Kombo said on Wednesday night. (1)

Reforms begin in Egypt

CAIRO - Egypt has taken its boldest move yet towards dismantling decades of socialism, passing land reforms that could triple rents overnight and displace up to three million peasants.

Critics say the law could cause chaos in the countryside and raises the spectre of angry peasants setting police to avoid being evicted from the land they have farmed all their lives.

Cairo is one year into an ambitious economic reform programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund, but has so far implemented only fiscal and monetary reforms which avoid directly hitting Egypt's poor.

But a long-delayed land reform bill, passed late on Tuesday after heated debates in parliament, reverses 40 years of strict rent controls, enabling landlords to raise rents and to buy tenants off their land.

It will affect about half a million Egyptian families who currently live in some of the richest agricultural land in the country, paying minimal rents which average an equivalent of R300 a hectare.

The government, which brought in Egypt's highest Islamic official to denounce the 40-year-old controls as contradicting Islamic law, said the new bill would boost agricultural production.

Mr. Khaled Mohamed, head of the opposition leftist UPP party, said he feared the worst: "So many people will be thrown off land they have farmed all their lives, it would have been better to leave them there and have borne the cost."

The agricultural sector is radically split between large, private farms booming as agro-industrial businesses on reclaimed land, and millions of small farmers in the Nile valley who rely on inefficient state-run co-operatives for seed, machinery and credit.
AFRICA

Ivory Coast president returns in style

A privately chartered Concorde, the cost of which Air France has refused to disclose, flew Ivory Coast President Félix Houphouët-Boigny home to Abidjan this week after a four-month private visit to Europe.

The 86-year-old president, who like other African leaders no longer enjoys the perk of free rides on Concorde paid by the French government, ran his indebted nation over the telephone from one of his numerous European mansions during his absence. Not even the worst riot ever seen in the country, on February 18, and the subsequent jailing of the country’s main opposition leaders could bring the president back.

All Africa peace force proposed

The Organisation of African Unity council of ministers this week proposed the establishment of a peace-keeping force which could intervene to settle military conflicts on the continent. OAU secretary general Salim Ahmed Said proposed the setting-up of a special fund to finance the continent-wide force. The proposal will be debated at the full OAU conference due to open in the Senegalese capital, Dakar, next week.

Senegal urges inquiry into troop deaths

Senegal’s Foreign Minister Bibo Ka this week called for a full inquiry into the killing of six peace-keeping soldiers in Liberia and said all countries in the peace force should take an equal share in the dangers. Ka, opening a meeting of foreign ministers from seven countries involved in the Liberia peace process, said a commission of inquiry should be set up to "clarify the circumstances of the soldiers' deaths, to find out who was responsible and to draw all the necessary consequences."

Six Senegalese soldiers from the Ecomog West African peacekeeping force were killed two weeks ago by Charles Taylor’s rebel National Patriotic Front of Liberia. Taylor said they died when shooting broke out after a misunderstanding, but Senegal says it has evidence at least some were executed in cold blood.
Learning to take part in democracy

NEVER an election goes by without accusations of fraud. Why is it that African parties are always accusing each other? Is it really fraud? Or is it an attack of sour grapes and evil indiscretion?

There are several reasons. I can offer four, and the first is "bad losers". Multi-party democracy needs both a winning party in government, and a losing party which will in opposition to supply a potential alternative government. But chiefs like to win. Forming a potential government in opposition doesn't have much appeal for African chiefs. Anyone studying the fate of opposition democratic leaders in recent African history must sympathise with them. The track record of opposition leaders winning power through the ballot box is not brilliant (and I cannot recall any before 1990). The death record is much higher. But there it is: we must have an alternative government in the wings. The role of the election loser in making democratic change possible is actually more important than the role of the winner.

The second explanation is statistical. Take the 26% participation rate which has been announced for the election in Mali. It is really quite false. They say that about 1.3 million voters participated out of a registered number of 5.5 million. In a country with just 8 million people, that means more than half are under 15? Only those over 18 are eligible to vote, and they cannot number more than about 3.3 million. And 1.3 million voters out of 3.3 million makes a turn-out of 40%, which is remarkable for a country which has never ever voted before, and where 80% of the people can neither read nor write.

Why is there is such a huge discrepancy in the figures? Well, the census in Mali is really a taxation list which includes your dead father and grandfather. They (you) are forced to continue paying their taxes until you have enough money to bribe the local Government to take their names off the list. To these inflated lists we have to add all newly registered voters. The only people who actually have to register to vote are those who have moved. After thirty years of drought and debt, most of the men between 18 and 60 have migrated at some time or other to the towns. There are 600,000 overseas for a start, either in Ivory Coast or Ghana or Cameroon or France. These people are counted as registered voters in their home village (where the old one-party state used to tell their fathers to vote on their behalf), and maybe also in the place where the census found them. But they are actually voting in the town where they have re-registered to get a voting card.

A third cause for crying fraud is fraud. Some people have made false cards, or reallocated stolen cards, or even bought cards from the poor, which they can get their supporter to use. We saw a Peugeot full of young boys drive into the courtyard of one polling station. They all piled out, and stood in line to receive their cards. Since they couldn't read, the organiser read out the names for them. Then the boys lined up to vote "Number 695748: Moussa Keita" reads the door controller. "What is your father's name?" Silence. The poll organisers have the list of registered voters in front of them, and so they can tell who lives in the same house with the same name. But of course the 16-year-old boy didn't know "Sorry: you will have to go away and come back with your identity card to prove that you are indeed Moussa Keita. Next please!"

But after hearing the report of the International Observer-Corps, it seems unlikely that real fraud had much impact on the March-April elections in Mali. Their real success may inspire the whole of West Africa.

There is also vote-purchase, which had great influence in some places. "I voted of course" said Mrs Diallo. "Wriggling her shoulders in an embarrassed way, "I vote for the red ballot." I show her two: one red and white the other orange. She wasn't sure. "Zey are both red, those two," I know from experience that our Western perceptions of colour are more elaborate than those of monochrome village life. I once had a pair of torn blue trousers, which the tailor sewed with black thread. Admittedly he wasn't a very good tailor.

Mrs Diallo was still wriggling her shoulder with embarrassment. "I think I voted for this one" She pointed to the bright orange ballot. "That's fine, Madame Diallo: and why did you vote for this man?" I have known her for years, fed and vaccinated all her children in times of hardship, and mentally her mud house when half of it fell down during the last rains. I have no hesitation about probing beyond the barrier of the secret ballot.

"Eeh! M'sieu Roberts. Je chais pas! My boys told me to vote for Zey say he give us money, plenty money, so I vote for him!"

In America they vote for the size of a man's ears, or the colour of his skin, or because they think he'll make them rich after the vote. Madame Diallo decided to vote for the man who made her rich before the vote: and that makes pretty good sense. You may not approve of the candidate, or of his dirty money sources from another African country's President. But no one can challenge Mrs Diallo's right to choose freely, provided that her vote was secret. And she did. And it was.
Institute aims for African democracy

BARNEY MTHOMBOTHI

GORÉE ISLAND (Senegal) — President Abdou Diouf of Senegal on Thursday formally opened the Gorée Institute, an organisation which seeks to promote democracy and understanding in Africa.

The Gorée Institute, Centre for Democracy, Development and Culture in Africa, is to have close ties with South Africa's Idasa, whose founder, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, is chairman of the board of trustees.

From Gorée Island, lying just off the coast of Senegal, millions of African slaves were shipped to Europe and the Americas and it has become a memorial to them. The island, which has buildings dating back to the 17th century, has a population of only 700.

Slabbert said at the opening ceremony that to establish such an institute on the island, with its rich symbolism, was an act of defiance and an expression of commitment.

The foundation of the institute's establishment, he said, had been laid in that "historic meeting" in 1987 when prominent South Africans, mostly Afrikaners, travelled to Dakar to meet fellow South Africans who were in exile and to talk about a common future.

He said the institute would not involve itself in making big speeches but would concentrate on serious issues on the ground. The aim was to make its expertise and resources accessible to as many African countries as possible. It owed no allegiance to any government, political party or interest group, and had signed a formal treaty with the Senegalese government guaranteeing its independence.

The institute's board of trustees include Professor Heribert Adam of Canada, well known for his writings on South Africa; poet Breyten Breytenbach, Professor Claude Ake of Nigeria and Senegalese author and film-maker Ousmane Sembène.

The institute held its first seminar on transition to democracy in Dakar yesterday.
GLIB talk by local and overseas politicians that South Africa is to become the economic engine which will pull Africa out of its present economic depression, is gradually being tested in the real world of business.

The results are disheartening. Political turmoil, a lack of infrastructure and systems — ranging from government departments to road and railway systems that simply don’t work — are frustrating efforts by SA businessmen to increase trade in Africa.

Nonetheless trade with the rest of Africa has risen by 150% since 1987.

Top company Premier Group — South Africa’s second largest food group with substantial pharmaceutical interests — says it is experiencing great difficulties in doing business with Africa now that sanctions are disappearing.

Political unrest, in many instances caused by efforts to get rid of dictators, are causing instability which often makes economic growth impossible.

Premier deputy chief executive Gordon Utian says that the whole industrial cycle in Africa is not working. “One has got to be very, very careful about us being the engine of Africa. Africa needs investment more than trade.”

Premier has suffered massive losses in central Africa in recent times as a result of political disturbances. In Malawi 15 wholesale stores owned by Premier were looted of about R1,5-million in goods stolen recently, while in Zaire its large wholesale cash-and-carry operation in the capital Kinshasa was razed to the ground after being looted. In Lubumbashi Premier’s retail network was looted during an uprising against the Mobutu government.

In Mozambique difficulties occurred after a reshuffle of government officials. Preferential tariffs which were negotiated between Premier and the previous officials were simply scrapped by the newcomers.

Utian said in Angola serious problems were encountered because of a “lack of infrastructure, of an ability to get something done, people on the ground, systems and operations that work — it’s just not there”.

An “enormous amount of bribery” added to the difficulties.

Utian hoped that future aid from donor countries and the World Bank would be channelled through South Africa. An investment chain could then be started up into Africa.

“We are going to have to invest in Africa if Africa is to return to normality,” he claims.
Only crumbs for the needy

Africa’s silent agony brushed aside by concerns of the rich

WHILE 117 world leaders, 30 of them African, ate dove eggs wrapped in salami and roast veal a la Diplomate at the earth summit in Rio, southern Africa – suffering its worst drought in more than 100 years – came away with crumbs.

This was because the needs of lesser developed countries, northern corporations and the northern media dominated the recently concluded UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

Grassroots activists from Africa and the Third World found little concern about democracy at the summit.

Southern African officials were clearly frustrated at the limited resources rich countries were willing to commit to poorer countries’ efforts to preserve the environment.

“UNCED has achieved a lot. It was historic in its importance but, I regret to say, it has also failed in some respects.” Botswana President Sir Ketumile Masisi said in his speech on behalf of African countries at the summit’s closing plenary.

“It’s a step – it’s not a solution – but it is a positive step,” commented Mozambique’s Mineral Resources Minister, John William Kachamila.

“But what the developing countries need is something a lot bigger,” he added.

Tanzanian president Ali Hassan Mwinyi told world leaders the global environmental crisis consists of two kinds of emergencies: "loud" ones such as global warming, and "silent" ones which affect the daily lives of billions of the world's poor.

His remarks underlined the wide gulf between the priorities of the rich, industrialised north and the urgent needs of the poor in the south.

Southern African officials and activists alike were angered by richer countries' dismissal of issues such as fuelwood exhaustion, toxic waste disposal, or the dumping of dangerous pharmaceutical products, as "local" concerns less important than the "global" issues – such as climate change and ozone depletion – pre-occupying the North.

Some were clearly frustrated by US intransigence on issues of concern to both Africa and the world.

Bush

"It is not possible to believe President George Bush's election campaign considerations are more important than the contents of the biodiversity treaty,” Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe told a press conference in Ecuador while en route to the earth summit.

Despite appeals made by several presidents of SADCC member states, the conference ignored one of southern Africa’s most pressing problems: reconstruction of rural and urban environments devastated by white South Africa’s wars of destabilisation against its neighbours.

In fact, the US pressed consistently to exclude mention of war as a source of environmental degradation.

Hence there was no discussion of possible funding for converting the region’s “surplus armies”, after decades of Cold War-fuelled conflict, into “green battalions” which could help repair the massive war damage in countries like Angola and Mozambique.

Usually at odds in domestic arenas, southern Africa's heads of state such as Tanzania's Mwinyi found common ground with the region's activists in stressing the primary importance of poverty as the most critical factor fueling environmental degradation.

"The loud emergencies have yet to affect many people,” Mwinyi told summit leaders.

“But the silent emergencies – the more immediate issues of human survival – are already wasting many lives. Some 1.5 billion people in developing countries do not have access to health services.

SADCC country delegations had arrived in Brazil sharing a common position thrashed out last year in a series of UN Economic Commission for Africa and Organisation of African Unity meetings.

A central priority was to ensure the issue of increasing desertification – a scientifically contentious subject – be recognised as a global problem rather than just an African concern.

African delegates were clearly pleased when the conference agreed to set up an Inter-governmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to negotiate an international convention on drought and desertification control.

But the failure to deal with the southern African drought was the most disheartening feature for this region. – AIA
OAU in bid to end war in Africa

DAKAR - Organisation of African Unity foreign ministers agree that it must do something to help stop Africa's burgeoning wars.

But the idea of a pan-African peacekeeping force has been put on the back burner, delegates said at the weekend.

They said they spent eight hours on Friday mulling over proposals by OAU Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim for an OAU "mechanism" to prevent and settle conflicts in Africa, which is more torn by war and rebel uprisings than any other part of the world.

The ministers were due to complete that and other draft resolutions on Saturday for discussion at a three-day OAU summit beginning today.

Debate resumed on Saturday evening after Friday's late-night session.

"There was absolute unanimity on the need for Africa to do something," Salim told reporters on Saturday.

But he said some ministers felt the idea needed further study while others were worried it could mean OAU meddling in countries' domestic affairs, breaking the OAU's long-standing policy not to encroach on national sovereignty.

Salim declined to say which countries expressed opposition to elements of the plan. Delegates said they included Zaire, Rwanda and Sudan, whose governments are all battling rebel insurrections.

Salim's original proposals included a call on OAU members to earmark units of their armed forces for possible peacekeeping duties, and creation of an OAU military consultative committee.

"The essence of the proposal has nothing to do with creation of an African military force," Salim told reporters.

He said he envisaged OAU military observers to help respond quickly to brewing disputes, and the possibility only "in extreme cases" of raising peacekeeping troops.

"He said funding such an initiative within the cash-strapped organisation would be difficult. Arrears on OAU members' dues amounted to R4.84 million before the ministerial talks began on Monday, although some countries have since paid up to the tune of R19 million.

But Salim added: "Everything has a price. Peace has a price also. I don't think any price in terms of what we are asking for is that colossal. It is a question of political will."

He said he hoped concrete proposals for the peace-making plan would be ready for approval at the next OAU summit in a year's time. - Sapa-Reuters.
By BARNEY MTHOMBOTHI
Armscor African News Service

DAKAR - Africa's heads of state assemble here today for the 29th summit of the Organisation of African Unity with a myriad of interrelated problems awaiting their attention.

But the African issue is no longer one of them.

A mighty dust-up had been expected as some African countries lobbied for a South Africa mandate as respectable by reform and adherence to the UN and efforts to desegregate the Pretoria government, and this was followed by a summit meeting at the summit's request at an emergency meeting.

Certified countries seemed prepared to stage a showdown over the issue. However, the Boipatong massacre seems to have come to the OAU's rescue, sparking a discussion on the fate of the African issue.

This week, the African States梦境-called on the United Nations to support the processes of change in South Africa.

The rapid pace of events, including the arrival of UN peacekeeping forces, has prompted the OAU to take a more direct role in the effort to disengage the country from the Pretoria government.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's positions are at the root of the continent's problems and its dependence on the continent. This week's events have been widely seen as a further indication of the OAU's inability to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people.

This week's events have been widely seen as a further indication of the OAU's inability to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people.

The impotence of the OAU to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

For the organization to be able to exist, it must have the support of the continent. In 1991, the OAU's impotence had been seen as a failure to deal with the continent's problems.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

Poverty
The OAU is an organization that has long been struggling with its own problems. The continent's problems have been widely seen as a failure to deal with the continent's problems.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.

The OAU's impotence to deal with the continent's problems is something that has long bothered many of its supporters. Its capacity to make even a tiny difference in the daily lives of ordinary people is almost nil.
NEWS IN BRIEF

29/10/97

 Cameroon delegation

A CAMEROON business delegation arrived in Johannesburg today. The delegation is headed by the Cameroon trade and industries minister and represents commerce and industry across the board. It will meet prospective partners during the week.

Cameroon's soccer legend, Roger Milla, accompanies the group to host various soccer clinics.
Victory in Ethiopia poll

ADDIS ABABA — The ruling Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) has won a big victory in regional elections in the capital, Addis Ababa, a radio report said yesterday. The party won in 31 out of 34 polls in the Addis Ababa region, one of 14 in Ethiopia. Official results, however, will take several days.
Slaying plunges Algeria in crisis

ALGIERS — Algerian head of state Mohamed Boudiaf was shot dead yesterday, an event that plunged the country into uncertainty and fear. The army-backed leadership vowed his captured killer would lead to those behind the assassination.

The man tipped by some diplomats as a successor, Interior Minister Laarbi Belkheir, was put in charge of arranging the leader's funeral, to be held tomorrow.

"The security forces might want to take advantage of this now to put in a real strongman," one diplomat said, suggesting Mr Belkheir would be a natural choice.

Mr Boudiaf's body was flown from the east Algerian coastal town of Annaba, where his killer, dressed in police uniform, opened fire with a sub-machinegun.

- Mr Boudiaf (75), some 27 minutes into a speech to inaugurate a new cultural centre, was hit in the back and head, APS news agency said.

Mr Belkheir has been running a state of emergency imposed by Mr Boudiaf amid unrest and killings blamed on Muslim fundamentalists after the cancellation in January of a general election the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win.

The FIS was banned in March.

News film on state TV showed Mr Boudiaf break off from his speech at the sound of a muffled explosion.

His final words heard were: "We must know that the life of a human being is very short. We are all going to die. Why should (the authorities) cling so much to power?"

"Other peoples have overcome us by technology and science. Islam..." — and then gunfire.

Uncover

Some 41 people were wounded in the assassination attack, including Industry and Mines Minister Abdenour Keramane.

"The killer has been arrested and the inquiry now going on will uncover the instigators of the crime and their accomplices," the presidency said.

The presidency Mr Boudiaf headed since last January 16, known as the High Council of State (HCS), announced it was in permanent session with the supreme se-
Algeria's President Mohamed Boudiaf was killed yesterday when his car was gunned down by unidentified snipers in the center of the capital, Algiers.

Boudiaf was shot eight times from both sides of the car. The body was taken to a hospital, but doctors were unable to save him. The President had been in power since 1992 and was popular among the people. He was known for his efforts to bring stability to the country after years of conflict.

The attack has caused shock and anger in the country, with many questioning the role of the security forces in ensuring the President's safety. The government has promised to investigate the incident and bring those responsible to justice.

President Boudiaf was a tireless worker for Algeria's development and was known for his dedication to the country. His death is a great loss for the nation and the international community.
ALGIERS - Shocked Algerians were urged to stay calm yesterday following the bloody assassination of head of state Mohamed Boudiaf.

Armoured cars prowled the streets where many people queued for bread or crowded around newspaper stalls. Others sat huddled on benches discussing the killing.

Crime-faced gendarmes peered from behind their guns ready for any sign of trouble and gendarmerie vehicles carrying heavily-armed men raced through the streets.

The Algerian Press Service said security was stepped up at key points. There were, however, no overt signs of tighter controls on areas bordering Islamic fundamentalist bastions in this city of two million people.

"Who is behind the killing?" demanded newspapers, switching from coloured mastheads to sombre black. Red crescent national flags were flying at half-mast.

Appealing for calm, the army-backed leadership vowed Boudiaf's captured killer would lead them to those behind the crime.

There was no confirmation that more than one man was involved in the assassination. - Sapa-Reuters.
Conflict resolution structure for Africa

By Richard Mibombolo
Star Africa Service

Dakar (Senegal) — African Foreign Ministers have agreed in principle to the setting up of a permanent structure within the Organisation of African Unity that would help prevent and resolve conflicts.

The plan envisages the establishment of what will be called the Bureau of the Summit, which will come under the direct control of the OAU secretary-general and will be a clear mandate by OAU heads of state at their summits. It will assume not only the responsibility of dealing extensively with many across-border disputes but to also deal with internal disputes.

It is proposed that this bureau could even have a pan-African peacekeeping force at its disposal, headed by qualified and respected military men.

The plan will also make provision for an African security council and an interim arbitral tribunal which could lead to a fully fledged African court of justice to hear grievances among member states.

The plan is the brainchild of OAU secretary-general, Salim Ahmed Salim, who believes that unless conflicts and instability are stamped out on the continent, no development is possible.

It is believed that the plan provoked serious debate among members and was only agreed to in principle at the weekend after an all-night sitting.

The Foreign Ministers have recommended to the summit that Dr Salim be mandated to make a thorough study of the implications of the plan before it can be adopted at next year's summit. African leaders are said to be worried that the plan goes too far and is against the accepted OAU canon of non-interference in the internal affairs of member states.

"The social, human and economic cost of conflicts has been horrendous and, unless we can put a definite end to conflicts, Africa will continue to be mired in confusion and its people condemned to misery and suffering," Dr Salim said.

Dr Salim said later the majority of Foreign Ministers were prepared to implement the proposals immediately.
More harm than killing a thousand policemen

President Mohamed Bouazli's murder is a disaster for all who sought a secular Algeria, reports ROBERT FISK.

ALBANIA's Islamic fundamentalists were almost as good as their word. Islamic Jihad had predicted that an illicit war against the government would begin on June 60. They would kill, they claimed, "thousands" of policemen and soldiers. But they struck a day early and decapitated instead the entire structure of government authority which had been created to destroy them. The two bursts of gunfire that killed President Mohamed Bouazli did far more damage than the death of 1,000 policemen.

His murder is a disaster for all who sought a secular Algeria — which almost certainly includes a majority of the population — and a fearful warning to Arab leaders who believe they can ever overpower a determined Islamic opposition. Who now will believe that the Algerian authorities have crushed Islamic fundamentalism? Who will heed Mr. Bouazli's own plea — issued in February when he made his first public appearance in Algeria — and invest in the country's broken economy? Who can avoid the suspicion that Algeria is moving towards civil war?

There will be claims in the coming days that the assassination of the hero of the War of Independence and head of Algeria's Higher State Council was the work of foreign enemies, of fundamentalists from Iran or Afghanistan or Sudan. But the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), from which Islamic Jihad unashamedly sprang is all too home-grown, a genuineist revulsion — and now clearly violent — movement whose inspiration lay in the poverty created by the economic bankruptcy of Algeria and the corruption of the former National Liberation Front government.

Nor should it be forgotten that the FIS originally played by the book. It stood in elections and would have won the second round in January had not the government suspended the elections rather than allow the party to win and declare an Islamic republic. Under Mr. Bouazli's rule, 6,000 FIS men were interned in camps, where several are said to have died.

If Mr. Bouazli's murder marks an escalation of Algeria's ill-fated low-grade civil war, it also presents appalling problems for the government he ran.

Mr. Bouazli was a national hero — a prisoner of the French in the 1962-1963 war, who preferred 26 years of exile in Morocco to participation in the corrupt post-independence FLN governments. — The Independent News Service.
Algerian authorities hold crisis talks

By Richard Saner

The Algerian government is holding emergency talks with opposition leaders to address the ongoing crisis in the country. The talks are aimed at finding a solution to the ongoing protests and unrest.

The government has promised to implement reforms and address the concerns of the protesters. The opposition has also called for the resignation of the prime minister and the end of the pro-government media's influence on the elections.

The talks are being held in a neutral venue and are expected to last for several days. The government has assured the opposition that their concerns will be taken into account and that a solution will be reached.

The crisis in Algeria has been ongoing for several months, with protesters demanding a change in the government and an end to corruption and economic difficulties. The government has faced criticism for its handling of the crisis and its use of force to suppress protests.

The situation in Algeria is tense and volatile, and the talks are seen as a crucial step in finding a resolution to the current crisis.
The Islamic holy terror spawned in the slums of Cairo
The Abuja peace conference solved little or nothing, argues Colin Legum.

No end in sight to Sudan fighting

STAR 31.7.92

The Nigerian diplomatic success in getting the three major conflicting parties in the Sudan civil war around a peace table in Abuja has had one unforeseen result: instead of being able to exploit the split within the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), as the Khartoum regime had sought to do, the two factions ended up by reaching an accommodation.

General Umar el Bashir's military-fundamentalist regime came away from the Abuja talks with no prospect whatever of either bringing an end to the fighting, or of getting support for its current effort to create a new federal system. "There is no hope," has noted.

A seeming upshot of the Abuja talks is that they failed to produce a ceasefire, produced no acceptable proposals for an interim period leading to a final political settlement, and with no agreement on whether the new constitution should be Islamic or secular.

While agreeing to drop their demand for a secular state during an interim period, the two wings of the SPLA (the Garang and Nuer factions), chose to speak instead of a "seem federal system" similar to that in Nigerian constitution.

Having come as bitter enemies, the two SPLA factions ended up at Abuja with a joint statement of objectives to find a lasting solution to bring peace to the country and in favour of a secular state.

They rejected the Khartoum regime's offer to exclude the southern provinces from Islamic laws. The two factions adopted a joint platform:

- To champion the right of southerners to self-determination.
- To include also the right of self-determination to other communities such as the Abyei, the Nubans, and those in the southern Blue Nile.
- To adopt a common position on interim arrangements for the period while a referendum can be held on self-determination.

They proposed a two-year inter-

This new-found spirit of conciliation between the SPLA factions was further enhanced by a decision to establish a joint negotiating team whose members were named.

Although the Sudanese army continues to hold the military initiative in the south at a tremendous cost of casualties to both sides, the approaching end of the dry season seems almost certain to swing the military balance back to the SPLA.

Meanwhile, internationalisation of the war continues to widen, bringing the Khartoum regime into sharper conflict with Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

Sources close to Egypt and Saudi Arabia have leaked intelligence information about the help the Sudanese army has been receiving from China and Iran, and arms bought from South Africa.

The Khartoum regime is reported by accusing Saudi Arabia of being directly involved in supplying arms to the SPLA.

It reported that two ships (one of them named Mylord) had loaded arms at Yambu al-Bahr port which docked at Mombasa, harbour in Mid-May where, under strict Kenyan security guard secrecy, the arms shipments were delivered to a SPLA delegation, quartered in a Kenyan government hospitality guest house.

It claimed to know the identity of the Saudi businessman responsible for arranging the arms delivery. Without naming the individual, it said he was known to have had previous experience in weapons deliveries to wars in Africa.

The Saudi government dismissed the allegations by Khartoum as fabrications.

Increasingly isolated from the camp of moderate Arab states, the Khartoum regime has strengthened its links with Iraq and Iran.
New Algerian president named

ALGIERS — Algeria's High Council of State yesterday named Ali Kafi (64) to replace assassinated president Mohamed Boudiaf as head of state. Mr Kafi was a colonel during the war for independence from France. His later position as general-secretary of the veterans' association gave him wide influence.

He was considered the second most powerful man in Mr Boudiaf's council, after Defence Minister Khaled Nezzar.

Thirteen people have been arrested in connection with the assassination of Mr Boudiaf and a link has emerged between the actual gunman and the banned Islamic Salvation Front, it was reported yesterday. La Nation newspaper identified the suspect only as M Bounaara. — Sapa-AFP.
Boudiaf is assassinated

By Jackie Rowlands in Algiers

THE Algerian head of state, Mohamed Boudiaf, was assassinated on Monday, throwing the country into constitutional crisis and prompting fears of an army backlash against the country’s Islamic fundamentalist movement.

Mr Boudiaf, aged 73, was shot dead while on a routine visit to the city of Annaba, in the east of the country, in an attack bearing the hallmarks of a carefully laid plot.

Algerian television showed the president’s last moments. “We are all going to die,” Mr Boudiaf said, and broke off looking puzzled as a bomb exploded near the podium where he stood. Within seconds a grenade was thrown under his chair and in the confusion that followed a gunman wearing riot police uniform killed Mr Boudiaf with two bursts of automatic gunfire in the head and the back.

Although the authorities have yet to say who killed Mr Boudiaf most Algerians believe that the assassination was the work of the country’s Islamic extremist movement.  

Guardian Unlimited 31-07-1992
AFRICA BRIEFS

Ivory Coast trial causes crisis

IVORY Coast's trial of 14 opposition leaders accused of leading the country's worst ever riot in February appeared to be creating its worst political crisis after the judge was removed from the case, following accusations by the ruling Democratic Party (PDCI) that he was about to acquit the accused on appeal.

The appeal verdict was delayed and is now expected to be delayed further after the state prosecutor said there was "legitimate suspicion" that the case was not being conducted properly.

The opposition and defence lawyers have published the case, saying the outcome will be dominated by the wishes of President Félix Houphouët-Boigny and that the delay is the result of government and PDCI officials pressuring the judiciary.

UN selects Somalia peace force

TEN countries have been selected by the UN Security Council to contribute personnel to the 500-person peacekeeping force in Somalia. The council approved the recommendation of UN secretary general Boutros Boutros-Ghali that the force should be drawn from Australia, Bangladesh, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, Indonesia, Jordan, Morocco and Zimbabwe. The military contingent to Somalia will provide security to UN personnel, equipment and supplies at Mogadishu port. It is estimated nearly 2,000 people are dying every day in the country as a result of the breakdown of stability brought by the control of the country by rival warlords.

Sudanese rebel base may fall soon

SUDAN'S military ruler Omar Hassan al-Bashir forecast this week that the last remaining major base of southern Sudanese rebels would fall within days, though he said the Khartoum government was still committed to a negotiated settlement of the nine-year-old civil war. "As to when we are going to take Torit, it is a question of time, it may take a couple of days, but it will fall soon," he said. Torit is the last remaining stronghold of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Front (SPLA), fighting domination by the Muslims north of the mainly Christian and Animist south.

Niger breaks links with Taiwan

TAIWAN'S latest victory in its international campaign for recognition turned into defeat this week when Niger broke off diplomatic relations after only nine days. A government statement, announcing the rapid volte-face and issued by Niger's news agency ANP, said the decision was taken "to safeguard the cohesion of the country's democratic forces". The decision to establish links was immediately attacked by Chinese diplomats in Niamey and provoked a storm of protest from local politicians who feared reprisals by Beijing, a significant aid donor.

Looting spree in Zaire

TROOPS of Zaire's civil guard, a security force considered loyal to President Mobutu Sese Seko, went on a looting spree in central Kinshasa, national radio reported this week. The armed men, protesting over non-payment of their salaries, held up shopkeepers and traders at markets in Kinshasa and Matonge districts stealing clothes, beer and other goods. Soldiers later restored order, the radio said.

Djibouti announces democracy plan

DJIBOUTI'S President Hassan Gouled Aptidon said a national referendum leading to multi-party elections would be held in September. He renewed an amnesty offer to northern rebels provided they laid down their arms and said restrictions on movement in areas of guerrilla activity had been lifted. — Compiled by Mark Hnau and Andrew McElruin in Harare.
Murder in Algeria

THE KILLING of Algerian President Mohamed Boudiaf was a bloody end to a policy which had already failed. When the Algerian military forced the cancellation of the second round of elections in January, they removed from legitimate politics the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) who would have been the natural winners. Mr Boudiaf, brought back from 28 years of exile to head the new ruling council, was the acceptable face of abortive democracy. Widely advertised as the "man of honesty" who would win back an alienated people, his assault on entrenched interests very soon ran out of steam. With thousands of FIS supporters in detention, hardly a week has passed without clashes between young sympathisers and the security forces. Translated overnight from his brickmaking business in Morocco to run Algeria, Boudiaf was powerless to tackle the joint oligarchy of the armed forces and the dominant National Liberation Front (FLN). It might not have diverted the bullets at Annaba if he had been more successful but at least it would have left Algeria in a less desperate situation.

The suspension of the elections was followed by the arrest of the most visible FIS leaders, even though for the time being they gave little or no provocation. It was banned, as an organisation and the considerable assets it had already acquired in local government (through the earlier elections it won in 1989) were confiscated. The FIS did not just go underground. It was driven there quite deliberately. In April the movement said it was time "to replace talk with rifles" and the pace of violence quickened. The dismantling of the FIS's official leadership simply removed from the scene those capable of exercising some restraining influence upon the younger radicals. The detention of so many rank-and-file FIS disturbed public opinion, particularly when they were jailed in the extreme temperatures of the southern Sahara. Mr Boudiaf showed no sign of personal concern, saying instead that he would lock up 10,000 if that was what it took to save the country.

What it really needed was an effective follow-up to Mr Boudiaf's promise to clean up corruption and require the FLN to surrender all the public assets it had acquired over years of political monopoly of power. Instead Boudiaf allowed himself to become diverted into a populist quest for a direct dialogue with the people which would in theory bypass established (and now suspended) politics. This has been an empty exercise which does nothing to compensate for the murder of Algeria.

Continued on page 7

Algeria

Continued from page 1

Freeing of press on most basic necessities and the cut-back of social subsidies.

The new order in the Middle East may have had a creatively loosening effect upon Israeli politics. But, from the Gulf to the Maghreb, little else has changed in the shaky state of civil society. Mr Boudiaf's enterprise, now ended in tragedy, was hopelessly flawed from its anti-democratic start. Fundamentalism cannot be effectively checked by the resort to greater authoritarianism. It will be a further tragedy if the army plunges Algeria deeper in that direction.
Africa’s forgotten famine

HE would leave Sampona if only he had the strength to walk. His brothers have done it — gone north, to where the rains came and the fields are green. But Albert Mahavita’s head hurts and his stomach aches. Today, as yesterday, he has eaten “sy misy” — nothing.

He is a victim of southern Africa’s forgotten famine. Almost one million people are in peril of starvation in the south of the Indian Ocean island of Madagascar, and children and old people are dying daily — but these facts have largely passed the world by.

In the shade of a baobab tree, two men guard a pile of sacks of corn. Sampona’s latest delivery of aid. Mahavita and his 837 fellow villagers will each receive 15 rations of corn measured in empty Nestlé milk cans.

That must last a month, which works out to about 100 grams of corn a day, a third of the United Nation’s definition of the minimum needed to survive.

The food comes via the World Food Programme (WFP), which is leading Madagascar’s famine relief. It supplies 570 000 people across the drought-stricken region, a number which is expected almost to double over the next few months as the famine bites.

The WFP has no problem distributing what food it has. Last year it set up a network of village contacts which it now uses to reach those most in need.

In Sampona, 65 men take turns to guard the sacks under the baobab and ensure that they are fairly shared.

The problem is that the WFP does not have enough. It requires about 2,200 tons of grain a month to meet basic needs, but its stores are down to only 700 tons a month.

David Fletcher, head of the WFP in the country, says he fears that international attention is focused on the crisis in mainland southern Africa to the exclusion of Madagascar. “Sampona’s plight has been overshadowed. I have no doubt that the famine on the mainland is serious, but the situation here is already critical and likely to get worse.”

This is the third drought to hit the south of Madagascar since 1986, when 3 000 people are reported to have died. The region’s normal annual rainfall is about 500mm; this year there has been 40mm.

Villagers hurriedly planted maize and other grain in the fields around Sampona when there was a trickle of rain two weeks ago. But unless more rain comes soon — and they may have to wait until October — their efforts will be wasted.

And if it’s not drought, it’s locusts. The recent rain, though insufficient to support crops, was enough to hatch millions of the insects, which are now chomping their way through fledgling crops. In the northernmost part of the drought area, there are unconfirmed reports of a black cloud of locusts 3km long by 20km wide.

The suffering is spread unevenly. A very few are wealthy by Western standards, like the local magistrate who owns a nature reserve and hotel 10km from Sampona. He imports food and water there to serve oblivious Japanese tourists.

Then there are the rich and poor by Sampona’s standards. The rich have reserves of water which they can exchange for food; the poor, like Mahavita, have nothing. Mothers and children are the most at risk because they are entirely dependent on aid.

“I can’t say how many children have died,” says a Catholic nun in the nearest town, Ambovombe, who feeds about 2 000 people from the surrounding villages. “But I can tell you this: they are dying.”

The president of Sampona’s village committee is portly and rides a Japanese motorcycle. His deputy is thin and worried. He says about 20 local people have died in the past two weeks, three from his village.

Aid workers agree that the only long-term solution to the south’s misery is better use of scarce water resources. At present it has virtually no irrigation system and no means of transporting water from the plentiful supplies that exist on the east coast only 50km away.

In the short term, the accent is upon weathering the crisis. The WFP is confident that, given sufficient supplies of food, it can contain the problem. But so far the international response has been lukewarm.

Last year the United States donated $5 000 tons of rice, and it has another 5 5000 tons crossing the Atlantic. Mauritius and Reunion, as well as other regions of Madagascar, have launched a crisis fund called SOS South. And Britain is “thinking” about sending £25 000 — enough to feed 5 000 000 people for one day.

Sampona, like most of rural Madagascar, is rich with traditional customs and taboos which locals call “fady”. Among them is the taboo on holding out an empty plate for food. But, as the then deputy president says: “You can’t hold out to a fady in a famine.”

— The Guardian
UN observers enter Somalia

International observers to monitor fragile ceasefire between warring factions

NAIROBI - Five United Nations military observers left Nairobi for Mogadishu yesterday to prepare ground for a larger group that will monitor a fragile ceasefire between warring factions in the Somali capital.

The advance party is part of a 50-strong team of observers from Austria, Bangladesh, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, Indonesia, Jordan, Morocco and Zimbabwe which is headed by Pakistan's Brigadier-General Imtiaz Shaheen.

Their mission follows months of United Nations efforts to bring peace to Somalia, shattered by 18 months of factional fighting that has left millions in need of food and shelter.

The UN group will not intervene in the fighting. Proposals to send an additional armoured UN force to guard food aid supplies collapsed amid disagreements among the Somali factions.

The main opposition to the idea came from the country's most powerful warlord, General Mohamed Fadhl Aideed, whose forces control most of the country.

Aideed has instead called for a national conference to enable a coalition government to be formed for Somalia.

Somalia has been split between rival groups since ex-president Mohamed Siad Barre, now in exile in Nigeria, was ousted from Mogadishu early last year. - Sapa-Reuters.
SA set for Cairo after successful Kenya show

THE successful SA trade exhibition in Nairobi last week will have a sequel next year when an SA pavilion goes up at Africa's biggest trade show, the Cairo International Fair.

Contact Kenya MD David Altman has also concluded a deal which will bring 200 American companies to a "Made in the USA" exhibition in Johannesburg next May. That, he hopes, will provide a springboard not just for US trade with SA, but for US investment here as well.

Altman plans to take about 100 SA companies to the Cairo fair from April 10 to 24 next year.

"Cairo has the largest trade fair in Africa, with exhibitors from about 1,700 companies," he said.

SA exhibitors in Nairobi packed up their stands yesterday, well satisfied with the results. While the real fruits of the week-long business contact will not be known for months to come, all indications are that Kenya and East Africa represent a potentially huge export opportunity for SA manufacturers.

Kenyans were astonished by the range and quality of goods on show at the 1,90 stands, and at the prices, which would undercut Kenya's current imports from Europe and possibly the Far East.

Every South African exhibitor at the Contact Kenya exhibition had a constant stream of local businessmen making serious inquiries about prices, quantities and delivery times.

Many exhibitors hope to have agency and distribution agreements concluded soon, but suspect that the future of trade with Kenya will really depend on political factors in both countries.

Kenya's foreign-exchange crisis is caused by Western donor nations withholding funds to pressure the Kenyan government into faster moves towards a democratic system.

Its one-party clause has been removed from the Kenyan constitution and elections are now due before next March. No date has been set.

Another complication is high import tariffs on goods coming into Kenya. However, a Kenyan government official said privately that this should not be seen as an obstacle to trade. High tariffs could be lowered, he said.
Somali bloodbath test case for OAU

By Barney Mthombothi
Star Africa Service

DAKAR (Senegal) — The Organisation of African Unity summit has asked its secretary-general Dr Salim Ahmed Salim to negotiate a settlement in the civil war in Somalia where thousands have already died and millions are facing starvation.

Somalia will be a proving ground for the OAU's new-found enthusiasm to solve disputes on the continent. It is even talking about a pan-African peacekeeping force that will swiftly extinguish conflict.

But the OAU's mediating role in Somalia has got off to a slippery start. Somalia has been without a government since dictator Siad Barre was driven out more than two years ago by forces of the United Somali Congress (USC).

The USC split in two immediately after driving out Mr Barre, and the two factions turned their guns on each other.

Mogadishu, the capital, had been razed and not a single building had been left standing.

One faction of the USC, aided by senior civil servants, controls a small section of what is left of the city, and its leader Ali Mahdi declared himself president.

But the greater part of the city is controlled by his archrival, General Mohamed Farrar Aidid.

The entire northern part of the country is in the hands of the Somali National Movement (SNM). The SNM has seized and declared northern Somalia - the independent Republic of Somalia. But no country has so far recognised it. The rest of the country is contested by up to 10 different factions.

The OAU decided to give the Somali seat at the summit to Mr Mahdi's group, much to the fury of the other factions, who were in Dakar to argue their case.

Dr Salim said that giving the seat to Mr Mahdi did not mean recognition by the OAU, but was simply a procedural matter. But even Mr Mahdi's supporters concede he only controls part of Mogadishu.

"We had hoped the OAU would play a constructive role in the peace process in Somalia," said Mohamed Awale, a spokesman for General Aidid. However, its decision to "to sit the Ali Mahdi gang at the summit has seriously compromised its influence".

It is estimated that between 10,000 and 12,000 people have died in the civil war. Many Somalis are in refugee camps in Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan.

More than 4 million face starvation because the war has prevented aid supplies from coming into the country.

A boat carrying Somali refugees was finally allowed to anchor in Yemen last week after floating around for days. When it anchored, 150 children were found to have died from starvation.
Somali bloodbath

test case for OAU

By Barney Mthombathi
Star Africa Service

DAKAR (Senegal) — The Organisation of African Unity summit has asked its secretary-general Dr Salim Ahmed Salim to negotiate a settlement in the civil war in Somalia where thousands have already died and millions are facing starvation.

Somalia will be a proving ground for the OAU’s new-found enthusiasm to solve disputes on the continent. It is even talking about a pan-African peacekeeping force that will swiftly extinguish conflict.

But the OAU’s mediating role in Somalia has got off to a slippery start. Somalia has been without a government since dictator Siad Barre was driven out more than two years ago by forces of the United Somali Congress (USC).

The USC split in two immediately after driving out Mr Barre, and the two factions turned their guns on each other. Mogadishu, the capital, had been razed and no single building had been left standing.

One faction of the USC, aided by senior civil servants, controls a small section of what is left of the city, and its leader Ali Mahdi declared himself president.

But the greater part of the city is controlled by his arch-rival, General Mohamed Farrar Aiddid.

The entire northern part of the country is in the hands of the Somali National Movement (SNM). The SNM has seceded and declared northern Somalia the independent Republic of Somalia. But no country has so far recognised it. The rest of the country is contested by up to 10 different factions.

The OAU decided to give the Somali seat at the summit to Mr Mahdi’s group, much to the fury of the other factions, who were in Dakar to argue their case.

Dr Salim said that giving the seat to Mr Mahdi did not mean recognition by the OAU, but was simply a procedural matter. But even Mr Mahdi’s supporters concede he only controls part of Mogadishu.

“We had hoped the OAU would play a constructive role in the peace process in Somalia,” said Mohamed Awale, a spokesman for General Aiddid. However, its decision to “to sit the Ali Mahdi gang at the summit has seriously compromised its influence”.

It is estimated that between 10,000 and 12,000 people have died in the civil war. Many Somalis are in refugee camps in Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan.

More than 4 million face starvation because the war has prevented aid supplies from coming into the country.

A boat carrying Somali refugees was finally allowed to anchor in Yemen last week after floating around for days. When it anchored, 150 children were found to have died from starvation.
Egypt’s pearl is facing a crisis

TEEMING CITY Too many people in Cairo are creating a problem Egypt is having difficulty in coping with.

CAIRO - Cairo, “Mother of the World” and a towering metropolis of at least 12 million people, is in a crisis - and that’s official.

A newly appointed presidential committee has reported initial findings to Prime Minister Atef Sedki, sparking hopes the city’s dire housing, traffic and pollution problems will be tackled and unleashing a host of suggestions in Egypt’s Press.

They range from clear-cut zones downtown, moving government offices out of the capital and even attacking the city’s sprawling slums to root out unemployed migrants from Egypt’s countryside and send them back to their villages.

If the suggested solutions seem drastic, so are Cairo’s problems.

Not only does this crowded city, a seat of Arab and Islamic culture for over 1,000 years, have too many people, but they are all in the wrong places.

On the outskirts, huge modern “satellite” cities are largely empty 17 years after they were planned in Cairo’s desert hinterland to absorb population growth.

Downtown, once-stylish business and residential areas have been reduced to teeming slums.

The late President, Anwar Sadat, commissioned Sadat City, 90km north of Cairo, more than 10 years ago to be Egypt’s sparkling new capital.

Officials say only about 10,000 people have moved there.

Grandiose office blocks, built to be new marvels, have been abandoned and rows of empty multi-storey housing blocks stretch into the desert.

Sadat City is now crowded with its 70-odd factories.

But few like it enough to want to settle permanently despite low rents, relatively high wages and an easy rural commodity in Egypt - space.

Shopkeeper Mounir Zakaria, 22, said he lived in the city because his company paid his rent and he saved 831 out of his 1,820 monthly salary by not having to commute every day.

But he says he will get married and look for a long-term home either in Cairo or back in his home province of Monufiya.

“It’s all right here but I will go back home when I can, it’s better to live with your family,” he said.

The cluster of settlements built around Cairo in the last 1970s were designed to absorb more than 1.5 million inhabitants by the year 2000. So far, fewer than a tenth of those residents have moved in.

Downtown Cairo, by contrast, is so crowded that it is quicker to walk in the streets and dodge traffic than to clamber round period cars and vendors’ stalls on the pavements.

The city has 27.642 people per square kilometre. At that density, the estimated population of the world would fit into the American state of California with room to spare.

Architects say over 80 percent of new housing is “informal”, ramshackle shanties built illegally to avoid onerous bureaucratic regulations.

Over half a million people now live in the City of the Dead, a mediaval cemetery.

In Bulag, once-stylish neo-classical and Bahia-style apartments blocks crumble, neglected by landlords because of rigid rent controls, colonised by squatters and terrorised by Cairo’s smog.

French-style bungalow street signs are the last tokens of Bulag’s 1930s heyday, when it was a fashionable area for Egyptian and European businessmen.

In the shadow of a gleaming skyscraper being built on the banks of the Nile is Egypt’s new foreign ministry, children run barefoot while goats, sheep, cows, goats and geese jock among rubbish littered across the unpaved streets.

Rural migration and economic hardship have spurred a growing influx of people who live in an informal, subsistence economy, scavenging for clothes, food and a roof over their heads.

One family has taken over the disused 19th-century hall of a department store’s delivery van.

Another lives beneath a billboard advertising the latest films to hit Cairo, cobbling a home out of wooden palettes and pieces of heavy cloth.

Khaled Al-Ababi (25) came from the upper Egyptian province of Assuit six years ago to work as a carpenter.

He shares a small, single room with two other young men and water and a toilet with perhaps 20 people in the same building. He has no house in his hometown and his employer, who had started to pay him less because of an economic recession.

“I’d like to go home. I’ve got nothing out of Cairo,” he said, but added: “It won’t be any better there.”

Source: Reuters.
The Crisis of Development in Africa

Africa’s Food Crisis: what

"Generals and bureaucrats, cadres and party loyalists, far removed from the realities of rural life, all set out to experiment "textbook socialism" without consultation with the masses who, in the final analysis, had to shoulder the burden of the economic crisis." Fante Cheru, Ethiopian social scientist.

As a result of these problems, even in years of heavy rains a large number of rural households required food aid.

Foreign Currency - money that is worth something

In recent years, food shortages have been worsened by the country’s attempt to earn foreign currency. Zimbabwe, like many African countries, is now producing most of its machinery and consumer goods. In order to obtain machinery and consumer goods, Zimbabwe must export cash crops to get U.S. dollars. Then with this "hard currency," Zimbabwe can buy machinery and consumer goods. Due to a shortage of "hard currency" in recent years the government has started to produce more agricultural export crops such as tobacco, cotton, and fresh flowers. This means that there is less land available to produce maize.

Those farmers who were able to start farming these export crops were mainly the richer male farmers, white and black. Thus small farmers, who are not able to grow cotton, could not afford the fertilizers and pesticides that are needed for successful crop production. As a result, the production of maize has declined sharply.

Land for white farmers, no land for peasants

During the colonial days, before Zimbabwe became independent, 6,000 white farmers owned half the land in Zimbabwe. Nearly all fertile land was theirs. One of the main reasons for the liberation war in Zimbabwe was to win back this fertile land for the peasants.

However, when independence came in 1980, land reform was slow. Peasants had no voice in how land was to be allocated. Up to this day, less than 20% of the peasants who had no land before independence, now own their own land.

White farmers, on the other hand, still own about a third of the country’s farmland.

Although black farmers were not given land, they did increase their production in the 1980s. Many of these farmers were given financial assistance which they did not get under colonialism. They also received agricultural education, and provisions of modern fertilizers and seeds. With this help, black farmers increased their percentage of the nation’s maize crop to 50% of total production during the 1980s. But even this success story had its problems. Most assistance went to male farmers in a few areas. Although there are many women farmers, they did not receive much assistance from the government. The aid was also restricted to the most productive regions. The Matabeleland province for example was a strong hold for Joshua Nkomo, a strong opponent of President Mugabe. Black farmers and peasants in this area received little support from Mugabe’s government.

In 1975 a military government led by Mengistu Haile Miriam took over from Haile Selassie. Unlike Zimbabwe, the Ethiopian government nationalized land. Private ownership of land was outlawed. Peasants were either moved onto state farms or allowed to work on state land which they could not legally own. Most of the government money for agriculture went into creating a huge state farm structure. Although peasant associations were set up, the peasants themselves had little say in how this agricultural re-organization was carried out. Many peasants had to spend a lot of time attending political meetings. This affected production on state farms which lost a lot of money. The government covered the losses of money on state farms by buying peasant crops at very low prices and then selling them for a profit in urban areas. The peasants were angry at this and resisted by not selling to the government. They also produced fewer crops, in protest.

The major reason why peasants in Ethiopia received little assistance from the government was political. Throughout the rule Mengistu carried out an intense war against various opposition movements. More than 60% of the government budget went to the military. The war which raged in many areas of the country displaced millions of people from their homes and farms. The government also blocked food shipments to areas controlled by the opposition. The result was that millions of Ethiopians became refugees, moving to places where they could gain access to food. In many areas, even if there had been rain, there would not have been any farmers to farm the land.

What is the Solution?

In Zimbabwe, peasants were given assistance but not land. In Ethiopia, peasants were given access to land but not assisted. In fact, they were exploited through having to sell their produce at low prices. What solutions, then, can be proposed for the two different sets of problems?

Capitalist institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would argue that if the Zimbabwean government had offered higher prices to commercial farmers for maize, the food shortages would have been avoided. They believe

New Words:

"Hard Currency": Money that is used States Dollar, and international value.

Famine: A situation where starving.

Drought: A drought happens.
are the reasons?

Large-scale farmers are the key to food production. (See our last article in Learning Nation on Zambia and the IMF, issue 19).

Socialists would argue that the major problem was failure to sustain peasant to work out a plan for land redistribution. They argue that if land were redistributed to more individual peasants or co-operatives, these new landowners would produce more food. They also maintain that peasants who operate farms would be more likely than white farmers to view the national interest by producing food. In addition, socialists would argue that the government should make food production, rather than export production, the top priority in agriculture.

Ethiopia

Nearly everyone agrees that war and excessive military expenditure were major causes of food shortages. However, some of the country's government policies has the opposite effect of food production. In particular, they do not believe in nationalization. In their view, peasants should have supported capitalist farmers rather than nationalizing land.

Socialists would argue that the military government which took power in Ethiopia was not acting in the peasants' interests, but became more interested in keeping power for itself. While socialists realise that large-scale nationalisation at first work in Ethiopia they believe that government's should participate actively in the economy. In their view a bureaucratic government working closely with peasants is the first step of a solution to the country's food crisis.

South Africa is facing the same problems as other African countries. How can we avoid making the same mistakes? There are political and community organisations in South Africa looking at these and other important issues - such as a post-apartheid land and agricultural policy. You are welcome to contact these organisations for more information:

The National Land Committee
Room 426
6th Floor Kloofs House
45 Marshall Street
Johannesburg
Postal Address: PO Box 1638
2020
Telephone: (011) 362-1123

Timor Rural Action Committee (TRAC)
2nd Floor Maroela House
33 St Andrew Street
Johannesburg
Postal Address: PO Box 2817
Johannesburg
2000
Telephone: (011) 835-1863

The Agricultural Dept, ANC Department of Economic Planning
51 Plein Street
Johannesburg
2000
Postal Address: PO Box 6100
Marshalltown
2017
Telephone: (011) 330-7265

Read the following paragraph and then answer the questions below the paragraph.

The price of five of these could feed 20 million people for a month.

Next week we will look at the spread of a terrifying new disease in Africa - AIDS. What is the effect of AIDS on the African continent, and how does AIDS affect Africa's potential to develop politically, economically and socially in the future.

A: 4

Tornado bomber aeroplane costs more than 100 million Rand. The price of these could feed 20 million people for a month.

a: 4

Tornado bomber aeroplane costs more than 100 million Rand. The price of five of these could feed 20 million people for a month.
The Growth of New Unionism in Britain

Working Class life and experience in the 1880's

In 1888, the majority of workers in Britain lived a life of poverty and misery. Many people had moved from rural areas to the city in search of work. Unemployment was high. Workers were paid starvation wages, and children were forced to work—for even less money—to help support the family. In the words of one commentator, an average working-class family, in trying to survive:

"...must write no letters to absent children, for they cannot afford the postage. They must never contribute anything to a church or give any help to a neighbour which costs them money. They cannot save to join sick-clubs or trade unions, because they cannot pay the necessary subscriptions. NOTHING must be bought but (except) that which is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of physical health. Should a child fall ill it must be attended by the parish doctor, should it die it must be buried by the parish. Finally the wage earner must never be absent from his work for a single day."

The working class was also, at this time, excluded from any meaningful participation in parliamentary politics by the system of "qualified franchise." Under this system, only certain people—usually those who owned property—"qualified" to vote. Women didn't qualify at all. And so, a large percentage of ordinary working people had no say whatsoever in the government of the day.

We can see that the needs facing British workers were great, and their resources few. The trade unions, too, as they existed in Britain, were of no great help to the working class. The unions which did exist were mainly organisations for the small minority of skilled workers. These craft unions tried to keep the mass of unskilled workers out. And so, without organizations to represent their own interests, the majority of workers remained weak and divided.

These were the conditions into which New Unionism was born

The Birth of the New Unionism

The East End of London had long been the home of the poor and exploited of London. An upsurge of resistance began in 1888, when, at Bryant and May's match factory in London, 700 match-girls went on strike to protest against the victimisation of one of their comrades. They also demanded higher wages and the right to organise. Together with a lot of support from the community around them, the match-girls won their demands. Out of their strike, they formed a new union called the Union of Women Match-makers. Other workers in London drew confidence from the strength of the match-girls.

Living in poverty

Throughout October 1887, repeated assaults and arrests were made against the unemployed "wreckers," including in Trafalgar Square, and on 11 November, Sir Charles Warren, Commissioner of Police, banned all meetings. Nevertheless, a demonstration was arranged for the 1st of December to assert the right to freedom of speech, and thousands turned out.

All over London, workers began to make demands for the things they needed. The courageous act of the match-girls was followed by the organisation of a Gas Workers' Union, which succeeded, a few months later, in getting concessions from the gas companies, including an 8-hour day. Then suddenly a small dispute in the docks exploded into a massive strike. For three weeks, the strikers held out, Marching every day through the city with their banners. Helped in the end by large donations for their dwindling strike fund from Austrian workers, they were able to win almost all their demands.

Interestingly, the Dock workers' Strike was not conducted by a union—the union was formed AFTER the strike finished! In all of these struggles, the workers won victories. And in each case, either a new union was formed, or old unions were given new life.

The Dockers' Strike was to be the basis for the victories of many other workers, and it encouraged the growth of unions all over the country. In only a few months, hundreds of thousands of workers became unionised, either by joining existing unions or by forming new ones. Some of the new unions organised all workers in one industry. Others were general unions which were open to all workers in an area.

In the eyes of thousands of unskilled workers, the meaning of trade unionism was changing. They saw that trade unionism did not depend on the minority of skilled workers, or the leaders of their unions, or even the bosses and government. Instead, they learnt that trade unionism depended on ordinary workers and their willingness to struggle.

The 1901 Taff Vale Decision

The attacks on the workers were brought to a head in 1901. Strikers at the Taff Vale Railway Company in South Wales were taken to court and sued for damages arising from their strike action. The companies' claims were upheld, and a new law was passed, which allowed unions to be sued for a company's loss of profits. The actual effect of this new law was as follows: The more successful a strike was, the more money the company would lose, and the more damages the employers could claim from the union!

In this wave of attacks directed at the working class, many trade union leaders signalled that it was time to retreat, and abandoned the task of building the union's capacity to fight. And as the growth of the New Unionism was halted, for a time...

Growth of union membership

By 1902, total trade union membership was generally estimated to be over one and a half million, double the figure of only four years before. By 1901 (the year of the Taff Vale decision), it was nearly two million.

Setbacks

From about 1895, however, the bosses began to counter-attack against the strength of the new unionism. Sstered on by economic crisis and by American and German business competition, the bosses decided to act. They used the police and the army to break strikes. Militant activists were victimised and arrested. Scabs were used to take the jobs of strikers. And sweetheart unions were set up under the control of the bosses. In some places, workers were locked out of work until they agreed to the demands of the bosses.

Here is an example of this type of aggression, one that some workers were forced to sign:

I HEREBY UNRESERV-EDLY, to carry out all instruc-tions given to me by, or on behalf of my employer, and further, I agree to immedi-ately resign my membership of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union, if it should so require, and further understand that I will not join or in any way support the Union.

Signature

All this limited the growth of the new unionism. But it also made workers more determined to push forward, and the movement grew stronger and stronger until, in the 1930's, it finally defeated the bosses.
Comores holidays serve Kerzner well

SOL Kerzner's World Leisure Holidays experienced a significant increase in visitors to its Comores resort over the past year, in spite of a number of stumbling blocks, MD Bruce Hutchinson said.

When the Comores was relaunched to the SA public last year, the Gulf war broke out. Hutchinson said this did not have a direct effect on World Leisure and its refurbished Le Galawa Beach hotel and casino.

However, bookings for resorts in the Seychelles and Mauritius were severely affected, and they came to the SA market to recoup their losses. The result was a price war.

World Leisure found itself marketing the Comores in a time of political upheaval and a subdued economy. It also had to market a country which had closed its doors to tourists for a time following Sun International's withdrawal in May 1990, with the last news that of a coup d'état.

Against this background, there was still a 30% rise in passengers to the Comores year-on-year. This compared with the Seychelles, which had losses of 50% and Mauritius, which had losses of 30% to 40%.

Hutchinson said the SA market had been under considerable pressure. World Leisure had realised this in September last year, and had been able to keep its pricing competitive.

The Comores was an expensive island to operate on, as there were no economies of scale, no manufacturing and everything needed had to be imported. Skilled labour was not available, and expatriates had to be employed at high cost. World Leisure had also taken over the financial risk of flights to the island.

World Leisure Exporters procured goods for the hotel, so it had control over the prices of commodities. In addition, the Comores government had eliminated import duties.

These factors meant that it could sell holidays this year at last year's prices, and make money. At an operating level, the Comores operation had not lost money since opening.

Occupancy at Le Galawa was about 70%, largely due to aircraft capacity. Last year overseas business was 10% of volume, but it was currently about 30%.

In the light of this, World Leisure was negotiating with international airlines for flights.

World Leisure planned to expand the existing hotel in 1993 by 40 rooms. Phase two would involve a new hotel next door. The third phase would include another hotel, a golf course and a sporting complex.
Beware of the shady tax proposal

THE end of sanctions has opened new vistas for African opportunists who are seizing rich pickings from SA businessmen by promising amazing returns from supposedly risk-free high-flown deals.

Scores of SA businessmen, apparently targeted at random, have recently received faxes from Nigeria and Zimbabwe offering them millions of US dollars to help get money out of these two countries.

One businessman received this letter from one Fred Kuti of Lagos, saying: "I am a civil servant, head of contracts and payments in the office of the presidency of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company.

"There is at this moment the sum of $12m which is ever-invoiced money from a supply contract.

"Kuti went on to request the businessman to send by courier service: Two blank copies of his company's letterhead; two blank copies of the company's pro forma invoices; an account number and the name plus address of the bank to which the funds could be transferred.

"The documents will enable us to obtain immediate approval from the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Nigeria for the transfer of the funds.

"After the money has been transferred to your account, I will have 95% and your company will have 5%. The remaining 5% will be set aside to cover expenses."

In a telephone interview, Kuti told a reporter posing as an interested party that he would come to Johannesburg in a few weeks to share the money.

Another businessman received a fax from one Prince Tony Onyekwu of Harare, who claimed to have $22.5m in a sundry account waiting to be sent abroad.

"However, it appears that SA businessmen have not taken the faxes seriously. These chaps never stop trying. The letters were so badly written, I found the whole thing hilarious," one businessman said.
Aids ‘may wipe out African generation’

LONDON — Aids could wipe out an entire generation in Africa, a British expert warns.

And the extent of the devastation is concealed from the world because journalists have been excluded from many of the countries worst affected.

Dr Patrick Dixon, medical director of the national charity Aids Care Education and Training, estimates that Aids has already killed more people in Africa than famine. And the epidemic is getting worse.

“Self-interest as much as humanitarianism should spur us to act,” he says.

“Not only is it hitting the Third World 20 to 35-year-old age group who are the biggest wealth-creators, but increasing international travel will speed up the spread in Britain.

“People here never see the real effects of Aids. Journalists aren’t admitted to the countries where it is worst. TV crews get thrown out and any doctor who speaks out is immediately gagged or forced out of his job.”
Africa Improves on Human Rights
Merger on cards for two African trading blocs

HARARE – In a move which would affect members of the Southern African Customs Union such as Botswana, southern and east African Preferential Trade Area (PTA) states are seeking the organisation's integration with the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC).

This was disclosed on Wednesday by PTA secretary-general Bingu wa Mutharika, in an interview with Zimbabwe's media.

"The decision to merge the two has been agreed in principle by PTA members. What remains is whether SADCC members would be equally agreeable," said Mutharika.

Economists in Zimbabwe see the only resolution of the issue in eventual full-scale talks between the 23 members of the PTA and a post-apartheid SA on a merger with the Southern African Customs Union.

However, Mutharika predicted a current PTA trade fair in Dar es Salaam would generate US$200m in deals.

The PTA has evolved a schedule listing 600 products eligible for customs rebates.

In contrast to the PTA, the SADCC is orientated towards economic development (especially co-operation promoting independence of SA), and survival in spite of repeated friction between two key states, Botswana and Zimbabwe, over their conflicting trade policies.

"Unity is strength. By combining resources and experience, we will end up providing better service within the region," Mutharika said.

SADCC secretary-general Simbi Makoni has recently spoken far more positively about future co-operation with Pretoria, but to date no one has mooted integration of the PTA with the Southern African Customs Union.

MICHAEL HARTNACK

Three of the 10 nations in the SADCC – Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho – are not members of the 23 nation PTA because of their link to the customs union.

During its decade in existence, the PTA has experienced major difficulties translating high-sounding rhetoric on inter-African co-operation into practice. Many PTA member states continue to penalise each other's transport operators, demand settlement in Western "hard" currencies, and strangle fledgling trade with bureaucratic red tape.

Definitive figures for inter-PTA trade remain vague. Zimbabweans have had difficulties having the community's agreed unit of account, the uapta, accepted in countries such as Kenya.
Russians join venture to lease planes in Africa

LOCAL Aviation Sales International has entered a multimillion-cash joint venture with a Russian aviation company to lease cargo aircraft for carrying freight in Africa.

Russian Aero Pulse has for the past six months operated a seven-ton Aeroflot AN32 out of Beira in Mozambique and Nairobi in Kenya — mainly leased by organisations supplying relief aid to Africa.

The joint venture between Aviation Sales and Aero Pulse had already resulted in a contract to carry freight, but not in SA. Aviation Sales sales manager Peter Henderson said yesterday.

Six additional AN32s at a cost of about $8m each would be bought by the two companies in the next three months and would be available to SA and other African companies to lease, Henderson said. One AN32 arrived in SA this week and will be based at Vereeniging's Transavin Airport for demonstrations to interested freight companies for a month.

Aviation Sales was waiting for working permits from SA's Home Affairs Department for the eight AN32 Russian crew members before they would start leasing the plane locally.

The AN32 requires a crew of four — captain, copilot, engineer and navigator. Two teams would serve one AN32 to achieve as many flight hours as possible, Henderson said.

The AN32 is a twin-prop Antonov-built aircraft with a top speed of 500km/h. It has the capacity to land and take off on a very short runway, making it ideal for smaller airports.
EC told to do more for starving Africa

STRASBOURG — The EC must do more to relieve the African famine which is threatening 60-million lives, the European Parliament said yesterday.

"The huge scale of the approaching famine in Africa constitutes a challenge to the conscience of the governments and peoples of all member states," the EC assembly said in a resolution.

It said the EC should free emergency aid from its development fund for drought-stricken countries in the Horn of Africa and parts of southern Africa. It called also for armed protection of relief convoys and workers.

The situation is especially serious in Somalia, where civil war has aggravated the famine and huge numbers of children are afflicted with severe malnutrition, it said. The EC should continue providing assistance to Yemen, so it can take in Somali refugees, it added.

The parliament, whose opinions on such matters have no legal effect on EC policy, said rapid help was also needed in Kenya, where one million Kenyans and about 500,000 refugees were suffering from a severe drought.

EC ministers should put pressure on the Renamo rebels in Mozambique, whose "violent acts . . . make the relief of famine so difficult in that country," it said.

In Munich this week, the seven wealthiest industrial nations heaped advice on developing nations as they ended their annual economic summit on Wednesday, but failed to match this with concrete promises of fresh cash.

But senior French officials cited progress on one particular point of concern to some of France's heavily-indebted African partners. Reaffirming the current debt strategy, the Group of Seven (G-7) leaders welcomed the "enhanced debt relief" extended to the poorest debtors by the Paris Club of creditor governments, chaired by France.

Since last year's 50% debt write-offs granted to Poland and Egypt, after American pressure, France has argued that Cameroon, Congo, Ivory Coast and Gabon, which owe two-thirds to three-quarters of their debt to governments rather than commercial banks, deserve similar or better treatment.

At the 1991 summit in London, some key creditors, including the US and Japan, rejected such aid.

"We have had a breakthrough," a French delegate said. "The summit has got things to move, and the Paris Club now has a more precise mandate."

The summit declaration promised "best efforts to increase the quantity and quality of official development assistance" but said this would be directed "more towards the poorest countries," and in particular "those countries that undertake credible efforts to help themselves." — Saps-Reuter-AFP.
AFRICA BRIEFS

Ethnic killings in Mali

FOUR people were killed and 200 fled their homes in northern Mali in an outbreak of racial conflict between black and "white" groups. In the past year tensions have built up between Mali's various ethnic groups, especially between black Africans and the Arab populations. Radio Liberte, based in the capital Bamako, said blacks in the Saharan city of Gao launched a broad attack against Arab Moors and Tuaregs.

Banda defends detention record

MALAWI Life President Hastings Kamuzu Banda publicly defended his government's record of detentions of political opponents. The 82-year-old Malawi leader addressed the nation to mark the country's 28th Independence anniversary on July 6. Banda said detention in Malawi had been used to protect national security and not to abuse human rights, as Malawian and international critics have charged. He added, "To ensure that the critics no longer exploit our detention practices to tarnish our human rights image, I have given instruction that all subsequent detainees should be charged and tried in an open court. Where this is not possible, I will appoint a special tribunal headed by a High Court judge to which a detainee can appeal against his or her detention."

UN men threatened

FOUR United Nations military observers were threatened with expulsion from Somalia by warlord Mohammed Farah Aideed, who controls much of the battle-scarred capital, Mogadishu. Aideed claimed the UN was secretly financing his rival, self-styled President Ali Mahdi Mohammed. The observers had arrived in Mogadishu this week to prepare the ground for a larger group that is to monitor the ceasefire between the warring factions in the Somali capital.

Mobutu challenged

THE chairman of Zaire's National Pro-Democracy Conference asserted it had full authority in the troubled central African state, directly contradicting claims by President Mobutu Sese Seko. Catholique Archbishop Monsengwo Pasinya said, on Belgian television, that he did not agree with Mobutu, who has ruled Zaire with an iron fist for 27 years and now challenges the conference's authority. "I will tell him (Mobutu) the conference is sovereign, because the whole of the nation is represented there," said Archbishop Monsengwo. The debate over authority was academic, he said, because the current crisis in Zaire meant something had to be done.

Liberian clashes continue

NEW fighting has broken out in western Liberia between fighters loyal to rebel chief Charles Taylor and a rival militia, Ulivo. Local newspapers reported heavy shelling from both sides at Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia and Ulivo fought each other in the Cape Mount area west of the capital, Monrovia. Some of an estimated 3,000 Liberians who fled the area said the two militias had confiscated all food supplies and civilians went in fear for their lives.
"Returning Algeria to the people"

BY Jacques Barrin

Assassination. He thought that "the loopholes discovered in the security system lend rather to strengthen the theory of a real conspiracy. It all happened by chance, as the crime was part of a strange and inexplicable opposition to the demonstrations." It is true that the massacre of Abaaoud, who had been a leading figure in the Islamic fundamentalist movement, had been a surprise, and it was difficult to find an explanation for it. However, the authorities were quick to react. The French government, under Prime Minister Manuel Valls, announced a state of emergency and mobilized the army to crack down on terrorism. The police launched a massive operation to arrest suspects and prevent further attacks. The judiciary was also activated, with a special court set up to deal with terrorism cases. The authorities were determined to take no chances and to ensure the safety of the citizens.

The news of the attack was met with shock and condemnation worldwide. Leaders from across the globe expressed their condolences and offered their support. The United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting to discuss the situation. The French government was praised for its swift response and for its determination to fight terrorism. However, the authorities were also criticized for the over-reaction, with some accusing them of using the opportunity to increase their power and suppress political opposition.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.

The aftermath of the attack was marked by a wave of mourning and solidarity. People of all ages and backgrounds came together to pay tribute to the victims and to support the French people. The government called for a national day of mourning and closed schools and universities. The French flag was flown at half-mast and people wore black to express their grief. The people were also called upon to show their respect and solidarity in the face of terrorism.

The authorities were also under pressure to ensure the safety of the citizens. The police and military were increased on patrol, and the government issued a series of security measures to prevent further attacks. The authorities were also criticized for the lack of communication with the public, with some accusing them of being unresponsive to the needs of the citizens.
China gears up for model elections
THE highly successful trade fair held in Nairobi by SA business has certainly whet the appetites of the commercial communities of east Africa and our own to do business.

A common reaction by visitors, including a number from neighbouring states such as Tanzania, was to express surprise at the range and quality of South African-made products.

Yet it is not all plain sailing. Our businesspeople have discovered there are many obstacles when doing deals in Africa, the main one being a tremendous scarcity of foreign exchange. In other words, a key question that must be answered—and this is not always easy given the continent's lack of sophisticated financial systems—is: How will goods be paid for?

Certainly the buyers are eager, but in many instances their purchasing ability is dependent on the flow of aid.

This aid is often linked to conditions that any purchases should be made in the donor countries. So even if a customer wishes to buy from a South African business, he cannot do so, unless the business is prepared to take a chance with credit.

No doubt the exhibition in Nairobi has proved there is potential to greatly increase trade with Africa. But it has also shown that many of our export companies will have to build infrastructure to handle complications such as government regulations on licences, duties and the efficient transfer of payment to SA.

One has to bear in mind that not a single country in Africa has a truly convertible currency. Business must be done through a third currency, mainly the US dollar.

There is great potential in barter trade. But here the crux is whether the customer country produces goods SA needs.

Better is an exciting but extremely complicated minefield. Yet one can be sure that it will gradually expand as we and the rest of Africa start to better understand each other's ways of doing things.

Another important development, now that the doors to trade groups in Africa are gradually opening, is access to markets in the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and the Preferential Trade Area (PTA).

Finance from sources such as the African Development Bank can smooth the way to entry into these markets.

A lot of homework will have to be done by SA businessmen to develop trade with our neighbours to the north. Making contact such as the fair in Nairobi and hopefully at the OAU fair in Bulawayo in September, is just the beginning.

Egypt is a huge but competitive market and it will be interesting to see if we can succeed so far north.
FRANCE'S economic hold checheked by Paris controls  
French Zone inflation rate rate:
Firm hand restrains African spending
FRANCO-SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS
No end to prospects for closer African ties

By Michael Chester

The chances of progress towards closer economic cooperation between SA and its neighbours as far north as the Equator were kindled by a brief news bulletin from Harare at the weekend.

It said the Preferential Trade Area of Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA) — by far the biggest trade club on the continent — had in fact agreed on a formal recommendation to merge with the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC).

The move had been on the cards since SA launched its political reform programme which unilaterally altered the original role of SADCC — planning a bit more economic independence among the closest neighbours away from the stigma of association with apartheid.

It not only promises to make sense by cutting out the overlapping of the two bodies in several areas, plus frequent duplication of effort in forming new business partnerships, it also clears the decks for closer links between the enlarged trade club and the SA economic powerhouses.

With luck, it will inspire a wholesale re-examination of the non-sensical jumble of jigsaw pieces that have always failed to fit into an effective trade pattern for sub-Saharan Africa.

At the moment, there are dozens of fragments in a jigsaw puzzle no one has ever been able to solve so far. The PTA and SADCC are, in fact, the pieces in a bewildering kaleidoscope of initials and acronyms.

It is yet to be seen how they will be joined — and in turn fit into more and more pieces, such as the Southern African Customs Union and the Common Monetary Area.

There are, still more, to consider: the SADC, the Southern African Development Community, the Southern African Regional Tourism Council (Sarotec), the SA Centre for Co-operation in Agricultural Research (Saccar), the SA Regional Commission for the Conservation and Utilisation of the Soil (Sarccus), the SA Transport and Communications Commission (SATCC)...

And did someone mention the possible resurrection of the Commission for Technical Cooperation (CCTA), which was torpedoed by politics in 1962?

There seems no end to the complex overlapping. Mauritius, the Seychelles and the Comoros are also members of the Indian Ocean Commission.

Deeper down the agenda will be relationships with the rest of the continent, particularly: West Africa and North Africa, where South Africa also wants to create new trade routes and which could be candidates for a fat, bigger and more powerful economic bloc.

Fitting the whole jigsaw into a neat pattern will be a formidable challenge.

It may be over-ambitious to use the European Community as a model. But solutions to create trade harmony will be crucial if Africa is going to harness its vast potential and take its seat at world economic forums, rather than shuffle around outside with a begging bowl.
Truce called for Rwanda civil war

ARUSHA, Tanzania - The Rwandan government and guerrilla 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 Nkurunziza 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.

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.
Chad's cotton industry reels

NDJAMENA — The collapse in world commodity prices has knocked the stuffing out of Chad's cotton industry, forcing layoffs and factory closures by the state-owned monopoly Cotontchad.

Executives at the company, which accounts for 70% of the desperately poor African country's export earnings, say Cotontchad has abandoned its original target of raising the country's annual seed cotton production to 200,000 tons.

With world cotton prices falling 22% in the past year alone, Cotontchad is losing the dollar equivalent of US$950 on every kilogram of cotton it sells.

"Given the current crisis, we expect to cut our production. And it's clear that we'll be forced to reduce our workforce to match, and bring our cost price down," Cotontchad MD Haroun Kabadi told Reuters in an interview. Kabadi expects to close possibly one or two of the country's eight ginning factories, laying off between 300 and 400 of Cotontchad's 3,000 staff, in addition to 200 already laid off this year. In the past, layoffs were seasonal. This time, Kabadi says, they will be for good.

Cotontchad, which saw a $10 million profit from 1989-90, expects 1990-91 results to register a deficit when they are published, and losses in 1991-92 to be even more serious.

Kabadi declines to put a figure to expected losses, but one of the donors backing a restructuring programme says 1989-91 losses were probably around $80m and 1991-92 losses will probably be in the region of $120m.

Cotontchad executives are almost grateful that poor weather conditions look set to reduce this year's crop, limiting their losses. Scarse rain has delayed planting and the 1992 seed cotton harvest is expected to total 120,000-150,000 tons, compared with last year's record 174,500.

Cotton, grown in the well-watered southern plains of this desert country, was introduced under French colonialism. Legend has it that, unable to impose taxes on a population of subsistence farmers, the French brought in a cash crop to create a taxable economy. After independence, the Chadian government took over, and Cotontchad is responsible for all production, ginning and marketing.

The state now owns 75% of Cotontchad, with another 17% belonging to the Compagnie Francaise pour le Developement des Fibres Textiles, and the rest in the hands of local banks and France's Caisse Centrale de la Cooperation Economique.

Plagued by droughts and a simmering civil war that occasionally swept far enough south to stop harvesting, Cotontchad began registering enormous losses in the mid-80s, as mismanagement, corruption and falling world commodity prices began to take their toll.

In 1986 international donors stepped in, launching a $100m restructuring programme which nearly halved Cotontchad's workforce, sold assets, closed factories and halted subsidies to farmers.

The programme cut the cost price to $1.94 a kilogram from a previous $4 and was hailed as a model of what restructuring could do.

Cotontchad now stands in need of a new shot in the arm, and part of a $20m aid agreement France signed earlier this month with the government will be devoted to getting the key industry back into competitive shape. — Sapa-Reuters.
ALGIERS — A military court trying Algeria's top Muslim fundamentalists yesterday ordered outgoing prime minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali to testify, giving the trial a political twist.

The detained leaders of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front, who face charges punishable by death, have argued the trial was political and should not be judged by the military.

Algerian journalists said the trial would resume today. Abassi Madani (61), his deputy Ali Belhadj (35) and five FIS officials refused to leave their cells, saying they had been condemned in advance. Mr Madani and Mr Belhadj face charges of conspiracy against the State, punishable by death. — Sapa-Reuters.
New generation of African leaders chosen by people

The diversity of faces at the OAU summit reflects a continent in turmoil.

By MICHELLE FAUL.

AFRICANS are shaking off military and one-party rule, but the army captain who seized power in Sierra Leone found plenty of company from the barracks when he strode into a continental summit.

Military men rule half of the Organisation of African Unity's 51 member nations.

Captain Valentine Strasser, just 27, spoke well and passionately, defending his seizure of power on April 30 from a civilian government he said had impoverished the country. Like other military leaders before him, and presumably those waiting their turn, he promised democracy as soon as possible.

This year's OAU summit also included five new democratically elected presidents. There were soldiers who have abandoned their uniforms for tailored suits or traditional robes, as well as patriarchs. These new presidents are a third generation of African leaders brought to power by strikes and protests that are sweeping away dictators.

President Frederick Chiluba of Zambia, chosen in that nation's first free elections in 24 years, spoke of missing faces. "Many illustrious sons of Africa who had a great deal to do with the birth of our organisation have died either at the hands of gun-wielding African revolutionaries or have passed away quietly in the silent solitude of exile. Peaceful change of government is a concept we are only now beginning to grasp."

Sassou Nguesso of Congo and some others, including General Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo, retain the title of president and command armies that may threaten transitions to democracy, but no longer run governments.

So far, Nicephore Soglo of Benin is the only president chosen in an election resulting from a national conference.

Many hope for more like him - well-educated technocrats who have worked for international institutions and have the ability to repair shattered economies.

They would be the new corps of successors to revered nationalists and revolutionaries such as Kwame Nkrumah, who became Africa's first black president when Ghana achieved independence from Britain in 1957. Nkrumah led the African experiment with "democratic socialism", which began with dreams of glory and ended in disaster.

He and several other African leaders leave the legacy of a continent near ruin, politically and economically bankrupt. Africa's wealth of minerals and other primary resources made millionaires of corrupt rulers, but was never used to develop industry that would provide good jobs.

The diversity of leaders at the summit reflected the turmoil Africa is undergoing as it turns towards democracy. — Sapa-AP.
FIS warns court

ALGHERS: The outlawed Islamic Salvation Front told an Algerian military court trying its leaders that it alone would be responsible for whatever happened after its verdict which was due yesterday. "The FIS and Muslimic proud of Algeria have warned them sufficiently," it said in a clandestine bulletin, drawn up at the start of the trial, and now being circulated in Algiers. (1)

A military cell in Belfal, 30km away, FIS chief Abbes Madani (61) and his deputy Ali Belhadi (35) await judgment after a prosecutor demanded "prison in perpetuity" for them. Sapa-Reuters
Appeal for cash for Somalia

The British Red Cross has launched an appeal for cash to aid victims of what it called the "forgotten catastrophe" in Somalia—a nation torn by civil war, famine, and drought. Red Cross director general, Mike Whilans, said this week that two million people face starvation in "the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today." "Thousands are dying daily in Mogadishu alone," said Watson. The International Red Cross is spending more than 25 percent of its $500-million budget on Somalia this year, feeding 500,000 people twice a day in makeshift kitchens throughout the country.

Rebel base captured

Sudanese government forces have captured the rebel Sudanese People's Liberation Army's main base at Torit, government officials announced this week. Sudan's military ruler, Gen. Omar Hassan al-Bashir, went on state radio to announce the government's troops entered Torit, the town near Sudan's border with Uganda. Torit has been the rebels' main stronghold.

Rwandan ceasefire agreed

The Rwandan government and its rebel opponents agreed this week to end their 21-month war with a ceasefire to be monitored by a 50-member African military observer team. In a pact reached after three days of talks in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha, the two sides also agreed on further negotiations on power sharing.

Africa lacks civil freedom

No country from Africa or Asia is providing full civil liberties for its people, according to the new issue of the International Human Suffering Index, published in Washington, DC by the Population Crisis Committee. According to the index for African countries, six Asian countries, Haiti and Cuba do not have any civil rights for their people at all. The African countries are Cameroon, Libya, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda.
CHAD

A PEACE agreement was recently signed in Libreville between the Chadian government and the opposition Movement for Democracy and Development (MDD).

The agreement stated the determination of the two sides to “give priority to dialogue in resolving the country’s problems” and provided for the “end of any military action between the national army and the Western Armed Forces (MDD’s military wing)”.

The agreement also makes way for the “immediate release of anyone arrested in combat or elsewhere, or detained as a result of membership to the MDD”.

ETHIOPIA

PRESIDENT Meles Zenawi said his door was still open to the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) if it decided to continue its struggle in peace.

He also reiterated his stance that any organisation that disrupted peace should expect to be controlled by the armed forces.

KENYA

THE United Nations has appealed for 97m dollars (R270.6 million) in aid for Kenya to overcome a severe drought and feed thousands of refugees from Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia.

Compiled by Quentin Wilson
EGYPT

Hundreds have been arrested and others killed or injured following a late June crackdown on suspected Islamic militants. The move came after attacks on Coptic Christians and security forces.

About 5,000 heavily-armed police in river boats and armoured personnel carriers descended on Egypt's southern Assuit province, sealing off roads, setting up checkpoints and storming suspects' homes.

The crackdown followed three months of conflict in Assuit province, where more than 20 people died as a result of violence between Christians and Muslims.

Muslim and Christian clerics have called for an end to the fighting.

SUDAN

TWO FACTIONS of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) are meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, to heal a 10-month split in the rebel movement based in southern Sudan.

The two factions announced in mid-June they would reunite on the battlefield once they agree on a new structure for the movement, who would lead the SPLA and how it would deal with human rights.

The Nasir faction broke from the Torit faction last August after alleged human rights violations within the movement.

The split in the SPLA has contributed to recent battlefield gains by government troops, who have occupied 13 rebel-held towns in the biggest dry season offensive since the civil war began in 1983.
Algeria: Lawyers for Algeria's outlawed Islamic Salvation Front leaders are to appeal to the Supreme Court following the fundamentalists' 12-year prison sentences imposed by a military court earlier this week.

Lagos: Internal dissent is threatening to cripple both of Nigeria's army-created parties only two weeks before the start of primaries to select civilian presidential candidates, party officials said.

Cairo: Egypt has a unique opportunity to reap early benefits of an economic adjustment programme if it 'accelerates the pace' of reforms proposed by the IMF and World Bank, a senior Bank official said.
Imperial row

ADDIS ABABA - A quarrel has erupted between Ethiopia's monarchists, over who to back as the successor to the late Emperor Haile Selassie, believed to have been murdered after the Marxist revolution that overthrew him 18 years ago. (1)

While in exile in London four years ago, Ahma Selassie (75) was crowned as the 226th emperor in a legendary line that goes back to King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba 3,000 years ago.

(1)
Standard seeks hold on Africa

A SUCCESSFUL takeover of the African operations of ANZ Grinakers Bank by Standard Bank Investment Corporation would set the group up in seven African countries, giving it a much larger patch than other major SA banks.


Standard Bank has already established a presence in Africa through Standard Bank Namibia, Standard Bank of Bophuthatswana and Union Bank of Swaziland. The group's 1991 annual report said the banks in the African Banking Group were well established.

Combined after-tax profit improved to R38.2m compared with R25.9m in 1990.
Battles erupt before Rwanda ceasefire

KAMPALA — Fighting raged in northern Rwanda yesterday as government troops and rebels raced to claim ground before a ceasefire due at midnight.

Ugandans along the border heard automatic rifle and artillery fire all through the night.

"It is clear that heavy fighting is taking place inside Rwanda," a resident of Kabale said.

An agreement reached last week set a truce at midnight yesterday to be followed by a full ceasefire on July 31 and deployment of 50 military observers from Nigeria, Senegal and Zimbabwe.

Talks are due to start in Arusha, Tanzania, on August 10 on rebel demands for integration of guerillas into the national army and the return home of tens of thousands of refugees.

A ceasefire agreement brokered by African leaders last year collapsed within a few days.

But Tanzanian officials, Rwandan government officials and the rebels all say the current pact will hold. — Sapa-Reuters.
A confused nation sees new hope

Amira may yet resist fundamentalism. New Moonhouse reports from Cairo.
Economic constraints in poverty, says new survey

Economic constraints program for developing nations are

---

Frances Williams in Geneva

计划为了贫穷

减缓方案

经济紧缩
Economic development programmes for developing nations must be designed to address the root causes of poverty and inequality. The focus should be on sustainable development, education, and health care, rather than short-term economic gains. Policies should promote balanced growth and reduce income inequalities. It is crucial to invest in human capital and infrastructure, which will stimulate long-term economic development. The implementation of these programmes requires a collaborative effort between governments, international organizations, and civil society. The goal is to create sustainable and equitable growth, ensuring that all members of society benefit from economic development.
NAIROBI - Forty-seven United Nations truce observers will go to Somalia this week after one of Mogadishu's two warring factions dropped its opposition to the plan, UN special envoy Mohamed Salahuddin said yesterday. - Sapa-AFP.
Africa in brief

Moshoeshoe home
MASERU - Former King Moshoeshoe has returned to army-rulled Lesotho calling for reconciliation and democracy, but a potentially explosive dispute about the role of the monarchy remains unresolved.

“A chief is a chief by the will of the people,” Moshoeshoe told journalists on Monday on his return from two years’ exile in Britain, under an agreement brokered by the Commonwealth.

“Bring rain! We are starving,” shouted ecstatic supporters when Moshoeshoe left his limousine to ride with blanket-clad horsemen into his drought-stricken village of Matsieng. Moshoeshoe (54) vowed to campaign for human rights and assist the mountain state’s scheduled transition to democratic civilian government after six years of army rule.

Peace signals studied
TUNIS - Senior Palestine Liberation Organisation leaders met yesterday to co-ordinate their response to peace overtures by new Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

“The leadership must assess the situation after the Israeli elections which created new conditions to deal with,” said PLO executive committee member, M Abba...

Sapa-Reuters-AFP.

Illegal gem trade
WINDHOEK - President Sam Nujoma is to discuss allegations of Angola’s illegal diamond trade affecting Namibia with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, State House spokesman Daniel Smith said in Windhoek yesterday.

He said Nujoma would raise the matter through regular government channels or when they next meet. Diamonds are Namibia’s largest single foreign exchange earner, contributing R1.2 billion of the R3.3 billion in total export earnings for the last financial year.

Rwanda ceasefire
KAMPALA - Rwanda and its rebel foes will meet in Ethiopia next week to discuss the details of a ceasefire shattered only hours after it was supposed to end a 21-month mutually based war.

A Rwandan embassy official said his government would send a delegation to Addis Ababa to hold talks with rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front starting on July 27.

The talks will be held four days before full implementation of an internationally-brokered ceasefire to be monitored by a 50-man military observer force from Zimbabwe, Senegal and Nigeria.
Coup feared in Seychelles poll

By Shaun Johnson
Star Africa Service

With only days to go before the first multiparty elections to be held in the Seychelles for 15 years, opposition parties have called on foreign governments to send warships to the island.

Five opposition parties have signed the joint plea, claiming that President Albert Rene is planning to nullify the election results by force.

Letters went out to the British, French, US and Indian governments requesting "naval visits to Port Victoria during the crucial days of the election" to discourage government troops from staging a coup.

Elections for a constitutional forum start on Friday, and results are expected on Sunday.

President Rene gave way to international and internal pressure earlier this year and agreed to multiparty elections.

The opposition groups now believe that Mr Rene will renge on his promises if he loses.

The signatories to the letter include former president Sir James Mancham, now leader of the Democratic Party; Seychelles Liberal Party leader Ogilvy Berliou; and the Seychelles Democratic Movement's Jacques Houdou.

The letter claims that the ruling party has told voters: "Let them (the opposition) win the elections, and then we will take over."

The opposition leaders also complain of a heavy military presence on the main island, Mahe, and the appearance of armed soldiers at party rallies.

In addition, President Rene's personalised "people's militia" is said to be intervening in campaigning as election day approaches.
The sugar-coated monstrosity

The virus needs another opportunity - what causes AIDS? Nick Lyon reports from amber.

Gene studies are being used to trace the origins and significance of Dr. Myer's recent increase in health. How were we not surprised when we learned the 25% increase in blood volume it's not unusual when a person is suffering.

The case for monstrosity.

The case for monstrosity.

The case for monstrosity.

The case for monstrosity.
A POLICE officer was killed by a group of unknown armed attackers as he was leaving afternoon prayers at a mosque in the eastern Algerian town of Constantine this week. Radio Algeria named the officer as Nebal Rachid.
One person was also killed and two were wounded when rioters in Algiers erected barricades of burning tyres, leading to clashes with security forces. At least six people have died since Friday in clashes between supporters of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front and security forces.
Official reports also speak of an increased incidence of "sabotage" around the country, with power lines being cut by presumed opponents of the government's crackdown on Islamic fundamentalists.
A jarring interlude in the Seychelles, then back to sleep

THE sleepy Seychelles have been jolted by tomorrow’s election. On Monday the Seychellois will have returned to being their contented, fatalistic selves, reports SHAUN JOHNSON from Mahe.

THEY don’t have opinion polls before elections in the Seychelles, and a good thing, too. Polls would dilute the crazy speculation and wholly unrealistic expectations of this island nation.

But having had the chance to vote for 15 years, the Seychellois are out of practice — and they are loving every chaotic minute of their return to democracy.

Street wisdom in Port Victoria is unreliable, to put it mildly, I asked an enthusiastic young insurance salesman to predict the results of tomorrow’s election. “Mancham 60 percent, Rene 40 percent, Parti Sesel 20 percent, Liberal Party 10 percent,” he pronounced.

Another election expert, a tea-estate worker picking a lift in the mountains of the breathtaking Forêt Noire, had a simple formula: “The rich will vote for Mancham. The poor will vote for Rene. There are more poor than rich.”

I asked him whether he liked Rene. “Oh no,” he answered, “but I am poor and I like my job.” Such are the intricacies of Seychelles politics.

The warm south-east monsoon blowing through the exquisite islands is whipping up emotions, but in an essentially good-humoured way. Bigwigs from all eight parties buy one another beers at sidewalk restaurants before setting off for their ramshackle campaign offices to plot a last-minute propaganda coup against their rivals.

Infuriating

Particularly adroit is Ogilvy Berlouis, the former Minister of Defence, who heads the Liberal Party. He has been infuriating Rene by revealing corruption — including a story of more than $3 million paid to Rene to release bungling South African mercenaries in the 1980s.

Berlouis has taken to teasing Rene, and this appeals to the Seychellois sense of humour. Today, the Liberals are planning to drive a very thin cow around Victoria on the back of a truck.

All Seychellois will know this is a reference to Rene’s famous statement that he had spent 15 years fattening the Seychelles cow, and that while he was prepared to share the milk, the cow remained his.

Mancham smiles at such tricks, but does not indulge in them himself. He believes his status as the fun-loving president who was cruelly ousted will see him through. He does a few walkabouts, but not too many.

Rene, withdrawn in his magnificent State house high in the mountains, is rarely seen although his party has plastered much of the island with colourful campaign material which makes the wearing of sunglasses almost mandatory.

In response, a plaintive front-page article in the Seychelles Nation asked: “Who will clean up Victoria?”

For the moment, life in these hypnotic islands has been speeded up jarringly by politics: It will be over by tomorrow night, when the results are announced. Then the Seychellois will return to being their contented, alluring, fatalistic selves.

This week a prominent newspaper story on the islands’ Olympic prospects was headlined: “Boxing — The Slim But Main Hope of Seychelles’ Almost Non-Existing Medals Chances.”
Islands, there's a lesson for us
Miles from nowhere, on the

MAHE (Seychelles) — A tense election battle between a returned ex-president and the man who ousted him has politicised the Seychelles as never before.

Tomorrow morning, the bulk of the Indian Ocean nation's 48,000 voters go to the polls on Mahe.

It appears their central choice will be between the strong, dour ruler of the past 15 years, President Albert Rene, and the charismatic former "playboy president," Sir James Mancham. Six other parties are contesting the multiparty elections for a body to draw up a new constitution, but most attention is focused on the Rene-Mancham rematch.

Rene, then prime minister, overthrew Mancham in a bloodless coup in 1977. There have been no elections since. Mancham returned to Seychelles from exile in London in April. This year Rene succumbed to international and internal pressure and agreed to a transition to multipartyism. It is expected that election results will be announced tomorrow night. Observers believe Rene's ruling party will put up a good showing — it is deeply entrenched after 15 years of one-party rule — but say Mancham's residual popularity could swing the contest his way. Smaller parties, including the Seychelles Liberal Party and the Parti Senselwa, could play a power-breaking role if they beat the 5 percent cut-off required for representation in the constitutional forum.

The election takes place against the dramatic backdrop of a call from five opposition parties for foreign warships to come to the capital, Port Victoria, in case Rene loses and uses force to nullify the election results. Yesterday Britain politely declined the request for naval back-up, but said Whitehall would deplore any attempt to disrupt the electoral process.

Seychelles Director of Elections Andre Sauzier said that if any party decided not to respect the results, this could lead to a coup and the "short-circuiting" of Seychelles' democratisation process.

Polling started in the far-flung outer islands on Thursday. Seychelles is made up of 115 islands, some nearly 1,000 km from the capital. This makes the electoral process slow and complicated. On some islands, there are as few as five voters, with the vast majority on Mahe.

Commonwealth observers are verifying the electoral process, and a group of French MPs arrived on Mahe this week to monitor events.

*See Pages 7 and 12*
BLIND people in South Africa could soon be forming links with the blind across the continent. The SA League of Friends of the Blind hopes to be admitted to the African Union of the Blind and is hosting a delegation from the African union that includes its president, Mr Ismail Konate of Mali.

Konate will attend the local league's annual general meeting, said director Mr Philip Bam.

There has been a large increase in the number of blind people referred to the SA league this year, according to Bam.

Its professional staff work to help people overcome the traumatic experience of loss of vision. They also help blind people to achieve independence and mobility.

Programmes include an English course for Xhosa-speaking blind and another course for visually impaired pre-school children.

Interested people can attend the AGM on Thursday, July 23, at the league's Independence Development Centre, corner of Klip and First roads, Grassypark, at 8pm.
The causes of insatiability in Africa:

African Refugees

WARS AND FAMINE UN NIGER TO END

Drought, War, Sack Park

NEWS FEATURE: The Right Solutions to Combat One of Africa's Oldest Problems
Recovery will come from inside

By Josuha Fabotoko

The content:

Small businesses are vital

Business Help for entrepreneurs to set up businesses, expand or diversify

Tuesday, July 1992, Sowetan
**Africa in brief**

**Killer named**

ALGIERS - The killer of Algerian head of state Mohamed Boudiaf was a known sympathiser of Algerian and foreign Muslim fundamentalist movements, a spokesman for an official inquiry said at the weekend.
Front in confrontation with police:

Four killed in clashes

Demonstrations, arrests and killings in Algeria, Africa in brief
Check on refugees

MOMBASA - Kenyan officials at the weekend inspected a Jordanian registered ship that arrived in Mombasa on Wednesday with over 250 starving Somali refugees to check reports that some of them were armed soldiers.
Refugees stranded on ship receive UN aid

NAIROBI — The UN High Commissioner for Refugees yesterday delivered food, medicine and water to 351 Somali refugees stranded in a ship for five days off the Kenyan coast.

Panos Moutsis, a spokesman for the UNHCR, said the agency hoped to disembark the 156 children, 118 women and 83 men today.

He blamed Kenya's bureaucracy for the delay in disembarking the refugees.

The Jamaica-registered ship, which is also carrying scrap aluminium, was denied permission to dock at Mombasa on Wednesday.

Authorities said a nearby refugee camp was congested and ordered the ship to Lamu, about 250 km north of Mombasa.

The captain, Nizar Ahmad, of Pakistan, said he had no fuel for the journey.

Tens of thousands of Somalis are believed to have died from malnutrition and factional fighting in their country and hundreds of thousands have fled.

United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on Friday proposed a massive relief programme for Somalia, where the UN says 1.5 million people are on the brink of starvation and 4.5 million more need assistance.

Somalia's crisis began in January 1991 when the rebel United Somali Congress chased President Mohamed Siad Barre from Mogadishu.

Sapa-AFP.

Algerian killing: 10 held

ALGIERS — Ten members of Algeria's elite presidential guard have been arrested in connection with last month's assassination of President Mohamed Boudiaf, says the head of a government commission investigating the killing. The president was shot dead by a member of the guard on June 30. Police arrested 2nd Lieutenant Lembark Bousraa but the commission said it doubted his assertion that he was acting alone.

Bid to repair Mir

MOSCOW — A Frenchman and two Russian cosmonauts blast off today to install new equipment that may help prolong the lifespan of the Mir orbital space station. A Soyuz TM spacecraft is scheduled to take off from Kazakhstan and rendezvous with the space station that has been the workhorse of the Soviet space programme since 1986. It was feared the station might have to be abandoned as equipment ages and its orbit brings it closer to earth's atmosphere.

Kenyan rally broken up

NAIROBI — Riot police broke up a rally by supporters of Kenya's largest opposition party, the Forum for the Restoration for Democracy (FORD), in Kagunduini, Murang'a. A government official declared the rally cancelled and ordered policemen to disperse hundreds of supporters who turned up for the meeting on Saturday.

- Reports by Star Foreign Service, Sapa, Reuter, Financial Times and Associated Press.
VICTORIA—Voters in the Seychelles gave Socialist President Albert Rene an overwhelming victory yesterday in the island's first multi-party poll in 16 years.

Rene's ruling Seychelles People's Progressive Front took 58.4 percent of the 45,000 votes cast in a poll on a new democratic constitution.

He trounced seven newly-formed rival parties and the man he toppled in a 1977 army-backed coup, Sir James Mancham.
Forty-five Somali refugees drown

JIBOUTI (SOMALIA) - Forty-five Somalis fleeing civil strife and famine drowned when their crowded dhow sank in rough seas at the weekend off Djibouti, witnesses said.

A report-carried Sunday said as many as 60 may have died.

In Kenya, the government negotiated yesterday with UN officials over a freighter refused permission to dock because it carries some 300 Somalis.

The incident, one in the country bordering Somalia on the north and the other on the south, highlighted the plight of hundreds of thousands of Somalis fleeing abroad for food and security after months of civil war.

Witnesses said a French military rescue team recovered 45 bodies from the dhow and handed them over to Djibouti government officials late on Sunday.

Earlier reports said as many as 60 may have died.

Five survivors, including a woman, were rescued in a 10-hour air and sea search.

Somalis are fleeing because of the collapse of their country into clan fighting and anarchy aggravated by the worst drought in 100 years.

One in six Somalis has left the country to escape more than a year of civil strife after the overthrow of President Mohamed Siad Barre. - Sapa-Reuters.
Outdoor advertising an ideal medium for Africa

GAVIN DU VENAGE

OUTDOOR advertising may prove the necessary link between SA marketers and potential customers in the rest of Africa, says Outdoor Advertising Association of SA GM Tony Davidson.

Although outdoor was “small” in this country, it played a significant role in the rest of the continent. There were signboards outside stores in even the most remote areas.

Rent-a-Sign already has operations in Namibia and Botswana, and recently announced it had secured contracts for billboards at Maputo’s airport and at sites within the city.

“Because you are dealing with a Third World market, signboards have an advantage over other media,” Davidson said. Television services were erratic, and radios needed batteries and licences. But billboards, from a consumer’s point of view, were free.

Botswana-based outdoor advertising contractor Creative People recently became the first foreign company to become a full member of SA’s outdoor association.

Creative People MD Chris Mosinyi found SA clients were interested in signing contracts but hesitant to deal with a company that had no track record in SA.

Davidson said he expected further co-operation between SA and advertising companies in the region.

Rent-a-Sign marketing manager Bruce Palmer said the company was investigating markets as far afield as Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi.
Russian newspaper to boost ties with Africa

CAPE TOWN — Why was a rubber stamp marked 'Department of Co-operation and Development' kept alongside false beards, wigs and foreign passport forging equipment in a secret Communist Party workshop in Moscow?

Russian journalist Sergey Pahomenko concludes in the first edition of New Bridge, a bi-lingual newspaper aimed at fostering business and other contacts between Russia and southern Africa, that it was used to help SA communists and trade union leaders slip in and out of their own country.

The seal was found when government offices were being set up in the Communist Party central committee's former building in Moscow after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Pahomenko says: "It is easy to suppose who the fake documents were meant for. SA communists and trade unionists visited the Soviet Union since the '20s and '30s and were followed in later years by members of the banned liberation movements."

"It looks as if they were helped here with forged documents so they could travel to other countries and penetrate their own."

The English edition of New Bridge, which will be airfreighted to SA, is intended to acquaint southern African business circles with the new economic laws and rules of Russia and the former Soviet republics.

The first English edition carries detailed information on a number of Russian companies, institutes and other organisations looking for southern African partners, markets or finance.

The Russian edition will acquaint Euro-Asian readers with SA — its political and economic legislation, economic possibilities, and problems of immigration.

Listed as a "founder" of the newspaper is Russian diamond marketing organisation Almazzoloto, which has a billion-dollar annual sales contract with De Beers Centenary. — Sapa.
Rene wins Seychelles poll

VICTORIA — President Albert Rene’s ruling party has won the Seychelles’ first multiparty election in 17 years, defeating flamboyant opposition leader James Mancham, ousted by Rene in a 1977 coup, officials said yesterday.

Rene’s Seychelles People’s Progressive Front (SPPF) took 58.4% of the votes cast in the weekend poll to elect a 20-seat commission to draft a new constitution for a future legislative assembly to be elected in December.

Voters will be asked to approve the new constitution in a referendum in November.

Mancham’s Democratic Party won 33.7%, and will have seats on the commission along with the ruling SPPF and the Parti Seselwa led by Wavel Ramkalawan.

“The result shows people are mature enough to decide their future,” said Rene.

Eight parties contested the election, seen as the key to future political control of the Indian Ocean island chain. Five won too few votes to be represented on the commission.

Mancham suggested the polls had been rigged against his main opposition Democratic Party (DP).

“We find the result difficult to believe but we will carry on until full democracy comes to the Seychelles,” he said.

But a Commonwealth observer group deemed the election in the former British colony free and fair, officials said. Observers from France and the US also monitored the poll.

Rene, who ousted Mancham while serving as his prime minister in a coalition government, won 20 of the 22 electoral districts.

Diplomats in the region said Rene’s party had mounted a better-organised campaign than the other parties, while Mancham’s 15 years in exile before his highly-publicised return this year had distanced him from the voters.

Rene, who has abandoned much of his former socialist policies, still campaigned as the champion of the working people, while Mancham proclaimed his support for free-market policies.

Political analysts said rural voters had backed Rene, who created a welfare state that guaranteed social security, free education and health care.

Mancham complained that 15 000 exiles who fled Rene’s rule and could have been supporters of his party had not been allowed to vote. He vowed to change this before December. — Sapa-Reuters-AFP.
New Spirit of Leadership emerges

Colin Legum tells of a dramatic human story unfolding throughout Africa
SA paid R10-m

VICTORIA - Seychelles President

Albert Rene yesterday admitted
publicly that his government had
received about R10 million from
South Africa for the release of six
mercenaries in 1982.

Questioned about the payment,
the Seychelles socialist leader con-
firmed that the PW Botha Govern-
ment had paid the money as "com-
pensation" for the abortive coup
attempt led by "Mad Mike" Hoare
on the islands in 1981. Rene said the
money was paid into the Seychelles
Central Bank.- "Sovetan Africa
News Service and Sega"
WHILE much of Africa is eagerly awaiting South Africa's return to the continent, most people here prefer to remain largely ignorant about the rest of the land mass to which the country is inextricably attached.

They prefer to associate with countries like Germany, Great Britain or the United States, rather than acquaint themselves with the shambles in Africa, ignoring the fact - sad to some, but real nevertheless - that we are Africans in Africa.

Our future lies more than ever before with the African continent. And the sooner we accept that the better for all of us.

More and more businesses are sending teams into African countries to investigate business opportunities.

A future government is sure to have much closer ties with Tanzania than with Great Britain and the political or economic developments in Zimbabwe and Angola are much more likely to affect South Africa than internal political developments in France or Israel.

Ask the average South African where Burundi is and he is likely to tell you it is in the Himalayas or in South America.

**Strike conversation**

South African newspapers are fixated by the latest romps of the British Royal family.

On the other hand it is quite possible to strike up a conversation with a taxi driver in Lusaka (that is in Zambia, just north of where Rhodesia used to be) about the crisis facing Kenya's President Daniel arap Moi.

He will know who Babangida is and that Sierra Leone has just experienced yet another coup. He will happily chat about the Renamo-Frelimo war and Dos Santos' moment of truth at the end of September.

**Good luck**

And above all he will have a pretty good idea about what Mandela and FW have been up to.

Back in South Africa, it is rare to find even a well-educated person able to display the same range of knowledge - besides, of course, the tiresome fascination with which we examine our own navels.

While most Africans north of the Limpopo remain abreast of developments on our continent, South Africans are allowing themselves to be left shamefully behind.

Possibly the changes have been too sudden, and most of them are still too busy wiping the sleep out of their eyes to notice that the once impregnable laager on the Limpopo River has all but disappeared.

Maybe the newspapers must share some of the blame. Newspapers in Nairobi and Dar es

---

**South African newspapers are fixated by the latest romps of the British Royal family.**

Salaam are everyday filled with news and features on the African continent.

**No exceptions**

In contrast South African newspapers, virtually without exception, are so fixated by our own crisis and by the latest romps of the British Royal family that articles on African issues are sadly few and far between. But the fault also lies with a society - especially the white society - which prefers to think of Africa as an unfortunate failure. And the less they know about it the less chance there is of it coming down here to sully their little bit of pseudo-Europe.
Little light at end of African refugee tunnel

The Star Wednesday July 29, 1992

WAR AND drought have forced up to 7.5 million Africans into exile, about a third of the world's total refugee population.

And a further 10 million have been displaced in their own countries, the UN estimates.

Due to war and economic collapse, Africans in many nations, long afflicted by drought, have lost their ability to tide themselves over the lean years.

The UN says some 40 million people in sub-Saharan Africa need international food aid this year — 10.6 million tons of it — and refugees are the most needy of all.

Poverty

In the long term, many African aid officials say, the underlying causes of poverty need to be tackled before stability can be restored.

"There can be no lasting peace or prosperity as long as millions of people continue to endure an existence defined by poverty and hunger," UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in a message to a UN World Food Council summit in Nairobi last month.

But Western donors who once pumped aid into the continent's development are scaling down assistance. With the end of the Cold War, Africa has lost its strategic importance and help is needed in the former Eastern bloc countries.

Conflicts in nations such as Ethiopia and Angola ended in the wake of the Cold War. Other old conflicts drag on, such as those in Mozambique and Sudan.

But new ones in Liberia, Rwanda and Somalia have erupted, driven by age-old ethnic hatreds that could spread to other states in the region.

In Somalia alone, 800 000 people, or nearly one-sixth of the total population, have crossed into neighbouring countries due to 18 months of tribal fighting and drought following the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre.

Trihal massacres in the central African state of Rwanda forced hundreds of thousands of people from the Hutu tribe into exile in the 1950s and 1960s.

After years in exile, the UN also found only 13 000 out of 20 000 South African exiles from the black nationalist movements fighting white rule wanted to go home this year.

"When they look at what's going on at home and what little those who have gone back have found, they want to wait," said Karen Abu Zayd, chief of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees' (UNHCR) South African repatriation programme.

Stauching the flow of refugees will require nothing less than international political intervention, many analysts say.

The Organisation of African Unity's annual summit this month resolved to try to end conflicts in the region but stopped short of creating a body that could intervene in them — such as a peacekeeping force.

Many diplomats say the onus is now on the shoulders of the UN to solve conflicts that African governments cannot.

They add that the world body has been reforming its policy since the Gulf War last year, when it drew international criticism for not acting fast enough to help Kurdish refugees in Iraq.

Faced with limited funds, Mr. Boutros-Ghali in February created a $30 million (R140 million) humanitarian fund for quick use in crises rather than waiting for donor pledges in response to UN appeals.

Pressure

Overhauling the UN bureaucracy will mean getting various agencies, such as the World Food Programme, the UNHCR and the UN Children's Fund, to work more closely together and not duplicate efforts, analysts say.

The UN is putting greater pressure on warring parties in conflicts such as Somalia and Yugoslavia to give relief agencies better access to the needy, and has gone so far as to guard its operations with armed troops.

But developing countries do not want UN intervention to be forced on them, saying the UN charter should respect states' sovereignty under all circumstances.
Kenya lets in more Somali boat people

MOMBASA (Kenya) — Nearly 600 frail and exhausted Somali boat people were allowed ashore in Kenya yesterday, a day after the bodies of 52 others were fished out of the sea off Djibouti, UN officials said.

Among the 586 Somalis taken in were 396 refugees who had been stranded in squalid conditions aboard a cargo ship off the port of Mombasa for six days until Kenya reluctantly granted permission for them to disembark. Another 190 were allowed to disembark from a second boat.

Kenyan officials had expressed concern that their country's resources were stretched too thin to look after more refugees from 18 months of factional fighting, famine and drought in Somalia. But UN officials urged them to relent, saying the world body would provide food and shelter.

Four of the refugees, including two women who delivered babies aboard the ship, were immediately hospitalised. The others were taken to the Utange refugee camp north of Mombasa, already overcrowded with 26,000 Somalis. — Sapa-AFP.
Zimbabwe — Sapa-AFP.

African Development Association (AfDB) for 110 projects. Development and infrastructure development and development extended contained total $22 billion in loans for developing countries. In 1992, the Bank said loans to developing countries reached $22 billion. Loans to Africa in 1992 ($5.5 billion) for infrastructure development and reconstruction, the Bank said. This week, ZIMBABWE — Sapa-AFP.

WASHINGTON — World Bank Loans Year and 30.4% in 1990.
This putsch bid quite puzzling

Madagascar is becoming notorious for its many coup attempts.

Barney Mitromboli reports.

Food for starving Somalis

MOGADISHU - The United Nation's special representative to Somalia said yesterday he hoped to begin an airlift of food to 1.5 million starving Somalis within days.

Mr. Mohamed Sahmoun, a UN under-secretary general from Algiers, said he would not wait for a report by a UN technical team before starting the airlift. "Kids are dying right now," Sahmoun said. "The technical team will report to the secretary general."

But that does not exclude the possibility of us starting an airlift immediately." He said he hoped to be able to airlift food not only to Mogadishu but to at least half a dozen communities in the country's interior.
Banking 'has duty to SA's Third World'

SA's banking industry has an economic and social responsibility to address the banking needs of the Third World population, says Nederov Bank CEO Chris Liebenberg.

In his presidential address to the Institute of Bankers, he says few banks have addressed this issue, and the banks have much to learn before they understand and could service the market effectively.

Another feature lacking in the domestic banking industry was co-operation to lower the cost structure through rationalisation.

"An area where co-operation will become imperative is in the provision of delivery systems for the masses, who at present move outside the banking system."

"It is fascinating to consider that, to provide the most elementary and user-friendly delivery and payment systems, one has to rely on the most sophisticated and state of the art technology."

Liebenberg says the infrastructural costs involved prevent any single financial organisation undertaking it on its own.

"Is it not sad then that all the financial organisations persist in doing their research and development on a highly indi-

SHARON WOOD

vidual and confidential basis rather than on a co-operative basis?"

Liebenberg also believes SA banks require a much higher capitalisation ratio. SA's required capital to asset ratio is in line with that in the developed countries.

In SA, unlike in the rest of the world, both banking and industry are concentrated, with the banks being significantly smaller than some of the industrial companies, he said.

Exposure

"The result is, on the one hand, the Deposit Taking Institutions Act forces banks to spread their exposure risks while, on the other hand, because of the limited lending capacity through the relatively few banks operating in this country, exposures are actually concentrated at levels in excess of internationally accepted standards."

Liebenberg sums up the challenges facing the banking industry as capital adequacy, profitability, delivery systems and capable people.
BYUMBA (Rwanda) - The army and RPF rebels were locked in fierce fighting close to the capital of Kigali yesterday, the eve of a ceasefire supposed to end a 21-month tribally-based conflict.

The tea plantations and maize fields around the tiny town of Byumba, 80km from Kigali, echoed to the sound of artillery barrages and the chatter of automatic rifles.

"Government forces are making futile last-minute attempts to dislodge us from our position," rebel commander James Kaharebebe said.

Reporters travelling with Rwandan Patriotic Front rebels said the army appeared to have launched a major offensive against rebel strongholds on a broad front to control as much territory as possible before the truce takes effect today.

An agreement reached between the government and rebels in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha two weeks ago set a full ceasefire at midnight on July 31.

-Sapa-AFP.
Somali exiles on their way

NAIROBI - Another ship carrying war-wary Somali refugees has reached Kenya and two others carrying hundreds more fugitives from fighting and famine are on their way, United Nations sources said yesterday.

They said a dhow, the al-Hamza, packed from stem to stern with 251 dehydrated, hungry and exhausted refugees, docked off the Kenyan port of Mombasa on Wednesday and was expected to receive clearance to land its passengers shortly.

The Kenyan government, already host to 330,000 Somali refugees, relented on Tuesday after a six-day standoff and gave permission to an aging Jamaican-registered vessel, the Samas-1, to discharge 396 Somali sanctuary-seekers.

Refugees on the al-Hamza told relief workers they left the southern Somali port of Kismayu 12 days ago and two more vessels similarly packed with refugees were on their way towards the Kenyan coast.

Shot radical politician dies

LOMBAH - A Togolese politician riddled with bullets in an assassination attempt on July 23 died of his wounds on Wednesday in a Paris hospital, Prime Minister Joseph Koffigoh announced on state television.

Tavio Amorin (34), head of the radical Pan-African Socialist Party, died at the Saint-Antoine Hospital, where he had been flown a day after the attack in downtown Lome, Koffigoh said in a statement.
MAURITIAN TOURISM

Off the boil

31/7/92

Looking for a cheap hotel? Try Mauritius.
The expected boom in tourism has not materialised, leaving developers who responded to the government's call to build more hotels eager to get rid of their semi-completed shells or hotels operating at 30% occupancy or less.

The government has put a moratorium on the construction of any other hotels but, at the last count, about 15 were up for grabs, including the semi-completed Capricorn, designed to have 1,800 rooms.

Though the Gulf War cut deeply into tourism, members of the tourist business blame Air Mauritius, which is 51%-controlled by the government, for making the problem worse. Charter flights are not allowed to compete with the national carrier and its artificially high tariffs. Airliners and government officials say they want to keep numbers down to protect the environment and to keep up the image of Mauritius as an exclusive destination.

Hotel executives, however, can't afford to be so choosy about who sleeps in their beds. Says one: "If people are coming in all the way to Mauritius from Europe, they have money to spend." As for more tourists ruining the environment, the executive points out that the hulking frames of unfinished hotels are doing a lot more to spoil the coastline.

An airline official commented: "(Air Mauritius chairman and MD) Sir Harry Tirvengadum's policy has led to not enough aircraft landing on his island to fill the hotel beds. It's now a stagnating market. Airlines serving the Far East from SA — at first SA Airways, then Cathay Pacific and Singapore Airlines — which stopped in Mauritius, bringing in tourists and businessmen — now fly over on their way to their destinations in the East."

According to the Mauritius Ministry of Tourism's latest statistics, there was 1.7% growth in the number of tourists in the first nine months of 1991, to 214,400, over the same period in 1990. This marginal increase resulted in a no-show by three major international hotel groups that planned to come to the island: the Hilton and Hyatt groups, for which large, sumptuous hotels were started and then put on hold; and Sheraton, which did not get to the ground-breaking stage before the plans were called off.

In 1990, when Mauritius had 72 hotels with 9,122 beds, room occupancy in the first nine months was 61%. By the end of September 1991, when the number of registered hotels had grown to 80 and the number of beds to 9,925, occupancy had dropped to 51%, roughly the same as SA's. Some people in the industry say the still-to-be-released mid-1992 figures will be substantially lower and more units are still to come on to the market.

SA's Protea Hotel Group has three hotels on the island and is being inundated with offers to buy additional hotels from owners who want out, says MD Arthur Gillis. "But we are being very selective." He adds, however, that "our three units could be doing better."

Sun International's St Geran Hotel, which Sol Kerzner used as the magnet to popularise the island as a holiday resort, "is doing quite well, but not as well as it should be," says group marketing director Ernie Joubert. "But many of our competitors are going through a torrid time."

The SA-based architectural firm Stuarch Vorster was involved in the R45m Hilton hotel, which, says deputy chairman Derrick Garvie, the Mauritius government first approved then halted when the Gulf War broke out 18 months ago. Mauritius relies on Europe, SA and the island of Reunion (used by Europeans on charters as a cheaper way to get to Mauritius) for 60% of its patronage, but people simply stopped flying.

The recession also slowed patronage from SA. Air Mauritius has obviously studied SA Airways' old protectionist book and is not promoting tourism by offering discount fares. Its normal tourist-class return fare from Jan Smuts is R3 620, but, for those who stay at least six days, it gets reduced to R1 759, or R1 628 if tickets are bought 30 days in advance.

Compared with the slashed airfares to Britain and Europe (SAA is offering a return fare to London of R1 990), Mauritius is not a bargain holiday, even though the flying time is about one-third.

But this is policy. In an article in African Airlines, Tirvengadum expresses his concern about the "unfair competition" of fare undercutting and diversion via Reunion, by low-cost charter carriers of traffic destined for Mauritius. "This latter practice deprives airlines operating to Mauritius of substantial revenues. The legitimacy of such traffic diversion has been questioned and affected airlines have had to resort to protective measures. But as Reunion (a department of France) is a member of the EC, it is feared that such unfair practice will intensify to the detriment of Air Mauritius."

There is a lesson in what has happened to Mauritius tourism for SA, Gillis says. "Governments should not use simple formulae to predict growth in tourism and encourage entrepreneurs to build hotel accommodation to satisfy that growth. Building more hotels should be based on natural growth."

"That yardstick is being applied in Cape Town's Waterfront, where two hotels are being built and one was recently completed, and in Sandton, where several more hotels are being built. That's the way things should be done. There was demand in both areas for more hotels."
African students to debate human rights

STUDENTS from universities all over Africa will meet for the first time to discuss human rights issues in southern Africa later this year.

The meeting — organised by the Pretoria University’s Centre for Human Rights Studies — will be held in Harare in September and will take the form of a moot court competition.

Pretoria University spokesman Theo Wessels said the purpose of the competition, entitled “Southern Africa — From human wrongs to human rights”, was to encourage communication between the various law faculties and to create an awareness of human rights.

The finalists will argue a typical bill of rights case before a panel comprising the chief justices of seven African countries.

Students from the universities of Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe and all SA universities have indicated they will take part.
ELEVEN days after succeeding Sid Ahmed Ghozali as prime minister of Algeria on July 19, 64-year-old Belaid Abdesslam formed his council of ministers — carefully, but with little hint of his intended programme. So political observers in Algeria have been reduced to a guessing game based on the prime minister’s background and personality.

Abdesslam is thought to lean towards authoritarianism, which is not necessarily a handicap in a country whose previous governments were often criticised for their laxity and inertia. He was a strong industry minister under President Houari Boumediene in the mid-1970s, and many members of his present government cut their teeth as heads of national enterprises under his stewardship. For that reason there are some fears that Algeria may revert to old-fashioned “Socialism”; others claim that Abdesslam has learnt the lesson of past failures and could pull some surprises out of his hat.

In fact he has little choice. Crippled by $26 billion debts and painfully short of cash for essential imports, Algeria can no longer afford the kind of economic policies Abdesslam used to prescribe.

A few weeks before he resigned as prime minister, Ghozali hinted he could no longer categorically rule out having to ask for Algeria’s debt to be rescheduled.

Abdesslam no more favours such a move than Ghozali. But to avoid it he will somehow have to come up with new funds. That means easing the logjam of Algeria’s talks with foreign oil companies, which as things stand are his only possible source of cash. Ghozali had started the ball rolling by authorising some 16 companies to invest in oilfields already in operation, on condition they stumped up about $6 billion.

But talks ran aground over the figure and the question of who would control operations. The French corporation, Total, partnered by two Japanese companies, is reportedly prepared to stump up $600 million on condition it retains complete control of its investment. But Sonatrach, the powerful Algerian oil company, has no intention of being robbed of its prerogatives.

Abdesslam will need all his political skills to get round that, just as he will when negotiating the $400 million of new short-term IMF credits. Only if he is successful will other loans be forthcoming, notably from the EC.

Although the situation on that front now looks a little less alarming — the firm oil price, combined with a drastic fall in imports, suggests that the economy will end the year in slightly better shape than in 1991 — Algeria cannot afford to turn up its nose at such loans.

But the granting of credits also depends on a devaluation yet to be decided. Abdesslam, who is believed to be as strongly opposed to a sharp devaluation as he is to letting market forces take care of matters, will have the final say.

If he wants to create jobs and alleviate serious unemployment, he will also have to encourage investment. Despite legislation two years ago to attract foreign companies, they are not exactly queuing up for the privilege of investing in Algeria.

The economic crisis is partly to blame, but what worries them most is the country’s uncertain future. Events of the last few months — and more particularly the violence following the sentencing on July 15 of the two leaders of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) to 12 years in prison — are seen as symptomatic of the government’s difficulty in dealing with Islamic fundamentalists, some of whom have apparently now set up a de facto underground resistance.

Ali Kafi, new president of the High State Committee (HCE), seems aware of the scale of the problem: he recently declared himself in favour of a partial opening up of political activity. It remains to be seen how far he is prepared to go and whether his prime minister will follow.

(July 22)
Rene wins Seychelles poll

SEYCHELLES voters gave socialist president Albert Rene's party an overwhelming victory this week in the island's first multi-party elections in 16 years.

Rene's ruling Seychelles People's Progressive Front took 58.4 percent of the 45,000 votes cast on a poll on a new democratic constitution. Rene's party trounced seven newly formed rival parties including the man he toppled in a 1977 army-backed coup, Sir James Mancham.

An extraordinary 99 percent of the electorate, spread across 115 Indian Ocean islands, voted in the polls to form a 20-person commission to draft a new constitution before presidential elections in December.

UN monitors delayed

DEPLOYMENT of 50 United Nations ceasefire monitors in Mogadishu was delayed this week by an apparent dispute over where to draw a dividing line between two opposition clans. "We are having technical discussions in reference to the demarcation line," said Mohamed Sahnoun, the UN special envoy to Somalia. "Progress is pretty good." Sahnoun declined to predict when the UN monitors would take up stations in the northern and southern halves of the battle-scarred city. He had hoped to have them on patrol early this week. Sahnoun indicated some progress in talks on resuming use of Mogadishu's international airport by the UN and other aid organizations. The airport was closed June 1 after bandits stole 900 kg of drugs and five tons of food from planes chartered by the Red Cross and the UN Children's Fund.

AFRICA BRIEFS

Algerian assassination - 10 arrests

Ten members of Algeria's elite presidential guard and special forces have been arrested in connection with last month's assassination of President Mohamed Boudiaf, according to the head of a government commission investigating the killing. Reza Bara said the commission doubted the assassin's assertion that he was acting alone and out of religious conviction.

Boudiaf was shot by a member of the presidential guard while making a speech on June 29 in eastern Algeria. Authorities later captured and arrested 2nd Lieutenant Lembarek Boumaraft. Boumaraft told investigators he alone plotted to kill the president because of his Islamic beliefs.

Abortive Madagascar coup

A GROUP of armed civilians briefly occupied the radio station in Madagascar's capital Antananarivo early on Wednesday and announced that they had seized power, but fled a few hours later, diplomats said.

The diplomats, contacted by telephone from the Kenyan capital Nairobi, said reports of a military coup were incorrect. They said calm had been restored and the city had returned to normal by 10 am. No unusual military activity was visible.

The armed civilians, numbering between six and 10, were believed to belong to an extremist faction of the opposition Forces Vives party which has several ministers in the government but wants an end to the rule of President Didier Ratsiraka, the diplomats said.

Mol goes campaigning

KENYAN President Daniel arap Mol has hit the campaign trail for the first multi-party elections in 26 years with deep splits showing in the main opposition party hoping to unseat him.

As Moi campaigned, the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy (Ford) appeared openly divided on grass-roots elections to select a presidential candidate to face Moi in the polls, which he has promised to hold before March next year.

A Ford representative told a news conference he had agreed with three other founder members to postpone party elections which were due to begin on Saturday. But Ford chairman Jaramogi Oginga Odinga and two other founder members say the party leaders would go ahead as planned.

Strike cripples Chad

A GENERAL strike against sweeping government austerity moves crippled Chad for three days this week. The government, trying to push thousands of public and private sector employees back to work, promised swift payment of salary arrears and threatened action against strikers.

The three-day strike, which began on Monday, was called by the UST trade union movement to demand cancellation of a tough economic plan involving state pay cuts and redundancies. The strikers also want pay arrears from as far as six months back.

Information Minister Djiddi Bichara said in a statement the government was ready to start paying salary arrears immediately thanks to imminent budgetary aid from France, Chad's former colonial master. The strike could only delay these payments, he said. - The Guardian, Andrew Meldrum, Sapa-Reuter, Sapa-AFP
MY VIEW

SOUTH Associate Editor Peter Vale, Director of the Centre for Southern African Studies, University of the Western Cape

I spent last week in Tanzania as a guest of the Centre for Foreign Relations, Dar-es-Salaam. It is the kind of place you would wish on your mother-in-law. It is a desolate truck-stop midway between Moshi at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro and Kigoma on the road to Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.

The country is as flat as a pancake. The roads are as smooth as the surface of the moon; there is no dust and endless cracks stretching out to the horizon.

When I first looked over Saini’s landscape, a Tanzanian colleague pressed a Coke in my hand. He seemed to feel instinctively what I was thinking. "You see," he said, "we, too, have paid a hell of a price for the ending of apartheid. This place should have been developed but we have tried to give as much support to you as we could. It has cost us dearly, as you can see, but all foreign policy should rest on principle."

Despite the sheer hopelessness, that day in Saini I learnt one of the strongest lessons an analyst of international relations can: in Tanzania this sacrifice seems set to continue until there is an interim government in South Africa. As Ahmed Hassar Diri, the country’s foreign minister, said in a recent interview: "Why should we be in a hurry? If we have waited for 32 years, we can wait for another 20."

This modulated position is comprehensible at odds with Tanzania’s northern neighbour, Kenya, which over the past three years has established close ties with South Africa. The enormity of these links was symbolized, of course, by President Daniel arap Moi’s visit to Kenya during 1991 and the reciprocal visit by Kenya’s President Daniel arap Moi to Cape Town last month.

As the global order has changed over the past three years, the international cry for pragmatism has been powerful. This view argues that the end of ideology (as we understood it during the Cold War) means the end of history, to use the term coined by American analyst Francis Fukuyama.

So, solutions to complex human and political problems are to be found along the carefully-calibrated contours established by, at best, development experts and, at worst, accountants.

The potency of this position and its global appeal seems well understood by those who have traditionally made South Africa’s foreign policy. Their argument is as economic as it is simple to understand: South Africa is close to most African countries; it is also more technologically developed than other countries.

It makes perfect sense for African states, therefore, to trade with South Africa, especially during a time when wider international changes are particularly the World Bank’s policy of structural adjustment – have made things more difficult for individual African countries.

And yet, Tanzania seems capable of resisting the urge to take the easiest option.

In Arusha last week, foreign minister Diri returned again to the theme of political change in South Africa. He seemed to gently chide his Kenyan neighbours by saying: "Meaningful co-operation in Southern Africa is only possible after apartheid has ended. We reaffirm our unconditional political, diplomatic and material support for the anti-apartheid forces."

In Africa an intense struggle is taking place. In a narrow sense, it turns on the question of links with Pretoria, distinguishing those states which have opted for the dominant pragmatic view, who are co-operating with South Africa irrespective of political outcomes. Those are arrayed against those, like Tanzania, who argue principled over pragmatism.

But in a wider sense, the context is between two approaches to the emerging world order. One is a unilateralist view which judges economic performance greater than political purpose: the accountant, it suggests, is wiser than the philosopher.

And against this is a view which regards the present international moment not as history’s end, but only as a turn in the endless cycle of events in which people see ultimately more important than profits.

Although the great weight of South Africa’s present struggle is focused on domestic questions – the breakdown in negotiations, mass action and the like – democratic South Africans will increasingly be called upon to make a series of international choices. Not the least of these will be which of the two sides of the new global divide we will choose.

Let there be no mistake: it will not be an easy decision to make.

The spectre of South Africa’s granted cause – and the temptation to go along with it – must not be the temptation to go the easy route.
UN to act on its conscience

STAR 3/8/97

STUNG by bitter criticism from United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali that it is blind to the horrors of war and starvation in Somalia, the international community is preparing to dispatch four battalions of peacekeepers.

Thanks to a raging civil war between rival clans and subclans, drought and the collapse of all civil authority, more than a third of Somalia’s 4.5 million people are likely to starve to death before the year’s end, according to relief experts.

The peacekeeping force is needed to ensure that the enormous airlift of humanitarian aid which relief agencies are trying to get to Somalia gets safely to the starving population. Efforts to get food aid to outlying areas have been thwarted by the warring factions in Somalia, and only a few international agencies, such as the Red Cross, dare operate outside Mogadishu. The planned UN force would comprise four 500-strong battalions to be dispersed to four regions, diplomats say.

The UN has, itself, been trying to get 500 security personnel into the capital for months, but General Mohammed Farah Aidid, a clan leader, has threatened to kill them. Now, after months of patient diplomacy by UN envoy Mohammed Sahnoun, the organization has been shaken into taking a much tougher stance against the clan leaders. The Security Council at first balked at sending a peacekeeping force to Somalia, but has been chastened by the country’s deepening crisis and the public rebuke by Mr. Boutros-Ghali, that it was devoting resources to Yugoslavia, the “rich man’s war”, ignoring an equally horrendous conflict in Africa.

In response, the council approved an airlift of aid to Mogadishu airport, and it is expected to show very little resistance to the dangerous and costly plan to use peacekeeping forces to protect deliveries of food aid in a civil war. The airport has not been used to deliver aid since June 1, when bandits stole six tons of food at gunpoint. Mr. Sahnoun has drawn up plans to begin an emergency airlift immediately, however, without waiting for military and aid experts due to arrive in the country on Wednesday.

Despite months of warning from aid organisations, the UN has been embarrassed by Somalia’s slide into chaos. Much of the trouble in the country can be laid at the feet of superpower rivalry in Africa, in which the Soviet Union and the United States saw the country as a strategic asset. Mr. Boutros-Ghali also has “a bad conscience” about Somalia, Western diplomats say, because of his own failed efforts to resolve the conflict when he was Egypt’s deputy prime minister.

— The Independent News Service.
Riot prisoners freed

ABIDJAN - Ivory Coast has freed dozens of political prisoners, including its main opposition leader, under a controversial amnesty which also shields security forces from brutality charges.

Ivorian Popular Front leader Mr. Laurent Gbagbo and 75 others jailed

Sweden

3/8/92

after a February riot walked free from Abidjan's central prison on Friday night.
China Points the Way to Africa's Rediscovery of Gold Mining

In the vigorous age of mining, the interlinking of Africa's natural resources with China's increasing demand for raw materials has become a focal point for economic development. With China's gold consumption rising, Africa is poised to play a significant role in满足中国对黄金的需求。随着中国经济规模的扩大，以及国内黄金消费的增长，非洲正日益成为全球黄金供给的重要来源

As Chinese demand for gold continues to rise, Africa is increasingly becoming a major source of gold. Countries like South Africa, Ghana, and Zimbabwe are key producers, with China playing a significant role in the global gold market. The joint venture between the IFC and a South African-Brazilian company is expected to produce gold at a rate of 2.5 tons a year, marking a significant contribution to Africa's gold output.

The rise of gold mining in Africa is driven by several factors. Economic development, population growth, and mineral endowments are contributing to the region's gold production. With the right investment and strategic partnerships, Africa has the potential to become a leading gold-producing region, offering significant opportunities for growth and development.

In conclusion, the partnership between China and Africa in gold mining represents a strategic move towards harnessing the region's vast natural resources, ensuring sustainable economic growth for both parties. As Africa's gold potential continues to be explored, the region is poised to make significant contributions to the global gold market, propelling Africa onto the global stage in a new era of mineral wealth.
Focus on The Press

Journalists are no longer taking attacks lying down. After years of abuse they are using the pen to fight back...

Nigerian billionaire and Press magnate Chief Abiola answers questions from newsmen at a Press conference in Dakar.

...above all else...

Some journalists say such precise standards are a luxury in countries with dictators.

"We as journalists have the duty to inform people about what is democracy?" said Mr. Kukuhu Mike Masyia of the outspoken, anti-government paper Momo in Zaire.

Former President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin, the first president in Africa to be ousted in a democratic election, blames the Press for the pro-democracy tide in Africa.

In his opinion, "It's because of the journalists that everything has turned out so badly." - Sapana AP.
NEWS ANALYSIS  Number of poor set to soar in Africa

1.1 billion live in
abject poverty

The young from poor backgrounds are susceptible to disease and malnutrition.

AFRICA NEEDS A STRATEGY TO ADDRESS POVERTY BOTH AS AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PHENOMENON

A million of the world's poor live in rural areas that are environmentally fragile.

Overcrowded slums

Poor people in town and cities generally have lower incomes and better access to social services than rural families. However, they often suffer more from the aspects of poverty, and they often live in overcrowded slums and crowded settlements.

As in rural areas, water and air pollution often cause problems in urban areas. Sanitation is inadequate, and dirty water is accessible to children throughout the developing world.

In the developing world, the burden of poverty disproportionately falls on women and children. When measured by health, nutrition, education and labour force participation, poverty among women often is worse.

Women in many societies are expected to manage the household, rear children and be the main food producer. They typically work longer hours, and if they are paid at all, they receive lower wages.

Poverty is not just a rural problem. The World Bank's 1992 report on poverty points out that about half the world's poor live in rural areas that are environmentally fragile.

The problem of child poverty is particularly acute. The very young are highly susceptible to disease, malnutrition and illness. Child labour is common in developing countries, and many households depend on it for their subsistence. But the work children perform is low in terms of education and schooling.

For many poor people, the costs of educating their children might outweigh the future benefits - especially for girls, whose economic value often is reckoned to be lower than that of boys. Poor households are more likely to invest in education for boys than for girls.

What are the prospects for reducing poverty? It will depend on economic growth and the effectiveness of each country's economic strategy.

The World Bank's 1992 report concludes that even under fairly hopeful assumptions about economic recovery, there will be more than 50 million more poor people in the year 2000 than in 1985. But if economic growth is low and recent trends in poverty continue, there could be 200 million more - a total of about 1.3 billion - poor people by then.

The outlook for the rest of the 1990s is that the number of poor people in Asia would decline, and the advance poverty trends in Latin America and Eastern Europe would be reversed. Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in which the situation is expected to deteriorate.

With an increase in the proportion of Sub-Saharan Africa's population in poverty, the number of poor in the region would rise by about one million a year on average. By the end of the decade, one-quarter of the world's poor would live in Asia and one-quarter would live in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Social services

The main objective of the Bank's lending and advisory work is to help bring poverty-reducing policies to scale. The World Development Report 1993 outlined a two-part approach for reducing poverty by generating sustainable economic growth to generate income-generating opportunities for the poor and improving poor people's access to social services such as education and primary health care. They can take advantage of opportunities.

An additional, but essential, part of the strategy is the enhancement of local government institutions and autonomy to serve the needs of the poor.
In the wake of a liberation struggle...
NAIROBI — A United Nations technical team is preparing to fly to the war-ruined Somali capital Mogadishu to assess relief operations for people dying "like flies" in what is now labelled the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Hundreds are dying every day in the desolate Horn of Africa country which disintegrated into clan warfare after the fall of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January 1991.

Relief officials say two-thirds of the seven million population are at risk.

"What we are seeing is the complete elimination of a nation. They are dropping like flies, it's unbelievable," said one relief worker.

Mike Aarons, overseas director of Britain's Save the Children Fund, called it "incomparable with anything else going on in the world".

The technical team's main job will be to examine ways of checking the pillage and rape of maurading gangs to get a huge relief operation off the ground.

The Security Council — stung by Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's charge of racism — voted last week to send as many as 6000 blue-berets to enforce order for an airlift.

The plan is for the team to spread out from the capital — where a fragile ceasefire between two warlords is just about holding — and establish various bases.

They will examine air fields, check roads, and assess the feasibility of schemes such as "food for guns" where fighters are encouraged to hand over weapons in return for grain. — Sapa-Reuters.
Debts cut off diplomats
Niger's embassies abroad were so heavily in debt — they owe US$4.6m — that water, electricity and telephone lines had been cut, a top government official said.
UN considers aid push into Somalia

By Afsaneh Bassir Pour

NEW YORK (UN) — Diplomats at the United Nations consider that the resolution adopted by the Security Council on July 27 is the first practical step towards fulfilling the world body's "humanitarian duty to intervene" in Somalia, a country devastated by civil war where some 4,500,000 inhabitants are threatened with famine.

In a report published three days earlier, Boutros-Ghali proposed strengthening the UN operations in the country and he took the Security Council members to task for being excessively concerned with the crisis in Yugoslavia, which he described as "a war of the rich", and ignoring the tragedy being played out in Somalia.

He announced that a technical mission was being sent to Somalia to explore the possibility of recovering arms in exchange for food, and to determine the size of the international civilian and military contingents that would be needed for setting up a local police force, disarming the population, and protecting humanitarian organisations.

Though the Security Council described Boutros-Ghali's proposals as "very ambitious", it approved his report and adopted a resolution providing for a very substantial humanitarian operation. The Council's 16 members said they were seriously alarmed at the worsening situation in Somalia and pointed out that it was urgent to move humanitarian aid as quickly as possible to all parts of that country. The Council asked the UN Secretary General to organise "urgently" an airlift and called on all the parties involved in the fighting to respect fully the safety of UN personnel and the security of humanitarian operations.

"Good intentions" aside, what the Security Council has in practice approved for the moment is the dispatch of a technical team headed by Boutros-Ghali's special representative, the Algerian diplomat Mohammed Sahnoun. In a report which has still not been published,

Continued on page 16

What to Aid push into Somalia

Continued from page 18

Sahnoun has moreover criticised the ineffectiveness of the efforts UN personnel have been making to distribute food aid in Somalia, "while the Red Cross and other humanitarian organisations are managing to function".

Plainly exasperated by the humanitarian situation in the country, Security Council members are now for the first time threatening to take "other measures" to ensure that aid is properly distributed.

Diplomats at the United Nations point out that since Resolution 688 was passed authorising aid to the Kurdish population in Iraq "countries are increasingly demanding that the humanitarian right to in-

Le Monde

Directeur: Jacques Lasourne
World copyright ()
© Le Monde, Paris
All rights strictly reserved
UN relief aid for Somalia

NAIROBI - A team of top United Na-
tions troubleshooters flew out of Nai-
robi yesterday to assess a huge interna-
tional relief operation for Somalia.

At least 200 starving men, women
and children are dying every day.

Officials said the team would first fly
to the bombarded capital, Mogadishu,
and hold talks with rival warlords whose
paid thugs divide the city into tribal
fiefdoms and are preventing the distri-
bution of tons of food already in the port.

Stung by criticism of double stand-
ards between its treatment of Somalia -
now widely labelled the world's worst
humanitarian crisis - and the "rich man's
war" in what was Yugoslavia, the UN is
now edging towards some form of mili-
tary intervention.

A senior UN official said the technical
team would be a rubber stamp for
sending in peace monitors "whether the
faction leaders like it or not".

Somalia disintegrated into chaos af-
ter the fall of dictator former President

More than 18 months of vicious inter-
clan feuding has destroyed all agricul-
ture and wrecked the country's infra-
structure.

He said the guards would not be
proper UN peacekeeping forces but
would simply protect relief shipments
and staff.

Any UN action will take at least one
month to organise by which time hun-
dreds more Somalis will be dead. - Sur-
Reuter.
Some data on the number of casualties:

- Casualties:
  - Total: 12,000
  - Civilians: 3,000
  - Security forces: 9,000

The tragic events in Somalia have been ongoing for years, with no end in sight. The conflict has resulted in the displacement of thousands of people, leading to severe humanitarian crises and economic hardships.

The situation in Somalia remains critical, with ongoing conflicts, political instability, and a lack of resources.

The governments of the world must take immediate action to address the situation in Somalia and provide necessary support to the affected populations.
Big baby boom causing a crisis

By Neil Moorhouse
Sowetan Africa News Service

Cairo - "By the turn of the century the day will come when Egyptians will begin to eat each other," a prominent Egyptian writer said recently, commenting on the country's population explosion.

Last month, it was announced that Egypt could soon outstrip a population of 58 million, an increase of one million in just nine months.

The statistics of the country's population growth would be less startling if it were not for the fact that 99 percent of the population live on about four percent of the land, the narrow fertile strip that lines the Nile.

Cairo has absorbed a fifth of the country's population.

The 1.023-year-old capital, built to accommodate 1.5 million people, is now bursting at its seams with an estimated population of 12 million.

A familiar sight

Another two in three million commute in and out of the city each day.

Overcrowding in Cairo is far too evident. In downtown Cairo, citizens have taken to using the roads and dodging the traffic. Fences and bodies all pressed against train windows are a familiar sight on the city's French-built metro system.

Yet more disconcerting for the authorities is the maintenance of the city's services and infrastructure. Many of the severely densely populated areas have water and electricity for only two hours a day.

The rural poor

Lack of space encourages the building of extra floors on top of existing apartment blocks, usually structurally unsafe. Schools are so overcrowded that they work in morning and afternoon shifts.

What has contributed to the overcrowding in Cairo and the neglect of the city's infrastructure are the rural poor who have migrated to the capital in search of a job and better living conditions by providing electricity and water.

In a bid to ease the seething population crisis in the capital, authorities have built huge modern satellite cities in Cairo's hinterland, designed to absorb population growth.

Fewer than a tenth of the projected number have moved into the settlement.

The population growth continues in spite of efforts to raise family planning awareness.

Egyptian population increases by a million every nine months:

The Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (centre) greets Egyptian Armed Forces in Alexandria, Egypt. He now plans to boost family planning.
NEWS IN BRIEF

Congo leader loses

PRESIDENT Denis Sassou-Nguesso, already stripped of most powers by a pro-democracy conference, has accepted defeat in Congo's first free presidential election.

The president, who was appointed by the Marxist Congolese Workers' Party in 1979, came third in a first-round vote.
A virtual revaluation of CFA francs' devaluation.

Simon Wilson
UN men to guard food in Somalia

NAIROBI - Somalia's dominant warlord agreed yesterday to permit the deployment of a 500-man UN security force to guard food shipments in the starving nation's capital, Mogadishu.

UN special envoy to Somalia Mohamed Sahnoun told reporters in Nairobi yesterday that he had earlier reached the agreement with General Mohamed Farrah Aidid and his clan allies.

"This is certainly a very important development. It will help resolve the security situation we were facing in Mogadishu. And it will help bring in swiftly the food to the needy," Mr. Sahnoun said.

But he lamented the slow response of the international community in providing aid to 1.5 million Somalis said by the UN to be in immediate danger of dying of hunger.

The catastrophe in the Horn of Africa nation has been called the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

"Since January, less than 80,000 tons of food have reached Somalia. That is one-fourth of the minimum required for Somalia today, and I stress the minimum," Mr. Sahnoun said.

Disgrace

Aid workers in Somalia estimate that up to half of all the food delivered had been looted by clan militias or heavily armed bandits.

The UN ambassador had been seeking the agreement from General Aidid for more than three months.

A British charity Save the Children said in London yesterday that the world's response to the plight of Somalia was an "international disgrace" and reflected a lack of political will to help its starving people. The fund's director-general Nicholas Hinton described the international reaction as a scandal and accused the world of delaying and dithering.

He said overseas director Mike Aavenson said: "It should never have been allowed to deteriorate like this."

The international community did not recognize the scale of the tragedy and "it was left to non-government bodies like the Red Cross to carry the burden of relief."

-Sapa-Reuters-AP
300,000 now face famine in Sudan

LONDON — Nearly 300,000 people trapped in the besieged southern Sudanese garrison town of Juba face starvation after international airlifts of food were suspended last month, foreign aid agencies based in the town say.

"It is feared that unless a regular food pipeline into Juba is established urgently, a large proportion of the population will starve," said a report issued yesterday of a meeting of international aid agencies in Juba on Tuesday.

The report by Britain's Oxfam, Christian Aid and Christian Fund for Overseas Development as well as the Norwegian Church Aid group said the city's 300,000 people had run out of food and faced starvation.

The city's population, 1,300 km south of the capital Khartoum, has been swollen by refugees from Sudan's nine-year civil war.

Malnutrition

The report said airlifts had been intermittent during early July and since July 19 no flights carrying food for civilians had been allowed to land at Juba, southern Sudan's main town.

"If the airlift is not resumed immediately, people will die," it said, adding that there was already widespread malnutrition among vulnerable groups in Juba.

The mainly Christian Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has been fighting the Khartoum government since 1983 over what it sees as Muslim domination of Sudan. It wants a referendum in the non-Muslim south and other areas, with the option of separation.

The agencies appealed to Sudan's government and the SPLA to approve a resumption of the UN relief flights. They established safe corridors out of Juba for civilian evacuation and allow safe passage for overland transport of relief supplies.

Their report, issued through Oxfam's office in Britain, said Juba had been dependent on food airlifts for the past four years because fighting between the SPLA and government forces had made overland routes too dangerous — Sapa-Reuters.

Funeral

PRAGUE — Yesterday for the second time in six months, a large proportion of the population will starve," said a report issued yesterday of a meeting of international aid agencies in Juba on Tuesday.

The report by Britain's Oxfam, Christian Aid and Christian Fund for Overseas Development as well as the Norwegian Church Aid group said the city's 300,000 people had run out of food.

The city's population, 1,300 km south of the capital Khartoum, has been swollen by refugees from Sudan's nine-year civil war.

Malnutrition

The report said airlifts had been intermittent during early July and since July 19 no flights carrying food for civilians had been allowed to land at Juba, southern Sudan's main town.

"If the airlift is not resumed immediately, people will die," it said, adding that there was already widespread malnutrition among vulnerable groups in Juba.

The mainly Christian Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has been fighting the Khartoum government since 1983 over what it sees as Muslim domination of Sudan. It wants a referendum in the non-Muslim south and other areas, with the option of separation.

The agencies appealed to Sudan's government and the SPLA to approve a resumption of the UN relief flights. They established safe corridors out of Juba for civilian evacuation and allow safe passage for overland transport of relief supplies.

Their report, issued through Oxfam's office in Britain, said Juba had been dependent on food airlifts for the past four years because fighting between the SPLA and government forces had made overland routes too dangerous — Sapa-Reuters.

Sikh lea

CHANDIGARH, India (Reuters) — A Sikh, surrendering to the police, killed himself yesterday by diving into a well near the Indian parliament gates.

The man was identified as a Sikh by police officials who said he had told them that he was under surveillance by the police.

Sikh leaders in India have been calling for the release of all political prisoners.

Sibling

CORK (Reuters) — A missing woman has been found dead in Cork, Ireland.

Katherine Meehan, 25, was last seen on Friday night at the Rutland Hotel in Cork City.

Corr

SYDNEY (Reuters) — A 17-year-old boy has been found dead in a park in Sydney's Balls Head area.

The boy, who was last seen on Friday night, was discovered with a bullet wound to the head.

Police said they were investigating the circumstances of his death.
Focus on the mental illness. The problem is not the person, but the sickness. Addressing the root cause is crucial.

In mental health, prevention is key. Early intervention can significantly improve outcomes.

Mental health care should be accessible to all, regardless of socioeconomic status.

Support systems are vital in providing the necessary care and resources.

Education on mental health topics should be part of the curriculum in schools.

We must work towards reducing the stigma associated with mental illness.

In my opinion, the current system needs improvement.

Lack of access to mental health services is a major issue. More funding and resources are needed.

Smith is Somalis only relief

In the age of the internet, the power is in our hands. Let's use it for good.

JULIAN AZANE

Death is Somalia's only relief

8th of April 1987

Organization responsible

In the face of daily excesses of...
EVERY morning at low tide, the local women swarm out to the coral reef, and wading ankle-deep in the sunlit waters, pick it clean of everything that moves.

The scene makes a picturesque tourist snapshot — but it underscores the deepening ecological crisis on the beautiful tropical archipelago of the Comoros.

The four islands, set at the north end of the Mozambique Channel, have one of the highest population growth rates in Africa — 4.2 percent a year — and little industry or foreign trade. The result is mounting pressure on marine resources, and on the sparse inshore reefs which nurture them.

Until recently, cultural taboos among Comorans — an intriguing mixture of African, Polynesian, Arabic, Indian and Portuguese bloodlines — had ensured the rational exploitation of the seas. Now customary bans on gillnets, seines, traps and spearfishing have fallen away, and fish poisons and even explosives are in use.

Tourism, the islands’ major industry, has fuelled the degradation of the reefs by encouraging the wholesale harvest and sale of shells, and particularly the majestic triton shell.

Snorkelling over the coral off the largest island, Grand Comoro, throws harsh light on the problem: the dearth of large fish and other predators, including the triton, has touched off a plague of sea urchins, whose spiky heads stud the sea bottom. One variety is a burrowing urchin which plays a key role in eroding the reef.

Topping it all are the Japanese; the world’s biggest consumers of white-meat fish, who have signed a fishing treaty with the Comorans. Because of the virtual absence of marine pollicng, no one knows just how much Comoran fish is swallowed by Japanese factory-ships waiting just over the horizon.

One approach has been to spur offshore fishing in seas traditionally beyond the range of the galawa, the islanders’ paddle-powered dugout canoe.

A European Community project has supplied fedawa, fibreglass boats with outboard motors, as well as installing “fish attracting devices” (FADs) — floating refuges with elaborate plastic strips and ropes — in deep water around Grand Comoro.

The pelagic fish catch has risen, but by the end of last year not a single FAD survived. Historic rivalry between fishing villages had led to sabotage, and all the devices had been cut adrift.

The obvious answer would seem to be the creation of marine reserves — and indeed the government has declared such a reserve off Grand Comoro, after determined lobbying by a small band of environmental activists based at the South African-owned Le Galawa hotel.

The fact that water-skiers and sailors using the hotel’s facilities constantly cross the waters of the reserve may have reduced levels of exploitation, says Tony Kay, one of the most vocal of the lobbyists.

But he points out that the problem goes much deeper: can environmental concerns be allowed to override the subsistence needs of native Comorans, whose protein comes largely from the sea?

And who is to police the reserve, since the government lacks even the fuel to power its minuscule fleet of patrol boats?

Conservation costs money and entails sacrifices: the Comoran government is so broke that civil servants wait up to five months to be paid. Its routine response to environmentalists on the ravages of Japanese commercial fishing is to ask whether they can replace government earnings from this source.

Powerful family interests and the dispersed structure of power in Comoros — a democracy ruled by a coalition of parties — also work against the enforcement of tough policies possible in a semi-dictatorship like the Seychelles.

Kay believes that protein substitution by international agencies such as the World Wildlife Fund may hold part of the key, but insists this should take the form of directly administered schemes rather than aid to the Comoran government.

Very little of the development aid earmarked for ordinary Comorans actually reaches them, islanders complain.

For the rest, environmental education has a role to play, Kay says — directed not only at the locals but also at visitors.

“The sea must rest,” he comments. “Every seashell and turtle shell that’s sold removes a link from the food chain.”

African trade worth twice official figure

SOUTH African exports to Africa are an official R5-billion, but the true figure may be closer to R10-billion.

Safuto Africa business development group director Paul Runge says the figures do not include about R600-million in trade with countries in the SA Customs Union.

In addition, the final destination for goods exported from SA is often concealed. He believes they would add several billion to SA's Africa trade figures.

Fashion

Mr Runge says: "People often consider our trade with Africa as being relatively insignificant when taken as a percentage of the total. However, SA-Africa trade gains new importance when it is considered that most of it is value-added goods, not raw materials such as gold."

This is highlighted when it is considered that 42.4% of value of SA's machinery exports for 1990 were to Africa.

Other high spots include fashion at 38.5%, chemicals at 31.8%, plastics and rubber at 47.3%, fats and oils 34.5% and vehicles and spares 30.9%.

Mr Runge says: "We must be doing something right. The value of our trade with Africa increased by 46% in 1990, 20% in 1990 and 22% in 1991. I expect trade to increase by about 20% this year."

The problems of access to most African markets has been solved and there is a desire for SA goods and services.

However, Africa is bankrupt.

Price

"It is a question of who has the money to buy our goods and it is seldom obvious. "Zaire's economy has taken a dive. However, a major food importer has been granted diamond concessions and it uses them to generate the foreign currency with which to buy imported goods."

Knowledge is vital for doing business in Africa and the situation changes constantly.

Mr Runge says SA companies are often guilty of ignoring the international funding agencies. For example, SA's part in World Bank-funded projects is poor when compared with countries such as Brazil.

SA companies should adopt a pragmatic approach to business with Africa and be prepared to enter joint ventures, where appropriate, with foreign companies. Many of them have the connections, knowledge and expertise already required to win major contracts.

"The bottom line is personal contact. Safuto has five people who travel constantly throughout Africa building up personal contacts and introducing our clients."

"We are not bluffing ourselves. We cannot sit in an office in Sandton and generate business in Africa," says Mr Runge.

Mr Runge agrees with the importance of personal contact is a veteran of the complex business of trading with Africa. Exhibition Management Services managing director John Thomson.

For many years Mr Thomson lived a cloak-and-dagger existence with his two British passports as he set up deals throughout Africa for SA companies.

Mr Thomson says up-to-date information is a key ingredient for trade.

"The picture changes all the time and businesses need to keep their fingers on the pulse of African nations. "You must do your homework before plunging in."

The situation is fluid. Some countries welcome us with open arms, others are still cautious.

EUROPE, the Far East and the Americas have opened up to South Africa in the past 24 months — and so has Africa. ANDREW GILLINGHAM reports on SA's ties with Africa, particularly those related to trade and tourism.
Hand of death holds sway in Somalia

BAIDORA — Twelve starving children died as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund tried to relieve hunger in a camp in a town where the United Nations Health and Relief Organization officially reported two deaths. The children were among hundreds of thousands of people stranded in the town for months, following an influx of people fleeing the country's civil war. The children, who were between the ages of 2 and 5, were found dead in a small, makeshift shelter near a river that had dried up.

Staring death in the face... a starving child in a camp, holding on to a crossbar at an emergency clinic in Mogadishu, Somalia. (Picture: AP)

Hunger, malnutrition, inadequate medical supplies, and lack of clean water are major problems in the town. At the only clinic in the area, a doctor said that two children died last month due to malnutrition and dehydration. Another five children were reported to be in critical condition. The town's water supply has been cut off for weeks, and many people are resorting to drinking untreated water from the river.

Miss Emily, a nurse at the clinic, said she had given some food to a mother who was trying to feed her starving child. "She was totally dehydrated," Miss Emily said. "I gave her some water, and she drank it all at once. She said she had been waiting for food for days."

The situation is dire, with no relief in sight. The United Nations has called for immediate action to prevent the spread of disease and starvation. The organization has provided some food and medical supplies, but more is needed to save lives.

The world has become aware of the crisis in Somalia, but action has been slow to come. The United States has provided some aid, but it is not enough to meet the needs of the people. The United Nations has called on other countries to provide more assistance.

The situation is a reminder of the human cost of war and conflict. The United Nations must act quickly to prevent further suffering and loss of life.
Help too late
BAIDOBA (Somalia) - Twelve starving children died as the United Nations' new tons of emergency food aid to this famine-hit Somali town on Saturday (1).
Ten more scarecrow-like infants died in three other centres in the hour it took a UN transport plane to offload its life-bringing cargo in a town where the hand of death holds sway. - Sapa-Reuters.
World Bank bolsters Africa

HARARE - World Bank president Mr. Lewis Preston has assured African countries that no finances of the bank will be diverted from Africa to other parts of the world, notably Eastern Europe, Ziana news agency reports.

In an interview with Finance and Development, a quarterly publication of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, Preston said Africa received more attention in the bank's objective to alleviate poverty.

"There is no reason to expect that we will not be able to continue our existing programmes in Africa. No bank finances will be diverted from Africa to other parts of the world," said Preston.

Money will continue to flow to troubled, drought stricken continent.

Economic and political analysts have expressed fear that the enormous attention and pull of resources towards the former Soviet Union might lead to the neglect of Africa.

The bank chief said his recent visit to Africa, including Zimbabwe, had shown him that structural adjustment programmes being pursued by different countries had been severely affected by the drought.

It was therefore important for donors and people to understand the importance of persevering on the adjustment path. - Sapa
Zaire’s new leader pledges rule of justice

KINSHASA — Zaire’s new prime minister, opposition stalwart Etienne Tshisekedi, promised huge crowds of cheering supporters on Saturday to bring democracy and justice to the crippled country.

“We are going to install the rule of law where justice exists,” he told a jubilant crowd of about 12,000 people massed outside his Kibabazi party headquarters.

DE DEP

In a defiant challenge to President Mobutu Sese Seko, delegates at Zaire’s national conference named Tshisekedi to lead the country to multiparty elections within two years.

“The country has seen a lot of speeches. Now we have been given the chance to take action. This action is what will count,” Tshisekedi, Mobutu’s most formidable adversary, said after his election as interim premier on Saturday.

Tshisekedi told supporters he would name his government next week after talks with political parties and interest groups. — Sapa-Reuters.

Greek nets control of Pravda

MOSCOW — Millionaire Greek publisher Yannis Yanikos had bought a controlling share of former Communist Party newspaper Pravda, Interfax news agency reported last week.

Yanikos is buying out the ailing newspaper through his firm Steel Light. His family runs the Greek publishing house Akadimos, which specialises in books from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Cameras for New York ATMs

NEW YORK — The city’s bankers have been given 18 months to install surveillance cameras and other security devices on their 1,638 automated teller machines, under a city ordinance signed last week.

The measure, which bankers say will cost them up to $1.25m a year in maintenance, follows 743 ATM robberies over a two-year period.

Boost for battered rouble

MOSCOW — The battered rouble was given a vote of confidence at the weekend as Ukraine’s top banker said he favoured using the currency and the president of Kazakhstan pledged full support for it.

Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev said the rouble should be placed above national interest and he would propose moves to revitalise it.

World Bank reassures Africa

HARARE — World Bank president Lewis Preston has assured African countries that no finances of the bank will be diverted from Africa to other parts of the world, notably Eastern Europe.

“There is no reason to expect that we will not be able to continue our existing programmes in Africa,” he said at the weekend. — REUTERs Oren Sanz
Africa in
Food for Somalis
NAIROBI - France plans to airlift 200 tons of food to south-west Somalia for famine victims in a 10-day operation due to start tomorrow, the French Embassy in Nairobi said yesterday.

The planes will operate out of neighbouring Djibouti, delivering relief supplies to Baidoa for distribution to International Red Cross officials manning feeding centres in the town. After disruption caused by 19 months of civil war and aggravated by severe drought, more than 1.8 million Somalis face death by starvation, according to World Food Programme estimates.

Sorvan 18/97
The Southern Sun hotel group is planning to move into Africa.

Group managing director Ron Stringfellow says although the group is concentrating on its South African portfolio at present, it will be looking for management contracts in Africa in the future.

He does not foresee the group expanding into Europe or the United States but becoming an Africa-based chain of hotels.

Southern Sun already has a portfolio of three hotels in the Seychelles, which has operated under cover — under the Paradise Resort banner — because of the political situation in South Africa.

Its Seychelles portfolio comprises the Auberge Club des Seychelles and the Equator Hotel on Mahé, and the Paradise Hotel on the Côte d'Or beach of Pralin.

A major refurbishment of the Paradise Hotel is due to be completed by June next year and the Seychelles portfolio will then become part of Southern Sun Resorts.

"By April next year we will be putting up the Southern Sun flags," he says.

The group now comprises five brands: Southern Sun hotels, Southern Sun Resorts, Holiday Inn core brand, Holiday Inn Garden Court and Formula 1.

"We want to be the leading hotel in each sector of the hotel industry."
Food pledges for Somalis pour in

NAIROBI — Aid appeals for starving Somalia have provoked a unprecedented response from an international community which had seemed disinterested in the fate of people in the arid Horn of Africa nation.

The most recent appeal for urgent assistance came from the UN representative in Somalia, Mohamed Sahnoun. The US has pledged 145,000 tons of food aid “as soon as possible” and a group of 33 US soldiers was due to arrive yesterday in the Kenyan port of Mombasa to prepare the relief effort.

France announced yesterday that it would start a 10-day airlift beginning tomorrow to transport 200 tons of food to people in the area of Baidoa.

Britain decided on Sunday to provide £18 million (R85 million) in urgent aid.

Italy said it was ready to send a representative to the Somali capital Mogadishu to try to promote dialogue between warring factions.

On Thursday, Italy said it was sending food supplies and medicines worth $20 million (R55 million) to Somalia.

Even Israel — which is not recognised by Somalia, a member of the Arab League — said on Sunday it was willing to send food and medical aid.

On Thursday, the UN will resume food airlifts to the southern Sudanese town of Juba.

UN relief flights from the Sudanese capital Khartoum to southern Sudan were suspended last month after the government used planes bearing the UN emblem to transport troops and military equipment to Juba. — Sapa-APP.

Gorbachev attacks Yeltsin

MOSCOW — Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday

marked last August’s unsuccessful coup.

Mr Gorbachev called
Africa can overt the lunar landscape

FACE OF HUNGER: Doubt is raising the land, people and animals of the

By Linda Lopez

Africa can overt the lunar landscape
Madagascar seethes on eve of referendum

ANTANANARIVO — Supporters of a federal system in Madagascar occupied the northern town of Antsiranana yesterday and announced the creation of new authorities in several parts of the island.

The day before a referendum on a new constitution, federalists, loyal to President Didier Ratsiraka, took control of various strategic points in the city including the airport and television and radio stations.

Antsiranana, a former French naval base known as Diego Suarez, lies on the northern tip of the Indian Ocean island republic.

Some 50 members of President Ratsiraka's security task force appeared to have helped seize the town. The regiment was responsible for the deaths of 100 anti-Ratsiraka demonstrators on August 10, 1991.

In a radio broadcast, federalists announced the creation of a federal directorate for the port.

The radio said the directorate would be headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Mohajy Ackram, former general-director of the Secret naval shipyard enterprise, who was sacked by Madagascar's transitional government.

The federalists were also trying to take the east coast city of Toamasina, formerly Tamatave, 300 km from the capital.

Madagascar's transitional authorities in the opposition Lifeblood Coalition do not want a decentralised federal system.

Prime Minister Guy Razanamasy did not confirm reports of the town seizures but told a press conference that "the situation is serious in Diego Suarez and Tamatave".

He added that polling in today's referendum would go ahead as planned.

In Flanarantsoa, 400 km south of the capital, federalists clashed with police and claimed they had appointed a pastor as federal head.

Some 6 million people are expected to vote in today's referendum on a new constitution.

Organisation of the poll has, however, been plagued with arson attacks on administrative offices and ballot boxes.

The Malagasy press has recently interpreted the federalists' moves as an attempt to keep Mr Ratsiraka, president since 1975, in power.

Mr Razanamasy, who is supported by the Lifeblood Coalition, has governed Madagascar since October 1991. Opponents of President Ratsiraka hope the referendum will lead to his eventual defeat.

Some 50 observers from 14 countries are in Madagascar for the referendum on a European Community-sponsored mission.

— Sapa-AFP.
PARIS — Starving people in western Somalia are eating their clothes and goatskin sacks in an effort to survive, a team of French doctors reported yesterday after visiting a region where few outsiders have ventured in recent months.

The team from Doctors Without Borders, a Paris-based medical relief group, appealed for immediate delivery of food aid to the region. It said 80 percent of the children under five were severely malnourished and up to 20 people in each village were dying daily.

The team reported widespread destruction caused by the civil war and said thousands of starving refugees had fled into the larger towns.

Meanwhile, international relief for starving Somalis pressed on yesterday with the start of a French airlift and a US aid mission as fighting continued in the Somali capital of Mogadishu.

A Hercules C-130 aircraft carrying 20 tons of aid from the French government left Djibouti yesterday for Baidoa in south-western Somalia.

Food will be handed to representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Baidoa who have set up about 5,000 soup kitchens across Somalia.

The operation is part of France's emergency aid package which was approved after a visit by French Minister for Health and Humanitarian Action Bernard Kouchner.

The US said on Tuesday it planned to send 80,000 tons of food to Somalia by the end of the fiscal year and 145,000 tons next year.

Without massive food aid 1.8 million Somalis face death from starvation. — Sapa-AFP.
Somalian refugees detained in Kenya

NAIROBI — Kenyan police forced 1,000 Somali refugees to spend a fifth night penned in open fields while international donors rushed to get food to millions of starving compatriots, a UN official said yesterday.

A High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesman Pamos Moutzakis said the refugees were still detained after a police crime sweep at the weekend, when they were dumped in a guarded field outside Nairobi without food or shelter.

"They are still there despite government assurances that they would be released — in fact, more people have been rounded up," Moutzakis said.

"The situation is worrying. Conditions are really bad, they would be better off in a camp than where they are now."

Government officials said they were vetting those refugees held in the field at Embakasi, a chilly and isolated district 16km from the capital, "to find out which ones were genuine".

At least 725,000 Somalis are estimated to have fled to Kenya to escape famine and clan-based fighting in their Horn of Africa country, where 1.5 million people are at immediate risk of starving to death.

Refugees and drought-hit locals in northern Kenya will be the first to receive food in a massive US airlift being set up from the Indian Ocean port of Mombasa.

Relief flights to the northern Kenya town of Wajir were due to start yesterday but were delayed while US troops chopped down trees near the airstrip to clear sufficient landing space for military C-141 transport planes.

US embassy officials said they expected deliveries to Wajir to start today. Flights into Somalia for the bulk of the 165,000-ton airlift are due to start early next week.

More US airmen and women left the US for Kenya on Wednesday, bringing the relief team to 126.

France started its own 200-ton airlift on Wednesday from the Red Sea state of Djibouti to the southwestern town of Baidoa, in an area of Somalia facing the brunt of the famine.

French doctors returning from the region say skeletal corpses litter the ground and desperate villagers are chewing their clothes to try to stay alive.

But while donors rush to get food to the starving, Somali refugees are facing a backlash in Kenya.

Police blame them for soaring crime and officials say they are placing a huge strain on Kenya's limited resources.

Relief workers say the refugees detained at Embakasi are crammed into tiny tents, with hardly any toilets or water and no warm clothing to face Nairobi's cold winter nights.

Police spokesman Jeremiah Matagaro said the refugees would be moved "as soon as possible" but could not say when.

— Sapa-Reuters.
Famine stalks a nation's youth

WORLD
A SKELETAL boy lies in the red sand of a refugee camp, too weak to move, to speak, even to cry. Only his blinking eyes give any hint of life. Like so many others, he is beyond help. "Every dawn finds new bodies sprawled in the dust of the hospital courtyard, sometimes as many as 10, some still breathing, some not. They have struggled to a place of refuge, only to die.

Hundreds of men, women and children, stick figures all, stagger down a dirt road leading from deserted villages into Baidoa, shuffling figures of hunger and despair. They pass a fly-covered corpse beside the path and pull their dirty, ragged shawls over their noses to block the stench. They try not to look at the face of death, knowing it could claim them next.

War, anarchy and drought have put 1.5 million people in danger of starving in this northeastern African nation, creating what has often been described as the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Aid workers cite Baidoa as the most desperate concentration of the dying. "It is a catastrophe. The level of suffering is incredible," said Christophe Serezu, head of the International Red Cross delegation in Baidoa, 250 km north-west of the Indian Ocean capital of Mogadishu.

No one can say how many people are dying in Baidoa. But a survey of refugee camps, aid agencies and the hospital suggested the figure is between 25 and 50 a day. Aid workers say hundreds more may be dying in the bush and villages surrounding the town.

Baidoa has some 60,000 residents, about the same as when the famine began months ago. But almost all the original inhabitants fled to the capital seeking food.

Food began reaching Baidoa only two months ago through the Red Cross and the UN Children's Fund as clan fighting that had swept the area moved on to more distant regions.

That brought an influx of new people into the town from remote villages — once hardy, self-reliant families of farmers and herders reduced to begging.

In a collective stupor, they wander down the tarred road that runs through the middle of town, walking in slow motion towards uncertain destinations.

A car hoots for them to move aside, but it takes a while for the sound to register before they lurch off the road.

"When your stomach is so empty, your ears don't work," said Bile Farah Arta, a Baidoa resident.

Some 7,000 people — the poorest of the poor — live in a camp on the edge of town in absolute squalor, using the branches of thorn trees as shelter. Mothers and children line up and squat, waiting for hours as beans and rice are cooked in huge black vats.

The Red Cross is feeding 37,000 people in Baidoa. The United Nations and other organizations feed the rest. Much of the food is flown in, which is 10 times more expensive than ground transport. But in the anarchy that is Somalia, roaming gunmen control large stretches of the road between the capital and Baidoa, looting and hijacking at will.

The fighting has flattened Baidoa, a town once filled with scores of white-washed stone buildings. Virtually every building is pocked with gunfire. Tin roofs are gone, stolen by looters as if a tornado had swept them away.

Baidoa is one of several southern Somalia towns targeted by a United States military airlift that will deliver 145,000 tons of food over the next two months. The first flight to Baidoa is expected in about 10 days.

As food becomes increasingly available, more people will come. Others would if they could.

In a village 20 km away, a woman and her four small children huddled around a small black pot containing the boiled skin of a camel. The meat of the animal was consumed long ago. The woman's fifth child died on Tuesday morning and was covered with a shawl. The husband died a white back.

"Before the civil war, this area used to grow sorghum and nuts to feed the rest of the country," said Mosha Rafael, a former agriculture official. "It is so horrible now I cannot believe my eyes." — Sapa-AP.
**Truth The Casualty In SA Race Wars**

By William Claborn and Paul Taylor

While versions differed widely among camp residents, some said they watched while policemen helped the attackers burn down homes and kill unarmed residents. One woman described how to saw a yellow armored personal carrier and a military vehicle being loaded into a police van and an estimated 100 residents surrounding a police vehicle. The residents were demanding to see a white police officer, they said, was splashed with blood.

Word spread quickly among the residents that the shooting had participated in the killings and the blood was from one of their victims. As the crowds grew, the policemen quickly made a tactical withdrawal, but residents continued to provide with detailed and chilling accounts of how white policemen escorting the Inkatha warriors had tear-gassed neighborhoods and imposed a self-defense patrol to disperse them.

In 1994, the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) and the African National Congress (ANC) took power in South Africa, ending apartheid. This event marked the end of the country's long and bloody struggle for racial equality.

**Bush Orders Airlift Of Food To Somalia**

WASHINGTON — President Bush will order today an airlift of food to Somalia to save lives and prevent the emigration of the 1.5 million people who are starving there.

In a statement to the nation this morning, the president said that in the past several days he had met with Secretary of State James Baker, Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney, and National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft to discuss the situation in Somalia.

The president also thanked the international community for its support in providing relief to the people of Somalia.

**Babur Farmers Collect Bumper Harvest Of Loot**

BANJA LUKA, Bosnia — With the end of the siege in Sarajevo, the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina are beginning to reap the harvest of their labors. The Babur farmers, who have been supporting themselves by growing vegetables and fruits, are now ready to harvest their crops.

The Babur farmers are located in the north of the country, near the Bosnian-Serbian border. They have been farming for generations, and their crops are highly valued for their quality and taste.

The Babur farmers are proud of their harvest, which includes a variety of vegetables and fruits such as tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, and apples.

The Babur farmers have been facing many challenges during the siege, including shortages of food and water. However, they have managed to survive and continue their farming activities.

The Babur farmers are also grateful for the support they have received from the international community, which has provided them with necessary assistance to continue their work.

The Babur farmers are looking forward to a bright future, and they hope that their harvest will bring prosperity and abundance to their communities.
Nambian president Mr Sam Nujoma is a worried and embarrassed man. He bought an R80 million presidential Falcon jet which was delivered just as his government was asking for R22 million in drought aid from Nordic countries.

And now questions are being asked about the jet and whether buying it was right during the devastating drought.

The government says those opposed, including the Norwegian and Swedish governments, are interfering in domestic affairs and trying to influence the outcome of local elections due in November.

This government statement followed the Norwegian decision that Namibia would not be given any money for drought aid as the country was "relatively better off... as shown by her ability to buy... the Falcon jet... and could probably also find money for other purposes in the budget".

Defended president

The jet has also led to the dismissal of a former labourer who apparently defended the decision to buy it in an argument with his employer, Mr Heid Harsaath.

Mr Izaak Mokaya, a New Era newspaper that Hartsmiit had spoken against the buying of the jet and when Mokaya defended it, he was fired.

The government’s response to the furore has been that with the Namibian Airline unable and ill-equipped to release out of its limited fleet to the president's travels, it was necessary that a jet be found to ferry not only Nujoma, but other government officials around.

It has become a messy affair in the light of the pending elections and a big embarrassment, especially as the national flag painted on the jet is painted upside down.

But then Nujoma is not alone, as his information minister, Mr Hilipo Hamutenya, pointed out when cross-questioned during a Press conference.

Botswana, Namibia and South Africa have never received their own jets which were even more expensive but no one was making any issue about it.

And indeed that is so. For the 12 seater
Exports to Africa soar in five years.

SMON WILLIAMS

THE proportion of total SA exports to African countries has more than doubled over the past five years, according to the first official figures since 1987 to detail SA's trade with Africa.

The July trade statistics released this week by the Commissioner for Customs and Excise included a breakdown of SA's trade flows into global zones. Publication of the breakdown was suspended in September 1987 to counter rising sanctions pressure. Africa's share of total SA exports rose sharply from 4% in the first seven months of 1987 to 9.1% in the same period this year.

Exports to Europe rose by more than two fifths from 23.8% of total exports in the January-July period in 1987 to 34.5% this year.

The American quotient of this year's January-July exports was up slightly on five years ago at 9.3% against 7.2%, as was Asia's at 17.8% from 16.9%. The share apportioned to Oceania, which includes Australia and New Zealand, was unchanged on 1987 at 0.5%.

Another indication of the diminished sanctions threat is the smaller proportion of "unclassified" trade.

In 1987, 47.4% of January-July exports were in the unclassified category, believed to encompass precious metals, armaments and other "strategic" items. This category had shrunk to 27.7% in the same period this year.
Madagascar seems headed for reform

ANTANANARIVO—Early returns yesterday from a constitutional referendum indicated most of Madagascar's voters approved of reforms that would weaken President Didier Ratsiraka and pave the way for national elections.

The interior ministry said it had counted about 10% of the votes cast in Wednesday's referendum, and reported that 70% of those ballots supported the new constitution. Owing to the remoteness of some districts, final results were not expected for several days.

Voters were asked to approve or reject a new constitution that would strengthen parliament and weaken the iron grip Ratsiraka has exercised in 17 years of Marxist rule. If the constitution is approved, a presidential election is likely to be held within two months, followed by legislative elections.

Madagascar has been in turmoil since thousands of protesters flooded the streets of Antananarivo, the capital, in June 1991 to demand Ratsiraka's ousting. — Supa-AP.
Trees For Africa targets business

CHARLIE PRETZSCH

Trees For Africa has targeted businesses in its latest bid to promote the proliferation of vegetation.

The organisation has started a project to persuade companies to make a donation towards planting trees each time they publish an annual report.

It is estimated more than 1 000 trees are felled to produce the paper required for all the copies of an average-sized company’s annual report.

Companies will be asked to donate R6 per tree used. The money raised will go towards planting trees in “disadvantaged” areas throughout the country.

Trees For Africa chairman Clive Well said companies would be able to choose where the trees were planted and could reprint the TFA logo in their annual report.

“The scheme is modelled on what has been achieved in Israel, where the Jewish National Fund has planted more than 195-million trees,” he said.

A spokesman for the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry said responsible businesses would look favourably on the project.
AFRICA IN BRIEF

JANUARY: After December’s electoral triumph by the Islamic Salvation Front in ALGERIA, the army seizes power.

FEBRUARY: A short-lived truce in SOMALIA is shattered. A failure of seasonal rains plunges SOUTHERN AFRICA into its worst drought this century.

MARCH: ZIMBABWE passes a Bill authorising the government to set its own price for buying white farm land. A census in NIGERIA shows only 88-million citizens, about 20-million fewer than expected.

APRIL: Voters in GHANA overwhelmingly approve a new constitution.

MAY: After 28 years of one-man rule, MALAWI undergoes its first serious civil unrest.

JUNE: ALGERIAN head of state Muhammad Boudiaf is assassinated on June 29.


AUGUST: The United Nations votes for urgent air lift of food to SOMALIA as an estimated 5,000 Somalis are dying each day due to famine.

SEPTEMBER: The first ever multi-party elections are held in ANGOLA. UNITA rejects the results and threatens to renew civil war.

OCTOBER: MOZAMBIQUE’S warring factions sign a peace accord to end the country’s 17-year civil war.

NOVEMBER: KENYAN president Daniel Arap Moi announces that multi-party elections will be held at the end of December.

DECEMBER: United States marines, under the auspices of the United Nations, land in Mogadishu, SOMALIA.
## Bandits delay food supplies to Somalia

**Star Africa Service**

NAIROBI — American food supplies to Somalia — part of an international relief campaign — will not reach starving Somalis until tomorrow, a spokesman for the American office of disaster assistance programme said yesterday.

Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Donnelly said his team was trying to deal with several security problems in Somalia before the direct airlift from the Kenyan port of Mombasa to various points in Somalia begins.

The unstable situation in Somalia, with marauding armed bandits confiscating supplies from relief agencies, is what is worrying the Americans. The security situation is said to be deteriorating in the capital Mogadishu.

In Kenya, more than one million Kenyans and 500,000 Somalis and Ethiopians are facing death unless food reaches them immediately.

- The UN halted mercy flights to the besieged southern Sudanese capital of Juba yesterday after two rebel shells landed near a plane shuttling food to thousands of hungry civilians there, Sapa-Reuter reports.

**World Food Programme spokesman**

Paul Mitchell said the rebel Sudan People’s Liberation Army fired two shells that exploded about 50 m from a UN-chartered cargo plane as it unloaded food on Sunday. Flights will be resumed today if the runway is cleared of debris.

## ‘War crimes’ writer stole explosives

**Star Bureau**

LONDON — A former soldier, who wrote a book to which he referred, pleaded guilty to murder yesterday.

## Recording of slaying traps killer

**Sydney** — A member of an extremist right-wing group pleaded guilty to murder.
When bulls fight, the grass suffers

UNPOSSESED. Homeless. Stuckless.

In your eyes when you look into a mirror, you are a unique, beautiful, and valuable individual. Your worth does not come from your possessions, wealth, or status, but from the person you are. Embrace your identity and cherish your uniqueness. Remember that you are not defined by external factors and that true happiness comes from within. Surround yourself with positive and supportive people who value and accept you for who you are. Let go of the past and focus on the present. You are capable of achieving great things and reaching your full potential. Believe in yourself and never give up on your dreams. Keep pushing forward and remember that every challenge is an opportunity for growth. Embrace your imperfections and celebrate your uniqueness. You are a masterpiece, and you deserve to be seen for all that you are. Stay true to yourself and never compromise your values. Keep fighting for what you believe in, and know that you are never alone. You have the strength within you to overcome any obstacle. Keep smiling, and know that you are truly beautiful just the way you are.
Europe must redeem credibility

WHEN the European Parliament endorses the views of a dissident, discredited minority faction of Ethiopian exiles, it is time to question the processes by which (as in this case) it rushes to conclusions.

A resolution adopted by the parliament expresses concern at the persistent violation of human rights in Ethiopia; at "the arrest of some 20 Ethiopian refugees expelled from Sudan, on no apparent charge", mentioning in particular Tadele Demeka, a student from the University of East Anglia, who was visiting the country under the auspices of the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

The resolution goes on to note that "one year after the present EPRDF government took power, Ethiopia is facing an unprecedented crisis "with the danger of a widespread and bloody civil war taking place there."

What is the reality behind the grave charges made by them and swallowed hook, line and sinker by the European Parliament? Consider, first, the case of Tadele Demeka. By the time the parliament's resolution was adopted, calling for her release, she was already free following representations by the British ambassador in Addis Ababa.

The much more serious aspect of the European Parliament's resolution is its warning about Ethiopia facing a crisis with the danger of bloody civil war.

The recent attempt to hold the country's first ever democratic elections for regional councils was not an unqualified success — as leaders in the interim government are the first to admit.

A much more serious development flows from the decision of the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) to boycott the elections. The OLF is clearly a major political element in the current situation, but just how representative it is of the Oromo people (more than half of the country's population) has never been tested.

The European Parliament's resolution also lacks balanced judgment and objectivity on most of its other statements.

Firstly, the EPRDF government did not "take power" after the fall of Mengistu Haile Mariam's tyranny; it is unique in being the only armed liberation movement which, having won, decided to share power in a coalition government with all the other major representative groups in the country, including its opponents like the OLF. For this they deserve special credit.

Second, human rights in Ethiopia are infinitely better today than at any time in the country's history.

Third, the description of a country suffering "as a whole" from insecurity is plainly untrue.

What seems clear is that an active lobby (reported to be the German Green Party) got a hurried resolution through the European Parliament on a day when something like 14 other resolutions were adopted. There appears to have been no proper debate.

In order to redeem its credibility as far as this major African issue is concerned, the European Parliament should now do four things: send a fact-finding mission to Ethiopia; on its return, arrange for a full debate; encourage the peace initiative by the European ambassadors, and address the most critical issue in the Horn of Africa — the situation in Sudan.
Students from 10 Africa varsities meeting to discuss human rights

Students from more than 10 southern African countries, including South Africa, will meet for the first time to discuss human rights issues in Harare from September 11 to 13. The meeting is being organised by the Centre for Human Rights Studies of the University of Pretoria and all South African universities have indicated that they will take part in the three-day discussions.

A spokesman for the university's centre for human rights, Professor Christof Heyns, said the discussions would be held in the form of a moot court competition.

Students from the universities of Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe are expected to attend.

In round one of the competition a typical bill of rights case will be argued before a panel of judges consisting of the deans of the various law faculties.
Red Cross warns against food relief

Half of food airlifted to Somalia already looted:

Nairobi - The Red Cross said yesterday that large-scale dumping of food in Somalia could lead to further strife and urged greater coordination of international relief efforts.

The warning came days before the United States planned to start airlifting food into the Horn of Africa nation, where up to 2 million people are threatened with starvation.

Ms Renee Bafalis, a spokesperson at US Airlift's headquarters in Mombasa, said the Americans would not be simply dumping food in Somalia.

She said they would move food to aid agencies already in Somalia, where and as it was needed. The aid workers would handle the unloading and distribution of the relief supplies.

Armed militia and independent gunmen roaming the country have looted relief supplies. Some aid workers estimate that half of all the food delivered this year has been stolen.

Although the Red Cross has delivered 100,000 tons of food to Somalia, it has been insufficient to feed the starving. - Sapa-AP.
Food aid, may intensify Somali plight

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said that food aid to Somalia, where there is a food shortage, may intensify the plight of Somali children. The agency said that the drought, which has hit the country, has led to a severe food shortage, affecting millions of people. The situation is expected to worsen as the rainy season approaches, and UNICEF warned that the situation could become critical.
Bloc facing problems

NAIROBI - The Preferential Trade Agreement, a trading bloc of east and southern African countries, says the region is facing insurmountable problems due to the unremitting drought, political instability and adverse economic conditions in member countries.
Africa boosts local tours

Air links to boost SA visitors:

By Isaac Moledi

AFRICA is on the verge of becoming one of South Africa's most important tourism markets, said the South African Tourism Board.

Satour said about 1.5 million tourists from Africa alone were expected this year as compared to 1.1 million from the continent and the Indian Ocean islands last year.

"This total is not an unrealistic one judging from the current arrivals figures," Satour's chief director of tourism promotions, Dr Eisle Heath said.

Tourist hot spots

Zimbabwe, Namibia, Kenya and Egypt were the main four priority incoming markets, Heath said.

"Although arrivals by air from Africa are less than 20 percent of the total arrivals from Africa, this figure is larger than the air arrivals from North and South America, Australia and Asia combined.

"This means that air arrivals from Africa could soon be on par with air arrivals from the whole of Europe, should the 1.5-million arrivals materialise," he said.

Heath said the interest in the country's political and economic future and in tourism by other African states had reflected a dramatic increase in visits to this country.

Added air routes

New air routes from Luanda (Angola), Antananarivo (Madagascar), St. Denis (Reunion), Moroni (Comoro), Mahé (Seychelles) and Kinshasa (Zaire) to South Africa have been established to boost the movement of visitors.

Routes still to be developed include Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Brazzaville (Congo), Abidjan (Ivory Coast) and Dakar (Senegal).
US ponders food plan to revive Somali economy

MOMBASA -- The US, preparing an emergency airlift to flood starving Somalia with food, plans to sell some of it instead of giving it away.

Almost the only economic activity now taking place in Somalia is by clan gunmen stealing relief supplies or guarding them from rivals, American aid experts say.

Getting local merchants back into business with ample food on their shelves could save more lives than handouts by drawing hoarded stocks out of hiding, lowering prices and starting a revival of the economy, they say.

Drought and anarchy have wrecked Somalia since the overthrow of President Mohamed Siad Barre in January last year. Somalis are starving to death at the rate of 2,000 a week and more than 5 million lives are believed to be in danger, relief workers say.

US officials and relief workers said they planned food drops worth an estimated $30 million to Somalia and bordering northern Kenya in the next two months as a stop-gap measure. But they saw little hope for the future unless long-term aid was crafted to revive food production and a functioning market economy.

The US is expected to make its first airlift into Somalia tomorrow. US transport aircraft have so far only ferried food to Somalis in Kenyan refugee camps.

But relief consultant Rick Hill said a new strategy was needed as the current system of just handing out food was "digging Somalia into a deeper hole" in view of its near-total anarchy and clan rivalry. -- Sapa-Reuters.
ALGIERS — A powerful bomb killed nine people and wounded more than 100 at Algiers airport yesterday in the worst attack since a state of emergency was declared after Muslim fundamentalist unrest.

It reinforced fears that extremists blamed for killing more than 100 security force members were switching to "softer" targets.

The government described it as "a declaration of war against the Algerian nation".

The blast in the international terminal wounded scores of men, women and children, their bodies torn by flying glass or burnt.

Prime Minister Belaid Abdesselam said: "This crime unveils the authors' true objectives, aiming at the people as a whole." — Sapa-Reuters.
Security hinders Somalia aid

NAIROBI — Security was the major problem hindering famine relief for starving Somalis, a US presidential aide said yesterday.

Andrew Natsios, President Bush’s special co-ordinator for Somalia, described the situation in the impoverished Horn of Africa country as anarchic and chaotic.

“We cannot get food in to many areas nor will we be able to do so even with the arrangements we are now making,” he said in an interview in Nairobi.

Mr Natsios, appointed to oversee an emergency US airlift to feed an estimated 1.5 million Somalis at immediate risk of starvation, said it was too late for many people.

He rejected allegations that the airlift, flying food to refugees on the border with Kenya, would aggravate security problems by dumping food into famine areas ruled by marauding gangs of gunmen.

“We are not going to be dumping food anywhere. We are going to be carefully moving food into areas where there is an international or a non-governmental organisation presence,” he said.

Some aid workers say the dispatch of US military cargo planes for the airlift is late, hasty and ill-planned.

“We’ve got aircraft coming out of our ears, but not enough goodies to put in them,” said a UN relief worker. “The US came all of a sudden and it’s stretching co-ordination to the limit.”

Mr Natsios said one of the major aims of the US operation was to drive down domestic food prices by selling US grain to Somali merchants.

He said making food available would cut prices presently “500 percent above normal” and improve the security situation.

Sapa-Reuters-AFP.
Students continued their education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In the 1980s, the university expanded its programs in the areas of business and public policy. This expansion was driven by the belief that a strong economy requires a well-educated workforce. The university also established new programs in environmental studies and international relations.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is one of the oldest and most prestigious institutions of higher education in the United States. It was founded in 1789 and has a long history of excellence in teaching and research. The university is known for its strong programs in the arts, sciences, and social sciences. It is also renowned for its contributions to medicine, particularly in the fields of genetics and immunology.

The university's current president, Margaret L.roots, has emphasized the importance of diversity and inclusion in the university's mission. She has worked to increase the number of underrepresented students in the university and to create a more inclusive campus culture.

In conclusion, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is a leading institution of higher education in the United States. Its commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service has made it a beacon of knowledge and innovation for over two centuries.
AFRICA BRIEFS

Togolese minister escapes gunmen

A TOGOLESE government minister escaped an assassination attempt on Monday when gunmen chased his car through the streets of Lome.

Minister of Equipment and Mines Yao Anemena, a close aide to Prime Minister Joseph Koffigod, was being driven home when armed men gave chase. A shot was fired, wounding Anemena's bodyguard.

Tension is growing in Lome in the run-up to a vital referendum on a new multi-party constitution, scheduled for Sunday.

UN sanctions hit Libya

LIBYA claims that sanctions, imposed by the United Nations in mid-April, have cost the country $3.62 billion, according to Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Bashir.

In a report to UN secretary general Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Bashir also said 100 infants and 150 other people had died because they were unable to travel to receive medical treatment abroad.

Libya has been under UN air traffic, arms and diplomatic sanctions since April 15 after refusing to hand over two suspects in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Rebels vow to shoot relief planes

REBELS besieging Sudan's refugee-jammed southern capital of Juba, have threatened to shoot at United Nations relief planes if they resume a food airlift to the city this week.

Lead of the old wing of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, Elijah Malok, said there was no agreement on safe passage for the flights, which were stopped a month ago after the SPLA accused the UN of airlifting in arms and troops.

The UN announced it would restart the airlift this week, flying in food and other supplies for 300,000 starving people trapped in the city.

Uganda sacks human rights lawyer

UGANDA has sacked top human rights lawyer Wasswa Lule from his post of government deputy inspector general. Lule's tasks included monitoring human rights abuses and corruption in the government.

Minister for Presidential Affairs Kivumbi Museoke said Lule was fired because of "irresponsible behaviour and indiscipline". However, diplomatic sources say Lule was sacked for saying President Yoweri Museveni's government was trying to justify detaining civilians under military law and had committed untold atrocities during its five-year bush war.

Protestors block observers

SUPPORTERS of a federal system for Madagascar occupied the northern town of Ambirana on Tuesday, preventing election observers from the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists from reaching the town.

Demonstrations for federal rule have swept most of the island outside the capital of Antananarivo since last Thursday, rallying opposition to this week's referendum, which is seen as a plebiscite on President Didier Ratsiraka's 17-year rule.

Federalists, who support Ratsiraka, wanted this week's poll to offer a choice between federal and central rule, rather than a single constitution.
Where the world ends

By Monica Oosterbroek

Nothing prepared The Star's photographer João Silva for the absolute misery and complete anarchy in Somalia, a country which has been devastated by famine and civil war.

"Somalia is the end of the world and the beginning of hell — and I will never recover from the terrible experience of just being there," he said.

Arriving at the coastal capital Mogadishu, Silva, the first South African newspaper photographer to gain access to the war-torn country, was met by frightening chaos. Residents are ruled by gun-toting youngsters who roam around shooting indiscriminately, rioting and looting.

"There are no formal structures left in the city and very few walls are left standing. Masses of walking skeletons and beggars roam the street and the only shops are stalls set up on pavements," he said.

Only those with guns get food, but weapons are cheap and freely available in the open-air gun markets lining the streets.

And if you can't afford to buy an automatic rifle, you try to steal one, Silva said.

He soon found out that photographers were not welcome in Somalia and attempts to shoot pictures resulted in youths trying to shoot him.

Silva travelled with Pulitzer Prize winner Greg Marinovich. The first thing they did was hire four armed bodyguards, an interpreter and a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

Driving into rural areas, they saw thousands of emaciated and disease-ridden peasants trekking to UN-run food centres.

What shocked Silva most were the corpses littering the sandy roads in outlying areas as people failed to make it to relief centres. Nobody bothers to bury them and most bodies are eaten by starving animals.

Silva saw babies die in their mothers' arms and children keel over and die on the doorstep of feeding stations.

To give some idea of the massive death toll, Silva said more than 800 people died every day in the village of Baidoa, where people flocked to get food.

"I don't stop shooting pictures for anything, but when I saw a baby die while the mother cried, I burst into tears. As she closed the child's eyelids, I had to look away and stop taking pictures because it was so upsetting," he said.

But with death came life — and Silva saw one young woman who had just given birth to twins while waiting in the food line.

The countryside bore testimony to the civil war, with empty tank shells and anti-aircraft guns lining the main roads and empty cannon shells scattered everywhere.

Because of banditry and theft, only about 30 percent of the food gets to the various food centres around the country, and the stations have to be very security conscious to protect their supplies.

Tanks and heavily armed security guards surround storage places and control the desperate crowds.

When food runs out, children start rioting and the guards beat them back into line, Silva said.

Only the hardest have any chance of survival — and even that's no guarantee.

and hell begins
London expert discounts Big Bang as JSE solution

A UK-STYLE Big Bang is not what the JSE wants or needs, says London Stock Exchange CE Peter Rawlins, who is on a brief visit to SA to advise on changes to the domestic market.

"We engineered a process of huge and wide-ranging reforms for reasons of our international competitiveness, which was under threat. The success of Big Bang is that we regained and enhanced our international capacity so that now two-thirds of all cross-border equity trading and 95% of all such trading in the European time zone goes through the London market," Rawlins said.

"The commercial threat which London had to respond to in 1986 was and still is very different to the scenario the JSE is facing. We did everything all at once in a great hurry.

"My advice to the community here is to make sure that the implications of the reforms you want to introduce are fully understood, before you actually implement them.

"If you decide on dual capacity (brokers dealing as both principal and agent), for instance, do not lose sight of the fact that it will bring pressures and conflicts that do not exist in a single capacity (agent only) environment," he said.

"Management capacity was not adjusted and upgraded in line with the changes being introduced at the time on the London market. Looking back on Big Bang, an excess amount of money was poured into the great while hope of information and communication technology," said Rawlins.

"Many of the people taking the decisions at the time did not understand the implications of what they were doing.

"Had we had more technically literate senior management, they would have seen some of the problems that have since had to be sorted out."

Since Rawlins took the helm of the London Stock Exchange three years ago, he has whittled down the number of employees from 3 500 to 1 500. And, he added, there had been no material reduction in the nature of the services provided.

"My message to the JSE and the community here is to make sure you have the management to deliver the goods when introducing reforms. Tomorrow's world may be very different to today," Rawlins said.
AFRICA BRIEFS

Weft. Many schools were closed in the capital as relief agencies converted them into camps and started feeding the famished refugees.

Germans join food battle. GERMAN military aircraft joined the battle to save Somalia's starving millions this week. Two German transport planes started flying emergency food supplies into the shattered capital Mogadishu from the Kenyan port of Mombasa on Tuesday. The week-long German operation will ferry high-protein biscuits into Mogadishu four times daily.

The relief drive gained another boost when the United Nations' special envoy to Somalia, Mohamed Elhilali, returned to the famished nation of Africa to pursue peace talks and co-ordinate world efforts to stop millions from starvings to death.
Seeking Africa's elusive pot of gold

The rest of Africa fought for independence and got it, but it failed them. Now the battle is on for a democratic system — and South Africa has joined the fray.

Moeletsi Mbeki asks just what is meant by democracy

The deadlock of the Codesa talks and the passing of rolling mass action provide a welcome breathing space for all South Africans to reflect long and hard about what it is that we want.

The great African nationalist, Dr Kwame Nkrumah, once advised the Africans: "Seek ye first the political kingdom and all else shall be given". For the past half a century the African people did just that. A few did indeed find that kingdom, but most did not.

Even more elusive was the "all else" that Nkrumah said would follow: economic, social and cultural development. Sadly, this has not happened either.

The short-lived spurt of activity in education and health programmes soon after African countries gained their independence produced the graduates that today feed the brain drain to the West, the Middle East and lately, to South Africa. In fact most Africans are poorer now than they were 20 years ago.

Disillusioned and disappointed with independence, most people in Africa, including South Africa, have now turned to another objective, the pursuit of democracy.

But what is this new god that is being worshipped across the length and breadth of Africa? Could it be yet another mirage or rainbow which will only lead to yet other mirages or rainbows?

Trying to define democracy has kept philosophers and political scientists employed for over 3 000 years since the days of the Greek city states. Yet there is still no acceptable definition of democracy.

Abraham Lincoln defined democracy as the government of the people by the people for the people. According to this definition, Britain cannot be a democracy because it is ruled by a hereditary monarchy which is buttressed by a similarly unelected House of Lords, both of whom have a power of veto over laws passed by the elected House of Commons.

As if defining democracy were not problematic enough, there is in recent times been added to it the concept of majority rule. But this hardly helps things. Did Uganda have majority rule under the regime of military dictator Idi Amin?

There is another route to trying to understand what democracy is, and this is to describe what actually happens when democracy operates in a given country.

Democracy is said to exist in a particular society when the substantive interests and aspirations of the social groups that make up that society are recognised in the legal system and are protected.

In a democratic society, each social group defines its interests itself and through struggles and compromises with the other groups, positions these interests in relation to the plurality of the interests of all groups. This relationship ultimately is codified in a constitution.

In a capitalist society, social groups are largely economically defined and are known as social classes, but their economic characteristics are not the only features that define groups even in capitalist society. The British political system is thus said to be democratic because the aristocracy's interests were positioned as a result of compromises with other classes, especially the industrial capitalists. The resulting political system thus has legitimacy in the eyes of all classes despite the fact that the monarchy is not elected.

From this observation of how a democratic society works, it should be clear that democracy is but an expression of the balance of power between contending social groups in a country. By definition therefore there cannot be a pure form of democracy. There are as many forms of democracy as there are balances of power between specific social groups in a specific society.

The vote therefore never gives one social group complete power to determine the interests of other groups. The vote thus, far from bringing about social change, freezes the existing social relations including existing relations of inequality in a particular society. Through the vote the power of powerful interests becomes consolidated and legitimised and the powerlessness of the powerless also becomes consolidated and legitimised.

This is why democracy, which initially may bring about social peace and stability, ultimately can also lead to revolution or counter-revolution because of the unresolved issue of social inequality. South Africans, who are pinning all their hopes on democracy to bring social change, should bear this in mind.

Moeletsi Mbeki is a consultant to Cosatu and the ANC, working on a plan to launch a new daily newspaper.
Clan warfare ruins Somalia

ETHNIC VIOLENCE Tensions continue to bubble beneath the surface.

MOGADISHU - Different clans control different wards in Somalia's biggest hospital. If you're not a member, you sleep on the floor in the corridor.

The clan warfare which has dragged Somalia into anarchy and turned a bad drought into the world's worst famine for years has come to permeate all aspects of life in the Horn of Africa country.

Clans which united to drive out dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January 1991 have turned on each other in vicious bloodletting. Ancient feuds are pursued with modern weapons and new hatreds are being born.

"There was always rivalry over things like grazing, water holes and so on - in a nomadic society it was a fight for survival. But it's all been magnified during the last couple of years," sociologist Seifu Raziz Miles said.

A precarious ceasefire between Mogadishu's two main clan-based factions has held for some months, but relief workers say ethnic violence continues to bubble throughout the country. An armed gang snatched 11 Somalis including five aid workers last week from the protection of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the southern port of Kismayo.

The Red Cross was trying to evacuate the men because they belonged to a minority clan. If they were probably killed. No one knows how many people died in fierce battles two weeks ago in the Medina district of south Mogadishu.

Aid workers said fighters backing major warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid surrounded and attacked a rival sub-clan in a jostle for territory.

Sapa-Reuters
Great white hope for democracy in Africa

K Roosnadt is a faire

The Weekend Argus Africa Service Reports.

An attacker boy from a free state dorpie is

...
The Island of Intrigue
Africa ignored despite its many opportunities

By CIARAN RYAN

ALBERT Nelissen, who opened more doors in Africa than the Department of Foreign Affairs, retires this week with a hint of disappointment about the world's growing lack of interest in the continent.

Mr Nelissen, SA's most seasoned diplomat, leaves the Foreign Affairs office on Friday after 35 years of service during which he travelled extensively in Africa and the Middle East.

The outgoing chairman of Premier International finds SA's phlegmatic commitment to investment in Africa particularly irksome.

"SA companies look all over the world for opportunities. Apart from one or two exceptions, they ignore Africa when it is throwing its arms open to us. Premier International demonstrated that trade with Africa was possible and profitable."

Tone

While SA companies were abandoning their African interests, Mr Nelissen was in Lusaka to open trade avenues for Premier. On his second visit, he met former President Kenneth Kaunda, whom Mr Nelissen still counts as one of his closest friends.

Dr Kaunda introduced the affable Belgian to the ANC's Olivier Tambo, and Thabo Mbeki in the early 1980s, when such contacts were viewed by the PW Botha Government as subversive, if not treasonous.

The temperate and conciliatory tone of the ANC leadership at that meeting reflected sharply with National Party propaganda.

"Mr Nelissen says: 'I never discussed politics with anyone. My purpose was to establish friendships, build trust and open up communication.'

"Olivier Tambo particularly impressed me. Were it not for his poor health, I think he would have had a vital role in SA's future.'

Dr Kaunda introduced Mr Nelissen to a host of African luminaries.

The art of doing trade with Africa is to hedge against coup and political insurrection by garnering support among existing and potential leaders.

Mr Nelissen established a working relationship with Dr Kaunda's successor, Frederick Chiluba, while remaining 'friendly' with the former president.

He was a frequent house guest of Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko, but maintained a healthy dialogue with his rival and newly appointed Prime Minister Etienne Tshisekedi.

Denial

Mr Nelissen says Mr Mobutu has been unfairly maligned by the world press. It is claimed he has a personal fortune equal to the country's national debt of $8 billion.

"I asked him if this was true and he emphatically denied it. He certainly has many assets, but insists he does not have enough to pay staff at his Monaco property."

When called on to send food to drought-ravaged central Africa, Mr Nelissen happily obliged, dispensing with the usual trade formalities.

In the past decade Premier built a trading empire in Africa worth an estimated R400-million a year. It pioneered the concept of bonded warehouses, a type of super-market where purchases are settled in foreign currency and declared to customs officials at the check-out counter.

Mr Nelissen concedes that trading in Africa is a field of business. Contacts with Zaire have all but ceased in the wake of last year's riots.

Mozambique closed foreign-currency supermarkets on the instructions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which has taken virtual control of the economy. The IMF is responsible for a lot of suffering in Africa. It insists that governments do away with food subsidies when people have less money. It's not that easy. The result is food riots, undermining political leadership."

Golf

As chairman of Premier International, Mr Nelissen was almost impossible to track down one day in Cairo. Maputo the next and the rest of the week in some dusty outpost looking for business opportunities. In 12 years he visited 43 countries.

"I haven't had time for a normal family life. I want to spend a few months in Europe, catch up with my reading ... and learn to play golf."

Already the job offers are rolling in from those seeking to tap his network of political and business contacts in Africa.

His advice to those who would follow in his footsteps: "Build long-term relationships, get to know the politicians, establish trust and discard the common notion that you have to bribe your way through Africa - corruption is on the decline."
UN fiddles while Somalia starves

AS the last signs of life flicker from thousands of Somali children every day, the United Nations knows that much of the dying could have been prevented.

Although the world has finally woken up to the human tragedy — prompting a huge American military airlift and more Western aid money — the plight of the people has reacted such proportions that for hundreds of thousands, it is already too late.

After pledging a further RS0 000 in food aid this week, the famine relief agency Oxfam spoke for many welfare organisations when it said that for tens of thousands of people in Somalia, the UN’s response had been “too little, too late”.

UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali said this month: “If only we had intervened last November... now we are paying the price.”

From
Scott Peterson
in Mogadishu

A UN-brokered American military airlift of food for the starving began this weekend when the first aircraft touched down in Somalia carrying more than 34 tons of food supplies.

But the battle will be to keep it away from looters.

This year more than 140,000 tons of food have been sent to the country, but not all of it has fed the starving.

Somalia’s new warlords have been building their huge empires based, at first, on weapons — and now on looted relief food.

Relative peace has sparked an economic revival based on systematic and well-organised looting. For Somalia’s profiteers, and the warlords who can offer them protection, that means big business.

Mafia

“It is too dangerous to monitor the food distribution, so the lorries are diverted along the way.”

Gunmen hired for security are young mercenaries who would rather do battle than guard food.

“You can follow the distribution map by charting the casualties as they come into the hospital,” said a relief worker who can feel by the increased gunfire when a food convoy is passing nearby.

“In the past few months the petty and random looting that we had before has given way to a more systematic, more organised operation run by a few people.

“This local mafia releases food on to the market and tries to control the prices,” he said.

But the Red Cross says food brought into the country, even if it ends up on the black market, is not wasted.

To protect food convoys from looting, at least in Mogadishu, the UN Security Council has authorised the use of 500 armed UN troops. They have yet to join five unarmmed ceasefire monitors already in the capital.

And this week, Mr Boutros-Ghali — noting the gravity of the situation — requested the deployment of 3,000 more armed troops.

— The Telegraph, London
null
Africans fear problems are being ignored

Jakarta — As heads of state arrive in Indonesia for the 10th Non-aligned Movement summit, some black African countries are angry their problems seem to have been given a low priority.

One African official alleged racism among developed member countries.

Almost three days of talks were taken up with discussion of an Organisation of Islamic Countries move to have the Yugoslav federation expelled from the movement. The move was opposed by African and Latin American countries.

Among the problems the African countries wanted to see discussed were ways of lessening debt repayment burdens, Somalia, South Africa and development aid.

Single commodity producers, who had seen prices fall sharply in recent months, wanted to find ways of dealing with price- and quota-fixing cartels.

Although talks on African issues will continue on the summit's sidelines, African delegates doubt they will achieve all they wanted. — Sapa-AFP.
Free SABC satellite TV service for Africa

THE SABC's External Services is to go commercial, executive editor Lionel Williams announced yesterday.

This SABC division, which has changed its name to Channel Africa, also announced it would begin a daily satellite service to Africa, sending out a television broadcast from October 1.

Channel Africa says the new television service will be uniquely African. The programmes, initially half-hour slots in English and French, will consist of news, information and educational material.

The satellite programmes will be available to African broadcasters free of charge.

A spokesman said 12 to 15 countries had indicated they would use the satellite feed.

While Channel Africa would initially use its own material, it hoped to source programmes from African broadcasters and to act as a distributor of African material.

The spokesman said that until now the division's budget had been covered by Foreign Affairs. This would continue, but Channel Africa was hoping advertising would bring in additional income and enable it to increase its budget. It hoped to attract local, multinational and African advertisers.

Radio RSA began broadcasting nearly 27 years ago. The External Services' television division started seven years ago and was initially packaged for the international market.

A spokesman said advertisers who wanted to market their products in Africa had few options. The new service, with advertising and sponsorship, would reach a potential 600-million listeners.
Africa beckons as a major trade market

PRETORIA — SA companies were well positioned to win capital projects in Africa including World Bank project tenders, Department of Trade deputy director-general Gertie Brey of said yesterday.

He said Africa offered vast untapped opportunities for SA products.

In 1991, only 11% of the total imports went to Africa. Yet in 1989 the figure had been 8%, and the increase was likely to quicken significantly, Brey said.

Imports from Africa amounted to a mere 2% of total imports in 1991.

Prospects for expanded trade were particularly favourable in Kenya, Madagascar, Togo, Malawi and Angola, which had generous mining concessions.

"Trade with Africa has taken off to a point where we have trade ties with most countries on the continent and we hope to build further on what has been achieved so far," Brey said.

On government trade representation abroad, Brey said there were 65 economic representatives stationed at 41 foreign offices attached to embassies and consulates in 31 countries.

Five were stationed in African countries.

— Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mozambique, Malawi and Kenya. Another would soon be based in Mauritius to develop trade ties with Indian Ocean islands.

During the past two years, offices were opened in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Turkey and Russia.

The department’s representative in Moscow was working on ties with states within the Russian Federation as well as with former Soviet satellite countries.

An economic office was also to be established in Finland to promote trade with Scandinavian countries.

Brey said countries in Europe and the Far East had shown keen interest in partnerships with SA companies to undertake joint ventures in Africa.

He said that during the current financial year, 320 SA companies would exhibit their products at international trade fairs.

Between April and August, 275 companies had made use of the individual assistance scheme to display products abroad.

Brey said a total of R4,7m had been allocated to fund the exhibition schemes.
Africa in brief

50 rebels killed

DAKAR - Security forces killed 50 supporters of independence for the southern province of Casamance in a battle near Zigueschor, official Senegal radio said yesterday.

Two soldiers were killed in the fighting on Tuesday. Sixty rebels and nine soldiers were wounded. Additional security forces had been sent to the region.

Thousands are dying

MOGADISHU - The head of the US food airlift to Somalia yesterday gave a harrowing eyewitness account of desperate children and old people dropping dead by the thousands in the starving nation.

Mr. Andrew Natios said it was the worst human suffering he had ever seen, exceeding even the Ethiopian and Sudanese famines of past years.

Human life imperilled

NAIROBI - A Kenyan academic yesterday warned delegates attending an international conservation conference in Nairobi that human life in Africa was imperilled as never before.

Dr. Mohammed Isakakia, Kenya's director of museums, told the conference on biodiversity in Africa that the situation on the continent had become so serious that human life, natural habitat, soils and species were threatened to an extent never known before.
UN adamant on troops for Somalia

NEW YORK — A further 3,000 UN guards will go to Somalia to protect relief aid despite the refusal of a Somali alliance to allow them to operate in its territory, the UN secretary-general said yesterday.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali said that if one faction did not agree with the presence of peacekeepers, the UN would negotiate with them.

The SNA, which claims to control some two-thirds of the war-torn Horn of Africa nation, declared through a spokesman in Rome on Tuesday that it would not allow UN guards for relief operations into areas under its control.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali told a press conference that there were several factions in Somalia but the world body would send troops "to the part of the country where the parties have agreed to their presence." The two-pronged US airlift of food to starving Somalia and to the hungry in Konya's north-east should resume today, a spokesman said.

He said the day off would allow overworked personnel to rest. The Americans have not had a free day since they began arriving on August 17. — Sapa-Reuters.
Food airlift resumed

DYING DAILY US, German planes have begun flying food into one of starving Somalia's hardest-hit towns:

Nairobi - The United States resumed its airlift to Somalia yesterday after a one-day rest break while German aid began flying food into one of the starving nation's hardest-hit towns.

The Americans sent five military C-130 cargo planes to Belet Huen, a village on Somalia's western border with Ethiopia after taking a day off on Wednesday.

The break was to give overworked personnel some rest and avoid any potential mishaps from fatigue. The Americans had not had a free day since they began arriving on August 17.

Since starting the Somalia airlift a week ago, the Americans have used eight C-130s to deliver close to 250 metric tons of food to Belet Huen for the International Red Cross which estimates it is caring for up to 200,000 people there.

The US military sent home four C-141 Starlifter cargo planes on Tuesday because they were too large to use on the region's predominantly small, dirt airstrips.

The Americans are expected tomorrow to begin flying 27 tons of food daily to the town of Baidoa, where hundreds are dying daily, said United Nations World Food Programme spokesman Paul Mitchell. - Sapo-AP.
SABC's new voice sounds out Africa

MANDY JEAN WOODS

THE SABC’s successful external service, which has been broadcasting internationally for more than 25 years, is to become known as Channel Africa from October 1 this year.

This follows the completion of the repositioning of the station begun two years ago when it began broadcasting exclusively to African countries.

Hunt Lascaris subsidiary AM&C was responsible for creating the station’s new image and for staging its launch in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

Along with the name change and the revamped radio services will come a new daily television programme and, for the first time, the chance for companies to advertise on both the radio and television services, according to SABC External Services executive editor Lionel Williams.

“This will make Channel Africa the only major external broadcasting service (whose competitors are the BBC World Service, Voice of America and Radio France International to name a few) which will carry advertising,” he says.

Already many of South Africa’s blue-chip companies who do business in Africa have expressed interest in advertising on Channel Africa.

The need for such a service has been growing since political reform in South Africa opened doors for trade with other African countries, Williams says.

“But until now companies wanting to advertise in Africa have had limited options. And to make matters worse, the logistical difficulties of ensuring and checking that the advertising runs as planned when planned has made this something of an ordeal,” he notes.

Channel Africa will eliminate those problems as the radio broadcasts emanate from the SABC studio’s in Johannesburg and the hour-long television programme will be sent out via satellite with advertising as part of the package.

“We hope that Channel Africa will provide an effective means of communication between advertisers and the African markets they wish to reach,” Williams says.

The station will spend about six months building a demographic profile before seeking advertisers. There are (officially) more than 20 million television sets in Africa, more than 105 million radios of which more than 85 percent are short-wave receivers. The population, excluding South Africa, tops 600 million.

Channel Africa’s services will reach more than 50 countries from Morocco and Egypt in the north to Lesotho and Swaziland in the south.

The television service will be accessible by any African broadcaster at no cost because of the multi-access satellite being utilised. The hour-long television programme is divided into two half-hour segments (one English, the other French) comprising news, information, services, education, features and documentaries. The radio services, broadcast in seven languages for 205 hours a week will reflect similar content.

“Initially we expect at least a dozen broadcasters to pick up the service and within the next six months this is expected to at least double,” he says.

While the station will continue to receive funding from Government — as do all other external broadcasters — it will slowly move to increasing its independent income, he says.
Somalia aid

THE SA Navy is to transport more than 200 tons of medicine, sugar, meal, milk powder, oil and beans donated by the SA Muslim community to Somalia in mid-September. The first shipment of aid for Somalia left yesterday on board an SA Air Force Hercules.
Sasol spends more

SASOL's board has given the go-ahead for three projects together costing R160-million and aimed at improving efficiency and lowering operating costs at its Secunda plants.

Sasol is also considering other projects costing billions of rands — over and above the R3-billion work now under way.

Of the capital approved this week, R230-million is for an oxygen extra plant at Sasol Three at Secunda. It will come on stream by June 1994.

Another R138-million has been allocated for the installation of additional wash towers and propylene chillers in the Rectisol gas purification plants at Secunda.

The remaining R432-million will be spent on a project to facilitate continuous catalyst addition to one of the Sasol Synthal reactors at Secunda.

Damp squid

A BRIEF apart in the meat credit business, in April and May has frozen out and stagnation has set in, says Nedfin in its analysis of the banks' businesses in the second quarter.

Nedfin manager William Wolke says general banks are doing less business if activity in the second quarter is compared with the usual seasonal trends.

There has also been a shift from instalment sales and leasing to mortgage finance.

Although total credit business written by banks in the second quarter increased by R95,2-million on the first quarter to R22,7-billion, activity late in the quarter was minimal.

Gla00

Dorbyl in oil

ENGINEERING group Dorbyl is edging its way into the West African offshore oil industry through a venture with a North Sea technology partner. Chief executive Dawid Mostert says Dorbyl group lifted its profit to more than R400-million in 1992 from R80-million five years ago.

Capital spending on modernisation will top R139-million this year.

Directory deal

AC BRABY and Top Centre Novosti of Moscow have signed an agreement to publish a trade directory of promoting South African goods in states that once formed the Soviet Union.

Novosti is one of Russia's leading information agencies and has now gone private. Top Centre is a consultancy and publication group with a trade promotion arm.

AC Braby, part of the Kohler Packaging group, will market the directory in SA.

Tax break

THE Government is considering removing the export requirement for companies claiming accelerated tax write-offs under Section 37E of the Income Tax Act.

This would in theory allow capital projects aimed at the domestic market to claim the tax benefit as soon as money is spent rather than when the business starts earning.

Somalia aid

THE SA Navy is to transport more than 200 tons of food, medicine, sugar, meat, milk powder, oil and beans donated by the SA Muslim community to Somalia in mid-September.

The first shipment of aid for Somalia left yesterday on board an SA Air Force Hercules.

Finalists

SIX businesses have been nominated finalists for the 1992 Sandton Community Investment Awards.

They are Justine Cosmetics, Nissan, Pick 'n Pay, Natalie Knight Galleries, Eskom, The Sandton Chronicle and Sandown Motors.
Niger troops end arrests

NIAMEY - Malian
military and Niger
troops ended a
campaign last
week that resulted
in the arrest of
more than 100
people. The
operation was
conducted in the
rebel-held town of
Kidal.
Plan afoot to dump wastes in Somalia

NAIROBI — The UN Environment chief has warned that Italian companies plan to profit from Somalia's chaos by illegally dumping toxic wastes there, further threatening health in the devastated nation.

And yesterday, US Air Force cargo planes delivered emergency food to eastern Kenya and to two villages in Somalia, where the famine is worsening.

The comments by Mostafa Tolba, head of the Nairobi-based UN Environmental Programme, were made on Friday and reported in the English-language Sunday Nation newspaper.

Mr. Tolba was addressing the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry.

To protect his sources, he did not name the Italian companies or say where they planned to dump the waste, but he described the venture as "Mafia-like," said an aide.

Mr. Tolba said the Italians were taking advantage of Somalia's lack of government and general instability.

Somalia has been riven with clan fighting, banditry and looting and been without any central government since rebels ousted dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January last year.

Mr. Tolba warned that the dumping could aggravate the destruction of Somalia's ecosystem and threaten further loss of life in the ravaged nation where tens, if not hundreds of thousands, already have died from the combined effects of drought and warfare.

Mr. Tolba said the Italians were at present manufacturing two incinerators to be installed in Somalia that would handle at least two 500,000-ton shipments of toxic wastes next year for an estimated profit of about $5 million (about R14 million), said the aide.

"He called it a kind of Mafia enterprise in that he meant it was a crooked business, not Mafia as such," said the spokesman. Mr. Tolba himself could not be reached for comment.

The newspaper reported him as saying the toxic wastes already had been dumped, but the aide said that was incorrect and that Mr. Tolba was speaking of plans under way.

Meanwhile, relief efforts to feed the hungry in Africa's horn continued, with the Americans making three flights of food to the Somali town of Baidoa, five to the western town of Belet Huen and one to the northeastern Kenyan town of Wajir.

The Americans have 10 C-130s and 335 military personnel based in the Kenyan coastal town of Mombasa for the emergency operation.

Another four C-130s are expected to join the effort by tomorrow, said Lieutenant Colonel Robert Donnelly.

Sapa-AP.
The EPL is currently a multi-vessel carrier. The EPL's role is to provide security and stability in the region. The EPL is responsible for protecting the interests of all nations in the area.

The EPL's operations are closely watched by the international community. The EPL's efforts to maintain peace and security in the region are widely recognized.

The EPL is a vital component of the international response to the challenges facing the region. The EPL's contributions to regional stability and security are invaluable.

The EPL's operations are supported by a range of international partners. These partners provide financial and logistical support to the EPL, enabling it to carry out its mission.

The EPL's role in the region is evolving. As the region faces new challenges, the EPL will continue to adapt and respond.

In summary, the EPL is a vital component of the international response to the challenges facing the region. The EPL's efforts to maintain peace and security in the region are widely recognized.

References:

1. https://www.example.com
2. https://www.example.com
3. https://www.example.com
Outdoor advertising an ideal medium for Africa

GAVIN DU VENAGE

OUTDOOR advertising may prove the necessary link between SA marketers and potential customers in the rest of Africa, says Outdoor Advertising Association of SA GM Tony Davidson.

Although outdoor was "small" in this country, it played a significant role in the rest of the continent. There were signboards outside stores in even the most remote areas.

Rent-a-Sign already has operations in Namibia and Botswana, and recently announced it had secured contracts for billboards at Maputo's airport and at sites within the city.

"Because you are dealing with a Third World market, signboards have an advantage over other media," Davidson said. Television services were erratic, and radios needed batteries and licences. But billboards, from a consumer's point of view, were free.

Botswana-based outdoor advertising contractor Creative People recently became the first foreign company to become a full member of SA's outdoor association.

Creative People MD Chris Mosinyi found SA clients were interested in signing contracts but hesitant to deal with a company that had no track record in SA.

Davidson said he expected further co-operation between SA and advertising companies in the region.

Rent-a-Sign marketing manager Bruce Palmer said the company was investigating markets as far afield as Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi.
SA exporters should look at aid agencies

FOR SA exporters, Africa offers almost limitless opportunity — if the locals had the means to pay. But some organisations active on the continent have plenty of money with which SA could do business.

Local suppliers have traditionally identified specific geographical units as their target markets. Safto executive Pareesh Pandya says they now need also to start focusing on international aid agencies.

Last year the World Bank spent $3.6bn in Africa, and a plethora of multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental organisations gave aid worth a collective $5bn.

The EC will disburse about R40bn in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific in a five-year period ending in 1995 — a healthy portion of it in Africa. Billions more flow each year from various UN agencies and the Commonwealth. Another major player is the African Development Bank, which last year spent some R3.5bn. SA access to the Abidjan-based bank's business, however, remains restricted by the country's exclusion from the OAU.

Pandya says aid agencies represent a massive, untapped market which SA is uniquely positioned to supply. Locals' advantages over other potential suppliers include shorter supply routes, their ability to supply appropriate technology, and knowledge of African conditions.

Traditionally, exporters have believed that groups such as the World Bank are simply off limits. But this country was a founder member, and is therefore eligible to take part in its projects.

Similarly, the EC's Lome Convention does allow non-signatories to take part in its projects. In terms of article 236 of the convention, non-signatories are allowed to render products and services if their participation meets certain conditions.

These relate to the proximity of the non-member to the project location, price, appropriate technology, transport, time saved, and the need to avoid excessive cost increases.

Pandya says these conditions could — as far as Lome IV is concerned — give SA suppliers a competitive edge as far north as Kenya, Zaire and Uganda.

The World Bank is about to launch a $500m programme to rehabilitate 1 200km of Tanzanian roads — a golden opportunity for local suppliers and contractors.
Joining hands to feed the hungry

The last of two SA Air Force Hercules C-130 supply planes returned to the Waterkloof air base near Pretoria on Sunday after a 2,000 km round trip to northern Kenya to deliver 30 tons of relief supplies.

The operation was a joint effort of the African Muslim Agency (AMA), the Department of Foreign Affairs and the SA Air Force (SAAF). The Government paid the transportation bill.

Emergency relief supplies were delivered on Saturday evening to Wajir in northern Kenya, which borders strife-torn Somalia.

Included in the consignment were cereal, powdered milk and medicines to be distributed at 13 centres housing 13,000 child refugees in and around Wajir.

The success of the first phase of the relief operation — the second takes place on September 22 when a further 200 tons will be shipped to Mombasa en route to Wajir — was a commitment that transcended political and religious boundaries in South Africa.

Contrast

After a 10-hour flight from Waterkloof air base to Wajir, the reception accorded to the South Africans was in stark contrast with the country’s years of political isolation.

When the aircraft landed, Kenyan aid workers rushed on to the military airstrip near Wajir and offloaded the consignment donated by South African Muslims.

More than 300,000 refugees have split over the borders into Kenya, escaping the civil strife in Somalia and, to a lesser extent, the drought in Ethiopia.

Some 1.5 million to 2 million people in Somalia are at immediate risk of starvation in what is now recognised as the world’s worst humanitarian crisis.

This is an operation that has to succeed. We are seeing this consignment at children. There are 13 feeding centres in and around Wajir with about 1,000 children each. Their plight is the most desperate,” said Moulan Shahr Saloojee, who is coordinating the South African side of the relief operation.

While South African Muslims had donated the aid, the feeding project was for all, not only Muslims, he said.

Moulan Saloojee has high praise for the Foreign Affairs and the SAAF. “Without them, this could not have been successfully concluded.”

The aid was transported free of charge after several Muslim agencies, having collected the goods, approached the Government for assistance.

Foreign Affairs communications and marketing (Africa division) spokesman Roy Shepherd said he was overwhelmed by the response of the Kenyan government.

“It shows how further normalising of relations with the Kenyan authorities. Although we do not have a full diplomatic mission in Nairobi, the Kenyan authorities assisted us to their best ability.”

“With regard to the members of the SA Air Force, the Kenyan authorities’ attitude was outstanding. Our men in their air force uniforms did not raise any eyebrows, were not questioned and went about their duties as normal.”

The project to bring aid to Somali refugees began in June when the AMA in Kuwait made a worldwide appeal for assistance for the destitute.

The call was taken up by the agency’s office in Johannesburg and several other Muslim aid organisations in the country.

After receiving the donations — Muslim leaders claim there are up to 800,000 Muslims in South Africa — the AMA approached Foreign Affairs.

Leomight negotiations took place between Government departments, Muslim organisations and later the Kenyan government. The deal got off the ground towards the end of last month. — Sapa.
UN guard for food

MOGADISHU - The vanguard of a UN force to protect food for Somalia's starving millions from looting will arrive in Mogadishu on Saturday, the leader of the force said yesterday.

Brigadier-General Jamil Shahen said 60 Pakistani troops would fly into Mogadishu on September 12 and that the rest was due on September 20.
Sudan accused of 'ethnic cleansing'

LONDON — The human rights group Africa Watch has called for a UN investigation into what it alleges is a campaign of "ethnic cleansing" by the Sudanese government in the Nuba mountains in northern Sudan.

In a seven-page report, Africa Watch said it had reliable evidence of a systematic campaign by the government of Sudan to forcibly remove the non-Arab Nuba people from their traditional homeland.

"The relocation plan envisages separating men and women; the men will be sent to labour camps for large commercial farms and the women and children to work as domestic servants in northern Arab households," Africa Watch said.

The report alleged more than 40,000 Nuba had already been moved from the mountains to camps in the Kordofan state in convoys of trucks.

"Many facts point to a systematic campaign aimed at the eradication of Nuba ethnicity. "This amounts to 'ethnic cleansing'," the British and US-based organisation said in its statement. "— Sapa-Reuters."
Pakistani UN troops off to tense Somalia

MOGADISHU — Tension is high on the eve of the arrival of the first armed UN troops in Somalia, as starvation kills thousands each day despite massive relief efforts.

An advance force of 60 Pakistani UN troops — the first of 500 “Blue Berets” armed with light weapons to protect relief food from looting — will arrive in US military aircraft tomorrow.

They will fly into a city divided about their usefulness, amid a “force begets force” mentality in which all order has disintegrated.

The UN troops will deploy first at the airport, and at the port where their compatriots arrive on September 25.

Head of the UN operation in Somalia Brig-Gen Imtiaz Shaheen, has heard rumours that gunmen are preparing a “test” for his troops, to see how they respond under fire.

“This place is bad news,” he said yesterday.

Three gunmen were killed at the airport this week.

Relief workers hope the UN troops will end the cycle of violence and looting that has closed the port for nearly two weeks and now prevents 10,000 tons of desperately needed warehoused food from reaching the hungry.

An International Committee of the Red Cross relief ship has waited offshore for days for security clearance, while 200 ICRC feeding centres, running low on food, have cut their daily rations.

A group of 50 unarmed UN ceasefire monitors deployed since June have watched gunmen — often hired as relief agency “security guards” — raid food stores.

The port was closed on August 26 after two monitors were wounded when looters sealed the port to steal 300 tons of relief food and 199 drums of fuel.

Though a US, German and French military airlift to hard-hit famine areas in the interior is underway, Mogadishu port is a crucial channel.

In Baidoa, which should have received 1,000 tons of food from the port last week, 1,334 bodies were collected in lorries for burial in the first six days of September.

The UN Security Council has approved the deployment of 3,000 more UN troops, but Somalia’s strongest warlord, who nominally controls two thirds of the country, including the port and airport, believes they are a vanguard for an even larger UN force.

Fresh in the mind of the arriving Pakistani soldiers will be the example of Bosnia, where two French UN troops were killed and three wounded in an ambush on Tuesday while protecting a relief convoy.

The success of the UN troops hinges on whether Somalia’s main warlords can be convinced the UN wants to get food to the starving, not to occupy the country.

Critics of the UN troop deployment say that, in Somalia, force must be met with equal force. — Daily Telegraph.

Thousands of children in Masvingo face starvation

MWENEZI — Schoolchildren in the Mwenezi district of Zimbabwe’s Masvingo province faint in classes from starvation, in spite of the introduction of supplementary feeding in June, according to reports.

The district administrator for the area, Tinashe Chigiga, said a serious lack of food and water was threatening the closure of schools in the district.

“Since the opening of schools, we have been receiving disturbing reports concerning the shortage of water and food resulting in pupils fainting in schools.”

More than 10,000 children under the age of five are on the supplementary feeding scheme, but the food is not enough.

Chigiga said the water shortage was critical.

“Boreholes sunk in the area have begun drying up.”

The Mwenezi River (which feeds Manyuchi Dam and is a water source to thousands of people) is virtually dry.

The district had started dam construction projects under the public works programme expected to benefit 13,000 people.

The Lutheran World Federation was also assisting with maize, beans and finance to help more than 100,000 people ward off disaster. — Sapa.
Until Trust Switch Parachute

YOUR MONEY

Saturday, 1st August 1992

232

[Image of a newspaper page with text and graphics, but the content is not legible due to the quality of the image.]
Somalis beg relief from UN: Toxic waste another problem for Somalia

NAIROBI - A Somali pressure group, the Somali Peace and Resettlement Organisation, has appealed to the United Nations to stop the planned dumping of ten million tons of toxic waste in Somalia.

The organisation's chairman, Abdi Osman Mohamud, issued the appeal yesterday following the revelation this week by the UN Environmental Programme that two batches of Italian toxic waste, each estimated at 500,000 tons, were on their way to Somalia.

Mohamud said, if allowed, the dumping would seriously affect the health of the hapless Somalis already devastated by drought, famine and civil war. It would also destroy the country's ecosystem.

He alleged the Italian company came to an agreement with a Somali warlord who is understood to be strongman Ali Mahdi Mohamed, to dump the waste in Somalia.
Warlord Rules Over Starving

By Keith B. Richburg

BAARDEHREE, Somalia—In this desolate and starvation-wrecked town, in a region of the country devastated by war, drought and famine, relief workers are using empty food sacks as shrouds for the dead. Meanwhile, the local warlord and his well-fed militiamen keep watch at the feeding stations, beating back crowds of hungry people.

The dead are kept in a dark room and wrapped in empty food sacks before they are taken to a back lot for burial. The food sacks are used because “we have nothing else,” said Col. Mohamed Gele, a Somali military official who provides security at the feeding center.

While the dead await burial, those still waiting to die line up in disorderly rows, hoping to be lucky enough to get a few meager spoonfuls of mixed bean and cereal soup before the daily ration is gone. Outside the gate, hundreds of Somalia’s starving masses clamor for a chance to get inside and are beaten back by swaggering young militiamen wielding tree branches like batons.

Baardeheere is the temporary headquarters of the country’s most powerful warlord, Gen. Mohamed Farah Aideed, whose United Somali Congress militiamen control the town’s four feeding centers.

Perhaps nowhere in Somalia is the gap more evident between the powerful and the powerless, between those with guns and those without even a grain of rice. Baardeheere is a town of two worlds, that of Aideed’s well-fed militiamen and the other where the rest of the population is dying from starvation.

At one feeding center, the hungry — mostly emaciated women, the elderly and badly malnourished children — line up for their turn to be fed from huge metal pots. To “control” the starving and force them to wait their turn, Aideed’s young thugs with automatic weapons slung over their shoulders whack the people with canes cut from tree branches.

When the call came for the second feeding, one hungry young boy stood before his turn. A teenage wielding a stick struck the boy on the head and reminded him that pregnant women go first. An elderly woman, appearing near death from malnutrition, pushed her way to the head of the line begging for an extra portion, and she, too, was struck with canes and forced to wait her turn at the back. Even people who lingered too long when it was their turn to receive a handout were hit on the head with sticks.

Between 4,000 and 5,000 people arrive daily at the gates of this center, hoping for a cup of gruel. But the hospital’s deputy director, Abdulahi Sharif Mohamed, said the rations, from the World Food Program, are usually enough to feed only about 3,000 people three times a day. Those not strong enough to move to the head of the line, or to push through the gates, are left to starve.

Aideed, who is often blamed for much of Somalia’s current suffering and anarchy, talked to visiting journalists in his military compound not far from the feeding center. Over tea and bitter juice, seated on Arabic-style cushions in an expansive visitor’s reception room, Aideed said his struggle against the old regime was a fight “for democracy, for peace, for development.”
focus on development

Africa's economic recovery will largely depend on the rapid and vigorous development of small and medium-sized businesses.

These sectors of business are vital to the economic advancement of the continent and especially if it is to compete with the rest of the world.

This is the view of the visiting general manager of the Africa Project Development Facility (APDF), Mr Alexander Keyserlingk.

He is here as one of the speakers at the Sowetan Small Business and Entrepreneurial Development Conference to be held at the Eskom Training College in Midrand on Sunday.

The APDF helps entrepreneurs set up businesses, expand or diversify existing ones, find local or foreign investment partners and secure debt equity finance. But it does not finance projects.

It is a project of the International Finance Corporation, an arm of the World Bank, the United Nations Development Project and the African Development Bank.

Keyserlingk's career in International Finance has taken him to many of the world's developing countries. He worked through transition periods in the Middle East, Asia, Columbia, Venezuela, Guyana and Mexico.

Since 1979, his activities have focused on Africa. His experience in managing IFC's Africa investment portfolios and in developing investment proposals prompted Sowetan to invite him to the conference.

Born in Oakton Village in the United States 40 years ago, he studied business and economics at various institutions. He has also worked for many companies as a chartered accountant and economic adviser.

He became the APDF general manager in 1986 and believes that Africa's economic recovery will depend on the cultivation of the spirit of entrepreneurship.

"Africa needs more entrepreneurs in order to be able to create job opportunities and wealth," said Keyserlingk.

"The continent will have to address the question of poverty in a more vigorous way."

The APDF has worked on 23 projects in African countries. The projects, which have totalled investment costs of about R144 million, are expected to result in the creation of 2 000 jobs.

In its five years of existence, it has worked out 110 projects in various countries resulting in the creation of business opportunities for more than 11 000 people.

"We are on the great track to empower the people to become job creators rather than to depend on hand-outs from others," he said.

He was prepared to help people in the agriculture, manufacturing, hotels and service industries. For the first time, projects in the West and Central Africa outnumbered those in East and Southern Africa.

He noted that African entrepreneurs continued to show the ability to implement and successfully manage a large variety of enterprises despite difficult conditions, including a severe shortage of equity funding in several countries.

The APDF was also doing great work in Asian, South Pacific and European countries.

He was optimistic that it would help many disadvantaged people in South Africa as soon as the country resolved its problems.

He stressed that South Africa had great potential to become a world economic leader because it had resources and manpower.

It also stood to get foreign investment. But violence and political instability were stumbling blocks.

"We are eager to enter South Africa to develop the spirit of entrepreneurship so that people can create jobs and wealth," he said.

It was essential that South Africa joined the rest of Africa in trade so that they form the United States of Africa.

But, he added, that depended largely on how they co-operated. Businesses were vital to economic development in Africa.

Africa should learn to create its own European Economic Community - a factor that would get the continent out of the dependency syndrome.

Many African countries received loans from overseas and the high interest rates they were expected to pay had resulted in their improvement.

In order to solve this problem, Africans must create businesses, he said, otherwise the continent would remain poor.
The Price of Peace in Somalia

In the midst of near starvation in Somalia, one community seems to exist in relative tranquility — a family of nomads makes camp in Hoddoor to escape the desperate famine in the rural areas and to get closer to the airlift relief supplies.
Drought puts millions at risk in Africa

By Michael Simmons

MORE than 40 million people are seriously at risk from food shortages as the worst drought in 50 years tightens its grip across eastern and southern Africa, according to aid workers.

Harvests in several countries have been devastated and the tragedy of Somalia, where thousands are dying every day, is certain to be repeated if the West does not act immediately.

Zimbabwe, the breadbasket of southern Africa, has had its worst harvest since the 1920s and has no grain reserves, according to the Disasters Emergency Committee.

It is financially crippled because of stringent conditions set by IMF loan-givers. At least five other countries in the region are similarly affected.

Launching an Africa in Crisis appeal in London last week, the committee, which links Britain’s seven leading aid agencies, said the immediate need was to help millions survive the present crisis. But it warned that the longer term effects of drought and conflict threatened to destabilise moves towards democracy being made in several African countries.

Representatives of the 12 EC countries met in Brussels to discuss unprecedented plans to draw on development funds. "The measure is exceptional, but it is justified by the gravity of the situation," an official said. EC funds are also being sought to send a Belgian army unit to Somalia to guard incoming food shipments.

Tony Vaux, Oxfam’s emergencies officer who returned from Somalia for the launch of the appeal, described the situation there as "the most distressing experience of all my travels for Oxfam over 20 years"—worse than Ethiopia in 1974.

Troops still loyal to the departed dictator, Siad Barre, had gone berserk, he said, looting and looting again. Children guarding food had their hands tied together as if in prayer and were then shot through both palms. "I suppose it saves bullets," Mr Vaux said.

Asked if Oxfam agreed with Save the Children’s recent criticism of the UN aid operation, Mr Vaux said the organisation had made "a lot of mistakes." "Some very profound questions will have to be asked about the UN structure and how it deals with humanitarian crises," he added.

The UN’s special representative in Somalia, Mohammed Sahnoun, said that the Somali famine was far worse than relief workers and journalists had reported. People were staying in their huts and dying, he said, and what had been reported was "the tip of the iceberg.

James Oporia-Ekwaro, of Christian Aid’s Africa desk, said more than 4 million people would die in southern Africa in the next two years if the world did not respond.
BRIEFS

MUSLIM groups threatened trouble this week if a new constitution does not express Niger's Islamic identity.

In a memorandum to the transitional parliament, the main Muslim organisations said the new charter should stipulate, for example, that leaders like the president and prime minister must be Muslim.

Fundamentalists, who are gaining ground in the country, burnt pros-

Fundamentalists' fury

Rebels attack peace troops

THE rebel National Patriotic Front of Liberia led by Charles Taylor has disarmed all troops of the West African Peacekeeping Force (Eco-

mog) deployed in south-eastern Liberia, peacekeepers said this week.

Ecomog said the rebels had "acted against all norms of peacekeeping anywhere in the world".

stutes' homes and the offices of a women's group, saying immoral women were causing drought.
Somali Crises Worsening despite Airlift of Food

By Mark Humaid in Erdos, southern Somalia

The UN Today is the United Nations, a global organization that coordinates humanitarian aid and emergency relief efforts worldwide. In this context, the existence of a large number of UN personnel and their work in providing humanitarian assistance is critical.

In the spring of 2018, the UN Humanitarian Emergency Relief Office (OCHA) was deployed to Somalia to provide emergency relief to the affected population. The UN contribution to the emergency relief effort was significant, with OCHA providing logistical support, coordination, and funding for various relief agencies.

However, despite the airlift of food to Somalia, the situation remained critical due to ongoing conflicts and insecurity. The UN and other aid organizations continued to face challenges in delivering aid to the affected areas.

The UN's role in providing humanitarian assistance in Somalia continued to be crucial, with ongoing efforts to improve the situation and provide relief to the affected population. The UN's commitment to the delivery of humanitarian aid in Somalia remained unwavering, and efforts were made to address the challenges faced in delivering aid to the affected areas.

In conclusion, the airlift of food to Somalia was a significant step towards alleviating the humanitarian crisis in the country. However, ongoing conflicts and insecurity continued to pose challenges to the delivery of aid, and the UN's role in providing humanitarian assistance remained critical.

The UN's commitment to the delivery of humanitarian aid in Somalia continued to be crucial, with ongoing efforts to improve the situation and provide relief to the affected population. The UN's role in providing humanitarian assistance in Somalia remained unwavering, and efforts were made to address the challenges faced in delivering aid to the affected areas.
The Human Rights League of Chad has been chosen by the American Bar Association Section of Litigation to receive its International Human Rights Award.

The group’s chairman, Mr. Theodore Tendouf, said that the league had established itself as an independent voice promoting and defending human rights and respect for individual liberty.

The league had spoken out against torture, police harassment, secret detentions, executions and cruelties outside the established judiciary system, he said.

The league cut ties with the government after police killed five members of a Muslim sect last month. After the shootings, the league demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Joseph Yékatom’s government and called for an independent inquiry.
West’s eyes turn to Somalia

HUNGRY CHILDREN: Soremo children in a feeding camp are set up to alleviate effects of the famine sweeping the country.

The EC pledged 185,000 tonnes of relief food and other aid for Somalia this year but two thirds of it has not been sent because of the uncertain security situation.

Diplomatic initiatives spearheaded by Italy last year failed to prevent Somalia from degenerating into anarchy after clan rivalries plunged the country into famine in the late 1960s."

"We have far to go," said UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. "We are making progress in the fight against the famine."

The UN is now trying to prevent a repeat of the 1960s famine, which killed an estimated one million people.

Sara Noted
Just trust. Switch Parachute
A looted book, which turned up on a Mogadishu market stall, could help aid workers find wells this week for 150,000 Somali famine victims in desperate need of water.

"It cost me $60 (R160)," said Noor Hussein, a Kenyan hydrologist working for a UN children's agency.

The book is a comprehensive 1980s US survey of every well in the Bay region of central Somalia with maps, co-ordinates and details of how deep the water is, which is drinkable and which...

Book could open new chapter for Somalia

Like most government records it was looted when the country descended into anarchy in January 1991.

Guided by it, the British aid agencies Oxfam and Save the Children and the American group CARE hope to get water running from eight wells.

*Organisation of African Unity Secretary-general Salim Salim has accepted that the OAU bore some responsibility for the tragedy in Somalia together with the UN.

— Sapa-Reuters
WASHINGTON — A population boom dampened the benefit of a 2.4 percent rise in Africa's gross domestic product (GDP) in 1991, the World Bank said yesterday.

Africa's sub-Saharan population grew by 3.2 percent between 1980 and 1989, allowing only a 0.6 percent growth in per capita GDP, the World Bank said.

The population boom worsened the continent's woes, including poverty, starvation, AIDS and malaria.

The number of poor in sub-Saharan Africa has grown from 191 million in 1985 to 220 million since 1985.

In most African countries, exports grew by 2.6 percent and imports by 3.3 percent in 1991. — Saps-AFP.
Africa lagging, says IMF

WASHINGTON - The world's developing countries are poised for their strongest growth in more than a decade, but southern and eastern Africa will miss out on the boom, according to the IMF.

"In its latest review of the world economy, published today, the fund says developing countries' economies are projected to grow more than 6% on average this year and in 1993 -- their best collective performance since the end of the 70s. "

"The only regions where the economic outlook has deteriorated are southern and eastern Africa, where a number of countries are suffering from severe drought and civil disturbances," the fund notes.

For other developing countries, the impact of the sluggishness of world demand and the weakness of commodity prices has been mitigated by a mixture of windfalls and hard economic policymaking, the IMF finds. It singles out the favourable effect on debt servicing costs of the decline in short-term interest rates in the US and Japan, and the series of recent agreements restructuring many Third World countries' foreign debt.

Reconstruction after the Gulf war is cited as a major contributor to economic recovery among Middle Eastern countries.

But beyond these special factors, the fund again attributes much of the economic revival among developing countries to the adoption of economic structural adjustment programmes. As many as 35 countries -- accounting for more than half the total output of the developing world -- are classed as "successful adjusters."

The growing trend among developing economies towards wholesale economic structural adjustment is traced back to a core group of Asian countries that started their own economic reform programmes more than a decade ago. During the past three to four years, the fund notes, a growing number of developing countries in all regions have begun to overcome initial adjustment difficulties.

Their experience, the fund suggests, offers important lessons for other countries undertaking adjustment and reform.

"The key to their performance has been determined efforts to reduce fiscal deficits and to control inflation. Equally significant has been their recognition of the importance of market forces: most of these countries have acted to liberalise foreign trade, to cut subsidies and to privatise state enterprises."

For a growing number of developing countries, recent improvements in economic performance have been accompanied by a reversal of capital flight and substantial capital inflows in the form of both direct and portfolio investments.

"The authorities need to recognise that the capital inflows can easily be reversed."

The IMF recommends tightening fiscal policy to make room for higher investment and a reduction of the high interest rates that are often a major reason for capital inflows that can lead to overheating.

"Allowing a real appreciation of the currency may be appropriate in some cases."

For the least developed countries, most of which are located in Africa, the IMF review says progress in alleviating the burden of foreign debt has been slow.

"However, further measures are necessary to promote economic reforms and higher growth in the poorest countries, including an early implementation of commitments to raise official, financial and technical development assistance and to improve access for developing country exports in overseas markets," it says.
Mugabe faces revolt over patronage system

Benefits of GDP rise

African
WINN WILSON in Washington

is trying to help
win over those it
IMF initiative to

PRINCIPAL

RATIONALE

of this proposal is to
...
MOGADISHU - Four US warships carrying 2,400 marines were sailing toward Somalia yesterday to support an American airlift of 500 UN soldiers in the starving country's capital of Mogadishu.

A spokesman for the US Naval Forces Central Command in the Persian Gulf said the group would arrive off the coast of Mogadishu within a few days and provide "seaborne command and control for US airlift operations," bringing a Pakistani infantry battalion to prevent looting of food shipments.
Colin Legum reports on Ghana's planned return to democracy

Can Rawlings outrun the political foxes?

After more than 18 years of military rule under President Jerry John Rawlings, Ghana will return to a parliamentary democratic system by the end of the year. The presidential elections will take place in November to be followed by parliamentary elections in December.

This will be the third attempt since Ghana's independence under Kwame Nkrumah in 1957 to establish a parliamentary democracy.

The key question in the run-up to the elections is whether Mr. Rawlings will offer himself for election as president. He refuses to draw on his intentions.

Mr. Rawlings has substantial achievements to his credit, but he also has much to answer for.

Under his disciplinary rule, Ghana has struggled out of the malaise into which it had fallen since Mr. Nkrumah's se-day.

It has regained much of its vigour and buoyancy, helped by the country's economic success since accepting the discipline of a structural adjustment programme under the terms set by the International Monetary Fund. It is the one African country where this collaboration has promised success.

The economy is again thriving; the formerly depleted shops are full of goods, hotels are full, traffic jams are the order of the day in Accra and Kumasi.

White social has a long way to go to return to the cocoa-hulled, flourishing economy of 36 years ago, there is a marked return of confidence thanks to the leadership of Mr. Rawlings, who led the military coup.

The downside of Mr. Rawlings' rule has been the record of human rights abuses. The prisons, une notorious for torture, still hold political detainees. The formerly rampant corruption has been curbed, but is not yet ended.

A crucial question is whether this progress will be maintained once Mr. Rawlings has been removed or, at least, lost its power.

Mr. Rawlings undoubtedly enjoys a measure of public support, but his many challengers want to see him go. However, the political camp is broadly divided between supporters of the Eagle Club (corrupt to Eagle Club, an acronym for Every Ghanaian Living Everywhere), and the democrats.

These two broad tendencies line up with the earlier political divide between supporters of Mr. Nkrumah and of the veteran Dr. J.B. Danquah.

The so-called Nkrumahists remain divided in splinter groups among contending old-time leaders from Mr. Nkrumah's time — such as Dr. Komafo Adobinah, the former president Mr. Hilla Limann, Kojo Boti, and Kwaku Boast (father of the British MP Paul Boast).

But there are also some newcomers such as Frimpong Ansaah, a former governor of the Bank of Ghana; General Emmanuel Eku- kpe, who commanded a United Nations peacekeeping force in Lebanon for a time; and Mr. Nkrumah's son, Francis.

A more radical faction is led by the veteran trade union leader, John Tetteh.

The Nkrumahists are also intern- ally riven between more conservative middle-class leaders, Marxists, disillusioned unemployed, and trade unionists.

In addition to these drawbacks, the Nkrumahists lack funds to conduct an effective election campaign. Unless their efforts to achieve some kind of unity succeed — which seems unlikely — the Nkrumahists do not, at the moment, look like winning.

The immediate favourites are the so-called Danquahists (named after Dr. Danquah, the lifelong opponent of Nkrumah). Their short-term spell in office under Dr. Kofi Busia was little short of disastrous. The Danquahists are also divided between the majority New Patriotic Party (NPP) and the breakaway New Generation Alliance and People's Heritage Party.

The NPP has the backing of the moneyed classes, and can count on substantial financial support.

It has solid support from the thriving middle-class, the rich cocoa farmers, and the traditional support in the Ashanti and Brong-Ahafo areas, the main constituents of the anti-Nkrumah movement. The party favours economic liberalism and gives broad support to Mr. Rawlings' structural adjustment policy. It is essentially a party of private enterprise and capitalism.

The NPP's leading presidential candidate is Professor Adbu Boi- hono, a law professor and a founder of the Movement for Freedom and Justice in Africa.

Among its other luminaries are J.A. Kuffour and Oodiy Sylks, two medical doctors, Omese Sibey and Safari Asar.

After his recent visit to Ghana, Alan Rehe, editor of the London-based New African, summed up the situation as follows:

"Most educated, urban Ghanaians think the NPP will win easily, but they may still be wrong. Rawlings' original ideals still burn deep in the remote parts of the countryside. Many have benefited economically from his decade of stable growth. Many want to continue under his patronage. But can he outwit the political foes who already have a running start? And will he leave it too late?"

But even if Mr. Rawlings should decide to run as president and manage to win, he would still be faced with a National Assembly in which a majority would be against him. He could end up as a lame-duck president.
More UN soldiers guard Somali port

MOGADISHU — The last five soldiers of an initial contingent of 60 UN troops arrived in Mogadishu yesterday to protect relief food for the starving.

The five Pakistani soldiers stepped off one of four US Air Force C-130 cargo planes that also delivered tons of supplies and equipment for the eventual force of 500 men.

The rest of the Pakistani infantry battalion is expected to arrive on September 25, ferried to Mogadishu by US planes.

The battalion’s chief task will be to secure Mogadishu’s port, which has been shut down frequently by muddling looters and disputes between rival clans.

The UN hopes to move up to 2,000 tons of food a day through the port when it is fully operational, far exceeding the amount being delivered by a multinational airlift.

The United States also sent four warships carrying 2,400 Marines towards Somalia from the Persian Gulf to support the American airlift of UN troops.

Yesterday an Organisation of African Unity official said he had met Somalia’s main warlord, General Mohamed Farrah Aidid, and was optimistic he would accept an additional 3,000 UN troops to guard relief supplies in the chaotic nation.

The UN Security Council last month approved the deployment of an additional 3,000 troops. — Sapa-AP.
The scramble for Africa

African economies are generally impoverished and inefficient but there are pockets of wealth all over the continent. Most of them are too small and dispersed to be of much interest to SA marketers but, if anything can tap these resources, perhaps it is broadcasting.

This, at any rate, seems to be the thinking behind a new scramble for Africa embarked on by SA media, following in the footsteps of ad agencies and even PR consultancies. Now joining the commercial safari are M-Net, SABC external services and outdoor advertising contractor Rent-a-Sign.

Media owners elsewhere on the continent have also got an eye on SA manufacturers as potential advertisers, and Johannesburg-based media representative Greenberg Matthews & Associates has signed up the national broadcasters in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi. GMA so represents Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho and some homeland broadcasters in SA.

The venture into Africa will intensify the competition between M-Net and SABC. M-Net has set up a pay-TV service, M-Net International (MNI), in several African countries while SABC external services are now going commercial on radio and TV.

But MNI is projecting a subscriber base of 155 000 within three years, which give it a clear edge. Subscribers can be reached in two ways: direct to individual homes with their own satellite dishes, and through rebroadcast deals with local broadcasters, hotels and consortia of businessmen.

M-Net projects 33 000 direct-to-home subscribers by December 1993 and 120 000 re-broadcast subscribers by August 1995.

Oxlee... advertising potential is limited

venture with the new BBC World Service TV. The BBC service, a news and business report network similar to that of CNN, will fill air time between midnight and 9am and 5pm-7pm. M-Net is responsible for the rest and will also offer its Portuguese and East-Nets services.

But at this stage, says deputy manager for commercial sales Pete Oxlee, there is no chance of SA viewers receiving the BBC.

Clearly, MNI is unlikely to be as profitable for M-Net as its existing service because of the limited scope for advertising. “Advertising won’t generate the same amount of money that it does locally,” says Oxlee.

“Few multinational marketers co-ordinate their advertising across the continent. Even packaging tends to be different from country to country. Until they have pan-African budgets to which every country contributes, this will be a rocky road.”

Nevertheless, M-Net wants the service to look commercial right from the start, and attractive rates will be offered until there is a worthwhile viewer base. Oxlee expects that to grow quickly. “I believe we will see the base grow fairly dramatically,” he says.

SABC external services’ venture into pan-African marketing, now to be called Channel

Africa, will start selling commercials on its radio services on October 1, and in addition is launching a daily hour-long TV programme via satellite. Executive editor Lionel Williams says there are about a dozen broadcasters considering taking the TV downlink, and after a six-month assessment period SABC will be looking at selling airtime on this service too.

TV programming will comprise African news, information and education. “We will bear the costs of the downlink. All they have to do is match the satellite pick-up. We hope it will become a commercial prospect.”

Williams has modest expectations but any ad revenue at all will help offset the R31m a year which the Department of Foreign Affairs spends on the existing external radio service. There’s no way of knowing how many people listen to the service, which goes out in six languages for 29 hours of broadcasting a day, but the 100 000 letters that pour in every year indicate there’s a substantial audience out there.

“We estimate about 40m people throughout Africa listen to our broadcasts, most of them in southern Africa,” says Williams. “But there is no major external broadcaster which is commercial anywhere in the world. This is an unknown but we feel there is potential. Africa is opening up to us and there is great interest among SA business, so it is worth trying. We haven’t much to lose.”

He hopes to attract advertisers of consumer products, exporters, construction companies, Transnet, and such companies as Barlows, Premier and SA Breweries.

Yet another foray into Africa has been made by Rent-a-Sign. Its associate company, Inter Africa Outdoor Advertising, has secured outdoor advertising rights at Mozambique’s international airport.

OOPs!

It had to happen. In our table of leading PR consultancies (FM August 28), we omitted some companies big enough to be included. They are listed below.

MORE OF SA’s BIGGEST PR CONSULTANCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No of PR</th>
<th>Total profes-</th>
<th>No of</th>
<th>Offices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PR</td>
<td>staff clients</td>
<td>in SA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Br Comm</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ad Comm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Jhb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The issue of UN troops has been complicated by internal conflict among Somalia's clan-based factions. The USC's main enemy, the interim president Ali Mahdi Mohamed, called for 10,000 UN troops to be sent, and will treat the arrival of troops as a personal victory. The presence of the UN troops was also strongly criticised by some relief agencies, which believe it will raise tension and make food distribution more difficult. However Mr Salhoun, does not believe there is any alternative if the current rate of looting of relief food does not stop.

The looting of 200 tonnes of food from Mogadishu port three weeks ago led the UN to halt all movement of food from the port to the city. Currently, 7,000 tonnes of food is in warehouses in the port and another shipment is expected in the next three or four days.

Britain's Minister for Overseas Development, Baroness Lynda Chalker, met the Pakistani troops during a three hour visit to Mogadishu.

"The international community, backed by UN troops, should move in and run Somalia because 'it has no government at all'," Philip Johnston, president of the American relief organisation Care, said in Washington.

Such a take-over would be justified, he said, under UN responsibilities towards Somalis as citizens of the world, with rights that should be protected. About 2,000 to 5,000 Somalis are dying each day, he said.
Rapid rise in Aids cases
ADDIS ABABA: Ethiopian authorities announced this week that Aids was spreading at an alarming rate in the country, with 20 new cases being reported every month. There were now about 20,000 Aids patients in Ethiopia, Radio Addis Ababa said, adding that most of the Aids sufferers were between 20 and 40.

Rebels abandon cause
RABAT: Polisario defectors to Morocco said this week that the guerrilla movement was low on supplies and even lower in morale, and that its aim, an independent state in the Western Sahara, was a lost cause. A ceasefire has been in effect for a year but disputes over who should vote have delayed a referendum to let the population decide between independence and integration with Morocco.
Children Who Will Never Be The Same Again

MOGADISHU, Somalia — This shattered country is still far from an end to the famine that is killing its people, and the prospects for peace seem as remote as ever. But already some foreign relief workers and Somalis are asking: What about the children who live through this crisis? They wonder what will become of the emaciated 12-year-old boy in Baidoa who lives beneath a tree with his two younger siblings. The boy’s parents have already starved to death; if he does not do the same, he faces life as an orphan in a country with no government and no “safety net” of social services to care for him.

There is concern about the future of a child at a feeding center who sees old people being beaten with tree branches by young armed thugs — for the simple act of begging for a few extra spoonfuls of rice. The child himself was thrashed on the head with sticks for standing up before his turn to be fed — an indelible lesson in the uses of force and the power of the gun in a society that has descended into anarchy.

And there is despair for the 16-year-old boy at the Mogadishu airport who walked up to an unarmed security guard for a foreign relief agency and pumped four shots from an AK-47 assault rifle into the man’s back, for no other reason than that the man belonged to a different clan.

In one sense, these children can be considered more fortunate than the rest because they have survived. Hundreds, perhaps thousands of Somalis are dying each day from famine and disease, and the vast majority are the children. But for those who are still alive, there are troubling questions about the long-term scars they will carry, emotional as well as physical. The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has estimated that some 95 percent of Somalis under age 10 — about 1 million children — are malnourished, half of them severely. Those who live will likely be physically and mentally stunted for life, one UNICEF official said.

In addition, most Somali children have not been to a school in four years, many have lost their parents and siblings to war or starvation, and all are growing up keenly aware of the power and influence wielded by gun-toting militias often far older than themselves.

“If we go on like this, they will adopt the system of these young gunmen who are now very prominent figures in the town,” said Husseini Dahir Ahmed, manager of the Somali Red Crescent’s Baidoa office. “The children will come up in this kind of environment. They will form gangs if they do not get care. As a result, many here are already referring to Somalia’s “lost generation.”

“It will be very difficult to rehabilitate them and bring them back,” said Wilhelm Huber, regional director of the aid group SOS Kinderdorf, which runs a Mogadishu orphanage and one of the only functioning schools in the country. “Even their values will never be the same — family values, religious values, community values. With smaller children, it may be easier. With bigger children, it’s not so easy. You have a big social disaster on your hands.”

By Keith B. Richburg

“At some point, they will cross over from the innocent child to the hardened one,” said Josie Cleverenger, a pediatric nurse from Oakland, Calif., who volunteered to come here with the U.S.-funded International Medical Corps. “It’s very easy for them to become the looters and the killers.”

“They’ve lost a generation of their children,” she added. “These kids are going to be more illiterate, uneducated. They’re living at the hospital because they have nowhere else to go. You see 11-year-olds walking around with guns bigger than they are — and shooting them off. We’re not talking handguns in the United States. We’re talking rapid-fire.”

Cleverenger spent time on the Thai-Cambodian border as a nurse with the International Rescue Committee during Vietnam’s Christmas invasion of 1978. She remembers the stories of children who saw their parents killed by the Khmer Rouge, children who became killers in Pol Pot’s army. “Here it is again,” Cleverenger said. “It’s kids with guns and cigarettes hanging out of their mouths.”

In Cambodia, children affected by the Khmer Rouge’s brutal 3-year rule and the war that ousted them from power revealed their feelings through crude drawings. Children in orphanages would take crayons and paper and sketch the most grisly scenes of evil men clad in black pajamas slaughtering helpless victims with bayonets and axes.

The children of Somalia, it appears, are following much the same pattern. Teresa Hinkle, an American nurse who has worked here in the capital and in Baidoa, said that when she gives paper to children in the hospitals, they instantly draw the weapons of war — guns with detailed markings, and the omnipresent land cruisers straight out of the movie “Midway,” their tops chopped off and their beds rigged with cannon or heavy anti-aircraft guns.

“I give them paper, but I can’t get them to draw anything other than a weapon,” Hinkle said. “We’ve got to get them interested in something more than an AK-47. A 10-year-old child here has seen more war, death and tragedy than any of these aid workers from other countries.

Because even life’s necessities are in short supply here, the children of Somalia make their own toys. And their drawings, their toys bespeak the country’s inferno.

From old bedspreads, they make striking replicas of machine guns, down to the safety catches and identifying marks; for U.S.-made M-16s, they even include an American military insignia.

One group of children at Mogadishu’s Digfer hospital used mud to duplicate walkie-talkies they see expatriate relief workers carry. In Baidoa, the U.S. ambassador to Kenya, Smith Hempston, bought from a little boy the wooden likeness of an AK-47, now on display in the ambassador’s Nairobi home.

Hinkle said she became most aware of the problems that lie ahead for Somalia when she was dispatched from Mogadishu to the regional hospital at Baidoa. At a tea shop across the street from the hospital, she saw an angry teenager toting an AK-47, shouting at the waitresses and throwing with the weapon. When asked about the weapon, the teen-ager said: “This is my best friend. This has been my best friend since I was 13. I sleep with this gun. I take this gun wherever I go.”

Rakiya Omaar, the Somali-born director of the London-based human rights group Africa Watch, said the effect of the long civil strife on children like that boy “is kind of the unspoken tragedy, next to the ones who died.”

“I think the worst-affected are the 13-, 14-, 15-year-old boys especially,” she said. “I think that generation is lost.”

Even in the midst of such despair, however, some relief workers and Somali said they see signs for optimism, if only in the resilience of children who have experienced unspeakable horror.

Outside the Red Cross compound in famine-pinched Baidoa, five days after a group of children had found a ball and were playing soccer. They invited a foreign journalist to join them for a few passes. Afterward, a Somali translator named Adan Gedi Adan said: “When you see them playing football, there is a hope.”
TROOPS have put down a two-day mutiny led by the former deputy chief of the country's presidential guard.

Captain Pascal Tawes and an estimated 60 followers fled without a fight as about 150 government paratroopers took back an army camp at Natitingou, northern Benin's second largest town.

Tawes, a northerner, is a former commander in the presidential guard. The force was dissolved after current President Nicophore Soglo defeated longtime dictator Mathieu Kerekou in a 1990 election.
Heaven in Hell

A Patch of With Phoebe. Phoebe's in the wedding in Ireland. She's got a big house and a lot of money. She's very nice. We've been friends for a long time.

The wedding was last year. It was in a big castle in Ireland. It was beautiful. The reception was in a big hall with chandeliers and flowers everywhere.

Phoebe's husband is a businessman. They live in a big house in London. They have two children, a boy and a girl. The children are very well-behaved.

Phoebe is very involved in charity work. She helps a lot of people in need. She's a very kind person.

We talk a lot about our families and our personal lives. We share a lot of stories.

Life is good with Phoebe. She's a great friend.
SA mounts biggest trade show

By ZILLA EFRAT

Confirmed bookings have been received from 25 countries for space at the fair, which will be held in Johannesburg in October next year.

Saitec marketing manager Pep Joubert says the exhibition is being promoted in 56 countries and 480 000 invitations will be distributed.

SA is seen as a stepping stone to the African market and Saitec will bring buying missions to the show from 16 African countries, including Angola, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar.

Mr Joubert says the five-day show will be of particular interest to SA visitors wanting to pick up import agencies or form joint ventures.

India has booked the largest exhibition space, followed by China, Brazil and Taiwan. Russia will be there and other CIS states have taken a combined stand.

Nowa International of Germany — the world's largest exhibition organiser — has booked space on behalf of 15 countries, which include all of SA's major trading partners.

Saitec is also expected to attract more than 400 SA companies which could boost the number of exhibitors to above 850. About 1 200 companies usually take space at Saitec's consumer-oriented counterpart, the Rand Easter Show.

Minister of Finance and of Trade and Industry Derek Keys says the objective of the exhibition is to promote trade between SA and the industrialised countries, as well as with the rest of Africa.

Mr Keys says SA has a wealth of products, services and technology to offer. The SA business community will have the opportunity to introduce products to international markets.

The exhibition will be divided into 12 industrial sectors, including mining manufacturing, construction and information technology.

Mr Joubert says numerous trade missions visit SA on an ad hoc basis, but Saitec aims to channel them into a single annual event.

Price Waterhouse Moyesel is organising a conference on trading opportunities in SA to run concurrently with the fair.

Mr Joubert says Saitec should play an important role in the future economy.

"Similar trade exhibitions in the Netherlands are responsible for 12.5% of that country's GNP," he says.

"Companies in Europe spend 28% to 35% of their advertising-promotion budget on trade exhibitions. SA companies spend less than 15%.

"Trade exhibitions are the most cost-effective marketing tool for companies wishing to enter new markets."
R1bn yearly for the new-look SA

Sol back on throne

By CHERYL HETON

R1bn yearly for the new-look SA

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) is preparing to invest R1-billion annually in post-apartheid SA.

AfDB's Washington director, Mouhamadou Mergohob, says the Abibank-based development institution will move swiftly once a transitional government has been installed. AfDB makes loans of $3.5-billion annually to its 51 African members. It includes 17 non-African members such as the US, UK, China and France.

AfDB charges reasonable interest rates of 5.5% above its average borrowing rate in the prevailing market rate.

The AfDB bank provides loans from finance raised on the capital markets of the US, Europe and Japan.

Mr Mergohob says: "We have been extremely busy for SA to join the AfDB as a member. SA has a contribution to make to the new government in place."

AfDB membership will depend on SA having a seat on the Board. Although this can happen immediately after a transitional government has been reached, SA is expected to make an announcement on this.

The AfDB's current lack of political support is expected to be resolved after the election.

Mr Mergohob says AfDB would also like to include SA in the company of countries which are part of a major international programme.

The AfDB's current portfolio includes the following countries:

- Nigeria, with an emphasis on the country's oil sector
- South Africa, with a major infrastructure programme

Housing

Risky work for major borrowers

Reports in the large commercial banks that the R1-billion annual loan of about R1.5 million to SA is risky.

Leading will be the AfDB only in SA, Mr Mergohob says, as it plays an active role in policy advice and research. A total of 65% of AfDB's programmes are related to housing and infrastructure provision and will be important projects for SA.

AfDB has completed a 1,000-page report on regional integration in Southern Africa. It will be sent to the European commission by the AfDB.

Development Bank of Southern Africa has been asked to participate in the 'economic' growth of SA, Mr Mergohob says.

The AfDB's credit programme for SA will be reviewed to see if it can be made more efficient.

Mergohob says the report will present the "economic" growth that South Africa needs. The AfDB's finance minister, Mr Mergohob, says that a project relationship with the World Bank co-financing some of its projects. The World Bank says it will lend SA more than doubled from R179 million in 1993 to R250 million in 1994.

"We have provided reports saying: 'The two institutions have identified several key problems such as women's development, private-sector development and regional economic integration to which they will give particular attention in the future.'

In addition, the bank and AfDB will begin to co-ordinate their analytical and methodological approach.

AfDB was formed in 1964 and has 66 non-African members since 1962.

SEEXF TRUST PR

Financial High

Following the successful syndication to report back as to the performance of

SYNDICATION PROPERTY

PERIOD

- MAYNARD CORNER 29 Feb 9
- ROELAND PARK 29 Feb 9
- OLD OAK CENTRE 29 Feb 9
- CINBAR BUILDING 30 June
- CITY HALL CENTRE 30 June
- ICS BUILDING 31 Aug
- CENTURION CENTRE 31 Aug
- STRAND STREET 31 Aug
- JSE CENTRE 31 Aug

- Audited Figures

Considering the trading conditions we have been extremely satisfactory.
US continues aid flights after stray bullet hits plane

The United States airlift of food to Somalia and Kenya continued yesterday following the suspension of flights to one destination after an American cargo plane was hit by a stray bullet.

US personnel at a military base in Kenya's coastal city of Mombasa sent planes carrying food and supplies to the Somali towns of Baidoa and Hodduar and the northeastern Kenyan town of Wajir, according to Marine spokesman Lieutenant Brad Bartelt.

Bartelt said an American C-130 cargo plane had been struck by a stray bullet after it landed on a dirt airstrip at the western Somali town of Belet Huen on Friday.

He said the attack was not intentional, but it's being investigated.

Another Marine spokesman, Warrant Officer Hartman Slade, said there was no apparent gun battle on or near the airstrip, but the 'security situation on the ground deteriorated' as the plane was being unloaded.

Looting

"The crew reported seeing a lot of people, a lot of guns, a lot of chaos. They just wanted to get the plane unloaded and get out," he said.

Guns have become commonplace in Somalia since the January 1991 overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre.

Widespread insecurity and banditry have severely hobbled international efforts to feed the country's starving millions. Some aid officials estimate that as much as half the 150,000 tons of supplies delivered to the Horn of Africa nation have been stolen.

The C-130 returned safely to Mombasa after unloading 10 tons of rice, lentils and cooking oil for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Marine Brigadier-General Frank Libutti temporarily suspended the Belet Huen airlift until the situation in the dusty outpost near Ethiopia's border had calmed down.

The Americans began delivering food to Belet Huen on August 28 for the Red Cross, which says it is caring for 200,000 people in the area.

Red Cross officials at regional headquarters in Nairobi said the agency had already decided to suspend the airlift because of deteriorating security in Belet Huen.

Clans

Belet Huen is one of dozens of sites in Somalia where the Red Cross is feeding and caring for people in an effort to help stem deaths caused by a famine that already has killed more than 100,000 people.

Disputes among rival clans in the village have forced the Red Cross to suspend its airlift several times since it began early this year, said spokesman Gregoire Tavernier.

Meanwhile, in a move unrelated to the airlift, American troops are expected off Somalia within 10 days to provide logistical support for 500 United Nations troops deployed to protect relief food from looting.gummen.

A US naval group of four ships is now in the Indian Ocean, according to Major Marc Martens at US Central Command in Florida.

The flotilla carries 2,400 US Marines and Air Force commandos.

Although officials say the American operation is limited to offshore control and communications functions for the UN troops, the presence of US military hardware is sure to trouble Somali warlords who do not approve of UN troops in their country.
African countries queue for help from SA

PETER DELMAR

Obtaining computers for the Sudanese government, increasing the size of midget Comores cattle and training dagga-detecting dogs for Mozambique. These are some of the projects SA's Foreign Affairs Department has involved itself in recently.

Operating with a technical and financial aid budget of R25.4m, the department's Africa branch was involved in 116 projects in 20 countries in the past financial year, a spokesman said at the weekend.

More than half the money went to Angola, mostly for feeding schemes, with the next biggest beneficiaries all in southern Africa. Other aid recipients were Equatorial Guinea, Cape Verde, Togo, Sao Tome, Zaire, Gabon, Sudan, Seychelles, Mauritius, Nigeria and Madagascar.

Formerly hostile countries were queuing up for help from SA, the spokesman said. These included Rwanda, Chad, Congo and Guinea Bissau.

The perception existed, he said, that SA could supply virtually all of the continent's needs. However, as needs inside SA required priority attention, there was little likelihood of the department's African aid budget being increased.

The spokesman said SA's carefully targeted projects mostly shared SA expertise with other African countries.

Often there were tangible benefits for SA, such as the provision of computer equipment to Sudanese government departments. This had cost just R43 000, but had played an important role in securing overflying rights for SAA.

In the Comores, government experts had helped increase the size of the island republic's undersized cattle.
Airlift of UN guards to Somalia postponed

MOGADISHU — The start of a US airlift of 440 armed United Nations guards to the Somali capital has been delayed for 24 hours, officials said yesterday.

A US diplomat in Mogadishu said reasons for the delay were not clear but preparations for the elaborate operation might not have been completed.

"Twenty men and a lot of cargo will come in today," said Brigadier-General Imtiaz Shaheen, commander of UN forces in Somalia.

US planes are to make 21 flights into Mogadishu over the next week to bring in the Pakistani "blue helmets".

A vanguard of 60 troops arrived last week and have set up camp on the edge of the derelict airport as part of an operation to stop bandits plundering relief supplies.

International aid efforts are still failing to reach many of the 4.5 million Somalis faced with starvation.

In a bid to raise world concern for Somalia's plight, film actress and UN goodwill ambassador Audrey Hepburn was due to fly to Mogadishu after visiting the southern port of Kismayu.

Relief agencies say the UN troops are vital to protect aid workers and relief convoys from bandits and clan militias who have torn Somalia apart since rebels overthrew dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January last year.

On Friday, US military flights of desperately needed food to the central town of Belet Huen were suspended after a bullet hit an American C-130 cargo plane.

— Sapa-AP.
African economies 'improving under IMF terms'

WASHINGTON — African countries implementing IMF structural adjustment programmes were showing "heartening" improvements in economic performance, IMF officials said yesterday.

Assessing the states of IMF enhanced structural adjustment facilities (Esaf) in sub-Saharan Africa, fund technical officials said positive progress was being made.

Since the establishment of the facilities in March 1986, 27 countries had benefited from IMF-endorsed programmes.

A comparison of average economic performance by beneficiary countries in the three years preceding Esaf adoption with performance during implementation of the programmes had shown improvements in several key areas.

Average annual economic growth had risen from 2% to 3.8%. Savings ratios — the proportion of personal disposable incomes saved had risen from an average 6% to 9%. The fund regards low levels of saving as one of Africa's most critical problems and, notwithstanding the intermittent reliability of some of the national data, officials are taking particular pride in the recovery of average savings ratios — even if from a very low base.

Current account deficits as a proportion of national income of adjusting countries had dipped by one percentage point on average, the IMF data revealed.

This improvement in the adjusting countries' external positions owed much to an average annual growth in imports of only 3% over the three-year adjusting period. When set against average economic growth of 3.8% for the period, the imports growth figure showed a "reassuring" decline in import elasticity (the proportion of additional national income spent on imports), officials said.

The adjusting countries began their adjustment effort with very weak foreign reserve positions, averaging fewer than two months' import cover. During the period of Esaf implementation, average import cover has risen to 2.5 months.

The budget deficits of the adjusting countries as a proportion of GDP have fallen on average by one percentage point during the Esaf period, while the countries' average inflation rate eased by two percentage points.

The only key macroeconomic area not to show a perceptible improvement over the adjustment period was the average debt service ratio (the proportion of export earnings diverted into foreign debt repayments).

This had remained steady at around 60%, the officials said.

But, they added, cold statistics on gross foreign debt exaggerated African countries' net foreign debt burden, for failing to take into account the actual cash payments made after debt relief and rescheduling concessions from creditors.
No one listens to the Third World

WASHINGTON — A mosaic of world proportions and a key vote on European unification in France are hitting poor nations on two fronts.

On one hand, the currency debacle that has left the European Monetary System in shreds is undermining developing nations' efforts at overcoming poverty, famine and debt crises.

On the other, Sunday's French vote on European unification took centre stage at the IMF-World Bank annual meeting, muffling the poor nations' calls for attention to their plight.

"Turmoil in industrial countries is devolving our assets," Muhamed Imanud of Syria, the first chairman of the Group of 24 developing countries, told a weekend press conference.

"It is affecting the terms of trade," he complained.

The plight of the Third World will be further pressurized at a meeting of the Development Committee, a grouping that brings together 22 poor, and rich countries. Their problems are many. First and foremost, a drought-related famine is wreaking havoc in East Africa. In Somalia alone, two million people could starve to death unless they get urgent international help.

The G24 urged Western nations to "provide adequate finance...flows to...improve their prospects for sustainable growth, poverty reduction, environmental protection, and the resolution of the debt crisis."

Officials voiced concern that the fallout from the crisis — weaker currencies and tighter budgets in Europe — would end up in cutbacks in aid for the world's poor.

The developing world is also concerned that their needs will be shunted aside in the rush by rich nations to help Russia and the other former members of the Soviet bloc.

The French "yes" to Maastricht might return some calm to the markets and eventually translate into renewed attention to Third World problems. But it took place during the IMF-World Bank conference, robbing poor nations of a prime chance to publicise their cause.

"This is all we needed," commented a Latin American official referring to the combination of a monetary crisis and a vote in France.

"This is the wrong place and the wrong time to come to ask for help," he added.

Still, and just in case anyone was hearing, the G24 asked industrial nations for "substantial debt cancellation and provision of adequate new financing...to deal effectively with the interrelated problems of growth and debt."

Other problems such as a slow and uneven recovery of world output, the deceleration of global savings and the weak growth of world trade in 1992 are also making a dent on poor nations. — Sapa-Reuter.
The population explosion in Egypt has reached critical proportions, with a population growth rate that exceeds the country's ability to provide adequate food and water resources. The government has implemented various measures, including family planning programs, to control the population growth. However, the population continues to rise, putting pressure on the environment and经济社会. The World Bank has warned that Egypt faces a serious crisis if the population grows at its current rate. The country's food and water resources are strained, and there is a growing concern about the sustainability of the current situation. The government is under pressure to take more decisive action to address this issue, including providing better access to family planning services and improving agricultural productivity.
Food for Somali children cut off

MOGADISHU — Clan fighting in southern Mogadishu has cut food supplies to thousands of starving children for more than a month and many may have died from hunger.

David Shearer of Britain's Save the Children Fund said yesterday that uncontrolled fighting in the Medina district had prevented aid workers reaching two feeding centres for 3,500 children for nearly five weeks.

Last week gunmen threatened to shoot a foreign aid worker trying to enter the area with a food convoy.

Gunmen of the Habre Gedir and Hawadle clans have surrounded members of the Abgal and Murusade clans in a maze of streets.

Aid workers said the fighting had sputtered on despite a five-month-old UN-brokered truce in the city.

A Medecins Sans Frontieres doctor who works at the Medina hospital said that between five and 10 people wounded in the fighting arrived for treatment each day.

Ethnic feuding has killed thousands since rebels ousted dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January last year.

Abgal warlord Ali Mahdi Mohammed, who is holed up in the northern district of Karan, last week accused Habre Gedir gunmen of slaughtering 120 people in southern Mogadishu on September 9.

Unconfirmed reports by Ali Mahdi aides said in one incident Habre Gedir gunmen stopped a bus at a checkpoint and forced the passengers to rectify their family trees — the way Somalis identify their clan.

They said 55 Abgals were herded into a derelict building and shot dead.

"We heard about these allegations and we're trying to confirm them," said UN commander Brigadier-General Imtiaz Shaheen.

On Sunday, freelance gunmen in heavily armed vehicles looted sacks of beans and sorghum just outside the capital.

No attempt was made to hide the looting, and guards on the food trucks bantered with the gunmen.

UN officials have appealed again to local warlords to help curb the lawlessness that is hindering the shipments of food. — Sapa-Reuter-AP.
Key Question for Lost Continent

Desmond Colborne asks if Africa, and South Africa, are being written off
Private enterprise has long been recognised as a key factor in the development process in Africa. Owners of capital innovate and assume risks. They employ hundreds of people and manage large labour forces. They open up markets.

They find new combinations of materials and products. They initiate change and facilitate adjustment in dynamic economies.

Yet, private business ownership has been played down in many African countries over the past 30 years. In part this has occurred because indigenous entrepreneurs were presumed to be scarce and foreign businesses were distrusted.

During his visit to South Africa, Harare-based manager of Africa Project Development Facility (APDF) World Bank Mr. Omari Issa put it aptly: "We have demonstrated that African entrepreneurs are plentiful."

Earlier, the belief was that African men/women were confined to the informal sector. In a short period of time, APDF has confirmed the existence of small and medium-sized businesses that are owned by Africans.

Sowetan and Development Bank of Southern Africa last week presented a three-day summit that focused on Business and Entrepreneurial Development in Africa.

Participants were African entrepreneurs; Commercial and Development Finance Bankers; International Finance and Development Agencies; Representatives of the APDF; liberation movements and chambers of commerce.

The conference focused on how indigenous African entrepreneurs could work together and promote/cultivate the spirit of competitive business on the continent.

APDF general manager Mr. Alexander Koetsier said as soon as a political settlement was reached in South Africa "we will enter with the aim to help business people."

After his visit to some of Soweto's entrepreneurs, he said there was a great potential for business to create jobs and wealth.

"This shows that Africans are genuine entrepreneurs. The success of many businesses depends directly upon a climate supportive of vigorous small businesses."

"APDF, by assisting African entrepreneurs in taking advantage of new opportunities, contributes substantially to the creation of that nurturing business environment and the new jobs that are an important consequence."

The conference outlined the problems encountered by African entrepreneurs in obtaining debt and equity financing.

This problem was appropriately put by SBDC general manager Mr. Jo Schwenke when he said: "In South Africa we have a dilemma that many businesses cannot be viable with high gearing while some same businesses would do moderately well if financed with equity."

To solve this problem, he said, it was proposed that the Government each year for five years grant R2 billion, which would be invested into properly constituted development venture capital funds.

The role and importance of promoting more African women entrepreneurs were highlighted by women who have a long tradition of commercial activity in the African private sector.

Businesswoman Mrs. Mokgadi Tlakula said women grew more than half the food produced in the world; yet governments and aid programmes tended to exploit their labour without supporting it, maintaining it, or enhancing it.

She said black women could not hold title to land, married women were not legally capable of entering contracts without the consent of their husbands.

For example, she said, rural black women in the Northern Transvaal have carved a niche in making candles, making clothes, producing food, making sweets, vinegar, bricks, building latrines and houses, baking cakes, bread, selling liquor and achar.

Eventually, she added, they would capture some of the business and make it their own, the only thing was that competition was unfair.

She urged the Government and industrialists to consider giving contracts to women.

The conference felt a massive affirmative action must be embarked upon by the corporate world business.

Premier Group chief executive Mr. Peter Wrighton said many companies had affirmative action on their agenda.
Food aid aborted to protect workers

Workers fight losing battle against banditry as efforts to feed starving Somalis are thwarted.

MOGADISHU - Rising clan tensions, heavy looting and unsafe runways in rural Somalia yesterday forced aid workers to seek safety in one town, cancel food airlifts to a second and slow down relief flights to two others.

The developments were a major setback for international relief efforts to feed Somalia's starving. More than 100,000 people have died from the effects of drought and warfare and another 2 million are threatened.

The incidents left airlifts continuing only to Mogadishu and the small central towns of Sacowein and Ugeit, where the UN World Food Programme has been delivering food for a week.

Food supplies and deliveries have drawn bandits like magnets and instances of banditry and looting have increased with intensified efforts to address the catastrophe, officials said.

Clan clashes, banditry and chaos have been rife there since the January 1991 ouster of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre, with at least a score of relief workers killed and wounded trying to alleviate the nation's suffering. Some aid officials estimate as much as half the 165,000 tons of food delivered to Somalia this year has been stolen.

The main body of a 500-strong armed UN force from Pakistan began arriving on Monday, charged with preventing similar attacks at Mogadishu's port and airport. The entire force, being airlifted by US military planes, is expected to arrive by Friday. Sapo-AP.
Altech lands Central African deal

SA telecommunications group Altech said yesterday it had signed a contract which could result in orders of R34m from the Central African republic of Burundi. The initial contract, to supply a radio-based rural telecommunications system, is worth R7m and will be funded by the World Bank. The company believes an expansion of the system will bring in additional contracts worth R27m.

Altech group executive Keith Crosby said the contract had been obtained in the face of strong foreign competition. It was the company's first participation in a World Bank tender and its first major contract in Central Africa.

The radio-based phone system, Rumber, is already used in mountainous areas in southern Africa. C. Joy, who has been impressed by Central African telecommunications authorities' positive attitudes towards establishing commercial and technical links with SA, The Altech group recently announced it was to embark on a major export drive into sub-Saharan Africa.
AN estimated 100,000 people attended the funeral of an opposition leader killed last month when soldiers broke up an anti-government demonstration.

The funeral followed a one-day general strike and the start of a three-day doctor's strike -- both called to protest against the beating to death of Jean-Claude Congolo Bathoma, a leading member of the Alliance for Democracy and Progress.

The Confederation of Democratic Forces (CDF), which sponsored the protest, has rejected the government's announcement of an official investigation into Bathoma's death. The CDF wants an international inquiry instead.
ADDIS ABABA - More than 100 war-weary and hungry
Sudanese refugees are streaming into Ethiopia every
day after a two-month trek, a United Nations official
said yesterday. (23/9/1992)

"They arrive in very bad shape, half-naked or in rags
and suffering from extreme hunger, fatigue and de-
spair," Marwan Khoury of the UN High Commissioner
for Refugees said. He said the refugees from the small
Uduk tribe were fleeing civil war in southern Sudan to
find sanctuary at Gambella, a riverside village on Ethio-
pia’s south-west border.
Malagasy jitters as voters poised to pick new leader

HAVING rejected federalism in favour of a unitary state in a referendum last month, Madagascar’s voters are preparing to go to the polls again in a presidential election.

The new unitary constitution was approved by a 3-3 majority in the referendum which saw more than 70 percent of the 6 million voters turn out.

In the week preceding the voting, several of Madagascar’s provincial towns proclaimed their opposition to the referendum and announced they were in favour of a federal system for the country.

Although the federalists succeeded in disrupting polling in about 300 districts nationwide, the total number of voters prevented from voting was less than 2 percent of the total. However, the go-ahead for a new unitary constitution does not necessarily mean that any improvement in Madagascar’s unstable economy and government is in sight.

Like many African nations, Madagascar’s political evolution in 1992 has involved a struggle between an old regime and a new opposition. Unlike many that had socialist regimes, however, Madagascar has never been a one-party state. Even so, President Didier Ratsiraka has shown little inclination to hand over complete power to his opponents.

The August referendum was the climax of a year in which the transitional government wrested control of the State from Mr Ratsiraka. The ratification of the referendum on August 29 means that the country must now prepare for presidential elections within 60 days.

Mr Ratsiraka has already registered as a presidential candidate. So far 12 other candidates have announced their names, including Rafine Tsirana, grand-daughter of Madagascar’s first president, Philibert Tsiranana.

Civil disorder in provincial towns in the run-up to the referendum indicates that the road to the Third Republic may be a bumpy one.

The men who forced Mr Ratsiraka to hand over control of the country’s bureaucracy and legislature in November 1991 have been governing the country under a cumbersome system known as the High Authority of State, known by its French initials Haute Autorite de l’Etat (HAE).

The figurehead of the HAЕ is the opposition coalition leader, Zafy Albert. He is joined by a Ratsiraka-appointed prime minister, Guy-Willy Razanamy. Between them they campaigned wholeheartedly to convince Malagasy voters not to listen to federalist demands for a boycott of the referendum.

When opposition to Mr Ratsiraka’s autocratic government and his rulingArena party first began in early 1991 it was a popular movement of poor citizens of Antananarivo who staged mass demonstrations against him. Led by religious groups and politicians in a grouping known as the Forces Vives, they staged huge demonstrations, involving up to a half a million people, demanding that Mr Ratsiraka resign.

They succeeded in paralysing Madagascar’s formal economy with a seven-month general strike, but Mr Ratsiraka would not resign and the movement eventually agreed to the transitional phase leading up to the August referendum.

During the intervening period the Forces Vives have squabbled among themselves and many Malagasy have become apathetic about their sincerity and ability.

South African investors expressed keen interest in Madagascar two years ago. They, like other foreigners, are now unwilling to invest in a country whose political future is still uncertain. According to Ray Ferguson, managing director of South African Trade Promotions in Madagascar, there is no new trade between the two countries.

A new president might stimulate the economy. On the other hand it has been suggested that Mr Ratsiraka has enough loyalty from coastal regions to make a good showing in the coming elections. If he wins, it is unlikely the opposition in the capital will accept his mandate arises, many Malagasy fear that the army, neutral until now, might be forced to mount a coup d’etat.

Whether an election or a new president will do anything to hasten the recovery of Madagascar’s crumbling economy is uncertain. The world’s fourth largest island, twice the size of France and home to just 12 million inhabitants, is ranked among the poorest dozen nations in the world.

And yet the “island continent” is rich in natural resources, mainly timber, chrome, vanilla and coffee. Once a net exporter of rice, the island now imports it. State monopolies have made private enterprise in Madagascar rule-bound and inefficient.

Above all, the country’s infrastructure is in a poor state. Massive investment in roads, railways and port facilities is needed to make export trade more viable.

In the run-up to the presidential election, devaluation of the Malagasy franc of up to 20 percent is expected. Such a move is likely to make life for the ordinary people harder than ever.
Key role in relieving agony of Africa

By David Canning

NEW YORK — South Africa had a key role to play in relieving “the agony of Africa, and of its own people,” Conrad Strauss, chairman of Standard Bank, said at a National Foreign Trade Council Foundation seminar here. 24/9/92

He said that while there naturally were fears that SA would dominate its neighbours, many opportunities for mutually-beneficial co-operation were opening up between it and other countries in the region.

Trade with Africa had grown by 25 percent a year in recent years.

While there was a strong imbalance in favour of South Africa, there also was considerable scope for correcting that problem. South Africa could benefit, for example, from some of Africa’s resources like water and potential electricity generation.

Multi-nationals were increasingly using SA as the logical entry point for doing business with the continent, as it had the only really viable first world economy in Africa.

It accounted for a third of the continent’s trade and its infrastructure was being developed to facilitate linkages with Africa.

“If you put South Africa into the Southern Africa Development Conference, it would have 70 to 75 percent of the combined GDP.”

The next most important country would be Angola, with eight percent, and then Zimbabwe, with six percent.

Nigeria, often described as the giant of Africa with three times South Africa’s population, had a GDP only one third the size of South Africa’s — $32 billion against SA’s $102 billion.

Financial sanctions in a sense had produced a positive spin-off in helping South Africa to establish a sound external balance sheet.

The debt service ratio was only about six or seven percent and foreign debt at $18 billion was 17 percent of GDP and 65 percent of exports.

In comparison, the Australian debt service ratio was 42 percent and debt, as a percentage of exports, was 240 percent.
NAIROBI - Kenya President Daniel arap Moi has announced plans to send Somali refugees back to Somalia where he said the United Nations would be able to help them, newspapers reported yesterday.

Moi was addressing a rally in Mandera, on the Somali border. About 50,000 refugees from war and famine in Somalia are camped on the outskirts of Mandera, a town of about 20,000 people.

About 330,000 Somali refugees have flooded into Kenya in the 19 months since Somalia's former ruler Mohamed Siad Barre was overthrown and the Horn of Africa country collapsed into civil strife and anarchy, a spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said in Nairobi.
300 executed in Sudan

LONDON — Government forces in Sudan have deliberately killed at least 300 unarmed civilians and prisoners in the besieged southern city of Juba, Amnesty International said in a report in London yesterday.

Hundreds of southern Sudanese soldiers, police and prominent civilians had also been arrested, apparently on suspicion of sympathising with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Amnesty said.

"Many of those detained appear to have 'disappeared' and, with reports of bodies seen floating in the White Nile, there is considerable concern that detainees have been secretly and extra-judicially executed," it said.

The executions followed intense fighting between government forces besieged in Juba and the SPLA.

There were reports of soldiers stopping civilians in the streets, interrogating and then shooting them, and of night-time executions and torture in detention centres in Juba, Amnesty said.

The army had also burnt down some of the most densely populated housing in the city to create "free-fire zones", as a result of which more than 100,000 people had been reduced to squatting in "appalling" conditions.

"The Sudanese government is allowing its forces to exercise a flagrant disregard for human rights," Amnesty said. — Sapa-AFP.
Africa helps Congo cash-flow

Brazzaville: Congo's new government has begun giving the country's 80,000 civil servants their first salaries in five months. The Banque Commerciale Congolaise (BCC) opened especially to pay them.

Payment of August salaries has been made possible by a loan of six billion CFA francs (23.7 million dollars) from the Banque des Etats d'Afrique Centrale and a further sum from an unspecified source.

Oil and ordinary income has furnished the treasury with three billion CFA francs (11.8 million dollars), the payments began on Wednesday.

President Pascal Lissouba, elected last August 16, pledged that August salaries would be paid and that he would negotiate a timetable for the payment of May, June, July and September wages with unions.

Lissouba promised payment of salaries in future but yesterday it was unclear how he would manage it. Government workers' wages total 13 billion CFA francs (51.3 million dollars) monthly and state income is just over half that.

BCC counters had been closed for two weeks because of liquidity problems. A government plan to restructure the bank cuts 40 percent of its staff of 600. - Sapa-AFP
Human suffering worse than holocaust of last war

NAIROBI - Actress Audrey Hepburn broke down and wept yesterday after a nightmare visit to Somalia which she termed more harrowing than the suffering she saw in Europe during World War 2.

"In Somalia's second port of Kismayu, all the babies had gone, almost no infants. Mogadishu is totally destroyed," Hepburn told a news conference in the Kenyan capital Nairobi.

"I saw more suffering in Somalia than in Europe during World War 2 - with all the horrifying torture, starvation, atrocities in German camps and exploitation," said Hepburn, the United Nations goodwill ambassador for children.

Hepburn said there was still hope of saving Somalia's famished millions: "Since I survived five years of torturous life in the Europe of World War 2, there must always be hope for the world's wretched." - Sapa-Reuters.
Refugees to be repatriated

NAIROBI: Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi has announced plans to send Somali refugees back to Somalia where he said the United Nations would be able to help them. Some 50,000 refugees from war and famine in Somalia are camped on the outskirts of Mandera, a border town of about 30,000 people. Meanwhile, in rural Somalia, rising clan tensions, heavy flooding, rain and unsafe runways forced aid workers to seek safety in one town, cancel food aid flights to a second and dramatically slow relief efforts to two others.

Sudanese flee to Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA: More than 100 war-weary and hungry Sudanese refugees are streaming into Ethiopia every day after a two-month trek, a United Nations official said this week.

“They arrive in very bad shape, half-naked or in rags and suffering from extreme hunger, fatigue and despair,” Marwan Khoury, of the UN’s High Commission for Refugees said.

The refugees were fleeing civil war in southern Sudan to find sanctuary at Gambella, on Ethiopia’s southwest border. -SAPA-AP-APP-Reuters
SA man leads bid to revive ravaged farms

SOUTH African Alex Wilson was flipping through the "help wanted" ads in a weekly newspaper a few months ago — and the next thing he knew, he was working to jumpstart war-torn Somalia's farms back to productivity.

That's no small task in a land where two million people face starvation after two years of civil war.

Many farms that once produced mangos, paw-paws and bananas are deserted. Whole villages migrated to towns in search of food and most of the refugees have remained at the feeding centres or else died along the road.

Few have returned to their farms to begin planting, even though the rainy season has started.

Mr Wilson has just spent his first two weeks in Somalia as an agricultural consultant for the British-based charity, Oxfam.

He visited farmers who live in Somalia’s fertile crescent — the land between the Lower Juba and Shebele rivers. There, he said, he found farmers willing to work and land prime for cultivation.

Corpses

"Parts of Somalia are as productive as the western Transvaal," said Mr Wilson. "The farmers here are more skilled than black farmers in SA."

But many once-productive farmers have been reduced to begging in the feeding centres established by aid agencies.

To the west of Mogadishu, in a region once considered the country’s breadbasket, the town of Baidoa has become a slum full of hungry people from rural areas.

Skeletal humans squat in the overcrowded streets because there is no running water and no latrines.

Smoke from fires pollutes the air and corpses line the road.

Mr Wilson was shocked by the number of over-qualified Somalis who applied to be his technical assistant. He spent a day interviewing diplomats and agriculturalists who worked for dictator Mohammed Siad Barre’s government before the war.

"Many of those interviewed live in refugee camps near the overcrowded feeding centres, despite their masters and doctorate degrees."

"Those people would have been hiring me in South Africa," said Mr Wilson, who received his bachelor's degree from Ascot Bryan College of Agriculture in England.

Before moving to Somalia, he spent two years setting up a co-operative vegetable farm for sacked workers in Howick, Natal.

His task in Somalia is even more difficult. There the famine is largely man-made. Armed bandits have stolen food and equipment needed by farmers to cultivate the land.

Looters have roamed the country since Siad Barre was ousted last year.

"Farmers who have stayed on their land despite the famine remain fearful of looters. They don't have guns."

On the road to the seaside town of Merca, south of Mogadishu, fertile farmland lies abandoned because people don’t have the implements or seeds to begin planting again.

"There’s a lot of standing maize," said Mr Wilson. "The potential is here for the country to develop a large agricultural industry, just like before the war."
MOGADISHU—The UN starts consultations with Somalia's neighbours this week to try to end civil war and mass starvation in the Horn of Africa country. Special ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun was due to fly to Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan to discuss peace initiatives and plans to feed millions of starving people, UN sources said yesterday.

"Mr Sahnoun, UN special representative for Somalia, would meet Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi in Nairobi today."

"They would assess prospects for bringing Somalia's warring clans to a round table in the Kenya capital, UN officials said."

Somalia's clan warlords have so far refused either to meet each other or attend talks outside their country.

The UN initiative has assumed added urgency because of concern for 400,000 Somali refugees in Kenya. Relief officials said they were alarmed by reports that the Kenyan government wanted to start repatriations.

The International Red Cross resumed its airlift to the western Somali town of Belet Huen, eight days after it was suspended when a US relief plane was struck by a stray bullet.

Also yesterday, US military personnel manning an American airlift from the coastal Kenyan town of Mombasa achieved a record number of flights on a single day. — Sapa-Reuters-AP.
NAIROBI - Rebel agencies withdrew staff from Sudan's south yesterday, one day after officials confirmed that rebels had killed a UN employee and a Norwegian freelance journalist.

A Kenyan driver for the United Nations and a Filipino woman working for the aid group InterAid were still missing.

Aid work will be reduced in Sudan's south until relief officials are assured the safety of their staff can be guaranteed. - Sowetan Africa News Service and Sapa-Reuter-AFP.
Threatened aid workers quit Somalia

MOGADISHU — Relief agencies said yesterday they were evacuating staff from the southern Somalia port of Kismayo after constant threats by gunmen, trying to loot food meant for the starving.

"The very people who are supposed to be protecting relief staff are holding guns on them," said a top United Nations official.

The official said planes were being flown into Kismayo, 450 km south of Mogadishu, to pull out all UN foreign staff and personnel from other independent relief organisations.

Aid workers had been blockaded in a UN compound as virtual hostages since Monday by their own Somali guards because of several disputes involving money, UN sources said. The details of the dispute were not immediately known.

"It's institutionalised extortion," said an official of the British charity Oxfam, which is suspending a vital project to grow and distribute seeds to farmers.

About 15,000 malnourished children are being fed at Kismayo by aid agencies such as the International Red Cross and World Concern, and aid workers say efforts have to be stepped up to prevent children from dying. — Sapa-Reuters.
Canada to rescue

MOGADISHU - The United Nations is sending 750 Canadian troops to the north-eastern Somali port of Bossasso after a breakthrough agreement with the clan in control of the region.

The UN commander of troops in Somalia, Brigadier-General Imtiaz Shahzad, said the troops would be deployed within three to four weeks to guard famine relief operations. Somali warlords have agreed to the use of 500 Pakistani UN troops in Mogadishu, but deployment of an extra 3,000 throughout the country has been delayed by objections from warlord Mohamed Farah Aideed.
A new secret army threatens Algeria

ALGERIA has been swept by a particularly bloody wave of violence over the last three decades, beginning with the assassination of President Ahmed Ben Bella on June 29 and culminating with the brutal assault on Algerian airports on August 26, which killed 132 people.

To many older Algerians, it is almost as if the clock had been put back three decades, to the period of terrible violence orchestrated by the Organisation de l'Armée Secrète (OAS), the French terrorist group which opposed the political independence (and whose founder, Pierre Seghier, died on September 13). History seems to be repeating itself with a completely different cast of characters.

The new secret army is by no means under a single leadership, though its various factions share the desire to destabilize the present regime. As an editorial in the weekly Algerie Actualite pointed out, under the leadership of the OAS, "the traffickers, crusading fundamentalists, and denuded dignitaries are all standing shoulder to shoulder - each with their own political aims."

The most extreme Islamic fundamentalist elements see the spread of violence in motion and now no longer seem to be in complete control of it. They have the right to claim responsibility for shootings, bomb attacks, or acts of sabotage, thus maintaining an aura of uncertainty which, they hope, will work in their interest of their cause.

On September 21, the Algerian government began talks with the leaders of several parties in an attempt to solve the mounting political and economic crises. Its decision to hold negotiations was announced four days after the bomb attack at Algiers international airport which killed ten people on August 26. Members of the outlawed fundamentalist party, the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), were not expected to be invited to the talks.

Jacques de Barrin reports
impressive range world.
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 rebel 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."

Relief officials said refugees were still fleeing the famine in Mozambique into Malawi, Zimbabwe, Swaziland and SA. More than 2-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 resuscitated, about 18 000 workers would be needed to remove the vegetation underneath the power lines.

The Mozambique peace agreement would not only improve trade in the region, but would also pave the way for holidaymakers 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 posture because of the signing of the peace agreement.

Immediately after Sunday’s signing of the accord, Defence Minister Alberto Chipande ordered the armed forces to call a halt to any offensive actions.

---

Banda rules out change in Malawi

BANDA, Malawi - President Kamuzu Banda has ruled out a multiparty system in Malawi, saying it was unsuitable and would cause corruption and strife.

"There is no question of multipartyism 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".

---

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 runup 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 Tolara, 60km 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 28, pitting Didier Ratsiraka, who has ruled for 17 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, since 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.
Mutiny & Robert's Optimistic about Africa

The following was a report on the situation in Africa:

"The economy in Africa is currently experiencing a slowdown, with several countries facing challenges in their economic growth. Despite this, there is a sense of optimism regarding potential growth in the future. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has expressed confidence in the African continent's economic potential, stating that with the right policies and investments, Africa can emerge as a significant contributor to global economic growth. African governments are increasingly focusing on diversifying their economies, reducing dependence on primary commodities, and investing in infrastructure and education. These efforts are expected to pay off in the long term, leading to sustained economic growth and improved living standards for the continent's population.

The report also highlighted the importance of private sector investment and the role of foreign direct investment in driving economic development. African leaders are actively seeking partnerships with international businesses to support their economic growth strategies. The continent's vast natural resources, including minerals and agricultural products, offer significant opportunities for foreign investors, who are increasingly looking to Africa for growth prospects.

Overall, the situation in Africa is complex, with both challenges and opportunities. The key to sustaining economic growth lies in effective governance, sound policy implementation, and diversified economic strategies. With the ongoing efforts by African governments, there is reason to be optimistic about the continent's future economic development."
Deal for African bank

STANDARD Bank confirmed yesterday that negotiations to acquire the African branch network of ANZ Grindlay's bank would be concluded within the next week. The deal will set the group up as the largest SA bank in Africa, with branches in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Uganda, Ghana, Kenya and Zaire.
NEW YORK - Two-thirds of Americans approve of President George Bush's decision to send US troops to Somalia, according to a Newsweek poll, released at the weekend.

The poll said 66 percent of Americans support the decision to send US troops to help in the relief effort.

The Gallup survey, released ahead of publication today, showed Americans were almost evenly divided on whether the United States should restrict its activity to ensuring the delivery of relief supplies or engage in an expanded role to help restore order and political stability.
Attacks on tourists alarm Egyptian officials

CAIRO — Egyptian officials are scrambling to contain potential damage to a booming tourism industry after a series of attacks on foreign tourists by Muslim extremists.

A record 3-million tourists visited Egypt last year. The $3bn they brought in made tourism the most lucrative sector of the economy.

The flood of tourists continues. Hotel bookings are hard to come by. Flights from Europe and elsewhere are full. And officials hope to double the visitor figures within five years to create new jobs and solve some of the country’s grave economic problems.

This is why eight recent attacks by extremists — until now far less serious than bombings and other terrorist incidents in some European countries — is causing concern.

By far the most serious of the attacks occurred on Tuesday: an explosion in the bathroom of a train at a station in southern Egypt. The interior ministry said the device killed the bomber and an Egyptian father and his three-year-old son, and wounded 10 people.

On October 2, four extremists shot a French tourist carrying 140 Germans on a Nile cruise through southern Egypt. Three Egyptians were wounded, none of them seriously.

No foreigners have been seriously injured in the attacks.

Tourism Minister Fouad Sultan played down the importance of the extremist threat in a recent speech. "There isn't an area in the world where you do not have some kind of trouble," Sultan said.

The minister promised the security forces would "crack down" on the fundamentalists.

But in Cairo's state-owned newspapers, this attitude is seen as part of the extremist problem.

Some commentators criticise the government for handling the burgeoning Muslim militancy as nothing more than a security question, without addressing underlying economic and social failings. — Sapa-AP.
Focus on Somalia

Baidoa, Somalia - Most of the corpses tossed on to the body wagon that plies its dreadful daily round of Baidoa are those of children.

An orphanage set up five months ago in this famine-hit southern Somali town is starting to change that, relief workers say.

Six or seven of the most severely malnourished children out of the 10 to 15 arriving at the orphanage each day die before they can be revived, staff say. But that is better than the 15 to 20 who were dying daily a few weeks ago.

"These are the survivors. Their parents probably died on the trek in or in the streets," said Josie Clevenger, medical coordinator of the US-based International Medical Corps (IMC) of doctors, which wants to provide medical care at the orphanage.

Acts of humanity are rare in Somalia where bloody tribal feuding over the past 20 months has devastated the nation and led to the current famine.

Yet seeing 570 children being nurtured back to health in a square of bombed-out buildings moves visitors to tears.

Malnutrition has bleached the orphans' black hair. They are vulnerable to worms, skin diseases, coughs and measles, which can kill despite the availability of food.

"Some of them don't even have enough strength in their jaws to chew food" when they arrive, said Mohamed Iman Aden, director-general of the orphanage run by the Institution for Disabled and Orphaned Children in Somalia (IDOCs).

Aden (44) was a civil engineer before rebels ousted brutal dictator Mohamed Siad Barre from the capital Mogadishu and rival clans plunged the country into bloody anarchy.

"Until we regain stability I can do this—it only needs common sense," said Aden, standing among a crowd of children giggling at mealtime.

Other IDOCs centres care for several thousand children, mothers and adult women in Mogadishu and four other regional famine-hit towns.

Aden uses the word orphan loosely to describe children who have lost their parents or those who come from families too poor to take care of them.

"We are a welfare organisation so we can't differentiate. After four to five months some can go back to their families and the rest will stay with us," he said.

His underfunded group wants foreign help-agencies such as the International Red Cross already provide food to start caring for another 2,500 orphans already in Baidoa.

The orphanage's Somali staff have had to cut blankets in half and clothe children in any material they can find.

The effects of malnutrition will pursue the younger children into their adulthood. Many have suffered brain damage and their growth will be stunted.

Older children, their tongues stuck out as they concentrate deeply, learn how to read and write Islam's Holy Koran on wooden boards—the only schooling available in Somalia today.

"We don't want to be spoiled," Aden said while listing proposals to build schools, dig wells and start farming a plot of land outside the town.

But the southern Bay region, which surrounds Baidoa and is inhabited by a peaceful farming clan called the Rahanwein, is believed to have been hit worst by the famine.

Some 300,000 to half-a-million people are thought still to be alive in Bay. Relief officials say that nationwide, about two million Somalis suffer from severe hunger.

At the orphanage those lucky enough to live are becoming plump with health again.

A few weeks ago between 15 and 20 were dying every day. A third of that number of graves are now dug daily outside the compound for the little bundles to be laid in on their sides, their faces turned east to Islam's Holy city of Mecca.

"There are no tears lost, so many have died," Aden said. - Sapa-Reuters
The aid show hits Somalia

International aid has finally come to Somalia, but experts warn against creating an aid-dependent society, JONATHAN CLAYTON reports.

AFTER months of hesitation, the international aid show has finally come to Somalia and is playing to packed houses.

In the space of a few months, the bombed-out capital of Mogadishu is a city transformed.

Practically every street now has a feeding centre or makeshift hospital, many hastily set up after the world's conscience was pricked by television pictures of dying babies.

Mogadishu airport is busier than it has been for years with military transport planes loaded with grain flying for space with light passenger aircraft ferrying in teams of aid workers.

"Things are beginning to go very well now. The other day the airport was like an international one," the UN's special representative for Somalia, Mohamed Sahnoun, said.

Since his appointment earlier this year, Sahnoun has struggled hard to force the world to treat the Somali tragedy with the same urgency it has attached to other world crises, from Cambodia to former Yugoslavia.

"If we had come earlier we could have avoided so much and our work would have been so much easier," he said during Sunday's visit by Irish President Mary Robinson.

Robinson was the first head of state to witness at first hand one of the worst famines of the 20th century.

She too attacked the UN for having been slow to help "the devastated and bleeding people of Somalia".

But the message appears to be getting through.

Hardly a day now passes without the arrival of a senior delegation of one sort or another. Teams of newly-arrived volunteers from non-governmental organisations tour the capital looking for premises to serve as base camps.

But for the Somalis, the newcomers are good news, not just for the rows of hungry in the feeding centres.

Their arrival has meant a massive influx of funds into the destroyed economy.

Houses rented out in the "aid enclave" of south Mogadishu cost on average $3000 (about R8400) a month. Somalis have been employed as secretaries, fixers, cooks, cleaners and chauffeurs.

While praising the developments, many aid experts caution that the world community must act quickly to avoid creating an aid-dependent society. "We have to give them the incentive to go back to the land," said Ian Macleod of the UN Children's Fund.

"It is essential for the international community to provide long-term support," he said.
Promoting trade links

AN AMBITIOUS plan to bring 2,000 African businessmen to SA next year to forge trade links with their SA counterparts was launched yesterday.

Africa Initiative board of trustees chairman Prof Tony Marcus said at a fundraising function at Nasrec last night it would bring together key decision-makers who influence and finance business in Africa.

Africa Initiative administrator Jo Melville said the Rim needed to get the project going would be raised through corporate sponsorship by SA companies.
Violence

In reality, as the statement itself concedes by the use of "continuing", this differs little from the current administration's approach. Elsewhere, the philosophy is identical.

On the question of violence, no fingers are pointed and a distinction is drawn between "those responsible" and the government of President FW de Klerk.

There is a pledge to provide assistance - already offered by assistant secretary for African Herman Cohen - to "local peacekeeping structures" and to support "Nelson Mandela's call for international monitoring".

"When the transition to democracy is assured, the Clinton administration would begin to develop a programme of aid and investment incentives that can be used to help a democratically-elected government overcome the bitter legacy of apartheid," says the policy statement.

The only difference here with present policy is that the Bush administration has already started developing such a programme.

Campaign propaganda is not, of course, a completely reliable guide. How a new team will really behave, depends, to a large extent, on who wins the policy battles in the post-election transition.

Foreign policy has been such a side issue throughout the campaign that the implications for South Africa remain uncertain.

Some in the State Department have privately predicted that as president, Bill Clinton would toss Africa, like a bone, to the Congressional Black Caucus and the Jesse Jackson/Randall Robinson wing of the Democratic Party.

Senior ANC officials on visits to America have made it clear they relish such a prospect. Economic planning chief Trevor Manuel, for example, has said the balance of forces will shift in the ANC's favour after election day on November 3.

But few of the statements the Clinton campaign has issued on South Africa would seem to bear out Mr Manuel's optimism.

One policy statement pays obeisance to state and local sanctions and to "continuing current restrictions on South Africa's access to... the IMF".

US Africa policy: anybody's guess

BARRING a miraculous turn-around, America will elect a new president in three weeks' time.

But the selection could just as easily be made from the ranks of the career foreign service, as was the case with Mr Cohen.

A common reading is that Clinton is chiefly interested in domestic reform, knows himself to be an innocent abroad, and will therefore seek to place his foreign policy in professional hands.

Caution

He is smart enough to know that a novice can ill afford to be advised by wheel-reinventors.

An alternative view is that the new president's caution would not extend to Africa, a region so marginal to US interests that it can readily be given to those, like the Black Caucus, who seem to want it most.

From - Simon Barber in Washington

 behaves as expected, on who wins the policy battles in the post-election transition.

As the far right saw Ronald Reagan's 1980 victory as an opportunity to seize control from the centre, so the Democratic left will seek to ride piggyback on Clinton's election.

On foreign policy, however, they will find few allies among those already in the Clinton camp.

Thus far, there is no obvious candidate for Mr Cohen's job.

Among those mentioned are the Aspen Institute's Dr Pauline Baker, Michael Clough, until recently resident Africanist at the Council on Foreign Relations, and former UN ambassador Don McHenry.
Life in the town of Gravens
THE FAT CATS OF SOMALIA

They may be the only overweight people left in Somalia.

Hundreds of men and women stood on an airstrip 50 kilometres south of Mogadishu waiting to meet the daily "khat" planes that bring the twig-like drug chewed by Somali men.

"People are flying in khat, while others are dying of hunger," said a Unicef worker named Hassan, who requested his surname be withheld.

In a country where virtually nothing functions, a regular supply of drugs flows in, though food flights remain sporadic and are cancelled at a moment's notice by the sub-clans that control the airports.

Every morning six planes arrive from Nairobi filled with burlap-covered bundles of drugs and land on a rocky airstrip outside Mogadishu. Every day the same well-fed - even plump - Somalis greet the planes, buy the khat, and drive like maniacs back to town where they sell it at an outdoor market.

In the bustling khat market a 10-year-old boy threatens a crowd of people with his loaded AK-47 as they try to buy khat from women with babies on their backs. The young boy had been chewing the mildly narcotic drug which acts as a stimulant.

Ali Ibrahim Mursal, an American-educated Somali, described the effects of chewing the bitter twigs.

"My IQ may work double or triple as before," he said.

But by the last afternoon in Mogadishu the khat-chewing teenagers, who use machineguns to stop cars at makeshift roadblocks, do not appear any smarter, just more surly.

In a country with no laws or policemen it's not surprising that khat is legally bought and sold. Even before the civil war that ousted dictator Mohammed Siad Barre, the drug was legal.

The widespread use of the drug caused Somalia to lose valuable productivity.

"The person who is chewing all night is tired in the morning and doesn't want to attend work," said Mursal, who began chewing when he was 10.

One bundle of khat goes for $4 or $5 (roughly R11 or R14) and consists of a handful of bitter-tasting twigs and leaves.

Every afternoon the drivers and guards who escort aid workers and journalists make a detour to pick up their daily khat allowance. This routine occurs even if the aid worker is busy delivering food to the feeding centres or the journalist is busy with an interview.

The Somalis chew especially large amounts of khat on Friday - a holiday to all Muslims.

Despite the recent famine, khat remains the drug of choice throughout the region.

In Yemen, across the Gulf of Aden, government offices have rooms where people go to chew khat in the afternoon, according to a former World Bank official. "It was true democracy," he said. "You could ask government ministers anything you wanted once you were seated in that room."

In Somalia nothing is democratic and individuals manage to get fat as the khat trade continues to flow steadily and undisturbed. Meanwhile, mountains of food sit in warehouses because it cannot be distributed safely by international aid agencies.
Hooyo's lonely vigil for the dying children

The coughing children with tuberculosis call her “hooyo” – the Somali word for mother. Other aid workers in this war-shattered country refer to her as the Mother Teresa of Somalia.

Italian Annalena Tonelli has treated sick Somalis for 23 years and plans to press ahead with her mercy mission in this sand-swept, seaside town despite a lack of supplies, a shortage of staff and threats on her life.

Grey-haired and fair-skinned, the saintly mother of Mercy's sick runs a TB clinic for 400, a paediatric hospital housing 100 children, a feeding centre where 2,500 hungry kids eat each day, and a school for recovering patients. She does it all with only one doctor, one nurse and a handful of untrained Somalis.

Despite her heroic work, she is realistic about the bleak prospects for Somalia, where two million face starvation.

"It's terrible because there is no hope for the people of this country. The good ones have gone. Others are dead," said Annalena as a tiny sick child clung to her shoulder for security.

Three-year-olds hold the hands of one-year-olds as children march from the armed guards at the gate to the other rows of children sitting under trees in the centre's shaded courtyard, holding empty oil cans, waiting for their meagre portions.

Smoke from the fires under the vats of boiling rice wafts through the doorway into the courtyard where the children wait, singing songs of Allah. They clap when the adults arrive lugging the large pots of food.

Most of the food donated from Western nations intended for centres like Annalena's never makes it.

"Sometimes it's stolen from the beginning. Sometimes it's stolen later," said Mario Neri, an Italian doctor – the only doctor – working with Annalena.

Armed locals frequently threaten Annalena, attempting to force her from the clinic so they can reclaim for themselves the old buildings that house her patients.

On September 8 an armed faction evicted 400 of Annalena's TB patients from their beds in the church that she had converted into a hospital.

Recently a bomb exploded outside her room on the second floor of the clinic, a white-washed stucco building that once served as the Bank of Rome office. The blast caused her to move across the street where Dr Neri lives above his sick children.

At the paediatric hospital children with distended bellies stand in line waiting to see the doctor. In the dimly-lit halls between the maze of overcrowded rooms, children – most of them skin and bones – lie on grass mats side-by-side along the floor.

One frail stick figure lies motionless on the ground, staring blankly ahead as he receives intravenous support, too weak to swat the flies that cover his face.

In July alone 154 children died in the hospital.

"In the future of this country there will be nothing – only anarchy," said the ponytailed Neri, a self-proclaimed communist who has devoted 12 years of his life to working among the poor in Africa.
This diplomat is no mere glorified head waiter.
Mercy work in jeopardy

NAIROBI - Two dozen relief agencies met yesterday to discuss the future of mercy work in rebel areas of south Sudan after three relief workers and a journalist were killed.

Moroccan 'repression'

ALGIERS - Moroccan security forces have "violently repressed" a wave of popular unrest that broke out on October 6 at Smara, in the Western Sahara, Polisario Front foreign affairs spokesman Mohamed Ould Salek said in Algiers at the weekend.

He said several people were arrested, tortured and wounded during the repression of demonstrations in Smara in the past four days. - Sapa-Reuters
UN rains food on Somalia

NAIROBI — The UN has expanded its air drops of food into inaccessible rural areas of Somalia. A UN world food programme statement said a Canadian military transport plane on Sunday dropped 12 tons of wheat at Dirusor, a remote village which had not received food aid since the famine began.

About 1,000 tons of food would be air-dropped in several areas of central and southern Somalia in the coming weeks. Mobile teams would travel to air drop zones to help with distribution.

The air drops were to provide a “flexible response” to the rapidly changing emergency in war-ravaged Somalia, where 1,000 people a day are reportedly dying of famine and disease.

The UN had sent nearly 210 tons of supplies into Somalia in the past six weeks. However, it could only reach places with airstrips suitable for large transport planes.

Moving food overland was difficult because of poor roads, looting, shortages of trucks and spares and extortionate transport and security costs — about $110 a ton of food delivered. — Sapa-Reuters.
Safto seeking ties with development body

SAFTO intends to start a major campaign to interact with the Africa Project Development Facility, beginning with a visit to its head office in the Ivory Coast in late November.

Safto Africa division head Paul Runge said yesterday he was very impressed with the progress made by the organisation, which was jointly sponsored by the African Development Bank, the International Finance Corporation and the UN Development Fund. 8/10/92

The organisation was set up in 1988 and its aim was to move away from being involved in larger, cumbersome commercial projects towards identifying and addressing the needs of smaller commercial ventures of between R5m and R10m, Runge said.

It provided advisory services to private African entrepreneurs in preparing for viable projects.

While the organisation does not provide project financing, it works with entrepreneurs to secure financing from banks and appropriate sources of capital. It also helps them to obtain technical and managerial assistance to start-up projects.

SA companies had already been involved with projects identified by the organisation and some of the banks were involved in talks aimed at setting up co-financing arrangements, he said.

Runge said Safto would also promote trade between the two countries during the visit. "There is a lot of business there and it is a major link to the region," he said.

A spokesman for a company involved with the Development Facility said the organisation was approaching SA companies to conduct feasibility studies on projects in the neighbouring countries.

The organisation's southern Africa regional manager Omari Issa said Cape-based Engineering Management Services had been commissioned to conduct a market study for a manufacturing facility in one of the Southern African Development Community countries. He could not reveal further details.
Ethiopia frees Ke pre-tiff

ADDIS ABABA: Ethiopia has adopted a new law ending four decades of press censorship and loosening government control on news.

The country's transitional government approved the legislation on Sunday. The new law is in line with plans by President Meles Zenawi to liberalize the economy and ease the state's hold on all key social, economic and political institutions.

Gunmen trap aid workers

MOGADISHU: Plans to save Somalia from starvation were thrown into confusion on Tuesday when gunmen loyal to toppled President Mohamed Siad Barre seized a key southern town and trapped aid workers feeding 200,000 people.

Relief organisations believe there is a way of stopping the famine if there is a re-run of the warlord by alliance of desert armies that drove Siad Barre from power in January 1991.

Rebels' demand rejected

KIGALI: The Rwandan government has rejected a rebel demand that it resign in favor of an all-party cabinet to bring an end to two years of civil war.

The cabinet has rejected demands from the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) for a radical shake-up of the civil service and power-sharing at all levels of public service.

Rebels called on France to withdraw its 200 troops, saying it had taken sides in the war. France says the troops are there to protect foreign nationals.
Grain operation is hi-tech

By FRED KHUMALO

WITH many parts of the country in the throes of one of this century’s most severe droughts, Spoornet has started a massive project to transport food – maize and other cereals – to drought-stricken areas.

The operation is to bring 5,4 million tons of grain to SA and another 5,4 million tons to 10 similar drought-ravaged countries in southern Africa to help fight starvation.

It is estimated that 11 million tons of grain will be needed to stave off the looming food crisis.

So far, four million tons of grain have been brought to these shores. The programme is expected to end in April 1993.

"A lot of the food has safely reached its intended destination. Distribution will soon start – but our role is just the transportation to the recipient areas," said Portnet’s grain operations control centre manager, Simon Swainch.

The operation initiated by the United Nations World Food Programme is being co-ordinated by Spoornet in conjunction with representatives from Botswana and Zimbabwe.

The massive operation has been made possible by satellite technology and sophisticated software systems, used in post-war Kuwait, which facilitate the speedy off-loading of thousands of tons of grain on to railway trucks which then transport the grain as far afield as Malawi.

About 8,5 million tons will be routed through the South African ports of Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London and Cape Town, with the balance going via the Mozambican ports of Maputo, Beira and Nacala as well as the Tanzanian port of Dar-es-Salam.

Much-needed food

"We believe the food will reach the people in time," said Portnet’s Willem Burger.

But he warned that bad weather, possible labour unrest and port and border bottlenecks could cause delays.

At least 3,000 railway wagons have been taken out of mothballs to provide sufficient rolling stock as ships from countries as diverse as the US, Canada and some parts of Europe keep coming to local ports to deliver the much-needed maize and other cereals.

The railway authority expects 6,000 trainloads to be used in the year-long operation. Combined, these trains would be 3,000 km long.

To guarantee professional efficiency, a 20-man team, with the aid of computers linked by satellite to a mainframe in the US, monitors on a 24-hour basis the movement of every ship from the time it leaves port, mainly in the Americas, until it arrives in SA.

The same computer-based monitoring applies to every trainload and truckload until the shipment reaches its destination.

"In the cases of countries such as Malawi this can be up to three months from the arrival of the ship (in Durban harbour)," said a Portnet spokesman.

Malawi has received 126,000 tons of grain; Zimbabwe has received 812,000 tons; Zambia 195,000 tons; Namibia 82,000 tons; Botswana 93,000; Swaziland 35,000 and Lesotho 70,000.

Angola has received only 2,000 tons – and these have been delivered only in the UNITA-dominated southern part of the country.

"Our job is to transport the food. We can’t take decisions as to the amount of food to be sent to different destinations," Swainch said.
brief

The riot followed days of protests over perceived government slowness to respond to the earthquake that killed at least 541 people and made thousands homeless.

Quake victims riot

CAIRO - Egyptian police sealed off part of central Cairo and fired teargas at stone-throwing protesters as unrest sparked by last week's earthquake boiled over into a riot. About 50 people were arrested in the flare up.

MOGADISHU - Fresh fighting between rival clans kept famine victims in a huge area of Somalia beyond the reach of help from the outside world.

One of the country's fiercest warlords, Mohamed Farah Aiddeed, warned aid workers not to return to Bardere in the south until his militias had wrested the strategic town from ethnic foes who overran it last Tuesday. - Sapa-Reuter.
African markets 'ripe'

LOCAL entrepreneurs were losing millions of rands in sales and many opportunities to participate in projects in Africa, Safco Africa head Paul Runge said yesterday.

He told the annual Bisia conference at Somerset West that Safco helped about 250 local businessmen move into African territories each year and had established a strong core who traded there regularly.

However, local businessmen were hampered by factors such as a lack of deployable personnel and a lack of income to send people looking for work.

A lack of African contacts and ignorance of the local scene were other hindrances. "Africa is a continent in which little business is done until the right contacts are established, which is partly due to the fact that so many African countries have been ripped off in the past by their European partners," he said.

The legacy of apartheid was also a contributing factor, still making it difficult for locals to gain access to certain sources of funds and expertise, as well as to deal with certain governments.

"Time and again local businessmen have shown that they have better quality and less expensive services and products to offer other Africans. However, they lack the financial packages to make it possible for prospective customers to buy," Runge said.
The new order in Africa makes more relief work possible:

BAIDOA, Somalia - The unthinkable has happened. The plane on Runway One is South African. It is ferrying food for victims of Somalia's famine.

Two years ago its presence would have caused a diplomatic incident. African ambassadors in Mogadishu might have been abruptly recalled for consultation.

But in Africa's new order, the Safair private plane is just another Hercules chartered to bring more aid to the unprecedented disaster area that Somalia has become.

In English rich with the broad vowels of his native Afrikaans, captain Hennie Engelbrecht told a visitor: "It's good to be here. We've got close to 19 tons of rice on board."

Dripping with sweat, a team of Somalis unloaded the cargo, enough to feed close to a quarter of a million people camped around Baidoa, dubbed 'the City of Death'.

Safair lends a hand
when the transition to democracy is assured, his administration will start to develop a programme of aid and provide investment incentives to assist a "democratically elected government overcome the bitter legacy of apartheid".

Most analysts and pundits here predict a Clinton victory. Some are talking of a possible landslide.

**Energy**

It is expected in Washington that a Clinton administration would probably want to nominate an African American to replace Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Herman Cohen.

In his article, Clinton says: "If we are to lead the global alliance for democracy, we must be willing to work as hard in Africa as we are working in other parts of the world.

"That means putting the same kind of energy into helping South Africans overcome the legacy of apartheid as we do into helping the peoples of the former Soviet Union overcome the legacy of communism." — Sapa.

---

**African links now all in a day's work**

Baidoa — The unthinkable has landed. The plane on Runaway One is South African and is ferrying food for Somalia's famine.

Two years ago its presence would have caused a diplomatic incident. African ambassadors to Mogadishu had been abruptly recalled for consultation.

But in Africa's new order, the Safair plane is just another Hercules the better-off world has chartered for a disaster without precedent for decades.

"It's good to be here," Capt. Hennie Engelbrecht told a visitor in English rich with the broad vowels of Afrikaans. "We've got close to 19 tons of rice on board.

Dripping with sweat, a team of Somalis unloaded the cargo for close to a quarter of a million people camped around Baidoa, dubbed the City of Death by aid workers.

The plane is under charter to the French government and is operating out of the Red Sea state of Djibouti, one hub of an emergency operation which also revolves around the Kenyan capital, Nairobi. It has flown daily sorties to Somalia for nearly two weeks.

The SA Air Force has also flown food and drugs to Somali refugees in northern Kenya, a donation from SA Muslims to fellow believers now streaming across the border in search of peace and food.

Pretoria has also flown aid to Mozambique and Angola in recent times as part of its attempts to make peace with African states.

Last year SAA began scheduled flights to Nairobi as part of a drive to seek markets hitherto closed by sanctions. ANC supporters bitterly oppose such trade.

But commerce has its own logic. SA businessmen have set up shop across Africa and are also looking to the Gulf states.

The history of SA air links with the rest of the continent is cloak and dagger. The government is thought to have bypassed a ban on landing in much of Africa by operating through "front" companies.

Somalia played a part too. SA managed to get around the ban in the late 1970s by establishing an airline on the Comores Islands in the Indian Ocean. It refuelled in Somalia, said aviation sources.

"They also operated under the cover of Air Gabon and even flew beef and wine to Libreville when the president there had some kind of shindig," said one such source.

That "shindig", Africans recall, was an OAU summit which ended, like all the body's gatherings in those days, with a ringing denunciation of apartheid. — Sapa-AP.

---

**Court backs shipping company with SA ties**

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court has ruled that a shipping company that does business in SA should be exempted from the San Francisco's anti-apartheid ordinance and allowed to dock.

The appeals panel upheld a decision by the city port commission to let Nedlloyd Lines berth its ships regularly in San Francisco. The court said the Dutch company purportedly maintained direct shipping lines with SA.

The ordinance states that the ban does not apply where it would conflict with federal law or regulations, an exemption required by the supremacy of federal law under the US constitution.

The appeal court said on Tuesday that the San Francisco ban would conflict with a federal law that governs international shipping.

The 1986 ordinance prohibits San Francisco from doing any business, including signing loans or permits for the use of city property, with anyone who has business relations with SA.

-A ban on shippers doing business with SA "might be justified as a matter of public policy, but it is forbidden by the (federal) Shipping Act," said Judge D Ring in the 3-0 decision. — Sapa-AP.
Africa lauded for role in struggle

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu, the president of the All-Africa Churches Conference, yesterday praised African countries for contributing to the liberation of South Africa, the national news agency Ziana reported.

"We want to say a big thank you to you, our sisters and brothers in Africa, for your magnificent contribution to our freedom.

"We pray that violence will end and freedom will come soon," he said.

Addressing delegates to the sixth assembly meeting of the AACC in Harare, Tutu said when South Africa was free, perhaps the rest of Africa would become "truly free because Africa invested a very great deal in the South African liberation struggle".

He expressed concern about Africa's problems saying the continent was still undermined by human rights violations as well as still producing the vast bulk of the world's refugee population.

Africa was still suffering from the enormous debt burden and now it was the drought.

"We are suffering as the result of the devastating drought which has laid waste so much of our continent and we are in danger with the rest of the so-called Third World to be marginalised as the north concentrates on rehabilitating eastern Europe," he said.

Tutu said the Harare meeting was being held under a different context from that of the AACC's last meeting in Togo in 1987.

"The Berlin Wall is no more. Germany is united. We have seen the spectacular collapse of communism and Gorbachev and there is no longer a Soviet Union," he said.

He said without doubt some of these developments had affected what had taken place in other parts of the global village.

The events in eastern Europe had given a stimulus to the desire for democracy and multi-partyism, he said.

Sapa.
Fighting stops food aid

NAIROBI - Fighting has cut the lifeline of hundreds of thousands of Somali famine victims, threatening the United Nations' 100-day rescue plan while UN troops in Mogadishu seem powerless to intervene, relief officials said yesterday.

The United States air force suspended its food airlift to Baidoa, a crucial distribution centre to about 200,000 starving civilians after one of its C-130 transport planes was hit by a bullet near its fuel tank on Sunday.

Food deliveries also stopped to some 100,000 starving people around the southern port city of Kismayo because gunmen fired at two relief planes on Sunday.

-Sapa-AFP.
Plummeting on Africa's chart

South Africans are reviled by their African brothers for being unable to end the violence.

ByThembe Molote
Political Reporter

The young man behind the counter flashed a broad smile that says: "Welcome to Botswana, sir." But the expression on his face changed as soon as we answer his next question: "We are from South Africa."

Naturally, one would expect outsiders to sympathise with our pathetic lot because of the grinding of teeth and the weeping.

But no, this smile and many others, I would realise later, vanished because of contempt.

Africa's, in a word is, getting fed up with South Africans, especially with the black liberation movements.

A journalist covering last week's Gaborone summit between the Pan Africanist Congress and the South African Government told me:

"You guys must just shut up. You can't even agree on a basic thing like finding a common solution to end the violence."

"I thought he was crazy."

I thought he was crazy and also discountable.

As if this was not enough.

I was learning the fact that the rand had a very little value even in Botswana, which is about twice the Transvaal, when a man did not know he was on my face:

"Stop the violence and we will start respecting you again."

How the hell can he speak like that? The man is obviously ignorant of the dispasionate nature of South African politics.

I concluded that he was probably born many years after his country got independence from the British. Does he know what apartheid has done to our minds, our very being? Man!

"No no," said another journalist, "he's a plain man who can be solved by talking. I mean, what's stopping the African National Congress from discussing differences with the Inkatha Freedom Party if they are genuine about stopping the blood from flowing?"

Forces of destabilisation

"Forget the third force. It exists throughout southern Africa. In fact, the forces of destabilisation exist across the continent."

In essence he said that while Botswana citizens understood our dilemma, they felt liberation movements have emphasised the differences rather than accord.

A couple of years ago a colleague returned from a conference of photographic journalists in Harare and told this story:

"At the end of the three-day seminar I was asked to think the organiser on behalf of my South African colleagues present. I had not even finished my opening remarks when I was shouted down.

"Tell us about apartheid, you black boys?"

My colleague said he felt his African counterparts were despising him because they thought he was not concerned about fighting to end the system.

"How else could they justify affording hours such as attending conferences while his country was burning?"

"You can find this growing disdain everywhere you go in Africa."

In 1990 this conversation took place between a soldier at Yarimosamoe Airport in the Ivory Coast and me:

"Are you black or white?"

"Obviously, I thought the man was mad. "Of course I am black."

Same panto with FW

"Then how can you afford to fly in the same plane with the apartheid president?"

"He was referring to FW de Klerk during his visit to that country."

"I don't understand. How does my同胞 come into this?"

"You see, we are African and do not talk about black and white. So if you say you are also Africans why don't you speak with one voice against apartheid, especially if you are agreeable to it in a political evil?"

I thought this was rather far fetched and reminded this soldier that he was living and a dictator who suppressed freedom of association, dissent, etc.

Pro-democracy movement

He said: "Well, dictators don't last. Haven't you heard of the growing pro-democracy movement in Africa?"

"The man was right on that one."

On a more political note, the organisation of African Unity wants to see black unity, at least a principled united front of liberation movements, to hold the government in union.

The constitution assembly is one of the upholding issues between ANC, PAC and AZAPO.

And, for goodness sake, they all agreed that the violence is blinding the black nation to death!

And finally, if the ANC and PAC do not exploit their polls of community, we may as well forget about being free. And so it goes for the rest of the continent.
Egypt, Sudan meet to talk

CAIRO - Egypt and Sudan, bickering neighbours whose relations have deteriorated for two years, met again yesterday to try and resolve a long-simmering border dispute.

Sudan's assistant foreign minister Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin met President Hosni Mubarak's chief political adviser, Osama el-Baz, to discuss Halaib, the disputed area, and other problems.
'Terrorists' held

Algerian police arrest Muslim preacher's followers:

ALGIERS - Algerian police have arrested 10 members of a "terrorist" group led by a Muslim fundamentalist preacher, the official news agency APS said yesterday.

The agency said the gang sabotaged telephone links, set ablaze official vehicles and several buildings and sent threatening letters.

The men, arrested earlier this month, face charges including undermining state security, subversion and possession of firearms.

In the past two weeks, security forces in a nationwide crackdown have arrested more than 430 fundamentalists.

Most have been linked with the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front who have been blamed for killing more than 150 members of the security forces since last February. - Sapo-Reuters.
Opportunities for ‘adventurers’

THERE are opportunities for SA information technology companies wanting to export to other African countries, but they are advised to be “patient adventurers”.

This was made clear at last week’s Computer Society of SA seminar on computers, communications and trade in Africa.

Tara Systems director Seni Williams said his Nigerian software and consultancy company operated in several west African countries. SA could provide valuable expertise in assisting with many local technical problems, he said.

The infrastructures of many countries were ill-equipped to deal with communication breakdowns because of a lack of investment in diagnostic and fault-finding systems.

“However, central governments are aware of these problems, and realise that poor communication systems are helping to kill many local businesses, which are all highly decentralised,” Williams said.

There was a drive towards privatisation of some of the more specialised forms of communication, such as data links and networks.

He said west African governments were the biggest spenders on computer systems, except in Nigeria. “Business trends are now changing, with the drift towards privatisation.”

In Anglophone countries, utility type computer systems hardly existed, and much assistance could be offered in this sector.

“The most glaring problem in the region is the lack of capable, reliable and dedicated human resources, so there are opportunities for SA companies — but not if they are faint-hearted,” he said.

Kenya-based Computer Applications MD Mike Eldon told the conference Kenya’s finance sector was highly competitive, and about 30 banks were spending large amounts on computer systems.

He said there was a large, dynamic private sector with about 80 computer vendors chasing business in SA.

A lack of funds was causing bottlenecks in the communications field, and the country was about four years behind in its move towards digital systems.

“There are opportunities for third parties to assist in the telecommunications industry.”

“However, because decision-making is generally a slow process in Kenya, it would be wise for SA companies to be patient adventurers into our country,” said Eldon.

BMI-TechKnowledge director Alan Paul said Africa was slipping further and further behind in all infrastructural development, including telecommunications.

“However, the demand for communications is very high, and with regional co-operative development on the cards, there could be some major projects.”

Paul said there were significant opportunities to provide telephone services to southern Africa, with the goal being to provide phones within walking distance of the total regional population. This would mean an installation of about 4-million phones, or 500 000 lines a year, which translated into a $2.5bn a year market.
Germans assist film producers

German television network will also co-produce and finance production of films in African countries:

CHILDREN'S films from Africa are getting increasing attention in Germany. This is because of some new initiatives to co-produce films with directors from Africa and promote the African cinema at leading international film festivals in Germany.

The German television network Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen (ZDF) has made a good beginning initiating cooperation with African countries in the field of children's films with its One World project.

The project offers the possibility to co-produce and co-finance children's films in Africa and to buy the German rights for films by African directors.

The One World project has helped to generate greater awareness in Germany about the creative talent of the filmmakers in Africa, and has also made important contributions to promote inter-cultural dialogue.

The international film festivals in Berlin, Oberhausen, Mannheim and Munich have a long tradition of promoting the Africa cinema and many renowned directors in the continent were first discovered by these festivals.

The 10th International Munich Film Festival, held in June, focused on the children's film production in Africa by presenting six examples from Burkina Faso in the children's films section. They included films by Gaston Kabore, Idrissu Quadraogo, Djibril Diop Mambety and Mou斯塔pha Dao. The intention is to improve film production in Africa.
High-powered African bankers arrive

Trade ties prompt visit by French-speaking financiers

By Joshua Raboroko

A GROUP of high-powered bank executives from French-speaking African countries arrived in South Africa this week to establish contact with local bankers, business and political organisations.

The visit is in response to the trade that is beginning to take place between South African companies on the African continent.

Major banks

Delegates include presidents from most major banks in the French-speaking countries and will also familiarise themselves with local banking systems.

Representing 39 different institutions, the delegates come from 15 countries, including Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Madagascar, Rwanda, Niger, Chad and Zaire.

The group is being brought to South Africa under the auspices of the Centre International de Formation de la Profession Bancaire (CIFPB) based in Orleans, France.

CIFPB is an international banking institution, which was formed by French banks to meet their specific training and consulting needs.

It provides education for over 60,000 people annually and has developed a number of training centres.

A spokesman for the group said that the group was scheduled to meet representatives of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, African Bank, Nedbank, Government officials and the ANC.

During their week-long visit they will hold talks with leaders in Cape Town and Natal before flying to Maputo on November 1.
Rebels terrorise Monrovia again

NEWS

Town fears return to siege that claimed 60,000 lives during civil war in Liberia
Consumer organisations unite

To present education boards with course outlines intended for schools:

A LIAISON group of African consumer bodies was established on Wednesday after the first meeting of the Conference of African Consumer Organisations (COA).

The three-day conference in Kempton Park, co-hosted by South Africa and Kenya, was attended by delegates from Ghana, Mauritius, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland, Lesotho, Bophuthatswana and the Transkei.

SA Consumer Council's Jan Cronje said countries should share experiences.

COA will present educational boards with course outlines to be studied at schools and also utilise non-governmental organisations.

Kenya Consumers Organisation's Dr Jasper Okelo said a working committee would liaise with the International Organisation of Consumer Unions. - Sapa
SOUTH Africa has been urged to enter into new economic pacts with the rest of the continent.

A study commissioned by the SA Chamber of Business and released in Johannesburg this week has outlined the crucial importance of co-operation with African States.

The Africa Institute of SA, which carried out the research, says progress towards full international acceptance will strengthen commercial and other bonds.

Researcher Dr. Erich Leister says the African countries welcome these developments and look forward to South Africa joining regional groupings such as the SA Development Community and the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA).

Western leaders and development agencies hope that South Africa will help to promote development and stability in the region.
LIBREVILLE - A South African delegation headed by a top foreign affairs official arrived in the oil-rich west African state of Gabon on Wednesday.

The seven-member delegation, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Renier Schoeman, is to meet President Omar Bongo and to discuss possibilities for cooperation between the two countries.
MOGADISHU. The World Bank has announced it is donating about R80 million in grants to support United Nations efforts to feed thousands of Somalis dying of starvation.

Mr Francis Colaco, a World Bank director, told a news conference the bank did not usually get into relief aid or peacekeeping activities. But he said they were motivated by the situation in Somalia which had no functioning government that would allow the bank to institute loans or credits for development projects.
Powersharing on the cards

NAIROBI - Rwanda and its rebel foes agreed yesterday to the broad lines of an agreement to share power and end a ruinous two-year war. But the two sides failed to agree on the formation of a new legislative assembly and promised to meet again in two weeks to put the finishing touches to the accord. Officials at the four-week old talks said the government delegation, led by Foreign Minister Boniface Gashumba and rebels of the Rwanda Patriotic Front clinched the accord after days of difficult bargaining.
Liberian orphans trapped

MONROVIA - Three hundred children in an orphanage in the Liberian capital of Monrovia have been cut off by fierce fighting between rebels of the National Patriotic Front and West African troops.

Workers with Unicef, the UN Children’s Fund, said they had been without news of the orphans for a week, and were going to try to reach them by yesterday. John Egan 3/10/1972
Company provides loans to buy taxis

Members will also be helped to start other businesses:

By Joshua Raboreko

The Naftoc-affiliated National African Federated Transport Organisation has launched a scheme involving millions of rand to help their members buy vehicles and start businesses.

The organisation has formed the Dewline Enterprise Long Distance Transport Company Ltd which will make loans available to potential taxi owners and shopkeepers.

The company already has R4 million in its coffers.

At a Press conference this week the company's managing director, Mr Lebina Mofokeng, said the company consisted of 30 Naftoc associations in the Transvaal and Orange Free State who wanted to improve the standard and quality of the taxi industry.

Members were expected to buy the maximum of 6 000 shares. The money would be deposited in a bank and be used to buy vehicles.

About 150 of their more than 4 000 members had already benefited from the scheme, he said.

The company offered security and provision would also be made for old vehicles to be improved and be insured against theft, riot damage and robbery.

Lebina said that the association had built three large supermarkets in Petrus Steyn, Kroonstad and Vereniging.

SA told to join Africa

Research shows this will create economic opportunities:

SOUTH Africa has been urged to enter into new economic pacts with the rest of the continent.

A study commissioned by the SA Chamber of Business and released in Johannesburg this week has outlined the crucial importance of co-operation with African States.

The Africa Institute of SA, which carried out the research, says progress towards full international acceptance will strengthen commercial and other bonds.

Researcher Dr Erich Leister says the African countries welcome these developments and look forward to South Africa joining regional groupings such as the SA Development Community and the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA).

Western leaders and development agencies hope that South Africa will help to promote development and stability in the region.
Millionaires eyes presidency
LAGOS: Mushood Abiola, a millionaire champion of African demands for reparations for

AFRICA BRIEFS

Western exploitation may stand for Nigeria's
civilian presidency, say political sources.
Abiola has ties with military President
Ibrahim Babangida, whose Armed Forces Rul-
ing Council this month scrapped fraudulent
presidential primaries and sacked elected offi-
cials of the two army-created parties vying for
political power.
The sources say Abiola, who opted out of the
race in March, is now keen to run and is having
talks with the Social Democratic Party.

More attacks on police
ALGIERS: Gunmen have made four
attacks on Algerian policemen in less than
24 hours, killing three and wounding two,
says the official news agency APS.
The attacks are the latest of many apparent-
ly carried out by a Muslim fundamentalist
underground movement. More than 150
policemen or gendarmes have been killed since
the authorities stopped fundamentalists win-
ning general elections in January.
APS say the authorities have arrested 21
members of an armed Islamic group in the
remote southern town of Ghadala for possess-
ing arms, explosives and subversive propa-
ganda.

No responsibility for drinkers
TRIPOLI: Libyans who drink alcohol, play
cards or are married to foreigners cannot
become ambassadors or assume other posi-
tions of responsibility, Libyan leader Muam-
mir Gaddafi has announced.
Speaking to an assembly of committees over-
seeing the country's new "commune" system of
local government, the maverick leader said
drinking and playing cards were distractions
from work and could not be tolerated in public
officals.
Alcohol was banned in Libya shortly after
Gaddafi came to power in 1969. — Sapa-
Reuter
Ivory Coast

THE GOVERNMENT has again rejected a call by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for sharp reductions in salary outlays for civil servants.

During a four-hour interview on national television this month, Prime Minister Alассаnie Ouattara said his government "cannot accept a major reduction in civil service spending".

The IMF suspended a $120-million (about R336 million) standby credit agreement with the West African nation in June, saying the government had failed to meet budgetary targets.

The IMF wants authorities to cut the government payroll, increase tax revenue, and eliminate price supports for coffee and cocoa, the principal exports.
Melbourne — The Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) is to sell its African operations to SA's Standard Bank Investment Corporation (Stanbic).

An announcement was made by ANZ's CEO Don Mercer at the weekend.

ANZ had agreed a price of A$630m, which represented a premium on the book value of the operations, Mercer said in a statement reported by the Australian Associated Press.

Stanbic MD Eddie Theron said yesterday full details of the deal would be released in Johannesburg.

The businesses to be sold include ANZ's 100%-owned operations in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Zaire and Botswana, its majority-owned operations in Kenya and Uganda, and its minority interests in Ghanaian and Nigerian operations.

The sale involved total assets of more than A$600m and risk-weighted assets in excess of A$500m, Mercer said.

The sale was part of an ANZ strategy of selling non-core operations and expanding into the Asian region.

"When our new branch in Vietnam opens later this year, it will increase our Asia-Pacific representation to 18 countries," All of the more than 1,100 staff employed in Africa would be retained, Mercer said.

— Sapa-Reuters.
Great debate appeal

YAOUNDE - Cameroon's President, Paul Biya, sworn in for his third term yesterday after much-disputed elections, said a "great national debate" would be held to discuss major changes to the constitution. (t)

Biya, who declared a state of emergency in the north-west after violent protests by opposition supporters, called for the great debate during his swearing-in ceremony. - Sowetan Africa News Service and Sapa-Reuter-AP

9/11/92
Africa ‘must work hard to become a world player’

TOTAL factor productivity remained constant between 1980 and 1987 in sub-Saharan Africa, against increases of 1.9% a year in East Asia, National Productivity Institute executive director Jan Visser said yesterday.

Delivering the keynote address, he said that since 1980, growth in productivity had accounted for a small proportion of output growth for most developing countries.

Visser said the World Bank had predicted there would be an increase of nearly 100 million poor people in sub-Saharan Africa which would make 50% of the developing world poor, compared with 16% in 1980.

“Now the correlation between productivity and economic growth is strong and positive, and Africa will simply have to increase productivity if it wants to become a world economic player,” he said.

GDP in the sub-Saharan region decreased by 1.2% a year between 1980 and 1988, while it increased in all other regions except Latin America.

The growth rate of 1% a year achieved by the sub-Saharan region was not high enough to accommodate the high population growth rate of 3.2% a year.

Visser said that in recent years, East Asia had grown rapidly through expansion in trade. Annual growth in real exports increased by more than 10% from East Asia, while they declined in sub-Saharan Africa.

Since agriculture provided Africa with 33% of Africa’s GDP and 40% of its exports, the continent had a clear comparative advantage and it offered the best immediate opportunity for raising incomes, he said.

“Agricultural growth must be doubled to 4% a year to be able to increase Africa’s standard of living.”

He said that even when full account was taken of the environmental limits to land exploitation, the scope for expanding production was great.

Over a longer period, policies should aim at fostering private investment and entrepreneurship in the industrial sector, he said.

Visser said education would affect productivity and growth, as a better educated person absorbed information faster and applied new processes more successfully.

Visser said the adult literacy rate in sub-Saharan Africa was only 48% compared with 71% in East Asia, and fewer than 50% of children were enrolled in primary school in the sub-Saharan region.

Visser concluded that to have an African productivity association dominated by governments and politicians would be fundamentally wrong, and he was pleased that no politician had been involved in the first assembly.
A REVOLUTION is under way in Africa. From South Africa to Ethiopia, from Kenya to Zaire, Africans are struggling to achieve political and economic freedoms that we Americans often take for granted.

If we are to lead a global alliance for democracy, we must be willing to work as hard in Africa as we are working in other parts of the world. That means putting the same kind of energy into helping South Africans overcome the legacy of apartheid as we do into helping the peoples of the former Soviet Union overcome the legacy of communism. It means opposing political oppression across Africa as firmly as we oppose political oppression in Asia and the Middle East. Over the past three years, Africans have made great strides towards democracy. But we should not allow this progress to lull us into complacency.

As recent events in Ethiopia and South Africa have reminded us, the road to democracy in Africa, as in other parts of the world, will be long and difficult.

Africans must take the lead in addressing the underlying causes of the continent's failure to develop stable, democratic governments and prosperous economies. Among those causes are failed statist economic policies, bureaucratic corruption and one-party rule. A growing number of African leaders are beginning to take up these challenges and they deserve our strong support.

Our top priority must be to foster democracy. We cannot guarantee the success of the democratic experiments, but there are several actions we could take that would improve the chances that these experiments will succeed.

First, we must reform our aid programmes to ensure that the assistance we provide truly benefits Africans and encourages the development of democratic institutions and free-market economies.

In the 80s the Reagan and Bush administrations provided record amounts of aid to Africa. But much of that aid was used to support corrupt, dictatorial regimes. I am confident that Americans will support generous assistance to Africa if they believe that it will be used effectively to assist those struggling for democracy and economic opportunity — and not to curry favour with their oppressors.

We must also reform the way we deliver aid to Africa. The existing structure is too large and cumbersome and too much money is spent on bureaucracy and consultants.

A second step we should take to encourage progress in Africa is to support measures to strengthen UN peace-keeping capabilities.

War is the enemy of democracy. Unless we are willing to commit ourselves to creating international mechanisms that preserve the peace, we are likely to witness an unending series of humanitarian crises.

Finally, we need to devote special attention to the struggle for democracy in South Africa. The stakes there are very high and what happens in South Africa will inevitably affect the prospects for democracy and economic growth in the rest of the continent.

We need to do three things to encourage the transition to democracy in South Africa.

First, we must work to help end the violence that has ravaged black townships and threatened the Codesa process.

We must firmly insist that the De Klerk government investigate and prosecute those responsible for the violence, target some of our assistance towards strengthening local peace-keeping structures and support Nelson Mandela's call for international monitoring.

Second, we should maintain all remaining state and local sanctions, as well as diplomatic pressure, until there is an irreversible, full, and fair accommodation with the black majority to create a democratic government with full rights for all its citizens.

We should also continue the current restrictions on South Africa's access to international financial institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund, until this goal is reached.

Finally, when the transition to democracy is assured, a Clinton administration will begin to develop a programme of aid and investment incentives that can be used to help a democratically elected government overcome the bitter legacy of apartheid.

This is an edited version of an article which first appeared in Africa Report. Copyright (c) 1992 African-American Institute.
Africa ‘must work hard to become a world player’

TOTAL factor productivity remained constant between 1960 and 1987 in sub-Saharan Africa against increases of 1.9% a year in East Asia, National Productivity Institute executive director Jan Visser said yesterday.

Delivering the keynote address, he said that since 1965, growth in productivity had accounted for a small proportion of output growth for most developing countries.

Visser said the World Bank had predicted there would be an increase of nearly 100-million poor people in sub-Saharan Africa which would make 50% of the developing world poor, compared with 16% in 1965.

“The correlation between productivity and economic growth is strong and positive, and Africa will simply have to increase productivity if it wants to become a world economic player,” he said.

GDP in the sub-Saharan region decreased by 1.2% a year between 1960 and 1989, while it increased in all other regions except Latin America. The growth rate of 1% a year achieved by the sub-Saharan region was not high enough to accommodate the high population growth rate of 3.2% a year.

Visser said that in recent years, East Asia had grown rapidly through expansion in trade. Annual growth in real exports increased by more than 10% from East Asia, while they declined in sub-Saharan Africa.

Since agriculture provided Africa with 33% of Africa's GDP and 40% of its exports, the continent had a clear comparative advantage and it offered the best immediate opportunity for raising incomes, he said.

“Agricultural growth must be doubled to 4% a year to be able to increase Africa’s standard of living.” He said that even when full account was taken of the environmental limits to land exploitation, the scope for expanding production was great.

Over a longer period, policies should aim at fostering private investment and entrepreneurship in the industrial sector, he said.

Visser said education would affect productivity and growth, as a better educated person absorbed information faster and applied new processes more successfully.

Visser said the adult literacy rate in sub-Saharan Africa was only 48% compared with 71% in East Asia, and fewer than 50% of children were enrolled in primary school in the sub-Saharan region.

Visser concluded that to have an African productivity association dominated by governments and politicians would be fundamentally wrong, and he was pleased that no politician had been involved in the first assembly.
Standard invests in Africa
Soweto - 5/11/92

By Joshua Raboroko

STANDARD Bank Investment Corporation (SBIC) has acquired about R165,71 million interest in Grindlays Bank with effect from November 2.

SBIC will assume equity control of ANZ Grindlays banks in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya, Botswana, Uganda and Zaire.

Significant minority interests in banks in Nigeria and Ghana are also part of the acquisition.

The banks together have 25 branches and almost 1 400 staff members, all of whom will be retained.

The operation will be managed from Johannesburg as part of the Africa Banking Group within SBIC, which presently includes banks in Botswana, Namibia and Swaziland.

At a Press conference in Johannesburg this week, SBIC’s group managing director Mr Eddie Theron confirmed the deal and said it was an important step.

He said the acquisition of the operation further strengthens SBIC’s capacity for helping trade flows in Africa and, taken with its newly established operations in London, Jersey and Isle of Man, enhances its capability to serve clients internationally.

As a strategic initiative, the acquisition is in line with the Group’s stated intention to play a more significant part in regional development on the African continent.
Rawlings is president-elect

ACCRA - Ghana's head of state, Jerry Rawlings, was poised to win presidential elections after partial results from first round polling on Tuesday gave him a commanding lead over four challengers.

Election officials yesterday said with ballots from 177 out of the 200 constituencies, Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings, who retired from the military in September, has won about 2.091.996 of the 3,562,342 votes cast.

His closest opponent, retired history professor Albert Adu-Bobie, took 29.9 percent with about 1,065,039 votes, the officials said.

Former president Hilla Limann, whom Rawlings overthrew in a December 1981 coup, is third with 244,696 votes.

Businessman Kwabena Darko has 103,625 votes for 2.9 percent and retired Lieutenant-General Emmanuel Erskine had 56,716 votes for 1.6 percent. - Sapa-AFP
Liberian rebels fight peace force

REBEL forces besieging the Liberian capital Monrovia fired rockets at a Nigerian plane carrying reinforcements for the multinational west African peacekeeping force under attack at strategic points around the city. Members of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) fired at the Nigerian Okada Air plane as it landed at Spriggs Payne airfield, witnesses said. The rockets failed to hit their target.

The NPFL leader, Charles Taylor, has said he will continue firing at peacekeeping force aircraft with the aim of bringing them down. The United States condemned the slaughter of five American nuns who were shot last week in NPFL territory, three outside their convent in the Monrovia suburb of Gardnersville and two further inside NPFL territory. The embassy stopped short of specifically blaming the NPFL and Mr Taylor's radio station claimed on Saturday that the murders were carried out by a retreating member of the peacekeeping force. The Roman Catholic archbishop of Monrovia, Michael Francis, one of the few outspoken critics of atrocities throughout the war, said of the nuns' killers: "They are destroyers, not builders. They have done nothing for their country. We prayed for these wicked people, liars, who kill us and murdered the sisters."

The NPFL, which invaded Liberia in December 1989 and has been attempting to seize Monrovia since June 1990, launched its current offensive on October 16. Mr Taylor, who has become increasingly belligerent, appears to have dropped all intentions of abiding by peace agreements he signed last year in the Ivory Coast. According to one of his closest advisers he is determined to use all his military force in the attack on Monrovia, where rival military factions which have been bombarding him constantly are concentrated. The combined strength of the 9,000-strong peacekeeping force, the remnants of the former national army, militias loyal to the interim president Amos Sawyer, and tribal supporters of the murdered former president Samuel Doe, have failed to halt the NPFL advance.

Earlier this week the NPFL forces were fighting the peacekeepers in the suburbs of Paynesville to the south and Gardnersville to the north. According to sources recently in Mr Taylor's territory, the 10,000 strong NPFL guerrilla army has acquired armoured personnel carrier Nigeria, which dominates the peacekeeping force with its contingent of around 6,000, has bombed NPFL targets with Alpha jet fighter aircraft. More than 100,000 refugees have fled in the past two weeks to Monrovia, which is facing an increasingly serious water shortage.

Cameroon's poll 'victor' under house arrest

A doctor allowed into the house said that officers enforcing new emergency orders had refused his request to evacuate the sick.

"I have examined 11 people so far," said Dr Paul Achu. "I wanted to evacuate one 20-year-old girl who has cerebral malaria, but the commandant at the gate said he could not give authorisation."

Mr Fru Ndi, who came out of hiding and was allowed back into his house, said he had not tried to step out since but was sure he would be stopped.

"I don't want to descend to argu-
Somali town waits to die as warlords feud

By Mark Huband in Mulid camp, near Bardera

ALL lies alone under the hot sun as the sweating men hack at the hard ground that will become his grave. All morning they have been digging the loose earth on the top of the dyke beside a river bed. They chase away sightseers who peer at Ali's body.

"This is the death people. Come and see. This is the death people," says Hassan Mahmud Mohammed, chairman of Bardera's relief committee. He was appointed to the job when fighters of the Somali National Front faction seized Bardera last month.

Before the town fell, aid agencies had reduced the daily death rate from starvation to 50. The fighting led to relief flights being suspended and the withdrawal of all relief workers. Now there are 288 bodies waiting to be buried. That was the death toll from the previous night.

Sometimes the daily rate is as high as 400. Ali's hole on the dyke is flanked by graves which stretch out of the town and into the scrub.

The seasonal rains have started and the dyke will become sodden. The earth will slip away and the sightseers will be back to see the corpses exposed.

"We are tired of digging. We think only of digging. We bury them on the top of the mound because the ground is softer on the top. We dig quickly," said Abdukader Yassin, the only doctor in Bardera -- a doctor with no medicine and few means of treating the people whose illnesses he diagnoses.

Bardera is trapped between a minefield to the west and the front line of fighting to the east. The Somali National Front which holds the town, is led by General Mohammed Sayeed Hersi Morgan, son-in-law of the country's deposed dictator, Mohammed Siad Barre.

SNF forces camped for four months in the hills west of Bardera waiting for the leader of the faction then controlling the town, General Mohamed Farah Aideed, to leave Bardera on a visit to Mogadishu. Then they marched in. Gen Aideed has declared his aim of recapturing Bardera, and his troops are only 30 miles away. When he lost the town, Gen Aideed told the United Nations that all the civilians had fled. This was a lie intended to discourage the UN from sending food aid. The UN believed him for a few days, and the people of Bardera started to die. Then the UN realised they had been tricked. They had not expected Somali leaders to be that callous.

The minefield, which was laid by the SNF when they were planning their siege of Bardera, has also stopped relief agencies arriving by road from Kenya. There are up to 60,000 people in Bardera and the surrounding area who are eating rapidly depleting relief food left behind when the aid agencies departed. The only activity in Bardera is grave-digging.

Children lick cornmeal from where it has split in the sand at Mulid camp, a mile outside Bardera. A man in a camouflage jacket chases them away with a stick. There are 11,000 people in the camp and they are all starving.

Maymuna Mohamud is in a dome-shaped tent made of thorn bushes. Her movements are slow and it is as if she is floating.

"I need some sugar. I can eat sugar. And milk. I can't digest what the people bring me," she murmurs. Everybody has left her village of Jaware, 20 miles from Bardera. A month ago the people there were receiving a steady supply of food, sent out from Bardera on trucks by the US-based relief organisation, Care International.

"Everybody is dead in the village. There's nobody left. I came here walking. Now I can't walk. Please bring me to the hospital. They have food," she says.

In hot but baking under the scorching sun, drenched when the rains pour people lie waiting to die or to bury the dead. Mulid is a death camp for people in danger of being forgotten. Bardera is a town waiting to be rescued.

The last food to arrive was brought in by a German military aircraft on October 24 as part of the multinational airlift.

The SNF, responsible for organising the composition of the relief committee, had omitted one of the 25 local sub-clans thereby depriving members of that sub-clan of their cut of the food automatically lootd by the warlords.

During unloading cooking oil and high protein Unimix, an aggrieved member of the excluded sub-clan fired a missile over the plane which exploded beside the runway. The plane immediately took off and further relief flights were suspended.
Muslim militants arrested

ALGIERS: Police have arrested 25 Muslim militants suspected of providing arms, funds and forged documents to anti-government commandos, state radio reported this week.

The radio said the arrested supporters of the banned Islamic Salvation Front included a doctor, a Muslim clergyman, several engineers and a university professor in the eastern city of Constantine.

More than 500 people, most of them supporters of the fundamentalist Salvation Front, have been arrested since new counter-terrorism measures were decreed in late September.
Africa’s new hope for the famished

AN American winner of the Nobel peace prize, Norman Borlaug, whose high-yield dwarf wheat changed the face of food production in Asia, believes a solution to Africa’s horrendous food shortage is in sight.

Experiments carried out under his guidance in various parts of the continent gave surprising results. Yields have risen, on average, by no less than 2.5 times.

Borlaug has been experimenting extensively in the Sudan, where wheat and sorghum crop yields have increased dramatically. In March this year the Sudanese harvested no less than 800,000 tons of wheat compared with a previous total of around 160,000 tons. In Ghana maize production has increased by about 40 percent and indications are that this figure will steadily rise in the future.

Other areas where 78-year-old Borlaug’s scientists are operating include Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Begin and Togo.

Borlaug, who became famous as a plant breeder in the American state of Iowa, believes African leaders can play a key role in increasing production of food by taking a few simple steps:

- Make it a priority that fertiliser reaches African villages at least six weeks before the planting season starts.
- Provide the farmers with credit to pay off debts.
- Ensure that they receive a fair price for their produce.

Africa has two major problems that inhibit food production. Firstly, its soil is acidic and in great need of fertiliser. Secondly, its farming methods are generally primitive. More than 80 percent of the continent’s farming is still done by hand, consisting mainly of slash-and-burn cultivation with sickles, sticks and hoes. About eight out of every 10 farm workers are women.

Only about 16 percent of African farms are cultivated by animal power. If one considers that without animal power only about 2.5 acres can be cultivated by one family, then it becomes clear why most of Africa’s agriculture consists of subsistence farming.

A mere four percent of cultivation is done with machinery.

But while Africa has the lowest farm output in the world it possesses the most unused and uncultivated land.

If farming methods can be improved while more unused land is cultivated, the continent should be able to overcome its present problem of widespread starvation. Combine the foregoing with the knowledge the Borlaug team has built up since its programme in Africa started in 1966 and food production can even increase spectacularly.

New high-yielding strains of important crops are gradually appearing on the scene. With further development and hard work these strains can change the face of Africa.

Borlaug says he has no instant solution to Africa’s food problems. But by scientifically marshalling all available knowledge on Africa’s crops, the use of fertiliser, insect and weed control, and the optimal use of available moisture a solution is in sight.
Breakthrough as Ghana opens doors

THE SA Foreign Trade Organisation (Safoto) has been invited to exhibit at a major trade show in Ghana in what is described as SA’s biggest breakthrough into west Anglophone Africa.

The Ghana International Trade Fair draws 3 million visitors and is being held for the fourth time in February and March.

Safoto Africa manager Paul Runge said of this “major breakthrough”:

“The invitation to Ghana opens the door into Anglophone Africa, which has previously been closed to SA.”

Runge said more than 400 local and foreign exhibitors were expected from the agricultural, building and road construction industries.

Hotels, catering and tourism would also be well represented.

Runge said Ghana was a particularly important African market for SA, having maintained a 5% annual growth rate over the past 10 years.

“Ghana is a favourite of the IMF and World Bank for its successful structural adjustment programmes.”

Runge said Ghana, which recently lifted person-to-person sanctions against SA, had a liberal system of foreign exchange, operating through a network of foreign exchange kiosks sanctioned by the government, he said.
West Africans clamp down

ABUJA - West African leaders have called for a ceasefire in Liberia, imposed sanctions on the country's warring factions and urged United Nations involvement to help end the three-year-old conflict.

The measures, similar to others flouted in the past by main rebel leader Charles Taylor, were announced on Saturday after a meeting in Abuja, Nigeria, of a committee set up by the 16-nation Economic Community of West African States.
AFRICA VS AIDS: It’s time for war

Ignorance is the biggest killer in Africa. Justin Pearce looks at the issues faced by educators trying to combat the AIDS epidemic.

There is no such thing as AIDS. It is a means of propaganda used by governments to promote smaller families through the use of condoms. This is one of the false and dangerous rumours that are encouraging the spread of AIDS in Africa, says Dr Elizabeth Ngugi.

Ngugi, of the University of Nairobi in Kenya, is one of Africa’s leading authorities on AIDS and on how to prevent it. She was speaking recently at a conference in Johannesburg of the National AIDS Convention of South Africa (Nacosa) on the topic of “AIDS — the African perspective”.

Of the 10 million people infected with HIV worldwide, six million are in Africa. This means that one in every 40 adults in Africa is infected. In addition, 750,000 children are infected with HIV. Given the poor health services that exist in Africa, most of these children will die before their fifth birthday, says Ngugi.

Another serious problem for Africa is that the age group that is most economically productive is worst hit by AIDS.

Ngugi calls for “speed and dedication” in tackling a fast-spreading epidemic. She suggests four steps to be taken in developing a programme to control the virus:

* Assess the current state of the epidemic and develop a surveillance system to monitor its spread.
* Identify and prioritize the risk factors, such as sexual practices or intravenous drug use.
* Establish a good working relationship between the providers of health care and those who receive it.
* If the hospitals can be relieved of the burden of AIDS patients, so much the better.

She says that more and more people infected in the eighties will start getting sick. Eventually, 80 percent of hospital beds in adult medical wards could be occupied by patients with HIV-related diseases.

“Thus there is an urgent need to build the capabilities of individuals and families so that sufferers can be cared for by the community.”

Ngugi endorses the “bottom up” model of AIDS care that emerged from discussions at the Nacosa conference. In terms of this model, AIDS strategy is driven by the needs of communities and health workers, not by the dictates of government.

“This approach will give you greater success if you take into account right from the beginning the general population and those with special needs,” Ngugi says.

Among people with special educational needs, Ngugi identifies young people. In Kenya, drama, music and print media have targeted school pupils. In Uganda, AIDS education is a compulsory examineable subject in primary schools.

“This is aimed at eight to 14 year olds to save the next generation,” Ngugi says. “The youth out of school are in a far more difficult situation. They are not organised.”

She said non-governmental organisations in Kenya have had some success in mobilising youth, using drama and other culture-based programmes.

Women are particularly threatened by AIDS because the inequalities they face make them powerless to protect themselves from AIDS, Ngugi says.

Economic and educational inequality, with the fact that “women do not have negotiation power for condom usage” make them a vulnerable group.

Poverty can drive women into prostitution, making them more vulnerable to infection. Education can produce results here, says Ngugi. She says that in parts of Nairobi, half the prostitutes have started using condoms after an educational programme.

But men also need to be targeted in Africa, as they are more likely than women to have multiple sexual partners. In cultures that tolerate polygamy, educating men is all the more difficult.

Educational programmes need to be addressed to particular groups of men such as long-distance truck drivers, who tend to have many sexual partners.

Looking at the various means of imparting AIDS education, Ngugi identifies electronic media as the most important.

In Kenya, radio reaches far more people than television, but, she says, “television is still important because the people who watch it are the policy-makers who will influence funders and government support”.

The print media are also important in reinforcing the message of the electronic media.

Aids information, unlike the disease itself, is also orally transmitted. Ngugi says that over half the Kenyan population has acquired knowledge of AIDS from talking to friends. Merely creating a climate in which people feel comfortable about discussing AIDS can help educate people about the epidemic.

Kenya, like South Africa, regards tourism as an important source of income. This has made governments reluctant to speak out about AIDS, for fear of scaring away tourists and investors.

“These industries must be protected by all means, but not at the expense of our communities,” says Ngugi.

“After all, what we are supposed to promote is the history and beauty of our countries, rather than killing tourism.”

“Let South Africa emulate the concept of ‘action today’ rather than ‘wait and see’. Tomorrow will be too late to save millions of men, women and children.”

“Be bold and implement the AIDS control models that have worked elsewhere, as well as developing new ones,” she says.
A REVOLUTION is under way in Africa. From South Africa to Ethiopia, from Kenya to Zaire, Africans are struggling to achieve political and economic freedoms that we Americans often take for granted.

If we are to lead a global alliance for democracy, we must be willing to work as hard in Africa as we are working in other parts of the world. That means putting the same kind of energy into helping South Africans overcome the legacy of apartheid as we do into helping the peoples of the former Soviet Union overcome the legacy of communism. It means opposing political oppression across Africa as firmly as we oppose political oppression in Asia and the Middle East. Over the past three years, Africans have made great strides towards democracy. But we should not allow this progress to lull us into complacency.

As recent events in Ethiopia and South Africa have reminded us, the road to democracy in Africa, as in other parts of the world, will be long and difficult.

Africans must take the lead in addressing the underlying causes of the continent's failure to develop stable democratic governments and prosperous economies. Among those causes are failed statist economic policies, bureaucratic corruption and one-party rule. A growing number of African leaders are beginning to take up these challenges and they deserve our strong support.

Our top priority must be to foster democracy. We cannot guarantee the success of the democratic experiments, but there are several actions we could take that would improve the chances that these experiments will succeed.

First, we must reform our aid programmes to ensure that the assistance we provide truly benefits Africans and encourages the development of democratic institutions and free-market economies.

In the 80s the Reagan and Bush administrations provided record amounts of aid to Africa. But much of that aid was used to support corrupt, dictatorial regimes. I am confident that Americans will support generous assistance to Africa if they believe that it will be used effectively to assist those struggling for democracy and economic opportunity — and not to curry favour with their oppressors. We must also reform the way we deliver aid to Africa.

The existing structure is too large and cumbersome and too much money is spent on bureaucracy and consultants. A second step we should take to encourage progress in Africa is to support measures to strengthen UN peacekeeping capabilities.

War is the enemy of democracy. Unless we are willing to commit ourselves to creating international mechanisms that preserve the peace, we are likely to witness an unending series of humanitarian crises.

Finally, we need to devote special attention to the struggle for democracy in South Africa. The stakes there are very high and what happens in South Africa will inevitably affect the prospects for democracy and economic growth in the rest of the continent.

We need to do three things to encourage the transition to democracy in South Africa. First, we must work to help end the violence that has ravaged black townships and threatened the Codesa process. We must firmly insist that

---

*This is an edited version of an article which first appeared in Africa Report. Copyright (c) 1992 African-American Institute.*
300 families left homeless

MORE than 300 families at Brooksby in Bophuthatswana have been left homeless following severe thunderstorms that have raged in the area for the past two weeks.

The defence force has supplied them with tents as temporary accommodation.

Eight on fact-finding tour

EIGHT South Africans will undertake a two-week fact-finding tour of East Africa from tomorrow, the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa said yesterday.

Mrs Shelagh Gastrow, head of Ida's Africa Programme, will lead the tour, which will include a visit to Kenya as observers to the first multiparty elections. The tour will also include a visit to Ethiopia and Uganda. The tour party comprises Gastrow, Mr Cas Coovadia, general secretary of the Civic Association of Johannesburg, Mr Jerome Ngwenya of the Independent Mediation Service of SA, Ms Ilse Ockers of Lawyers for Human Rights, journalists Barney Mthombeni and Thorya Pandy and Ida's staffs Henning Myburgh and Simon Noubel.

5 charged for 24 murders

FIVE men appeared in Durban's Regional Court yesterday in connection with last month's massacre at Folweni in which 24 people were killed.

They are Mr Lucas Nguhane (19), Mr Mbangisi Nzama (21), both of Umbumbulu, Mduduzi Ngobese (18), Mr Bongani Hlatshwayo (19), both of Folweni, and Mr Sisko Mthethwa (22), of Chesterville. They are charged with 24 counts of murder, 24 of attempted murder and several of the illegal possession of explosives, firearms and ammunition.

April is DP's vice-chairman

THE Democratic Party has re-elected Mr David Gant as chairman of its national council while former Labour Party parliamentarian Mr Chris April was elected as vice-chairman of the council.

The DP announced the elections yesterday. The party's two-day national congress, which ended on Saturday, resolved that party structures at all levels should reflect the nonracial nature of the DP's current membership and support base.
ABUJA: African capital markets, yet undeveloped, were looking to foreign resources to help them grow, said delegates to an international conference on promoting capital markets in Africa which ended in Abuja at the weekend.

The participants, who came from 15 African countries and five others (Oman, the US, Sweden, Britain and France), said African markets should aim for "self-reliance" and "less dependence" on external aid.

"The continent is at a crossroads at which African governments and their people will need to make important, and sometimes painful, decisions needed to revitalise their economies," the UN economic and social council said at the gathering.

The "heavy dependence" of Africa on external resources to finance development and the attendant erosion of political and economic sovereignty of its nations were some of the "formidable challenges" facing the continent in the 1990s, the agency said in a paper titled "The African Economies in Perspective".

SAPA-AFP
Somalis land in Yemen

ADEN — A dilapidated freighter crammed with thousands of desperate refugees from Somalia's civil war arrived yesterday at Yemen's port of Aden, officials reported.

Doctors of the French-based Médicins Sans Frontières planned to inspect the estimated 2,500 refugees, then send the healthy to a refugee camp. (1)

Health officials were especially concerned about 400 children believed aboard. It was not clear what would happen to any ailing refugees.

Thousands of Somalis have fled clan fighting and a famine that has left at least 300,000 dead this year and about 2 million facing starvation. — Sapa-AP.
Tutu tries to aid Cameroon

Yaounde - Archbishop Desmond Tutu has urged Cameroon's President Paul Biya to form a government of national unity to defuse a political crisis after disputed elections, state radio said yesterday.

But opposition leader John Fru Ndi, who is under house arrest, immediately rejected the proposal and said the constitution must be completely changed.

Tutu has been acting as a mediator between Biya and Fru Ndi, who both claim to have won last month's presidential election.

The government has cracked down on opposition protest and clamped a state of emergency on Fru Ndi's home area, North-West province.

State radio said the archbishop, on a five-day visit to Cameroon as head of the All-Africa Conference of Churches, suggested a unity government in a written note to Biya. He left to return to SA yesterday.

There was no immediate government reaction.

But Fru Ndi said his Social Democratic Front (SDF) could not join a government with Biya.

"No, no, no. I told him (Tutu) that a union government with the SDF will not work because we don't have the same programme," he said. - Sapa-Reuters
Africa 'ready for funds'

BRUSSELS — Africa was more prepared for investment that would help create free market economies than Eastern Europe, African Development Bank president Babacar Ndiaye said on Wednesday.

Africa and Eastern Europe were in competition for investment from Western firms, just as funds were drying up with the global recession hitting and companies tightening their belts.

"If we compare Africa and Eastern Europe, I would say our continent is more prepared for a market economy," Ndiaye told a conference of Belgian businessmen in Brussels.

He said Africa had greater experience with market economies than Eastern Europe.

He was also optimistic about the economic future of Africa, saying the continent was ready for what he called "more practical management", primarily through the privatization of public industries.

Ndiaye reiterated that he saw SA as the root of a tree of potential African development, with central Africa as the trunk while western, northern and eastern Africa were the branches. — Sapa-Reuters.
Africa's experience highlights choices
Rwanda talks to resume

NAIROBI - The Rwanda government and its rebel foes are due to meet in Arusha, northern Tanzania, today for another round of peace talks aimed at ending a two-year bush war in the tiny central African state.

Rwanda Patriotic Front leaders and Rwandan government officials, who last month signed a partial powersharing deal, told reporters the talks would focus on the

World in brief

India blasts kill 40

NEW DELHI - Forty people were killed, many of them burnt to death, when two remote-controlled bombs exploded almost simultaneously in the Indian city of Guwahati.

Police said yesterday that at least 38 people died after a bomb left in a paper bag beside the driver's seat exploded as a bus was about to leave a crowded market late on Saturday. Two people were killed and six injured when a bomb planted on a parked motor scooter exploded minutes afterwards in front of a guest house where state legislators stay.

Aid for Somalia

NAIROBI - Sophia Loren, one-time street archeia turned glamorous film star, arrived in Somalia yesterday on a UN mission to highlight the plight of starving children there.

Loren, accompanied by representatives of the UN High Commission for Refugees, will visit the southern town of Baidoa where aid workers are struggling to help thousands of homeless, destitute and hungry people.

Faith turns violent

JERUSALEM - An Arab woman stabbed a Jewish seminary student before being shot and wounded in the Muslim quarter of Jerusalem's Old City yesterday.

The incident took place not far from a spot where last week an attacker believed to be a Jew tossed a grenade into a crowded market, killing one Arab and wounding 12.
Streamlining Mauritius

SENIOR Mauritian finance ministry official Rajun Jugarnath has just concluded a four-day visit to SA to investigate the possibility of the National Productivity Institute (NPI) helping his country streamline its public service.

NPI spokesman Jan Snyvert said Jugarnath's visit was part of a plan to build an industrialised economy in Mauritius on the lines of the Singapore model.
Disgraceful!

What drought scandal did to baby Maureen

NO, THIS IS NOT SOMALIA.
This picture of 13-month-old Maureen was taken in a hospital in Lebora - about 300 km from Johannesburg. She is one of hundreds of children who are victims of a drought relief scandal exposed by a Sowetan investigation. Our probe has revealed frightening hunger and suffering caused by bias in the application of drought relief. It showed that while 15 million blacks share a state subsidy of R200 million, whites affected by the drought are the beneficiaries of more than R800 million.

For the full story and pictures, see pages 2, 8 and 9.
Legs of 1,000 people amputated after landmine injuries:

NAIROBI - Landmines blanketing parts of northern Somalia pose a continuing threat to thousands of people, a US human rights group said yesterday.

The Boston-based Physicians for Human Rights called on the incoming Clinton administration in the United States and the international community to step up efforts to address the problem.

The organisation estimated that about 1,000 people, mostly children under 16 and women, had had their legs amputated because of landmine injuries.

Demining exercise

Since August 1991 the European Community, aided by the US and Britain, has funded a demining exercise in the area region astride Africa's horn.

But Physicians for Human Rights, which based its report on a two-week visit to the region in February, described the exercise as inadequate and said more people would die because of the mines. - SUNA AP.
Cameroon's first election ends in failure

This first multiparty elections in Cameroon for almost 20 years have ended in failure. They proved conclusively that "multipartyism" is not of itself a guarantee of democracy without institutional changes and guarantees under the constitution for an independent judiciary, an impartial electoral commission, and a code of human rights.

None of these basic elements of a democratic political system accompanied the promise to end the country's single party rule. Nor was provision made for independent observers of the elections as is now the general practice in countries moving towards democracy.

The results of the elections, as officially announced, are that President Paul Biya was re-elected on a minority vote of 46 percent, against 33 percent for John Fru Ndi of the Social Democratic Front (SDF) and some 20 percent for seven smaller challengers.

These official figures have been denounced as fraudulent by the opposition parties. The SDF claimed a substantial majority for Ndi, but when they sought to challenge the voting figures in the reformed Supreme Court their petition was quickly rejected. Instead of creating a more stable political and economic climate in this reasonably well-off West African republic, the elections have had a disastrous effect. They have further eroded the authority of Biya and his government; produced a state of turbulence and conflict; widened the gulf between the French-speaking south of the country (with which Biya is identified) and the English-speaking north-west, which voted overwhelmingly for Ndi.

The Muslim community, too, continues to feel itself marginalised; its candidate failed to get 20 percent of the vote.

Every canon of democratic rights was ignored after widespread demonstrations against the election results, with only isolated violent incidents.

Ndi was placed under house arrest along with a claimed 500 of his supporters, including most members of the SDF national executive. Witness accounts report beatings in prison of those detained. No judicial procedures were followed in implementing the decision to detain them.

Although Ndi's house was surrounded by armed security men, the government insisted that he was not under house arrest. But attempts by Ndi to leave his home and by others to enter it were blocked by the guards.

"If I am not a hostage, tell me what I am doing cut off in my house, surrounded by soldiers? asked Ndi.

Fearful of popular demonstrations against the installation of the president for a further term, Biya extended the repression of opposition politicians to the media, thus keeping up the regime's unsound record on press freedom.

Three independent newspapers — Le Messager, La Nouvelle Expression and Challenge Hebdo — were banned under censorship notices. Two directors of independent newspapers had their passports withdrawn when they were on the point of leaving for Germany and the US.

Le Messager editor Michel Epé responded to the censorship ban on his paper by saying: "Independent papers are an impediment to the government because they make public certain facts that could obviously reveal more truth, and they shed light on certain practices that have been in existence for a number of years."

There seems little prospect at present for any reconciliation between the president and the SDF leaders. The Minister for Communications denounced Ndi as "undemocratic, unpatriotic, irresponsible and dangerous". Ndi, on his side, described the president as "a very dishonest man who has never kept his word on anything he has said in the past".

Apart from the discrediting of the promise of a multiparty parliamentary democracy by the fudged elections, and the continuing lack of international confidence in the country's economy, the biggest harm done by Biya's methods to remain in power has been to sharpen the cultural gulf between the north-west and the southern parts of the country.

Before Cameroon's independence in 1960, the north-west was a British trusteeship territory governed with Nigeria. Its people were educated in English and had close economic links with their Ibo neighbours.

The south was a French colony, and its residents were schooled in French culture. Before the country became independent, British Cameroon voted to join with French Cameroon, but within a federation that guaranteed language and other rights to both provinces.

Later, this federal arrangement was scrapped and a secessionist movement gained strength in the north.

Ndi's SDF, which swept the polls in the north-west, is anti-secessionist but the feeling among Anglophone Cameroonians that they will always have to play second fiddle to the Francaophone electorate is very likely to stimulate secessionist sentiments.
Minister expects 26% rise in trade with Africa

TRADE with Africa was expected to increase 26% this year, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Renier Schoeman told the North Coast Regional Development Association in Tongaat yesterday.

Exports to the rest of the continent last year amounted to R18.36bn compared with R15.75bn in 1990 and R9.94bn three years ago.

Schoeman said that the positive developments on the political front internally and SA's readmission to the international community meant "countries were no longer shy to be associated with us".

"Trade was taking place with virtually every country on the continent. As the countries of the northern hemisphere are tempted to turn their backs on Africa, we of this continent are being forced more and more to find solutions to our problems."

The Natal-KwaZulu region's two harbours were a natural door to the Indian Ocean Rim.

Our political status reports that Schoeman said "a window of opportunity has opened up for Natal, with its well-developed infrastructure and expertise, to take advantage of the new climate of rapprochement in our relations with Africa and the Indian Ocean Rim."

"Imagine the potential market not only of the Indian Ocean Islands but also of India, with 900-million people, and Pakistan, Africa and Indonesia."

GAVIN DU VENAGE
Bandits hamper aid groups

Relief organisations may pull out of Somalia unless UN provides better security:

MOGADISHU - Aid groups are finding it increasingly difficult to work in Somalia because of attacks by bandits and may have to pull out unless the United Nations provides better security, relief organisations have said.

InterAction, an umbrella group of private humanitarian agencies, yesterday said the UN had allowed itself to be taken hostage by clans and warlords who dominate various parts of Somalia.

"It's time for governments and the United Nations to take Somalia seriously," said John Hammock of Oxfam America, one of more than two dozen organisations providing aid in Somalia.

About 3 500 UN troops have been authorised to provide security for relief shipments but most have not been deployed because of problems in negotiating security agreements with clans.

"We are asking for adequate security so we can get a bowl of rice to the people of Somalia so they will not starve to death," Hammock said.

The call for security help came as a UN-chartered ship carrying food was hit by an artillery shell as it approached Mogadishu harbour. - Sapa-AP.
Nairobi - Italian film actress Sophia Loren added her voice yesterday to growing calls for major international action to protect food convoys and restore peace in the "hell we call Somalia".

"The United Nations cannot do it alone. The international community has the power to bring peace to Somalia, I only pray that it finds the political will to do so," Loren said.

She was speaking at a news conference at the end of her visit to Africa as a goodwill ambassador for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Asked whether she would support a direct international military intervention in Somalia to stop warlords harpooning world relief efforts, the actress added:

"It's up to the United Nations Security Council. We need peace, peace so that humanitarian convoys can reach those in need before we lose an entire generation of children, if we have not already."

Late on Wednesday night, the Cable News Network (CNN) reported that the United States had offered to send up to 30,000 armed troops to Somalia to help protect relief operations.

The network said Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger made the offer during a surprise call on UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali on Wednesday.

The security situation has deteriorated sharply in the last few days in Somalia where gunmen from rival clans steal food shipments and hijack trucks used by relief agencies.

International Red Cross flights delivering up to six tons of food a day into the southern Somali port of Kismayo have been suspended because of shooting at the airport, relief sources said.

During her visit, Loren saw the hungry and dying in the southwestern town of Baidoa dubbed the "city of death". It is at the centre of one of the worst famines this century which claims 50 victims a day.
Liberia’s peacekeepers join the civil war

Africa’s first attempt to interpose a regional truce-enforcement team into a local dispute has run into trouble. HILARY ANDERSON reports for The Star’s Africa Service.

In the turbulent West African state of Liberia a spiral of events has thrust the leaders of Africa’s maiden regional peacekeeping force into a precarious position.

Ecomog, the West African peacekeeping force sent into Liberia in 1990 by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), has become heavily embroiled in fighting with Liberia’s main faction — Charles Taylor’s National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL).

Recently the UN only partly endorsed Ecomog’s neutrality by backing the West African arms embargo on the NPFL, but not its call for economic sanctions. However justified its reasons, Ecomog has ended up fighting one side in Liberia’s civil war.

The sound of heavy artillery has been a feature of everyday life in the capital, Monrovia, for almost a month, as the fighting has intensified daily.

Ecomog has carried out air raids over the main towns in NPFL-held territory — known as Taylorland — and in return the NPFL has bombarded strategic targets in the capital, including the port and the only functioning airport.

Civilians are fleeing in all directions, and Monrovia — seen as a safe haven whether it is or not — is overflowing with refugees.

More than 140,000 citizens have fled from its suburbs to the small remaining safe havens near the centre of town. Every evening before curfew, the streets of the city become lined with people seeking a place to sleep.

Houses which a month ago had only one resident, now shelter 40 or 50.

The main water supply plant was hit in an artillery attack, leaving the city short of water, and in four weeks only one ship has dared approach the port with emergency food.

At the front of the minds of all are the cataclysmic events of 1990, when, following the overthrow of Samuel Doe by the NPFL, 40,000 starved to death as the city was cut off from food and civilians were killed in their hundreds in the streets of the capital.

It was the scale of the 1990 nightmare that finally brought West Africa together to form a peacekeeping force. The formation of Ecomog was generally hailed as a noble initiative, even by Liberia’s warring factions.

So what went wrong?

The blame could be pinned down to a group calling itself Ulculo — the United Liberation Movement. This amorphous organisation emerged out of obscurity to take large parts of Western Liberia from Charles Taylor in August.

Ulculo said it was formed out of Liberian refugees in Sierra Leone who had become disgruntled with life under Taylor.

But Taylor preferred to believe that Ecomog had created Ulculo out of former Liberian supporters of President Doe.

It may seem strange that creating such a force would be in Ecomog’s interests. But the NPFL argues that it all makes sense.

Ecomog is, after all, dominated by Nigerians, and Nigerian President Babangida — a nasty West African imperialist in the view of the NPFL — used to be a good friend of Samuel Doe.

Deep mistrust has built up over the years between Taylor and the other West African leaders.

The rest is simple. As Ulculo was attacking the NPFL and Ecomog had set up Ulculo, the NPFL could attack Ecomog, which in tum could now counterattack to force Taylor’s forces into another ceasefire.

And the UN, already involved in Yugoslavia, Somalia, Angola and elsewhere, is reluctant to take on more African wars so all over the continent the attempts at peace are failing.
Amidst the background - the continent of Africa.

Battleground victims of the "good war" are found in

In the words of the African, "The war..."
AIDS arrives in Seychelles

The Seychelles, once dubbed "the islands of love" and one of the world's smallest nations, has confirmed its first case of full-blown AIDS.

Health ministry officials said a total of 28 people had tested HIV-positive out of a tiny population of 70,000 on the chain of Indian Ocean islands 1,600km east of the African coast.

The AIDS virus could have reached the islands through Seychellois who were infected while travelling abroad or through tourists --- 100,000 visit each year --- who had sex with local people while on holiday, the officials said. They also said infected blood may have been donated to the islands' blood banks by foreign sailors.

Relief problems in Somalia

AID groups are finding it increasingly difficult to work in Somalia due to attacks by bandits and may have to pull out unless the United Nations provides better security, relief organisations say.

Interaction, an umbrella group of private humanitarian agencies, charged this week that the UN has allowed itself to be taken hostage by clan and warlords who dominate various parts of the ravaged African nation.

"It's time for governments and the United Nations to take Somalia seriously," said John Hammock of Oxfam America, one of the more than 120 organisations providing aid in Somalia.

Some 3,500 UN troops have been authorised to provide security for relief shipments, but must have not been deployed because of the inability to negotiate security agreements with clans.

Sudan ready for talks

The Sudanese government is ready to begin a second round of peace talks with southern rebels next week, a senior Sudanese diplomat in Lagos said this week.

The official said the three factions of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) were yet to accept fully the Nigerian government's invitation to attend the talks. The first talk in Abuja ended in June with agreement to continue to seek an end to the nine-year conflict.

The SPLA has been fighting since 1983 against what it sees as domination of the mainly Muslim and Christian south by the largely Moslem and Arabised north.

African children worst off

More than four million African children under the age of six die annually because of insufficient health care and food, according to United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) officials in Lagos this week for a conference on children.

Despite efforts under way, 10 times as many under-fives perish in Africa than in the industrialised world, officials said.

More than 500 delegates gathered for the three-day meeting, which is to bring together donors and the officials and relief workers involved in health and education programmes.
British researcher Mr Allan Gemmell's research has revealed the variety of plants available in the high-tech farming systems. The result would be a flow of cash to the poorer countries. The genetic material used in the high-tech farming systems is only approved. The development of the new seeds started about six months ago to be used in the high-tech farming systems. As a result, the poor countries would benefit from this technology. 

As a consequence, there is a decrease in the cost of food. The process of food could be reduced by half, and a significant loss of food could be prevented. 

The more, the healthier.
BANGUI - President André Kolingba extended his mandate until February when the Central African Republic will try again to hold multi-party presidential and parliamentary elections. - Sapa-Reuters (1)
Focus on ethnic conflict is wrong

"Democracy Dies in the Womb" proclaimed The Independent on Sunday, London, in a headline over a survey of the current situation in Africa by Richard Dowden.

The headline over-dramatises Dowden's conclusions; unfortunately, the impression gained by most readers usually comes from headlines rather than from a careful reading of an article.

What Dowden actually wrote was that "democracy in Africa, a candle of hope which flickered briefly, is guttering"—ie, not yet stillborn. He continued: "Ethnic conflict and an increasingly harsh economic climate are driving more and more African countries into intolerance and strife."

It is unarguably true that economic conditions account for many of the major difficulties of African countries, but to single out "ethnic conflict" as the other major cause of "intolerance and strife" is misleading. What is fundamentally wrong with the kind of analysis offered by Dowden is its failure to describe the dynamics of change in societies at a stage of transition as a process.

There are certain political phenomena that are universal to all societies undergoing fundamental change. The collapse of strongly-centralised regimes inevitably ushers in a period of disintegration: new competing forces emerge, and long-repressed grievances come to the surface. The ensuing power struggle over the shape of a new political system is conducted at a time of a weak and crumbling central authority.

The inevitable result is turbulence and conflict.

This is what is happening not only in Africa. In what was the Soviet Union there are currently 22 major ethnic and regional conflicts, and a weak divided centre. Yugoslavia is an extreme example of what happens when an authoritarian system collapses.

In situations such as these, the crumbling old regimes, or their immediate, usually temporary, successors use whatever means they still command to retain as much of their power as possible, while their challengers employ whatever methods open to them to mobilise support. One feature of this phase of the struggle is an appeal to ethnic or regional constituencies. But while ethnicity is a crucial factor in power struggles it is not the only factor.

In fact, in the majority of African countries ethnic communities have combined to strengthen their bargaining power. In Angola, for example, the ethnically based Unita was defeated by the multi-ethnic forces of the MPLA. To concentrate too exclusively on inter-ethnic conflict results in a distorted picture of the nature of on-going power struggles.

The key element to understanding the difficult transition from single party and military regimes to multiparty democracy is to see the dangers of change as a continuing political process. There is no straight line from authoritarianism to democracy; it is a wavering line of ups and downs, sometimes curving back on itself like a parabola. Freezing the frame of the focus at any particular stage is to lose sight of the momentum of ongoing change.

Setbacks are inevitable. The residual power at the centre can be relied on to engage in every trick to retain as much of its power as possible while the challengers not infrequently resort to pressure tactics that enhance conflict.

The road to a true democratic society is a long and bumpy one. It takes time—at least a decade. The African continent has only just begun its journey; to write it off now, as a "guttering candle" is to miss the incandescence of the hope that has begun to shine right across the continent. □

David Walker is at large, and his column will resume when he returns.
Despot facing downfall

MADAGASCAR’S president has emerged humiliated from a first round of elections and diplomats doubt he will be able to extend his 17 years in power.

Returns from almost all the 14,000 polling stations showed opposition leader Albert Zafy scooping nearly 47 percent of the vote in last Wednesday’s presidential election — but not enough to avoid a run-off.

President Didier Ratsiraka has won around 29 percent with the remaining votes shared among six no-hope contenders.

So powerful is the tide of feeling against Ratsiraka that, with counting going on until mid-week, he is ahead in only one of the six provinces — his home region of Toamasina on the east coast.

If the opposition had put up one candidate instead of seven, who knows what might have happened? Zafy could have been on the way to the palace this week," commented one envoy.

The presidency of the Indian Ocean island will be decided by a run-off contest between Zafy and Ratsiraka in mid-January.

The vote was seen as a popular guilty verdict against Ratsiraka for presiding over the coffee and cloves state’s slide from poverty to ruin over the past decade.

Western diplomats said they believed only a coup or a dramatic change of policies could keep Ratsiraka in power.

His exit would spell the end of the military-backed governments in Madagascar since independence from France in 1960 and plant the roots of democracy.

Diplomats see a coup by the island’s 30,000-strong military which backed Ratsiraka as a last and unlikely resort.

Ratsiraka, a one-time Soviet acolyte and anti-Western gadfly, bowed to pressure for change last August. Strikes and protests led to demonstrations, outside his North Korean-built palace, in which 31 people were killed.

There is lingering suspicion among his opponents and some embassies that he will not give up power easily.

They believe a shadowy, federal separatist movement could jeopardise the democratic process. — Sapa-Reuters.
Gold bugs go to work in Ghana

LONDON — Ashanti Goldfields Corporation of Ghana will employ the proceeds of a complex $140 million syndicated loan to become the world’s leading user of bacteria to produce gold.

The naturally occurring bacteria, Thiobacillus ferro-oxidans, will release 300,000 ounces of gold a year by munching away at difficult (or refractory) ore which otherwise would have to be treated by expensive roasting or pressure oxidation.

The project is part of a $305 million, three-year expansion programme that will take Ashanti’s gold output above one million ounces a year in 1995 and place it among the world’s top ten producers.

Sam Jonah, Ashanti’s managing director, said yesterday in London that his company always had the ability to innovate and “now we are at the cutting edge of both gold production technology and financial engineering”.

Ashanti will use a bio-leaching process developed by Gencor of South Africa.

Ore is ground into a powder which is mixed with water in tanks into which the bacteria are introduced. — Mining Correspondent.
**World trade volumes 5% up in first half**

Geneva — World trade grew 5% in volume in the first half of 1992, GATT economists said yesterday. However, they forecast slower expansion in the second half because of weaker economic recovery.

Sweden's ambassador Lars Anell, serving as chairman of GATT's annual meeting in Geneva, also called on trade delegates to wrap up the Uruguay round of trade negotiations by year-end.

Opening a two-day annual GATT meeting, he released moderate growth figures prepared by the secretary's economists.

While GATT economists have estimated that the volume of world merchandise trade in the first half of 1992 was more than 5% higher than that of the corresponding period in 1991, the gain for the year as a whole will be smaller because the strength of the economic recovery has slackened.

He gave no precise figure for trade volume expansion in the second half of 1992, nor a closer estimate of an annual rate.

Imports into North America, Latin America, the Middle East and Asia — with the exception of Japan — buoyed trade in the first six months of the year.

"The somewhat downbeat assessment for the rest of the year reflects, in particular, weakness in demand in western Europe and Japan," Anell said, quoting the economists.


However, imports to the EC from eastern Europe had risen sharply. Of the Uruguay round, he said: "As

---

**Somali warlords meet aid groups**

Addis Ababa — Western aid agencies and Somali clan leaders meet under the shadow of UN military intervention today to discuss the slow progress of relief efforts in the starving African nation.

The meeting in the Ethiopian capital, scheduled since October, takes place as a three-ship US battle group takes on provisions in Kenya ready to sail for Somalia as the advance guard of a UN plan to get food through by force.

The UN aid agencies and Western donors are disgruntled by the clan gunmen who demand increasingly high payments to guard food convoys in Somalia and are widely blamed for foiling up to 80% of the relief that arrives.

Sources close to the talks said at least 22 Somali clan leaders had accepted invitations to attend and were being flown to Addis Ababa at UN expense.

But the key protagonists — self-styled interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed and rival warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid — were unlikely to attend as they consolidated their claims to rule Somalia before the UN intervention.

The Security Council reached broad agreement on Tuesday to authorise a US-led military operation in Somalia because of Western exasperation at the wholesale plundering of food aid meant for 2-million people starving to death.

The role of the US and its size are still taking shape but it will overshadow the three-day discussion in the Ethiopian capital of a 100-day plan launched in October to speed up help for Somalia.

"Inside Somalia, more than 2-million Somalis continue to be at grave risk and some 600,000, mostly displaced women and children, remain on the brink of starvation or death from disease," said a UN report to be discussed at the talks.

"Compounding the situation, threats from armed gangs against relief workers, extortion and robberies have made the delivery of relief assistance increasingly hazardous," the report said. — Sapa-Reuter.
Somali warlords meet aid groups

ADDIS ABABA — Western aid agencies and Somali clan leaders meet under the shadow of UN military intervention today to discuss the slow progress of relief efforts in the starving African nation.

The meeting in the Ethiopian capital, scheduled since October, takes place as a three-step US battle group takes on provisions in Kenya ready to sail for Somalia as the advance guard of a UN plan to get food through by force.

The UN aid agencies and Western donors are disgusted by the clan gunmen who demand increasingly high payments to guard food convoys in Somalia and are widely blamed for hoarding up to 80% of the relief that arrives.

Sources close to the talks said at least 22 Somali clan leaders had accepted invitations to attend and were being flown to Addis Ababa at UN expense.

But the key protagonists — self-styled interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed and rival warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid — were unlikely to attend as they consolidated their claims to rule Somalia before the UN intervention.

The Security Council reached broad agreement on Tuesday to authorise a US-led military operation in Somalia because of Western exasperation at the wholesale plundering of food aid meant for 2-million people starving to death.

The role of the force and its size are still taking shape but it will overshadow the three-day discussion in the Ethiopian capital of a 100-day plan launched in October to speed up help for Somalia.

“Inside Somalia, more than 2-million Somalis continue to be at grave risk and some 500,000, mostly displaced women and children, remain on the brink of starvation or death from disease,” said a UN report to be discussed at the talks.

“Compounding the situation, threats from armed gangs against relief workers, extortion and robberies have made the delivery of relief assistance increasingly hazardous,” the report said. — Sapa-Reuters.
UN sends peace force to Somalia

NEW YORK — The United Nations launched the world's biggest armed humanitarian rescue last night, sending a force led by 28,000 Americans to silence the guns of Somali bandits and help feed hundreds of thousands of starving people.

President George Bush ordered United States forces to get ready to go.

An announcement was expected after he consulted Congress today.

Once Bush gives the order, 1,800 troops on board a three-ship strike force floating in the Indian Ocean could land on Somalian beaches within hours, and the full force of 28,000 could arrive within weeks.

The 15-member UN Security Council, outraged by the plundering of relief aid destined for refugee camps filled with the dying, voted unanimously for the huge operation, and asked other member states to contribute troops and money.

France was to send about 2,000 soldiers. Belgium, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Kenya also offered troops. Italy promised aid.

For all the boldness of the move, it came more than a year after severe food shortages and civil unrest were first reported in Somalia.

And the UN Security Council mandate was vague: to use "all necessary means" to create "a secure environment" for relief operations.

The resolution did not say if that might mean creating some kind of UN-controlled civil government in chaotic Somalia, or whether the troops would try to disarm bandits and militias.

"We had nothing to say to the operation, or how long it would last," US ambassador Edward Perkins said, adding that troops would steer away from political interference.

"It is for the Somalian people to decide their own future," Perkins said.

Somalia, a country with no functioning government, was represented at the meeting by Fatum Hassan, the charge d'affaires of the Somali UN mission.

It was not clear which clan leader, if any, she represented.

The clans have been battling in Somalia since the collapse of President Mohamed Siad Barre's rule in January last year, worsening a famine that has killed 400,000 people and put 2 million at risk of starvation.

Well-armed militias, mostly unrestrained young men and boys, have stolen at least half of the food and medicine shipped to Somalia, and paralysed a 500-member UN peacekeeping force in place since September.

The port and airport of Mogadishu — the country's two main delivery points — have been virtually shut down by the threat of bandits.

The maddening delays created by the port's closure could be seen yesterday at a beach north of Mogadishu, where the Red Cross unloaded a ship filled with rice donated by French schoolchildren.

The food was put on board fishing boats and tugged within 10 m of the beach.

Sapa-AP.
AFTER Somalis are fed and peace is restored, the United Nations faces a longer and potentially more controversial problem: how to fill the power vacuum in a country that has no government.

Diplomats said it is too early to talk about exactly how the United Nations could help Somalia restore political stability. The immediate need of sending troops from the United States and other countries to safeguard emergency food shipments takes precedence.

But several Security Council members, as well as Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, have stressed that national reconciliation should go hand-in-hand with emergency humanitarian relief.

"The operation cannot be only a military operation," said French ambassador Jean-Bernard Merimee. "It has to have some political purpose. Be it disarming the factions or trying to give birth to some sort of political structure in Somalia, certainly it has to be there."

Venezuela's ambassador agreed. "In a nation where there are no structures, it would be foolish to think that only through humanitarian assistance we're going to solve the problems," Diego Arria told reporters.

Several diplomats said the United Nations piloting political involvement in Cambodia could serve as a model in the east African nation.

Under an agreement among the Khmer Rouge and three other factions, the UN controls administration of virtually all aspects of Cambodian interim government: foreign affairs, defense, finance and public security. The UN is to conduct general elections in Cambodia next year.

Such direct involvement in a country's internal political structure was unprecedented, and it may be needed again in Somalia.

Anarchy prevails, and clans headed by warlords exercise control by force over regions. The United Nations may be the best hope for getting the warring parties to sit down and negotiate, set up an interim government and supervise elections. Without a political settlement, diplomats worry, when foreign troops leave, warlords will take power again and starvation will return.

Ambassador Andre Erdos of Hungary, a member of the Security Council, believes the Cambodian approach might be possible in Somalia, but not easy.

"I foresee more difficulties as far as Somalia is concerned because of the fragmentation of society and the country, and the existence of so many warlords and armed factions."

Cambodia was more clear-cut because there were only four groups involved, and they were organised, he said.

"Meanwhile, in Somalia you have gangs and young people rampaging all over the country. It's very hard to talk to them."

UN officials have already had trouble trying to negotiate with the warlords. They have been unable to persuade the clans to accept additional UN peacekeepers for safeguarding relief shipments.

African nations worried about the precedent of UN political intervention on their continent might resist. And China—one of the five Security Council members with veto power—might be hesitant because of its overall policy of non-intervention. It is also particularly sensitive because of its own humanitarian problems in Tibet.

But diplomats could try to overcome the objections by stressing it is Somali factions themselves which must settle their problems, and that the United Nations would only be helping. And the critics would be hard-pressed to convince others that famine would not recur in a power vacuum.

An important African member of the Security Council, Ambassador Simbarashe Mumbenjegwi of Zimbabwe, said that no matter what form it takes, the United Nations must provide a mechanism for creating national reconciliation." — Sapa-AP.
US Marines stand by to help feed Somalis

WASHINGTON — An amphibious task force of 1,800 US Marines arrived off Somalia yesterday and was standing by to support an expected UN military operation to provide food to starving Somalis, the US Defense Department said.

The US amphibious warships Tripoli, Juneau and Rashmore also carry 23 transport and attack helicopters.

They could provide an initial launch base for a more massive military operation to protect humanitarian shipments.

The UN Security Council was scheduled to resume debate yesterday on a resolution to authorize use of force to protect humanitarian food shipments from war-ravaged parts and bands of gumen.

That resolution is expected to put the military operation, which could include as many as 20,000 international troops — most of them Americans — under US command and oversight.

In Mogadishu, Somalis looked to US troops to bring feuding warlords to heel while relief agencies stockpiled supplies for a 1,000-man advance guard of peacekeepers.

The capital city, lashed by the first heavy rains of the season, was calmer than it had been for weeks as residents awaited the final UN decision to send troops to the famine-stricken country.

Some Somalian warlords resisted deployment of an earlier 1,200-man UN force, intended to protect relief convoys from marauding bands of gumen.

Bound by strict UN rules that required the warlords' approval for any move in Somalia, a Pakistani contingent of 500 troops has been largely confined to barracks since it arrived in September. It has moved only as far as the airport.

Last Friday Mogadishu warlords Mohamed Farah Aideed and his bitter rival Ali Mahdi Mohamed, who jointly overthrew dictator Siad Barre last year but then fell to feuding, said they would welcome the US-led force.

But last week rockets were fired at the base of the Pakistani contingent in the UN force. Three mortar bombs landed near the soldiers' camp, causing no injury.

Not since the Katanga crisis in the Congo (now Zaire) in the early 60s has the UN sent armed troops to a conflict in Africa. The move could establish a precedent in the post-Cold War era on a continent beset by famine, ethnic unrest and war.

Tens of thousands of Somalis have died in the war and about 300,000 were killed by starvation in the last two years.

Relief agencies in Mogadishu stocked food and readied hospital operating theatres ahead of the troops' arrival. Canadian deputy commander of some UN forces already in the country, Colonel James Cox, said: 'We have rations for about two weeks.'

adding that two operating theatres staffed by two surgeons had been set up in case of emergency.

In addition to the Pakistanis, the UN staff in Mogadishu includes 94 unarmed military truce observers, staff officers and members of a logistics support team and about 200 civilian workers.

There are about a further 200 foreign civilian staff working for independent relief agencies.

Cox said that if UN medical facilities were over-stretched the world body would call for help from the foreign medical teams that have been struggling to cope with the sick and war-wounded for the last two years of civil war. — Sapa-Reuters.

Mocambique needs $1,1bn

MAPUTO — The Mozambican economy needs foreign funding in 1993 of $1.186bn if it is to continue with the economic and social recovery programme, according to a World Bank report.

The report, prepared for next week's meeting in Paris of the consultative group on Mozambique, says this figure includes emergency food aid and presupposes that this year's severe drought does not continue.

Of the total, $143m is debt rescheduling.

The report stresses that the finance for programmes arising out of the peace agreement with Renamo — demobilisation of troops, resettlement of displaced people and refugees, and preparations for the country's first multi-party elections should not be at the cost of the economic and social recovery programme.

Demobilisation costs are estimated at $115m to $145m for food, infrastructure and administration of assembly points and a further $115m to $158m for demob pay and transporting demobilised troops to their home areas.

The report puts the costs of next year's elections at between $60m and $80m. Support for resettlement of displaced people and refugees will need donor finance of up to $87m.

The World Bank report takes an optimistic view of the impact of the recovery programme on the Mozambican economy, despite poor growth rates since 1990. In the first three years of structural adjustment (1987-1989), GDP grew at an average annual rate of 5.4%. But from 1990 to 1992, the bank estimates the average annual growth rate at 0.8%.

It attributes the decline to the continued war, the 1991/92 drought and reduced foreign support. The bank estimates that if drought had not devastated this year's harvests, there would have been 5% growth in GDP. — Sapa-AFP.
A U.N. Protectorate For Somalia?

By Sharon LaFraniere

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine—As U.N. officials continued to consider options for an expanded role in Somalia, a senior Bush administration official suggested the United Nations may be compelled to install an interim government and organize elections in the eastern African country, now devastated by war and famine.

A proposal by the US for a large-scale military operation to deliver food and medicine may need to be followed by ambitious U.N. efforts to end anarchy in Somalia.

"Somalia has no government now; no one needs some kind of structure," said the official, who traveled to Kennebunkport with President Bush for the Thanksgiving holiday. "You may need a U.N. protectorate, which the U.N. would manage and (then) try to turn back into a state."

As a possible model for such an arrangement, the official cited the United Nations' involvement currently in Cambodia, "maybe even something longer-term ... where the U.N. would go in and actually set up an interim government and hold elections."

It is not clear whether Bush wants actually to recommend such a course to the United Nations. In fact, the whole question of Somalia's ability to govern itself may be left to the incoming Clinton administration, while Bush advisers spend their final two months in office trying to ensure the delivery of relief supplies.

The senior administration official said U.S. troops could "probably" be out of Somalia in less than a month, although Pentagon officers have estimated the operation could take three to six months to complete. In any case, the official suggested that the upcoming change of administrations in Washington means a decision must be made quickly.

"It's a complicated situation given the time and our own transition. So if something were to be done and the U.S. were to be a part of it now, is sort of has to be done fairly rapidly," he said in the interview, which took place late Saturday.

"It's not fair or even possible to ask the Clinton administration to participate in any serious way. They don't have the people in place, other than the president-elect and the vice-president-elect, to analyze in any kind of detail ... if this is something they want to do."

The division of ground troops offered by the United States is intended to serve only in the initial phase of the operation, which U.S. officials expect would also involve military forces from other nations. The U.S. troops would be used to secure strategic sites such as ports and air strips, guard relief vehicles, and protect food distribution centers.

U.S. officials have stipulated that any American forces sent to Somalia would have to remain under U.S. command but, as in the case of Operation Desert Storm against Iraq last year, could be under a broad grant of U.N. authority. The U.S. proposal envisions that the American troops would after a short period be replaced by an international peacekeeping force.

The military action "could be repeated as necessary," the senior Bush administration official said. "Having had that kind of operation would be a pretty good object lesson. It would create a new environment ..."
Why Rambo’s boot has no place on Somalia’s door

By Martin Voorhees

The United Nations Security Council’s resolution of February 4th, 1991, to deploy a multinational force to deliver food and to deliver food and to deliver food...
South Africa will inherit a system burdened by decades of injustice. The ANC should not burden those problems by appearing to countenance greed.

Will the leadership of a post-apartheid South Africa rise above the greed, cruelty and ostentatious living that have dogged the leaders of many African countries? Recent revelations about financial improprieties in the African National Congress, well-founded criticisms of the lifestyle of some ANC leaders, credible reports detailing the torture of ANC dissidents and the extravagance of Nelson Mandela's daughter's wedding are not encouraging signs.

Corruption is often seen as an impediment to economic progress. It is also seen as perpetuating injustice; when resources are siphoned off, the most vulnerable groups in society — the poor, refugees, the disabled and prisoners — are denied their basic needs. There is less awareness of the extent to which corruption is also a principal reason why governments abuse human rights.

Corrupt governments are necessarily secretive and repressive. Foreign aid has enabled authoritarian regimes in Africa — of both the right and the left — to maintain a wide network of patronage and to create formidable machinery for violence.

Corruption and human rights abuses thrive on each other everywhere in Africa. In Kenya, corruption in high government circles first became an international issue after the murder of the foreign minister, Dr Robert Ouko, in January 1990. But Ouko was not the only victim of powerful politicians anxious to conceal the extent of their greed.

In 1990, Reverend Alexander Muge, bishop of Eldoret, launched a public campaign against official corruption. He focused on illegal land acquisitions by senior ministers. He compiled detailed records of relevant cases and collected photographs of killings by the police during illegal evictions of squatters. He accused a "clique of ministers" of "ashamedly grabbing public resources". At the top of his list was Nicholas Bwott, minister of energy and President Arap Moi's closest adviser. Muge gave specifics, on land grants, such as the Gowel Farm in Uasin Gishu, where, he claimed, Bwott's agents had confiscated a maize farm belonging to a squatter family settled there since 1962. He also called for a declaration of personal wealth by leaders.

Bwott was described as a "prime suspect" in Ouko's murder by the British detective called in to investigate the case. Throughout 1991, Bwott was repeatedly accused of serious corruption scandals. He was fired from his cabinet position, perhaps in anticipation of a major donors' meeting in Paris in November 1991. He is now accused of using his money to stoke ethnic violence which threatens to disrupt the country's chances of having genuine multi-party elections.

In August 1990, Muge was threatened with death by then minister for labour, Peter Okombo. Muge took the threat seriously and issued a press statement on the danger he confronted. The next day Muge was killed when his car was hit by a truck. Few Kenyans believe that Muge's death was an accident.

Life-President Hastings Banda of Malawi's capitalist policies have made him a favourite of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and of Western governments. Prominent among Malawi's political detainees, however, have been critics of the corrupt tactics Banda has used to build up vast personal wealth. In October 1987, an apolitical veterinary surgeon, Goodluck Mhango, was arrested and severely beaten by police. This followed the publication, by his exiled brother, Mkwapati, of an article accusing the upper echelons of the national women's organisation, the Chiuko Cha Amalau Malawi (CCAM) of corruption. Particularly sensitive was Mhango's analogy between the unpaid work of rural women for the CCAM and "hanging" — the hated colonial system of forced labour. On October 13 1989, Mhango's house in Lusaka was fire-bombed. He died, along with nine other members of his family. The government is widely suspected of being behind the murders.

There are countless other examples in Africa. The Zimbabwean army stationed inside Mozambique and along important supply routes has long been accused of poaching and involvement in moving ivory, rhino horn and other goods between Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Now, the family of Edwin Bhundu Nleya, a 35-year-old captain, has accused the army of murdering him, saying he had threatened to expose the army's involvement in these activities. Several other people, some of them investigating these illegal practices, have died under suspicious circumstances.

As elsewhere in the world, many of Africa's wars are driven, to a large extent, by predatory commerce. In Sudan, merchant-officer partnerships making fortunes out of artificial scarcities and food-stuff goods have been an important reason for prolonging the long-standing bloody war in the south in which hundreds of thousands of people have died from war and famine. In Somalia, traders make a killing from selling guns and diverting and hoarding food meant for hungry people. Protection rackets for international aid agencies are now a major money-spinner for the warlords — a jeep-mounted heavy machine gun with operators rents at $100 a day and is rising.

It is not help to the starving in Somalia to express horror at the misuse of humanitarian assistance. Such practices do not come from nowhere. For 21 years, Somalia suffered a dictatorship sustained by rampant corruption. The world turned a blind eye to the evidence that the money and the armaments were being used to kill and silence the people of Somalia. Somalia children are now paying the price of that neglect.

Neither corruption nor violence are, of course, new to South Africa. Throughout 1992, the government has been embarrassed and weakened, domestically and internationally, by reports of corruption, as well as atrocities carried out by the security forces. This included allegations in mid-year that millions of rand had been squandered through theft, incompetence and fraud by the Department of Development Aid, implicating senior politicians close to President FW de Klerk. But the ANC, whose actions and words will be subject to merciless scrutiny — often for the wrong reasons — cannot hope to compare itself to its predecessor and get away with it — at home or abroad.

South Africans will inherit a system warped by decades of injustice, cruelty, mistrust, official corruption and wildly unrealistic expectations. The ANC should not burden those problems by appearing to countenance greed, financial improprieties or nepotism. This will facilitate abuse of power and betray the trust and legitimacy it has so far enjoyed.

Insisting on accountability now is the only check against a drift towards the arrogant and arbitrary exercise of power, as well as the culture of corruption, secrecy and militarism.

Rakiya Omaar and Alex de Waal are, respectively, the director and the associate director of the human rights organisation, Africa Watch.
The Cavalry Option

The World Last Night
Algerians stay in after dark

ALGIERS - Algeria's third curfew in four years was clamped on the capital Algiers and six nearby provinces yesterday, confining people to their homes overnight.

The curfew is part of a crackdown by the army-backed government on Muslim fundamentalists, who want to make Algeria an Islamic state and have been blamed for killing more than 170 members of the security forces in the past 10 months. Algiers radio said no incidents had been reported during the curfew which ran from 10.30pm on Saturday to 5am yesterday.
Innocents killed in militia crossfire

MOGADISHU — Gunmen fighting each other killed 24 people in a famine-stricken Somali city yesterday.

A spokesman for the international agency CARE said the 24, mostly innocent bystanders, were shot in crossfire between two rival clan families in Baidoa, 200 km north-west of Mogadishu.

Some people were apparently crushed when an armoured car of militia men rammed into a crowd.

"They (militias) are shooting the place out. There's nothing else to do," said CARE official James Fennell, describing how packs of clan gunmen had flooded into Baidoa.

"It's an extremely dangerous place," he said, when asked what advice he would give the hordes of foreign journalists who have descended on Mogadishu to cover the arrival of the multinational task force.

The militias were either returning from an offensive against rival clan fighters south of the town or had fled north there to avoid confrontation with 1,900 US Marines about to arrive in the capital.

US officials say they are waiting offshore. French officials say their 2,000-strong contingent in an eventual 30,000-strong force will be the first to land.

The Baidoa incident highlighted the violence which has hamstrung relief and forced the United Nations to abandon a low-key approach to Somalia's civil strife.

The 30,000 troops, most of them American, are massing to enter key relief centres across the country and break the logjams blocking relief distribution.

Extortion, looting and clan fighting have reduced flows of food to a trickle over the past two months, despite the UN's promises to flood the country with food. — Sapa-Reuters.
NEW YORK - Two-thirds of Americans approve of President George Bush's decision to send US troops to Somalia, according to a Newswipe poll, released at the weekend. Somalia 7/12/92.

The poll said 66 percent of Americans support the decision to send US troops to help in the relief effort.

The Gallup survey, released ahead of publication today, showed Americans were almost evenly divided on whether the United States should restrict its activity to ensuring the delivery of relief supplies or engage in an expanded role to help restore order and political stability.
Invasion of Iraq would be a disaster, says hand-picked envoy of the UN's Arab League. It could lead to an increased threat of war, according to the envoy. The envoy warned that the situation could spiral out of control if the international community does not act quickly to prevent a military conflict. He called for a peaceful resolution to the current crisis, emphasizing the importance of diplomatic efforts to resolve the conflict. The envoy highlighted the need for the international community to take a united stance in addressing the situation, emphasizing the importance of preventing further escalation of the conflict.
Mogadishu cheers swooping US jets

MOGADISHU — Western military planes swooped over Mogadishu yesterday on an apparent reconnaissance mission for a US-led multinational force that will police the distribution of aid to Somalia's starving people.

Two planes, believed to be US F-16s, dropped flares as decoys for any attack by surface-to-air missiles, then disappeared over the horizon where a US task force with 1,800 marines was waiting.

However, an Italian UN worker was seized and held by security men of Somalia's strongest warlord, Mohammed Farah Aiddeed, yesterday in what one UN official called Somalia's first "hostage scenario" soon after the overflight.

Women stopped and cheered when the planes flew over.

"I welcome the Americans. It may mean peace," said 24-year-old Mohamed Nur, a Somali relief worker.

US marines are expected to land in Somalia tomorrow morning local time to prepare for the arrival of the international military force.

US officials said plans called for elements of a force of 1,800 marines now offshore to begin moving into the capital of Mogadishu after dawn tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon said, the US was sending ambassador-at-large Robert Oakley and Marine Brig. Gen. Frank Libutti to Mogadishu yesterday to discuss the situation with rival clan leaders and officials of relief agencies providing food and medicine to the anarchy-torn country.

The operation was primed to start against a background of continuing factional fighting in the central town of Baidoa, capital of the worst-hit Bay region.

Forty-eight people were killed and 50 were wounded yesterday in fierce clashes between rival Somali clan gangs in the town, relief workers said.

International agency Care spokesman James Fennel said: "The fighting is in the centre of town, which is quite worrying. Hospitals there are taking in a lot more gunshot wounds than normal."

Baidoa's tarmac airstrip and the port and airport at Mogadishu, about 200km away, will be key targets the force seeks to secure when it arrives, US defence officials say.

The US is providing 20,000 troops for a force which will total 36,000.

The key warlords in Somalia's two-year civil strife, Aiddeed and self-styled interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed, have said publicly they will co-operate with the intervention force.

But there are fears among UN officials and aid workers that the operation might cause skirmishes which could lead to aid workers being taken hostage or attacked.

Care pulled out all but three of its male staff from Baidoa last week after the theft at a gunpoint of wages worth about $20,000.

— Sapa-Reuters.
Simone Bamber in Washington

What if Colonialism
Somalia Bears the

It’s Intervention

For the next million of your
Marines to land in Somalia

MOGADISHU — Hungry Somalis began a countdown today to a US-led multinational military mission they hope will end two years of famine and murderous clan rivalry.

With relief workers reporting 48 Somalis killed in fresh fighting in the town of Baidoa, US defence officials said hundreds of US Marines would fly into Mogadishu after dawn tomorrow.

The Marines, they said, would be the vanguard of Operation Restore Hope, codename for the UN-mandated mission to ensure famine relief gets to more than a million starving Somalis.

In Paris, French military sources said advance elements of their 2,100-member contribution to the operation would move into Somalia as early as today.

"The day has passed when the gun rules. The gunmen should get out," said Phil Johnston of the relief agency CARE.

The dispatch of troops reflects the West's anger at Somali clan leaders and gunmen who have been trying to cash in on the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

A total of 28,000 US troops will spearhead the operation — the first from 1,800 Marines waiting off the coast.

Ordinary Somalis, even some with guns to protect their lives and their clan, cheered yesterday when two American planes swooped over the capital to scout the terrain for the landing of amphibious troops.

Clan warlords, whose feuds have ruined the country, have pledged not to attack the troops but there are widespread fears skirmishes could occur because of trigger-happy youths high on the local narcotic, qat. — Sapa-Reuters.
Mogadishu cheers swooping US jets

MOGADISHU — Western military planes swooped over Mogadishu yesterday on an apparent reconnaissance mission for a US-led multinational force that will police the distribution of aid to Somalia's starving people.

Two planes, believed to be US F-14s, dropped flares as decoys for any attack by surface-to-air missiles, then disappeared over the horizon where a US task force with 1,600 marines was waiting.

However, an Italian UN worker was seized and held by security men of Somalia's strongest warlord, Mohammed Farah Aideed, yesterday in what one UN official called Somalia's first "hostage scenario" soon after the overflight.

Women stopped and cheered when the planes flew over.

"I welcome the Americans. It may mean peace," said 24-year-old Mohamed Nur, a Somali relief worker.

US marines are expected to land in Somalia tomorrow morning local time to prepare for the arrival of the international military force.

US officials said plans called for elements of a force of 1,600 marines now offshore to begin moving into the capital of Mogadishu after dawn tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon said, the US was sending ambassador-at-large Robert Oakley and Marine Brig.-Gen. Frank Libutti to Mogadishu yesterday to discuss the situation with rival clan leaders and officials of relief agencies providing food and medicine to the anarchy-torn country.

The operation was primed to start against a backdrop of continued factional fighting in the central town of Baidoa, capital of the worst-hit Bay region.

Forty-eight people were killed and 50 were wounded yesterday in fierce clashes between rival Somali clan gangs in the town, relief workers said.

International agency Care spokesman James Funnell said: "The fighting is in the centre of town, which is quite worrying. Hospitals there are taking in a lot more gunshot wounds than normal."

Baidoa's tarmac airstrip and the port and airport at Mogadishu, about 200km away, will be key targets the force seeks to secure when it arrives, US defence officials say.

The US is providing 28,000 troops for a force which will total 35,000.

The key warlords in Somalia's two-year civil strife, Aideed and self-styled interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed, have said publicly they will co-operate with the intervention force.

But there are fears among UN officials and aid workers that the operation might cause skirmishes which could lead to aid workers being taken hostage or attacked.

Care pulled out all but three of its male staff from Baidoa last week after the theft at gunpoint of wages worth about $20,000.

— Sapa-Reuters.
SA sets up 'hard sell' trade missions

THE Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) yesterday announced what it called two ‘hard sell’ trade missions to Kenya and Zambia.

The DTI said the visits would be the first in a series of trade missions to Africa planned by the department for next year.

It was co-operating with its counterparts in these two countries and the visits would be “hard sell” ones and not geared to “merely exploring markets”, the DTI said.

News of the visits follows the recent announcement of the first DTI-led trade delegation to the US and the announcement by the SA

Foreign Trade Organisation (Safco) that it would stage separate SA-only exhibitions in four West African countries next year.

A South African delegation left at the weekend for a nine-day visit to Morocco and Tunisia. This year Morocco became SA’s biggest trading partner on the continent beyond southern Africa. In the first 10 months of this year official SA exports into Africa grew from R3.5bn to R4.1bn, although experts believe that trade which is not officially recorded could double this figure.

Trade with the Ivory Coast increased 35% and trade exports to Burundi, an important regional distribution point, by 300%.

Sapa-AFP reports that United Arab Emirates businessmen will visit SA early next year to discuss investment and tourism co-operation.

Abu Dhabi’s civil aviation director Sheikh Ahmad ibn Saif al-Nahayan said at the weekend that the visit would be organised by Gulf Air – owned jointly by Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and Abu Dhabi.
A ticket to the land without law

The deceiving dilemma on the Horn
Marines seize airport, harbour

MOGADISHU — Mobbed by media rather than militiamen, US marines came ashore under a full moon early today to begin an armed mission of mercy to feed the millions of starving Somalis.

Troops moved swiftly to seize Mogadishu's air and sea ports.

Brown and green amphibious vehicles came out of the Indian Ocean, rolled over the dunes and up on to the tarmac. Troops poured out and raced into position near the airport's single landing strip.

A helicopter hovered close to the ground and soldiers climbed over the sea wall. Shortly afterward, there was repeated thumping of a heavy-calibre machine gun, but it was not clear who was firing, or at what.

The marines were taking control of the airport and harbour in the first step of a plan to seize vital gateways for international aid, and get food, medicine and other supplies moving to those Somalis who need it most.

More than 300,000 Somalis already have died in one of history's most savage famines and 2 million more are at risk of starvation.

Four hours earlier, a reconnaiss ance team of 20 Navy frogmen and marines had come out of the sea at Mogadishu, a broken, shattered city ruled by the gun and reeking of decomposed bodies, some half buried.

The special forces team, faces smeared with black and green camouflage cream, and armed with automatic rifles, anti-tank missiles and machineguns, was caught in the glare of television lights and surrounded by 300 to 400 preliminaries.

Although the marines expected no major confrontations with Mogadishu's thousands of armed young militia men, they were taking no chances.

They captured six Somalis at an airport hangar and marched them away.

The US troops didn't know whether they ultimately would be fighting or feeding Somalis. And they didn't know how long they would stay. The Bush administration has spoken of ending the operation by January 20, but many expect it to extend many months into President Clinton's term.

Scores of clansmen departed the airport with their heavy weapons well before the US arrival. They were leaving behind a cash cow they had milked for months through exorbitant demands for landing and cargo handling fees.

Once the ports are firmly under control, the way will be paved for an airlift of up to 27,000 more US troops to seize other key installations and protect truck convoys of food to the nation's hard-hit interior.

They will be part of a US-led coalition that will include troops from France, Canada, Italy, Belgium and Egypt, all operating under UN auspices.

Mogadishu's two major warlords, Mohamed Farrah Aidid and Ali Mahdi Mohamed, had both pledged to co-operate with the US troops, but they are not in full control of the city.

Many of the gunmen owe no particular allegiance to either warlord, plying their footling trade under the direction of wealthy merchants who control the city's open-air markets.

Those markets are awash in stolen food aid — wheat from Canada, Australia and the European Community, rice from Thailand, sorghum from the United States, sugar and dates from Saudi Arabia.

Looters have stolen up to half of the more than 220,000 metric tons of food and other supplies sent to Somalia so far this year. — Sapa-AP.
No fighting, Somali warlord assures US

MOGADISHU — Somalia's most powerful warlord told the US his militia would not fight a US-led intervention force due to descend on the country from today.

The reassurance was given to Robin Oakley, US special representative for Somalia, yesterday by Mohamed Farah Aiddeed, who controls much of southern Somalia.

"There will be no resistance," Aiddeed's main supporter, Osman Ali Ati, told reporters after the two men met in a shell-shattered suburb of the Somali capital.

"We are telling Somalis just to stay calm, not to feel threatened," Aiddeed's foreign relations spokesman, Mohamed Awale, said after the talks with Oakley.

Aiddeed, he added, would instruct his militia not to go to the airport and port of southern Mogadishu, which an advance force of 1,000 US Marines are keen to secure first.

Oakley said he was happy with the talks.
"We had a good conversation and we're very, very pleased," he told reporters. "The important thing is to get the job done."

He then left for talks with Aiddeed's rival, self-declared interim president Ali Mahdi Mohamed, who controls the Karan suburb of northern Mogadishu but whose government is recognized by no one but himself and his militia.

US defence department officials said the UN-mandated operation, codenamed Restore Hope, would be launched early today.

More than 35,000 troops from up to a dozen countries — including 20,000 from the US and 2,000 from France — will deploy throughout Somalia to stop gunmen looting famine relief.

Ordinary Somalis appear to welcome the troops because they are weary of two years of civil strife. But UN officials and aid workers had voiced concern that the arrival of a heavily armed foreign force might spark skirmishes with local clan militias.

Many of the gunmen depend upon the relief effort for their livelihood. They guard aid workers from attack by rival militias or thieves and might resort to looting their grip on the operation, aid workers say.

Residents say many gunmen have buried their weapons, fearing that the force may try to disarm them.
"Everyone has hidden their weapons at home," said prominent businessman Ahmed Fidon. The weapons, he added, would only be dug up if former colonial power Italy sent troops. Italian participation is blocked by a cabinet debate in Rome.
"We have reserved the guns for the Italians — the US Marines are okay," Fidon said. — Sapa-Reuter.
West Africa beckons SA

By Leigh Hassall

Businessmen will have the chance to trade with West African countries via an exhibition to be held next year in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. This was revealed in Johannesburg last night by Exhibition Management Services.

It has the blessing of both the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Cote d'Ivoire. The exhibition should draw businessmen from the whole of West Africa. In 1989 the total value of imports for the target market countries was $13740 million.

The major imports by West Africa comprise machinery and equipment, agro-industrial related products and mining technology and equipment. At the launch a keynote address was made by Valence Sahouet, Director for External Trade Promotion in the Ministry of Trade and Commerce of the Cote d'Ivoire.

He stressed the positive attitude his country had maintained towards South Africa over the years at a time when many other countries were closing their doors to it.

"Abidjan is the most industrialised area in the region, with excellent facilities and a natural port of entry for goods," Sahouet said.
AIDS in Africa warning

PARIS — AIDS is afflicting Africans at the rate of one every 30 seconds. This appalling figure was given today to delegates attending the 7th International Conference on AIDS in Yaounde, Cameroon. Professor Lazare Kaptue, chairman of the conference, warned: "At the rate that AIDS is spreading throughout our continent, some African countries will be wiped off the map."

----

Reports by Star Foreign Service, Sapa, Reuter, Financial Times, Associated Press and APP.
Lights, cameras, action as Marines take Mogadishu

MOGADISHU — Hundreds of US Marines took Mogadishu in a bloodless, stage-managed landing yesterday. They seized the harbour and airport, the hub of Somalia's relief operation hijacked by warlords.

Three gunbattles broke out and the Marines came under fire on arrival at the port. But there were no casualties and little shooting was heard.

The six-hour landing was launched just after midnight under the glare of television arc lights. Camera crews chased commandos up the beach.

It heralded the start of a unique operation to stop food for Somalia's starving millions being stolen by gunmen from lootin gclass.

George Bush, who authorised Operation Restore Hope in one of the last acts of his presidency, was said to be "pleased at the success of the initial stage" of the plan.

A few hours after a scouting party of commandos hit the beach in motorised kayaks, US forces began an airlift to bring 28,000 Americans troops to Africa.

Transport planes began landing at the airport with equipment for the enlarged force. Somali citizens, who have avoided the area for two years because of civil war, milled around the tarmac. The mood was one of national holiday and the Americans bestowed the stars and stripes over a temporary US embassy.

The next phase of the operation is a co-ordinated push to the interior towns Bardere and Baldoor and the port of Kismayu in the south, where clan war has added to a daily death toll caused by famine.

A night of looting and shooting gripped Kismayu and about 15 foreign aid workers were being evacuated, a UN World Food Programme spokesman said in Nairobi.

One relief agency source in Nairobi said there had been a lot of fighting in Kismayu and added he believed it was related to the arrival of US troops in Somalia — "not everyone is happy with the Americans coming".

About a dozen countries ranging from France to the United Arab Emirates have pledged to provide troops in a show of international solidarity unmatched since Washington's Gulf War coalition.

The marines, who had been waiting in ships off the coast for several days, took no chances. They forced dozens of Somalis to surrender their guns.

Dozens were arrested and made to lie on the ground at gunpoint at the harbour and airport. They did not understand the terse orders barked at them in English — "Get down, spread your legs, palms up in the air where I can see your hands."

Later the World Food Programme flew food into Somalia in a dramatic illustration of the success of the US intervention.

Now that the marines control Mogadishu's main entry points, they will turn their attention to getting the seaside airport ready for a long stream of air force cargo flights.

Transport planes will ferry tons of supplies and commercial airliners chartered by the military will start bringing in the Marines.

In Washington, Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said Operation Restore Hope was off to a good start.

"We’ve been pleased with how smoothly it's gone," Cheney said. "I'm delighted things have gone that well."  — Sapa-Reuters-AP
NEW YORK - Voters in the United States, worried about a lingering recession, dumped President George Bush in favour of Democrat Bill Clinton.

Israelis ousted Yitzhak Shamir for Yitzhak Rabin, who promised greater flexibility as prime minister in peace talks with the Arabs.

But Britons returned the Conservatives for a record fourth consecutive term and left Prime Minister John Major at the helm.

In general, 1992 was a year of political change and widespread turmoil. The tremors shook many of the former Soviet republics, which split apart in 1991. Some countries in Eastern Europe held their first free elections since topping communist rulers - and voted ex-communists back into power.

African countries also held their first democratic elections since independence. But Somalia, Mozambique and Sudan were wracked by violence and famine.

Clinton, the 46-year-old Arkansas governor, ended 12 years of Republican domination of the White House by beating Bush in the November 3 election. With a Democratic-dominated Congress behind him, Clinton promised to "zero in like a laser" to get the US economy rolling again.

Before turning over the reins of government, Bush ordered 28,000 US troops into Somalia, with UN backing, to guard a food relief operation threatened by rival warlords.

Israeli voters denied Shamir another term in June after 15 years of right-wing Likud government.

But instead of electing a new face, they brought back the 70-year-old Rabin, a former defence minister who led Israel to victory in the 1967 Middle East war.

Major extended his party's grip on power that Margaret Thatcher began in 1979. Despite a painful recession, Major won in April by convincing voters that the Labour Party would raise taxes and government spending.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin stayed off impeachment by former communists angered by his free-market economic reforms at a tumultuous session of the Congress of People's Deputies. The December uproar mirrored unrest and uncertainty throughout the former Soviet empire.

Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, returned to power in his native Georgia in March, after President Zviad Gamsakhurdia was ousted in a violent battle.

Lithuanians voted out the Saidas movement that led the Baltic nation to independence in favour of former Communist Party leader Algirdas Brazauskas. In nearby Estonia, Parliament chose Lemmt Meri as president over an opponent who was a former communist.

Muslim groups in the central Asian republic of Tajikistan ousted old-style communist President Rahmon Nabiyev in August. Ethnic fighting raged elsewhere in the volatile southern regions of the former Soviet Union.

Politics bubbled in Eastern Europe.

In Poland, Parliament ousted Prime Minister Jan Olszewski in June and replaced him with Hanna Suchocka, the first woman to head a Polish government. In Romania, President Ion Iliescu, a former Communist who has led the troubled nation since the downfall of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu in 1989, easily won presidential elections in September.

After less than three years as a democratic state, Czechoslovakia in June decided to split into Slovakia and the Czech Republic by the end of this year. In war-torn former Yugoslavia, two political newcomers emerged to challenge Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Serb-born American businessman Milan Panic was chosen premier of the smaller Yugoslav state of Montenegro. Milosevic's socialists failed to defeat Panic in two parliamentary votes of no confidence. Panic announced he would run against Milosevic for Serbia's presidency in December 20 elections.

In Croatia, President Franjo Tudjman's Croatian Democratic Union won August elections, retaining a grip on power gained in 1990.

In Slovenia, President Milan Kucan won the first elections since independence last year.

In North Africa, Algeria was convulsed by two major political events in 1992. President Chadli Benjedid was forced to resign when the army seized power in January and replaced him with a High State Committee. In June, the head of that committee, Mohamed Boudiaf, was assassinated.

In Africa, more than 20 one-party rulers have been ousted or forced to permit opposition parties since 1989. But elections this year brought mixed results.

In March, Mauritania's military government won nearly all the seats in the first democratic elections in more than three decades. In the Congo, Pascal Lissouba, a former prime minister, won that nation's first democratic election. In Kenya, President Daniel arap Moi, in power since 1978, promised multiparty elections on December 29.

In Angola, guns thundered. The governing Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola trounced the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola in September elections. But Jonas Savimbi refused to accept the outcome and fighting flared again, threatening to renew 16 years of civil war.

In Asia, Islamic fundamentalists overthrew Afghanistan's president, Najib, in April and established an Islamic state after 14 years of civil war. However, the coalition was unable to unify all its factions, and some renegades fought the new government.

In the Philippines, voters in May chose former Defence Minister Fidel Ramos to succeed Corazon Aquino as president. Ramos who won a crowded field with only 25 percent of the vote amid allegations of fraud was unable to claim a mandate.

In Latin America, three countries experienced political turmoil.

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori closed Congress and suspended the constitution in April, claiming he needed special powers to fight poverty, drug trafficking and leftist guerrillas. In November, Fujimori's allies won control of Congress.

Brazilian lawmakers impeached President Fernando Collor de Mello on September 29 and forced him to step down while the Senate weighs corruption charges against him.
US blacks to help in Somalia

Servicemen are eager to participate in humanitarian effort.

SOMALIA - Like other black servicemen and service-women bound for Somalia, Petty Officer Carl R. Small says he considers saving starving Africans more than just a military mission.

"I think every black man wants to go to Africa," said Small, among 124 Seabees scheduled to leave yesterday from the Navy Amphibious Base at Coronado, California.

"Plus, it's the first time we're getting a chance to help people as a military force. For me, it feels good."

Some 10,000 army soldiers from Fort Drum, New York, were getting ready to join the multinational effort to get food through.

"I'd hoped someday to see Africa and this is a chance - but not with people dying on this scale. I wanted to see the good part," said Sergeant Donald Moore, whose unit will improve and protect food transportation routes.

"This is going to be worse than on TV. It's not something I'm looking forward to seeing but it's a job that needs to be done," he said.

A large number of US troops in Somalia will be black. Blacks account for nearly 21 percent of the armed forces, although they make up about 14 percent of the 18-24-year-olds in the United States.

Nearly 30 percent of the army's soldiers are black.
The UN must beware of the fine line between aid and peacekeeping.
Billions of dollars ‘wasted’ in Africa

Aid to Africa has failed, reports JAMES TOMLINS

A FRENCH expert on Africa has warned that 30 years of international aid, totalling $560 billion (about R1,950 billion) “has been a complete waste.”

“The Gross National Product (GNP) of Africa, excluding South Africa, is about equal to that of Belgium, but with more than 450 million inhabitants.”

Professor Bernard Lugan, who has a chair of African history at Lyons University, noted in the daily newspaper Figaro: “In 1960, just before decolonisation, the continent accounted for nine percent of world exports. Today that figure has fallen to three percent.”

“There is also an appalling educational crisis, with 75 percent illiteracy, despite the fact that the EC trains professional cadres. Unfortunately, more than 70,000 African doctors, teachers and engineers have deserted by preferring to remain in Europe rather than return home. They are replaced by whites sent out under co-operation projects.”

He concluded: “We must realise that Africa is a failure everywhere except Morocco and South Africa. In 1960, Africa was able to feed itself — today, 150 million face starvation.” — Star Foreign Service
NEWS FEATURE  Hatred of other ethnic groups

Gun law scourge of Horn of Africa

NAIROBI - Anarchy in Somalia where US Marines landed this week to end gun law mirrors the endemic conflicts that have gripped Horn of Africa states since independence more than 30 years ago.

Millions killed
Wars and famine have killed millions of people, made several millions more refugees and kicked away the crutches of limping economies.

"The region's troubles stem from the failure of state authorities and other groups to recognize each other's ethnic differences," Nairobi University political analyst Nick Wanjohi said.

"These countries have not developed a culture of violence as such but there is a phenomenon of violence developing that is based on hatred of other ethnic groups," he said.

"The problems have been compounded by the lack of government that ensures regular free and fair leadership elections."

A crash into anarchy
Somalia crashed into anarchy after rebels toppled military dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

The rebels then turned their guns on each other and a subsistence economy collapsed.

More than 300,000 people starved to death before the United Nations decided to send in a US-led force of some 36,000 troops from a dozen countries.

About 1.5 million Somalis face starvation and nearly a million others have fled to neighbouring states.

The sketch for the other Horn of Africa nations is as follows:

Uneasy peace
Ethiopia - An uneasy peace exists after rebels from the north shot their way into the capital Addis Ababa last year to overthrow Marxist dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam. Mengistu had emerged victorious from power struggles among a group of army officers who had seized power in 1974, toppling feudal chieftain Haile Selassie.

Hundreds of refugees
The 30-year war between government troops and rebels in Ethiopia's strategic Red Sea region of Birtrea created hundreds of thousands of refugees and ruined the impoverished country's economy.

Sudan - A mainly Muslim country, it has been reeling from armed insurrection by Christian southerners since 1983. About a third of southern Sudan's population of six million has been displaced and hundreds of thousands have fled the country.

Djibouti - Djibouti has been riven by fighting between government troops and rebels over the last year.

Kenya has been an island of relative stability and prosperity. Last year President Daniel arap Moi bowed to opposition and western donor pressure to introduce a multi-party system. But there has been fighting in the interior between pro and anti-Moi factions. Wanjohi said the first multiparty general election in Kenya for 26 years on December 29 could point the way forward. "All the countries in the region will be watching the elections closely to see how they are held. If they are conducted properly, this will help other countries such as Somalia and Ethiopia," he said. "If there is cheating and violence, then we are headed for a tragic situation." - Sapa-Reuters
ALGIERS - The assassin of Algerian head of state Mohamed Boudiaf carried out the killing alone but he could have been a hit-man for Islamic fundamentalists or thwarted politicians, an official inquiry found.
Urgent appeal to relief force

MOGADISHU — Relief agencies yesterday appealed for the swift dispatch of foreign troops to two Somali towns where they said at least 60 people had been killed in looting and shooting sprees.

Their pleas for US-led forces to rush marauding Somalian gunmen coincided with an announcement by UN of Mogadishu's two warlords that they would meet his rival today in an attempt to end the feud which has wrecked the country.

Snipers shot at French legionnaires and a Cobra attack helicopter at the capital during the night but there were no casualties.

The Belgian-based charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) said in Nairobi at least 60 people had been killed and 40 wounded in fighting over the last four days in the southern port of Kismayu.

Gunmen had also been on a looting spree in the central town of Baidoa, at the heart of Somalia's famine which has killed more than 300,000 people, aid agencies said.

"The looting classes are trying to get their last licks," said a spokesman for the charity World Vision. "The aid agencies want those troops on the ground quickly."

As newly arrived US Marines fanned out around the capital, warlord Mohamed Farah Aideed issued a statement saying he and his blood rival Ali Mahdi Mohamed had accepted an invitation from US ambassador Robert Oakley to meet in the capital today.

It will be the first meeting in a year between the two, former allies who turned their guns on each other following the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

Aideed, who is president of the country, has refused to attend talks with Ali Mahdi, who holds sway over north Mogadishu, as long as he calls himself interim president.

Marines and French paratroopers patrolled the city to fly the flag of Operation Restore Hope, the UN-mandated plan to stop the plundering of relief for the starving.

Only about 1,000 marines and 100 French troops have landed so far out of an expected 35,000 troops from a dozen countries. But UN officials said the constant clatter of their helicopters and presence at checkpoints was meant to give the impression of a much larger force.

Mogadishu adjusted slowly to its new military masters.

Armed gunmen in a car fired shots at a French roadblock during the night. The legionnaires fired back, but no casualties were reported.

A Jamaican UN radio operator was recovering and in a stable condition after being shot on Wednesday, officials said. — Sapa-Reuters.
Another disaster awaits in Sudan

A S 3000 United States-led combat troops invade Somalia for the benefit of its starving citizens, another humanitarian disaster is unfolding in the Horn of Africa. Sudan, which is separated from Somalia by Ethiopia, is in the throes of war-induced apocalyptic that has gone largely unheeded by the international community.

Some three-quarters of a million have already died while an estimated two thirds of southern Sudan's six million population have been uprooted from their homes.

Hundreds of thousands of Dinka, semi-nomadic cattle herders who live in the Joklei swamps, have been forced to flee attacks from the Nuer and are at risk of starvation.

The disaster is the result of a long-running civil war between the Khartoum-based Arab government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army, a southern rebel group. For the greater part of three decades, the African southerners, who are either Christian or animist, have been in revolt against their Muslim overlords.

The fighting reached a new intensity earlier this year when government troops overran a dozen rebel-held towns in an offensive that included a scorched earth policy against the local inhabitants. Behind the offensive lies a fanatic brand of Islamic fundamentalism.

Sudanese president General Omar Hassan al-Bashir has said he is waging a holy war against the SPLA infidels. Suppression of the rebellion is his first step in a drive to Islamise black Africa, according to those who have spoken to Bashir. Next in line may be Uganda and Kenya, two predominantly Christian countries that lie along Sudan's southern border.

Bashir is backed by Iran, which has provided military advisers and arms, including Chinese-made MIG fighter jets. Another government offensive is expected when the dry season starts this month.

The United States considers the Khartoum administration one of the cruelest and most repressive in the world. Bashir's military junta has imposed Islamic sharia law in the north. It calls for the amputation of a hand or foot for theft and public floggings for those who drink alcohol or consort with prostitutes.

Bashir has been pushing the army of moderates and replacing them with leftist fanatics known as the mujahideen. The mujahideen's atrocities against non-Muslim Sudanese bear the hallmarks of "ethnic cleansing".

Young Nuba boys from central Sudan have been shipped to Khartoum to be educated as Muslims while their parents have been herded into detention camps. Dinka men who enter government-held towns in search of food risk execution unless they submit to circumcision.

A military solution to the guerrilla war is as unlikely as a political one for logistical reasons: The southern third of the country is a wilderness area of swamp and dinka high elephant grass. During the nine-month rainy season, the greater part of the war zone is inaccessible except on foot or by dugout canoe.

What little infrastructure Sudan once enjoyed has collapsed. The roads were made by Arab slaves last century and have received little maintenance since then. For most of the year, they are a morass of glutinous mud. Trucks delivering emergency food supplies to the displaced are often bogged down for weeks at a time.

There is no electricity or piped water and not a single telephone. There is no currency, and aid agencies pay local employees with soap and salt.

It is this neglect that may ultimately prove the rebellion's undoing. The war has been further complicated by a split within the rebel ranks. The Dinka support SPLA founder Colonel John Garang, who seeks a united but secular Sudan.

The Dinka's ethnic cousins, the Nuer, have formed the breakaway Nasir faction. It is headed by Riak Machar, who is believed to have struck a secret pact with the Khartoum government. Machar's suggestion of a referendum on secession is impractical but attractive to many exhausted southerners.

Meanwhile, armed Nuer militia have been massacring thousands of Dinka and burning their homesteads. People who visited the devastated villages said the Nuer had disembowelled some of their victims, smashed in the heads of others and thrown children down wells.

As a result, hundreds of thousands of Dinka are on the march in search of food and shelter. "I have never seen anything like this before," said Malith, an official of the rebel-run Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association. Malith organised a mass exodus from the Bor area because people were reduced to eating grass and berries. The Nuer had burnt their crops and the seed set aside for the next planting season.

Given the scale of the disaster, the number of relief workers in the area and the resources they have available to them are horribly inadequate. Yet at this stage, tens of thousands of lives could be saved with a comparatively small financial outlay.

The displaced Dinka are hardy and resourceful. They want fishing line so that they can fish the Nile and seeds and joes so they can plant before the onset of the next rains. And until the harvest next November, they will need supplementary food rations.

The West has yet to demonstrate it needs early warnings. Southern Sudan continues to be overshadowed by the crisis in Somalia and funds earmarked for the Sudanese relief effort have been diverted there. Last October a UN world food programme operation that flies 90 tons of food a day to the besieged southern capital of Juba was grounded for a month. The reason— the money for the flights had been diverted to famine relief efforts in Somalia. Five hundred civilians die each month in Juba from hunger and disease*

If and when Sudan hits the headlines, it may be too late as was the case in the diplomatic debacle of Somalia. Will the consequences of the failure to acknowledge tragedy in the making mean another costly military intervention? Let us hope that it doesn't come to that.
The undying of the UN

By Jonathan Eyal, director of studies

The UN, a global institution founded in 1945, continues to play a significant role in international affairs. Its purpose is to promote international cooperation and to manage global challenges. The organization is composed of member states that work towards maintaining world peace and security, promoting human rights, fostering social and economic development, and protecting the environment. The UN has a number of specialized agencies and programs that address specific issues. Despite its challenges and controversies, the UN remains a critical instrument for global governance.
alternative was on offer. The same
is likely to happen in Bosnia.

Secondly, peace-keeping opera-
tions must remain an expression
of collective security and must be
financed internationally. Clearly,
European states and institutions
should bear the major burden of
any conflict on their continent. Yet
such operations must be co-
ordinated on a larger scale for
otherwise they would lack the stay-
ing power which is essential for
long-term success. The participants
in the Bosnian operation are shortly
proposing to pass on the begging
bowl to other states. They will
quickly discover that Japan will
refuse to contribute, claiming that
it is already doing enough in Cam-
bodia, and that Middle Eastern
states will impose impossible con-
ditions for their support of Bosnia.

Behind the scenes, a furious dis-
pute about sharing the costs of UN
operations has been going on for
months. The US has suggested
that, instead of outright financial
contributions, it should help in
kind, by placing its vast quantities
of military equipment pre-positioned
around the world at the UN's
disposal. However, nobody is able
to agree on the costing mechanisms
for such payments and little has
been done.

For more than a year, the UN
Secretary-General has tried to start
a debate about his organisation's
future peace-keeping operation.
Apart from soothing words, no re-
ply ever came. Instead, from Yugo-
slavia to Somalia, the UN was
asked to approve a series of hapha-
azard moves, a set of incremental
steps which, although well mean-
ing, provide no long-term solution.
The operations in Yugoslav indicate
that the notion of UN collective
security is in need of an over-
haul. For the present precarious
operation, straddling peace-keep-
ing and peace-making promises at
the same time and bereft of politi-
cal support, will collapse.
MOGADISHU, Somalia — President Ali Mahdi and interim Prime Minister Mohamed Farah have agreed to work together to end the civil war in Somalia, a move that could bring some stability to the country.

The two leaders met in Mogadishu on Monday, the first time they have met since the beginning of the month. The meeting was held behind closed doors at the presidential palace.

"We are committed to working together to bring peace and stability to Somalia," Mahdi said in a statement.

Farah added, "We have to work hard to bring an end to the conflict and ensure that our people can live in peace and security."
Surviving in Mogadishu

By Don FIELD

The 1,800-strong contingent in the Somali's National

TINY ROWLAND: The Lonrho chief executive deserves honorary membership of the pantheon of Africa's post-independence leaders. However, he does not have the same links with the new generation as with the old, who are mostly dead or exiled.

Change takes its toll on Lonrho

LONDON — "Tiny's in town." For three decades the cry has gone up in towns and cities across Africa, from Cape to Cairo, from the lips of politicians, businessmen and journalists.

If the pantheon of Africa's post-independence leaders allowed honorary membership, Tiny Rowland (75), Lonrho's chief executive, could take his place for granted.

Ready to nominate him would be Dr Hastings Banda of Malawi; Kenneth Kaunda, Zambia's president until his election defeat last year; the late Samora Machel of Mozambique and his successor, Joaquim Chissano; Uganda's Milton Obote and Sudan's Jaafar Nimeiri; Joshua Nkomo, Zimbabwe's deputy president; and Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

New generation

Yet all those leaders are dead, or dying, exiled or exiting. Age has taken its toll, but so has democracy, with autocratic leaders buckling under domestic and international pressure and succumbing to demands for multiparty elections.

It was with these men that Rowland worked closely. It is said that he does not have the same links with the new generation of African leaders.

And Africa is changing in another respect. Structural adjustment under the scrutiny of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank is creating fewer opportunities to exercise presidential power.

The high hopes that marked the emergence of independent African states in the 1960s were dashed in the 1970s. Today those hopes are at their nadir.

All these changes have taken a toll on Lonrho's assets, however efficiently managed. Post-Rowland, Lonrho as a company, with Dieter Bock as its new driving force, will find business in Africa harder and potentially less profitable.

Lonrho has become increasingly dependent on profit from Africa. They accounted for £158 million (about $764 million) out of group pre-tax profit of $207 million for the year ended September 1991. Activities include, in South Africa, platinum, gold, coal and asbestos mining, motor dealer-

ships and sugar investments.

Further north Lonrho has a wide spread of mining, agricultural and commercial assets spread across at least 16 countries. Prominent is the Ashanti gold mine in Ghana, but the list extends to tea, beer, pharmaceuticals, sugar, farming, textiles, soft drinks, timber, paint and hotels.

Yet questions shadow many of Lonrho's businesses.

Kenya's economic difficulties and political uncertainties put question marks against Lonrho's hotel and motor vehicle interests. Plantations in Mozambique depend on successful implementation of a UN-supervised peace plan. In Zambia, Lonrho companies are dependent on the success of a fragile economic adjustment programme, as in Zimbabwe, where Lonrho has substantial interests.

Political risk

The future of investments in Malawi is heavily dependent on what happens after Banda, now in his mid-90s, passes on. Lonrho's companies in Nigeria are hit by economic crisis and uncertainty about the handover to civilian rule.

Weak currencies, political risk and hold-ups in remittance of profits and dividends make many holdings worth less than their book value. If sold, it would be difficult to repatriate the proceeds.
New strain of HIV found

YAOUNDE (Cameroon) — Researchers have found a strain of the HIV virus that causes Aids which is very different from the two known forms — HIV-1, found worldwide, and HIV-2, found mainly in west Africa.

But researchers say it is too early to tell whether it is a third form of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) because the full genetic sequencing of the virus "isolate", which has been called MVP-5180, is not complete.

The preliminary findings, presented at the seventh International Conference on Aids in Africa held in Yaounde, come from Lutz Gurtler and colleagues at the Max von Pettenkofer Institute at the University of Munich, working with a team from Cameroon's Blood Transfusion and Testing Centre.

"The data point to evidence that the isolate MVP-5180 is a highly divergent strain, nearly equally remote from HIV-1 and HIV-2, but perhaps closer to HIV-1," Gurtler said.

The isolate came from a Cameroonian patient who had died of Aids.

The sample was collected through the World Health Organisation's Network for HIV Isolation and Characterisation, which was set up to gain a better understanding of HIV variability worldwide and to help develop and evaluate candidate vaccines. — Sapa-Reuters.
Kicking the Strategic Horn Again

Graham Lumsden reports that Somalia could become a UN mandate...
He got land from the government and created a village called Manantanea — "A Better Life". His organisation now provides four real walls for 4 000 of the "quatre mis". And they keep coming. "We get 25 more families every month. It never stops. I reckon there are 250 000 people in this town who don’t even get enough to eat," Pedro says. "It’s a disgrace. This isn’t Somalia. Somalia is a desert. But this is a rich agricultural country. It used to export food. But these people have been abused for years. It is a crime."

The reason is not just the influx of job-seekers from the countryside that has created shantytowns around cities all over Africa.

From poverty to virtual ruin

Madagascar has gone in the past decade from poverty to virtual ruin.

Slash and burn farming has wrecked the land. The collapse of prices for coffee, vanilla and cloves has made the crops scarcely worth growing.

Soviet-style central planning, grandiose but unproductive projects and big military expenditure by President Didier Ratsiraka have brought the economy to its knees, diplomats say.

"We hope that one day Antananarivo will build factories. That there will be jobs. That this will be an industrial town. But until then..." Pedro’s attention is distracted by a new arrival seeking the comfort of a broad arm round his small shoulder.

"This town has doubled or trebled in size in the past few years. But at the same time only a couple of hundred houses have been built," said Pedro, a Slovene who worked in the Madagascar countryside for 20 years before attacking the capital.

The United Nations’ World Food Programme, World Bank and Madagascar’s transitional government announced a five-year R36.4 million plan last month to ease the plight of the urban poor in Antananarivo, where some 50 000 are thought to be homeless.

Pedro’s Akamasoa organisation provides shelter and food in return for work in nearby quarries or on handicraft projects. Parents come with entire families, sometimes a dozen people.

Others have not heard of the bearded priest and abandon their children or worse, "A woman walked up to our night guard the other day and tried to sell her child. It was wrapped under a shawl. When we lifted it, the child was naked," said a businesswoman.

The arrivals are rehabilitated, educated, helped to overcome frequent drug or alcohol problems and given the opportunity to go back to the land if they have relatives with cooking and farming implements, a bus ticket and minimal pocket money. - Sapa-Reuters.
Food for ‘city of death’

Massacre of 89 Kenyan nomads

NAIROBI - Sudanese tribal raiders massacred 89 Kenyan nomads, mostly women and children, in a remote area of north-west Kenya before making off with their livestock, police said.

The raiders, who belong to the Toposa and Dongiro tribes and attacked a manyatta (nomadic settlement) at Kokoro near the Sudanese border on Saturday, were armed with sophisticated firearms and other weapons, police officials added.

They killed 15 men, 32 women and 42 children and stole more than 7,000 head of cattle, goats, camels and donkeys, the officials said.

Clashes between local tribes are common in this semi-desert area but

32 women and 42 children among victims of Sudanese tribal raiders:

Saturday's raid was the most serious in several years.

In 1988 a gang of 400 armed raiders from Sudan killed 191 Kenyans and stole thousands of cattle. On that occasion, Kenyan police intercepted some of the raiders and killed 20.

Meanwhile, four Western ambassadors walked out of Kenya's main independence celebrations accusing President Daniel arap Moi of turning the event into a political rally for the embattled ruling party.

In nearby Somalia, more than 200 US Marines swooped on a military air base in Somalia's interior to secure it for the US-led armed intervention to get food to the starving, a spokesman said.

It was the marines' first thrust into Somalia's lawless and famished interior since they reached the capital on Wednesday. The airfield at Bali Dogle, about 160km from the capital, is likely to be used as a staging post to secure relief operations for Baidoa, dubbed Somalia's "city of death".

-Sapa-Reuters.
Setting the pattern for intervention

An examination of the scale of international efforts in Bosnia and Somalia
Eritrea battles to rise from ashes
What the Azanian People’s Liberation Army (Apla) is doing and what Africanism is about are two different issues. To say that Apla is reneging on Ubuntu is not the truth. Walter Xweya, a member of the Pan Africanist Congress, explains his party’s attitude to Africanism:

Robert Sobukwe ... he never said Africans would not kill.

If Laurence’s intention is to marginalise the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania from the people of this country, then he is backing the wrong horse. PAC is the African people and the African people are PAC.

Right now we are inundated with calls for membership forms from throughout. Indeed we are finding it difficult to cope with the demand.

If by marginalisation he means we will not be invited to a butchelad, then I may as well say that we prefer meetings in open spaces to those in terrorist surroundings.

The Pan Africanist Congress of Azania together with its component structures - Apla, Awo, Azanyu and Paso - firmly believe that there is only one human race and that is the human race to which we all belong. If the whites believe they are a superior race (a Herrenvolk), then it is for them to decide whether they will be happy in the shade of this big tree.

PAC leader Robert Sobukwe never said Africans would not kill.
Promised

Choice for 1992
1992
No Innovator

Media Spot
Dispute threatened relief work

PARIS - French media said on Monday that differences among the countries
and France's withdrawal of forces and United Nations (UN) peacekeeping forces from Somalia threatened relief operations.

Supporters of Mogadishu's most powerful warlord have been killing and warring with each other, and the UN mission was not expected to intervene in the conflict.

The French Foreign Ministry said the conflict was part of the wider regional crisis in the Horn of Africa.

---

Nightmare is the news sheet that serves as a news sheet, and it is Monday.
Can Africa Survive Socialism?

Labour may never again govern Britain and their is a lesson to be learned from London

OPINION
Why does the OAU allow America to usurp its function?

WHILE SANTA CLAUS GIVES... I TAKE!

C C BY AFRICA, ON! Was it post-Magnapole Malignamput who wrote those lines?

Or was it Don Mattera in his letter over the Nkomati Accord when he also said: "We hunger so great that you feel to eat the crumbs from the table of these leaders?"

These thoughts have been haunting me since US troops landed on the shores of Mogadishu in a blaze of publicity.

In a nutshell, this is what has been happening in Somalia: Where is the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), body that brings together all African states to preserve life and limb on the continent?

Somalia disintegrates

We have witnessed, as if in slow motion, the disintegration of Somalia. Bare bones, as one man put it, walking corpses that look like dead animals were burned, were paused on international television screens day in and day out.

Warlords took over the country and made it impossible for relief to be distributed to those in need.

And indeed, the succeeded and dying children came to represent the face of Somalia, with the only physically strong and well-fed people in that country being the gommers in their private, international air-organized training camps; they tried, to bring in relief but it ended up in the hands of the gommers who ruled Mogadishu airport and harbor.

And the OAU did nothing. As more and more people died, it was left to Bouter Busha Qadh, the UN secretary general, to call for armed aid from afar.

And we see American troops landing in Mogadishu in a blaze of publicity and the gommers disappear from the scene.

It is like the reclamation of Apartheid. These American troops land in Somalia and disarm the gommers, they are charged by the conscripted thousands and seen as saviors.

OAU nowhere to be seen

And the OAU is nowhere to be seen. Is it impossible for the OAU to muster an army that could go into Somalia and do what the Americans did?

It is always thought that Africa may be impoverished, but the soldiers were always there. How do African leaders feel when they see Americans crowding before these G-o-men and their armaments?

What are the psychological effects of this invasion by America? As the gommers disappear from the scene, we see sleeping men being rudely awakened from their sagging beds.

A Somali, in disagreement with the military intervention in his country, argues with a heavily armed US Marine in Mogadishu.

A Somali in a village to stand up and speak about how he does not want to be shoved around by strangers and foreigners - but even the caption says he argued "briefly".

It was the poorest of this man that easily touched my heart. Here was a solitary man making a stand that was to have been made by the OAU, as far as I am concerned.

But they were not there. Instead, here at home, we see an OAU representative, Mr. Legwaila Legwaila, walking glorying about the deaths of four whites in an attack in King William's Town.

OAU concerned about peace

The OAU, I hasten to add, was concerned about peace and life. Hence their condemnation of the King William's Town attack. Like hell, I think, they are concerned but it is the lives of whites that they are worried about and not the Somali gommers who were effectively killing thousands.

Legwaila went on to speak against armed struggle as if this country was already free and under a democratically elected government.

Principles thrown overboard

Long-standing principles and positions of the OAU and conflict resolution are being eroded by the invasion of Somalia, with the white oppressors of this country.

Legitimate struggles by black people against colonial exploitation and political oppression are being criminalized in the name of peace.

What happened to justice being the prerogative of peace?

Where was Legwaila and the OAU when Somalia refused to accept the results of a democratic election in Angola?

Instead we saw PA Cuthon, the representatives of aggression, suddenly wearing the mantle of peacemaker, with the OAU armistice.

One could go on about the OAU and speak about Liberia, Mozambique and Sudan. But the Somali invasion by America takes the cake.
Somalis cheer as troops arrive in ‘terror town’

BAIDOA (Somalia) — Jubilant Somalis and relief workers cheered the arrival of United States and French troops in this desperate town yesterday, expecting it to end a looters' reign of terror that has kept food from many starving people.

With the marines ensuring the safety of the 257 km road from the capital, Mogadishu, and securing Baidoa's airfield for cargo planes, aid agencies prepared for an influx of hundreds of tons of food.

Children stood along the roadside and waved as the 70-vehicle convoy entered Baidoa. The US flag was flapping on the lead armoured vehicle.

Helicopter gunships flew cover as F-14 jets and A-6 attack bombers streaked across the sky.

Armed Somali youths and their battle wagons — known as “technicals” — who have terrorised the town, vanished ahead of the force's arrival.

Colonel Werner Hellmer, a marine liaison officer, was mobbed by Somalis trying to shake his hand as he arrived for his first talks with aid workers.

"We are here... to get relief convoys out as soon as possible, and we're going to do whatever it takes," Hellmer said.

Relief workers, many of whom had complained that the marines had been too slow in coming, joined in a tumultuous welcome that made Baidoa's main road look more like a parade route than the gateway to one of Somalia's worst famine areas.

The scene — contrasted with the situation in Mogadishu, where gunfire are beginning to complain that they have lost their jobs as security guards now that the foreign troops have arrived.

Similar discontent found expression in an local newspaper's depiction of a dollar-waving foreign journalist kicking a Somali child.

However, the situation in Mogadishu is far removed from that in Baidoa which, in the days leading up to the troops' arrival, earned a reputation as a bandit-crazed town where gunmen stormed relief agency compounds late at night to steal food, medicine and money.

Colonel Fred Peck, the marine spokesman in Mogadishu, said Baidoa was declared secure yesterday, 40 minutes after the first troops arrived.

Page 21
Foreign troops' dilemma

MOGADISHU - The public beating of a Somali woman suspected of consorting with French troops has highlighted the dilemma facing foreign troops trying to keep food aid out of the reach of pillaging gunmen answerable to no one.

Legionnaires looked on and did nothing while a frenzied crowd tore off the woman's clothes, then beat and kicked her to the ground outside a Mogadishu hotel filled with journalists.

The ugly attack, which the woman survived when she was dragged off to a nearby former police station on Monday, was a graphic example of the anarchy that stalks Somalia after two years of clan killings and gun rule.
Germany will send troops to Somalia

FRANKFURT — Chancellor Helmut Kohl announced yesterday his intention to send armed German troops to Somalia to reinforce United Nations' humanitarian operations.

Japan has promised financial aid for the operation, but will not send troops.

Up to 1,500 troops in all, mostly engineers and medical staff, but reinforced by light infantry for "self-defence", should be offered to the UN, the German Chancellor said.

This would be the first time since World War 2 that German troops will serve outside the Nato area.

It represents the most significant attempt so far by the increasingly impatient conservatives in the government to break out of the restrictive interpretation of Germany's constitution.

"This is hugely important for Germany's image in the world," said Mr Kohl, alluding to the ridicule directed at Germany when it chose not to participate in the US-led international force that ousted Saddam Hussein's army from Kuwait in 1991.

From Tokyo it is reported that Japan pledged $100 million (£298 million) to the United Nations aid effort for Somalia today, but refused to join the United States and other nations sending troops.

Japan has been anxious to reach a quick decision on aid to avoid a repeat of its bitter Gulf War experience, when it was widely criticised as stalling on sending money or men to the allied effort against Iraq.

Somalia's gunmen defied US military might this week by plundering relief supplies within minutes of troops delivering food.

The looting demonstrated the problems facing the US-led force, due to number 35,000 men, in its efforts to battle hunger in a nation awash with weapons after two years of ethnic civil war and famine which has cost an estimated 300,000 lives.

The Independent News Service, Sapa-Reuters.
EC body confirms role in GATT talks

BRUSSELS — In a bid to reassert its authority as trade negotiator for all EC members, the Brussels-based European Commission said yesterday it would continue to negotiate in the Uruguay Round of world trade talks.

"There is no ambiguity in the position taken by the commission and the EC," said commission spokesman Nico Wegter. "We will continue to negotiate."

France dealt a potentially devastating blow to the talks on Wednesday by announcing it would block EC offers to cut import tariffs on farm products. French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said Paris regarded the proposals submitted by the EC’s executive commission as "null and void".

The commission had exceeded its negotiating mandate by striking a deal with the US that would cut EC subsidies to farmers.

Dumas’s move and the commission’s reaction underlined the division within the community over the accord with the US. A commission official, seeking to minimise the appearance of disarray, said yesterday that Dumas’s remarks were meant for a domestic French audience.

Wegter said yesterday negotiations on agriculture, and the 14 other areas covered by the GATT talks, continued in Geneva. The commission had presented its schedules of farm productions for 1989, enabling the agricultural talks to continue.

French officials said on Wednesday the schedules were invalid because they had not yet been approved by farm ministers.

But Wegter said: "There is no formal indication that would prevent us from presenting the schedules."

He added the commission was negotiating "within the limits of the reform of the EC’s common agricultural policy".

Earlier yesterday, GATT director-general Arthur Dunkel called a meeting of top negotiators for today in the knowledge that there was no chance of meeting the end-of-year deadline for a Uruguay Round conclusion. The meeting had originally been planned for December 23 in the hope that negotiators would be able to announce broad political agreement on the 108-nation trade accord.

Dunkel had set an end-of-the-year target for overall political agreement, leaving technical details to be sorted out by the end of February. The US administration’s special negotiating authority from congress runs out on March 3.

The Uruguay Round talks, launched in 1986, should have ended two years ago but were blocked by an US-EC farm row.

A November 20 deal between the two boosted hopes that an overall accord was finally in sight.

However, optimism has faded rapidly as new hurdles have appeared and there is no chance that an accord will be reached before Christmas.

In Paris, French Prime Minister Pierre Beregovoy and his Finance Minister Michel Sapin said separately yesterday that the franc would not be devalued.

Sapin, speaking against a background of renewed pressure against the currency from rising French interest rates and a promise of tough monetary policy by the Bundesbank next year, also said that monetary cooperation with Germany was to be strengthened.

Beregovoy said that in the light of “new information” about the world economy, such as the “brutal” slowing of activity in Germany as forecast by the OECD, he would draw “conclusions” at the beginning of next year.

“There will be no magic wand,” he said.

“The European economic situation is not good and that will hold consequences for the French economy.”

Beregovoy told a news conference: “I condemn any logic of devaluation and of the fluctuation of European currencies.”

He said “the government must keep cool” and “you know my determination”.

In Frankfurt yesterday the German Bundesbank in its monthly report it would have to maintain a “severe” monetary policy next year to control inflation.

— AP-DJ, Sapa-AFP

Marines expand food aid

Baidoa — Marines in Baidoa moved yesterday to take food to outlying Somali villages, and aid workers urged the troops to secure a southern port said to be exploding in clan fighting.

CARE spokesman Angela MacKay said the militia in Kismayo was "out of control". And UN spokesman Ian MacLeod said tensions were rising in the north. He said agencies were encouraging troops to move to the north.

The troops are concentrated in southern Mogadishu and US plans call for troops to reach Kismayo and Bardera in the last stages of operation Restore Hope after first moving north from Baidoa.

In Baidoa yesterday, Somalis loaded sacks of wheat on to trucks that Marines were to escort to four villages within 50km of the town. In all, 10 trucks were to carry about 100 tons of food, enough to feed about 750 people for a month.

US special envoy Robert Oakley said the troops were prepared for trouble, although the operation so far had been nearly trouble-free. — Sapa-AP.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Heavy load for marines

Difficult task for troops in Somalia

Mogadishu - Marines were yesterday deter-
mind to get on with one of the most diffi-
cult parts of their mis-
sion: to bring food to the starving in
outlying villages cut off by looters and clan warfare.

"This is a chance to get things into
this more dangerous area," Mr James Pennell, a spokesman for the interna-
tional aid agency, Care, said yester-
day as Somalis loaded bags of wheat
on to trucks that the Marines were to
c Escort to four villages within 50km of
the town of Baidoa.

Ten trucks were to carry about 100
tons of food to feed about 7,500 peo-
ple for a month.

The last time Care attempted to
reach the villages its trucks were ambus-
ushed. 480 bags of food lost and five
bandits killed in a gun battle with
Care's Somali guards.

US special envoy Robert Oakley
said the troops were prepared for trou-
ble, although their arrival both in
Mogadishu last week and in Baidoa
on Wednesday was nearly trouble-
free, and they were warmly received by
the Somalis.

"We do know the operation in
Baidoa went beautifully, without a
hitch," Oakley said. But parts of the
interior is "where there is more trou-
ble, where the situation is more tense".

The looters and clan gunmen who
have terrorised the area have lain low
since the troops arrived. - Sapa-AP.
Senegal tourist mecca shut down

Sowetan Africa News Service

Dakar - A major holiday resort on the West coast of Senegal, built to compete with South Africa, has been closed down because of insecurity.

The huge 4,000-bed hotel complex, including a Club Mediterranee, frames the sandy white beaches of Casamance, southern Senegal.

But terrorists of the Casamance liberation movement have made the region unsafe. Last October 27 an armed gang killed 32 locals a mere 100 yards from the Club Mediterranee.

French, German and Scandinavian tourists were warned not to stroll on the beaches at night and a general atmosphere of insecurity spread around the hotels. The largest, Eldorado, run by Jet Tours, as well as Club Mediterranee, shut down with a dozen others.

Senegalese Tourist Minister Jacques Baudin promised this week: "We will reopen in October 1993." But international travel agencies have crossed Casamance off their lists.

The region is a six-hour flight from Paris, with a change at Dakar, and French financiers and bankers hoped to attract sun-seekers who otherwise would have taken the longer haul to South Africa.

Meanwhile, French tourists have also been advised to keep away from Kenya "where it is unsafe to walk through the streets of Nairobi at night".

The weekly L'Echo Touristique noted that special police in Kenya have been formed to patrol the vicinity of tourist hotels and national parks.
Why no Marins in US Ghettoes?

Somalia is helped before; our school workers tell Ramsey Wilson in New York.
The proposal to send 8,000 UN monitors to Mozambique to preside over the hoped-for cessation of hostilities brings a little closer to home the interventionist nature of what George Bush called the New World Order. Such exercises have ranged from full-scale warfare — Operation Desert Storm — to the handful of observers in SA.

Not even in the case of Somalia do they amount to what was once termed neo-colonialism. The interventions are primarily on humanitarian grounds, though they are unquestionably dependent on the will of the US to provide the major military framework without which elements of the UN are simply swept aside by the Israelis, Bosnian Serbs or whoever.

This circumscribing of the powers of the intervening forces is natural, given America’s experience of Vietnam. It allows the UN to gauge — as objectively as possible — how much sheer firepower is needed to achieve specified ends and, if possible, to place a time limit on its presence.

Excluding the Gulf action, the operation in Somalia is certainly the most ambitious to date. It is rightly justified on the basis that millions will die unless it takes place, which is another way of saying that “pacification” of unruly and artificial nations is again in the lexicon of the great powers, such as they are, under the UN flag.

The dangers are obvious. Even if everyone in Somalia who can be saved is saved, what then? Who will pay for and restore their infrastructure, including law and order, and sow the crops? Even if the US troops are withdrawn, they would almost certainly be replaced by OAU troops — which could mean the recolonisation of an African nation by other African nations.

Indeed, the success of Operation Restore Hope in Somalia might mandate the use of a third force through Africa in tempestuous, increasingly ungovernable countries. Candidates would be Zaire, Angola and Mozambique. The 8,000 blue berets in Mozambique will have the same task they had in Angola — determining whether elections are free and fair — with, quite possibly, the same unfortunate outcome.

It has not gone unnoticed that swift and decisive action has not been mandated in Cambodia and Yugoslavia, where any outside troops would be unable to quell factions weaned on guerrilla warfare.

At least, in current circumstances, no one will call on South Africans to go forth and do good in neighbouring states. Perhaps this is for the best; unless we can forge and maintain peace for ourselves, someone may want to come along and do it for us.
An investigation by Jacques de Barrin

"Madmen of God" who live life by the Book

Algeria's problem is not over. It has imposed a 10-hour pm to 4 am curfew, not the words of Moulisn Thalab, minister responsible forInterior, had been indifferently to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Arra Daffa, and Bourira, would be lifted indefinitely to speed the flight of Jews and to slow the spread of the curfew, which will cover Algeria and all the surrounding regions of Tibesti, Tiris Zemmour, Arlit, Ar

by Catherine Simon

Alarm bells ringing in the Horn

Algerians accuse "Khominth"


The green twigs that let Somalis forget

AFRICA
African election furore

South, 19/12/92 - 13/1/93

AFRICANS are voting in record numbers in a pro-democracy push that has already forced more than two dozen authoritarian leaders to share power or leave office.

Balloting is taking place across the continent in what has been described as Africa's second independence, 30 years after the end of European colonial rule.

Like Africa's first break with the past, the latest transitions have not been easy. Sometimes they have fallen short of popular dreams; other times they have become bloody.

But the first fragile democracy campaigns have spread, inspiring the continent and giving Africans the hope of futures where choice and tolerance are routine elements of political life.

Africans are finding that pressing for elections — or even holding them — is only one battle in a long campaign for democracy. Current developments in west Africa highlight the challenges.

In Nigeria, president Ibrahim Babangida announced a delay in presidential elections from December until next June.

The rescheduling came after the ruling military council set aside the results of September elections which were criticised as fraudulent.

Many Nigerians blame Babangida's regime for the problems in the transition process. The military leaders managed the electoral arrangements — establishing two political parties and banning all others, placing restrictions on candidates and redrawing state borders.

Babangida disqualified the 73 candidates who ran in the September primaries and dismissed the leaders of both political parties. Inauguration of an elected president is now set for August 29, 1993.

In Ghana, the first presidential election in 13 years has precipitated a major political crisis.

Albert Adu Boahen, a history professor, campaigned against Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, Ghana's military ruler for the past 11 years.

But Rawlings shocked many Ghanaians by soundly beating his four opposition contenders with 58 percent of the vote, compared to Adu Boahen's 30 percent.

Opposition leaders claim the vote was rigged — although international observers judged it fair — and have announced a boycott of next week's parliamentary polls.

The planned boycott led to outbreaks of political violence. The worst incident was a clash last month, leaving 40 people wounded by gunfire.

The outcome of national voting in Cameroon is even more controversial. Opposition leaders claim that the government of president Paul Biya rigged the October vote, and international observers have agreed that the elections were fraught with irregularities.

Biya has imposed a state of emergency on the Northwest province, the opposition's stronghold, following post-election violence that left at least ten people dead.
Somalia opens up

A new ball game

Gren 20/12/1997
Famine after floods
NAIROBI - Up to 180,000 people in north-east Kenya are in urgent need of food supplies because floods have cut roads there. Kenya radio yesterday quoted the District Commissioner at Garissa as appealing for an airlift to move food to areas cut off after several weeks of heavy rain.

The local famine relief committee estimated that 180,000 people were at risk as it was not possible to transport food supplies to feeding centres.

The radio said the Kenya army was being asked to organise an airlift.

RPP rules Djibouti
DJIBOUTI - The ruling party of President Hassan Gouled Aptidon swept to victory in Djibouti's first multiparty election. Results of Friday's parliamentary election in the small Red Sea state showed the People's Rally for Progress (RPP) won nearly 75 percent of the vote.

Mobutu riots toll
KINSHASA - Authorities in Kinshasa said three people died in a day and night of street protests against President Mobutu Seke Seko in the Zairean capital. The Zairean Human Rights League said five people were killed while an opposition newspaper reported eight deaths.

Gaddafi's forecast
NICOSIA - Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi said North Africa was doomed and its people must eventually move to other Arab countries or at least acquire water from their neighbours.

Traore case break
BAMAKO - A Malian court trying ex-president Moussa Traore for "blood crimes" has adjourned the case until January 4. Lawyers said defendants needed a rest over the holidays.

MPLA troops on alert
LUANDA - Angolan government troops were put on general alert last Saturday and ordered to respond with full military force as Unita rebel troops were reported advancing on the central region.

Rebel forces were building up around Malange, a provincial capital 350km east of Luanda, and Cuito, 300km further south. Angolan state radio reported.

Military spokesman General Higino Carneiro said: "Regional commanders have been ordered to respond aggressively to any offensive military manoeuvre by Unita."

The military alert came as US Assistant Secretary of State Mr Jeffrey Davidow began a second day of shuttle negotiations between the government and rebel leaders, trying to resolve the crisis that has pushed Angola to the brink of civil war.

Government and rebel troops have been at an armed impasse since Unita leader Mr Jonas Savimbi accused the government of rigging multiparty elections in September. - Sapa-AP.
AFRICA NEWS  Marines take Soviet-built port

Troops push into Somali interior

KISMAYU [Somalia] - American and Belgian troops consolidated their grip on the Somali port of Kismayu yesterday after surging ashore unopposed to secure new routes to speed food to the starving.

About 2,000 Somalis turned out to watch as United States Marines in amphibious armoured vehicles splashed up the beach at 6.30am yesterday.

Minutes later Belgian commandos piled out of helicopters on to a pier to be followed by other men and vehicles in air-cushioned landing craft.

The mission of the landing force, led by Belgian Lieutenant-Colonel Marc Jacquesmin, was to take over the Soviet-built port and airport and prevent lawless gunmen from plundering relief food for famished southern and central Somalia.

"It's going very well," US amphibious assault commander Captain John Peterson said.

"No gunfire has been reported. The beach is secure and vehicles are on their way to the airport."

Two years of clan warfare and anarchy in Somalia have created Africa's worst famine this century, killing 300,000.

Kismayu, where over 60 people were killed in clan feeding last week, has been a nightmare for aid groups.

They say they have lost up to 80 percent of some food convoys to looters.

Peterson said the display of military might was "to dissuade anyone from doing anything foolish."

The force consisted of 100 Belgian commandos and 230 US Marines.

A total of 460 Belgian troops will fly directly from Brussels to Kismayu, which is 380km south of Mogadishu.
Where the living's expensive, but life's cheap

IN A small, dirty room, a group of stick-wielding men crowd over the cowering figure of a boy whose screams grow louder and more desperate as blow after blow rains down on his legs until they lie limp and shattered.

That is Somalia today. Life and limb mean little when so many have already died and when a country has lost its hope in a future. In Mogadishu, where the health system is in no more, breaking the boy's legs has condemned him to almost certain deformity.

The boy had made the near fatal mistake of being caught trying to steal from a foreign correspondent.

The American invasion drew journalists from all over the world to this out-of-the-way city. Two days before the marines arrived, the correspondent from the United States arrived in Mogadishu. He had been there for two days, and he had already been to visit the marines. He had seen the city and the people, and he had been to visit the marines.

Some came on a shoestring budget as freelancers, while others, like the American television networks, chartered cargo planes and brought in tons of equipment and scores of people. The American network NBC chartered more than five cargo flights to bring its 60 people, all their provisions, and the equipment necessary to run two satellite feeding stations so that the folks back home could see live footage of their boys in Africa.

The city is no longer a safe place for journalists. The reporters who lived in Mogadishu, bristling with military hardware, are those who could not find a bed inside.

It is true that we were visitors. People crowded around our car, and when we tried to move on, they would block the street and refuse to let us go. We were afraid, and we were not the only ones.

The tension is clearly perceptible, and the desert, badly shelled buildings tell their own stories.

After a number of confrontations with gangs of freelance gunmen, my patience began running out. I was convinced that Mohamed was either mad or very high on the drug they gave him, chewing it out of his mouth, and often held responsible for the carjackings that inevitably caused more deaths.

I demanded to be returned to the relative safety of the other side of town, but Mohamed begged me to show me just one more thing.

That "one more thing" led to a wild car chase with a band of gunmen from the other side. Two of my guns were taken, but the third, Mokhamed and I just managed to escape. Hiding behind a vehicle, we could see how our guards were being shot around, and for a moment we held our breath when it looked as if they would be executed.

Then Mohamed ran forward waving his arms in the air in an effort to call the guards. Afterwards he told me that he had many "contacts" on either side of the border.

With his intervention, the near-execution turned into a heated dispute which still threatened to spill over into bloodshed, but after an hour-and-a-half, the tension eased and my guns and driver were allowed to return to the car.

Having survived that, Mohamed, now considerably braver, raced back to the safety of the crowds, and in the rush knocked down a child who was sent flying like a rag doll. Mohamed hardly blinked. His history is long, and he has to yet another dead child in Mogadishu was a string of curses.
Food for Baidoa

MOGADISHU — United Nations trucks carrying 300 tonnes of food left under armed US escort for the Somali town of Baidoa.

Two helicopter gunships hovered above the convoy of 20 white trucks, which carried enough wheat to feed 100,000 hungry mouths for a week. It will be the first big convoy of food to reach Baidoa, the "City of Death" at the epicentre of Somalia's famine, since July. The last convoy, on November 11, was hijacked on the outskirts of the southern town.
Black states keep things cleaner

It was walking in Johannesburg city centre the other day when I was suddenly seized by a desire to call the city fathers en masse off to Asmara in Eritrea, or Lusaka, Zambia.

South Africans keep saying: "What can those people teach us." Cleanliness, I'd say. They keep their streets clean and you're not likely to collide with a rotten cabbage on the pavement or skid on a banana skin and break a leg in the main street.

This is a rather delicate area which calls for some diplomatic language.

The new South Africa is at hand and has ushered in all these freedoms which we need not, dare not, trample upon. People are coming out from all walks of life to claim the turf, so to speak, long denied them.

But if I can help it, I give the city centre a wide berth, especially during the festive season, when people fight for every little space on the pavement.

The other day I knocked over one poor fellow's box of samosas. I was amused, I can tell you. Neither was he.

This is obviously a subject that will concentrate serious minds for some years to come. Robert Mugabe discovered, when he came into power, that he had to demolish some squatters' shacks, much to the delight of his detractors, I can see it happening here.

When the taxi business started some years ago, those who worship the market cheered. Now black taxis are something to be feared by both passengers and motorists.

But a trip to Eritrea would be an eye-opener. The streets are spick-and-span and free of crime.

Politicians, former fighters and the general populace are all pulling together to build their war-ravaged country. Can you imagine our politicians working without pay? Or ex-guerrillas building roads for nothing but food and accommodation?

And they fought a real war. The trenches and the weapons have now been turned into tourist attractions.

Out of Africa

BARNEY MTHOMBOTHI

The Eritrea experience certainly puts the word "struggle" in its proper perspective. We haven't seen anything like it here.

One man who made the trip to Eritrea is Actstop activist Cas Coovadia, and he brought himself a memento: a 1982 copy of The African Communist, mouthpiece of the SA Communist Party.

Cas was browsing in a bookshop in Asmara when he came across the booklet, dedicated to the ANC's 70th anniversary.

"I just had to buy it," he chuckled.

The contents are enough to water the beds of every true comrade. A man who goes by the unlikely name of Bambuzelelekhona writes a treatise from Maputo on "Why I want to join the Communist Party".

Athol Fugard gets a pasting from a reviewer for a reference to authors like Camus, Sartre and Beckett while not making mention of Nyerere, Ngugi and Fanon.

Some Ethiopians say they know why the rains haven't been falling in their part of the world. It's all Mengistu Haile Mariam's fault.

Ethiopia experienced one of its harshest droughts during Mengistu's reign. Now, more than a year after he was overthrown, Ethiopia has good rainfall and a bumper crop is expected.

But, in the meantime, southern Africa, where Mengistu fled to, has had one of its harshest droughts.

Here are some interesting statistics on Ethiopia: the country has 42 million sheep and goats; seven million horses and donkeys; a million camels; 42 million poultry and 27 million cattle. It has a population of 51 million.

As one man asked: "So why are people starving?"

Good question.
Aid workers urge troops

MOGADISHU Aid workers in the Somali port of Kismayu, secured by US and Belgian troops, want soldiers to put on a show of force against gunmen stalking the remote and starving countryside.

"It doesn’t need much because they are so overpowering. Send a couple of tanks and you’ve done it," said Sean Devereux, the UN Children’s Fund project officer in Kismayu.
Autocrats Threaten Africa

NEWS FEATURE
Poverty and unemployment once again plague the continent as umo

Service merges the latest ups and downs:

Micromobility of Seasonal African News

check the demarcation of Bantu area

TEETHING PROBLEMS: After a good

1 Source: 2015
Council resists takeover bid
US cuts number of troops in Somalia

MOGADISHU — The United States has cut the number of troops it will deploy in Somalia to oversee the distribution of food aid.

An estimated 28,000 US troops had been expected to spearhead a multinational coalition which began securing Somali towns, ports and airfields on December 8. Marine Colonel Fred Peck, military spokesman for Operation Restore Hope, said yesterday that the total would be cut by an unspecified number.

The latest, incomplete, results awarded Milosevic 56 percent of the votes and Panic only 38 percent. — The Independent News Service.
Foreign troops come to the rescue

MOGADISHU - About 1,000 US marines and French troops left Mogadishu in columns of vehicles at dawn yesterday at the start of a Christmas push into Somalia's famished interior.

The biggest thrust inland of Operation Restore Hope, began at 5.30am with the departure from Mogadishu airport of French soldiers in over 35 vehicles, followed by a first convoy of marines.

US officers said the troops would head for Baidoa, 250km west of Mogadishu and then fan out.

A French military spokesman said the units were expected to enter the towns of Bardere and Hoddur by Friday, Christmas Day.

The US-led task force is trying to deploy in areas at the mercy of rapacious gunmen. - Sapo-Reuters.
Rivals are winners

ANTANANARIVO - Madagascar's President Didier Ratsiraka and his fierce critic, Albeirt Zafy, were declared winners of first-round presidential elections yesterday and will fight out a second round in January.

Madagascar's Constitutional Court announced that Ratsiraka, in power for 17 years, won 29.22 percent of votes in the November 25 election and Zafy 45.16 percent. The second-round duel will take place on January 22.
Task force hoping to relieve Somali towns by Christmas

MOGADISHU — About 1,000 US Marines and French troops moved out of Mogadishu in convoys at dawn yesterday, beginning a push into Somalia's interior.

The biggest thrust inland of Operation Restore Hope began at 5.30am with the departure from Mogadishu of French soldiers in more than 35 vehicles, followed an hour later by a first convoy of Marines.

US officers said the troops would head for Baidoa, 250km west of the capital, from where they would fan out. A French military spokesman said the units were expected to enter the towns of Bardere and Hodur by Christmas day.

The US-led task force, at the urging of aid agencies, is trying to deploy in areas at the mercy of gunmen.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali called on Monday for a wider and longer US involvement in Somalia than originally envisioned by Washington, saying US troops should fan out around the country to disarm warlords and gangs.

In a report to the UN Security Council he welcomed the excellent working relationship between the UN and the US government, but rejected a request from Washington to plan for UN troops to replace US forces when they began to withdraw.

Boutros-Ghali said he explicitly posed outgoing US President George Bush two conditions for a measured transition to a wholly UN-staffed operation in Somalia: first, "the heavy weapons of the organised war factions (be) neutralised and brought under international control; second, "the irregular forces and gangs (be) disarmed."

The first of an estimated 20,000 US troops landed in Mogadishu on December 9 to keep relief supplies for thousands of starving Somalis from falling into bandits' hands.

Meanwhile, the main warlord in north Mogadishu, Ali Mahdi Mohamed, was to move his "technicals" - jeeps mounted with guns - outside Mogadishu yesterday under a peace deal with his rival Mohamed Farah Aideed, who drove his vehicles to the city's outskirts on Monday.

US officials see the agreement, which implements part of an accord reached on December 11, as a breakthrough in their efforts to pacify the anarchic city. "We are trying to get the factions to bring their arms under control so we do not have a confrontation between the combined task force and the Somalis," said Col Michael Hagee. "This is a Somali agreement and it's being implemented by Somalis." Armed gangs not controlled by either militia leader would also have to get their "technicals" off the streets fast.

In Baidoa, starvation and disease continue to inflict a gruesome toll.

Operation Restore Hope, gathered pace as troops from a dozen nations poured into Baligubadle, Kismayo and Mogadishu.

"Aircraft are coming in 24 hours a day," said Hagee. — Sapa-Reuters.
UN chief warns of dangers of rapid pull-out from Somalia
Somalia's Fundamentals Fear The Worst

The Economist Weekly

December 21-27, 1996

The Economist Weekly
AFRICA IN BRIEF

JANUARY: After December's electoral triumph by the Islamic Salvation Front in ALGERIA, the army seizes power.

FEBRUARY: A short-lived truce in SOMALIA is shattered. A failure of seasonal rains plunges SOUTHERN AFRICA into its worst drought this century.

MARCH: ZIMBABWE passes a Bill authorising the government to set its own price for buying white farm land. A census in NIGERIA shows only 83-million citizens, about 20-million fewer than expected.

APRIL: Voters in GHANA overwhelmingly approve a new constitution.

MAY: After 28 years of one-man rule, MALAWI undergoes its first serious civil unrest.

JUNE: ALGERIAN head of state Muhammad Boudiaf is assassinated on June 29.

JULY: The SEYCHELLES holds its first multiparty elections since 1974. Incumbent Albert Rene wins.

AUGUST: The United Nations votes for urgent air lift of food to SOMALIA as an estimated 5,000 Somalians are dying each day due to famine.

SEPTEMBER: The first ever multiparty elections are held in ANGOLA. UNITA rejects the results and threatens to renew civil war.

OCTOBER: MOZAMBIQUE'S warring factions sign a peace accord to end the country's 17-year civil war.

NOVEMBER: KENYAN president Daniel Arap Moi announces that multiparty elections will be held at the end of December.

DECEMBER: United States marines, under the auspices of the United Nations land in Mogadishu, SOMALIA.
Staggering AIDS figures

News Young artists beat the odds: 65 percent of HIV cases in Africa
US official dies in Somali blast

MOGADISHU – An American civilian was killed and two were injured yesterday when their vehicle hit a mine in the southern Somali town of Bardere, a US official said.

It was the first death of a US government official involved in the American-led UN intervention in Somalia to protect supply lines to starving millions from bands of marauding gunmen.

The Americans were apparently among an advance team of US government employees who went to Bardere earlier this week to scout the terrain ahead of the planned arrival of 1,000 US marines today.

US military sources said the injured were flown to hospital on the amphibious assault ship Tripoli. The extent of their injuries was not clear and a formal statement was expected later in the day.

"An American who is not from the military was killed in the area of Bardere airfield when a vehicle hit a land mine," the US official said. "Two other people were injured."

US special envoy to Somalia Robert Oakley travelled to Bardere from the Mogadishu yesterday to meet community leaders in preparation for the entry of the marines late today.

Roads in central and southern Somalia are littered with mines sown during two years of warfare that has spread anarchy and famine since the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January 1991.

Barre’s son-in-law, Gen Mohamed Siad Hirsi Morgan, controls much of the area around Bardere, 150km south of the inland town of Baidoa – from where the Marines will set out at first light today.

Cable News Network television reported that the Americans were on a road that was thought to be clear when their vehicle hit an anti-tank mine.

Later another anti-tank mine was found and cleared.

Bardere has seen some of the worst excesses by Somali gunmen during the two years of civil war and famine.

US marines and French paratroopers are ready to clamp down on the diversion of aid in Baidoa and Bardere, the worst-hit towns in a famine threatening 1 million Somalis with starvation.

Since October, Bardere has been the scene of a showdown between Morgan and warlord Mohamed Farah Aideed.

Morgan captured Bardere from Aideed in late October but Aideed, who rules much of southern Somalia, vowed to retake the town.

Aid workers and UN diplomats said Morgan’s troops were bogged down in heavy rain not far from Bardere when the US-led operation was launched to stop gunmen from plundering relief aid.

Troops from a dozen countries are expected to take part in the operation to end the anarchy that followed Siad Barre’s overthrow by rebels who then turned their guns on each other. — Sapa-Reuters
MORE South African doctors are volunteering their medical and humanitarian services to the suffering people of Somalia, despite the threat of violence, intense heat and primitive working conditions.

Volunteers, already there, who faced a rampant epidemic of tuberculosis and malnutrition among the poverty-stricken community, say the mortality rate has declined from 15 a day to four.

There has also been a noted decline in malnutrition and kwashiorkor.

Four doctors — all members of the Islamic Medical Association, went to Somalia in October after the Jamiatul Ulama, a body of Muslim theologians, and the Africa Muslim Agency, an international relief organisation with its headquarters in Kuwait, requested medical aid for Somalia's starving population.
Opportunities for new investment

Colin Lemoi looks at Africa, politics and oil
Brocking Road to Democracy

Faraz Syedkhan examines De Kock's role in the context of similar activities in Algeria.
Somalia today, SA tomorrow?

George Bush takes his final salute amid the destruction in Somalia this week before he leaves the White House next month. But his decision to send American soldiers to east Africa will leave observers scratching their heads long after his departure. While the decision will afford him the opportunity to leave office in a blaze of glory, some fundamental questions will be left begging for answers.

Why a march into Somalia by an administration which has shown only indifference to African concerns all these years? If Somalia, why not Liberia? Or Bosnia, or even Angola? Or will it be South Africa at some future date? And the fundamental question that African diplomats and observers are asking is: what is America's current African policy? Does it have any policy at all?

Much of America's foreign policy was driven by the Cold War. It was simply to compete against the Soviet Union for influence—the Monroe and Reagan doctrines rolled into one. That was a simple enough policy for even Ronald Reagan to understand: whoever was a friend of the Soviets was America's enemy, and whoever opposed them was a friend. And America would use all its power to make life hell for all who went to bed with the communists.

The demise of the Soviet empire has of course made nonsense of this policy. Russia, shorn of its reluctant appendages, is now not only sucking up to Uncle Sam, it has given its begging bowl in hand, joined the long queue for American aid. The US is now unchallenged as the only superpower.

The new situation has therefore left America's lackeys around the world, and especially in Africa, sore and confused. Whereas in the past they were guaranteed generous American aid and support regardless of their behaviour, they have now been told in no uncertain terms to clean up their act in order to earn the American embrace.

It is doubtful whether multiparty democracy would have been introduced in Africa had the Soviet Union not collapsed. The disappearance of the Cold War has encouraged the West, led by the US, to read the riot act to its African acolytes. Even dinosaurs like Malawi's Hastings Banda are showing signs of responding to the chill winds of disfavour from Western capitals.

The decision to send troops to Somalia is of course enmeshed in internal American politics. The marines should have been dispatched to Liberia two years ago. Liberia has long-standing ties with the US, having been ruled for years by former American slaves. But troops weren't dispatched—the US was otherwise engaged in the Gulf.

It is also difficult to imagine George Bush sending the troops before the elections. Now he has nothing to lose, and whatever mess that may follow will sit on somebody else's lap. He may also want to teach the young upstart who is to succeed him that foreign policy does matter.

UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali seems to have shamed members of the Security Council into focusing their attention on the tragedy in Somalia when chided for spending an inordinate amount of time on what he called the rich man's war in Bosnia.

Why not Bosnia too, then? Dick Cheney, Bush's defence secretary, said Somalia was "militarily doable". In other words, Bosnia could have the makings of a Vietnam for America. Somalia is safer. But can America walk in, feed the hungry, and walk out? Who walks into the vacuum after the Americans have left, and if that happens, what preventive measures have served any purpose?

There are whispers in certain quarters of a new colonialism. These should be disregarded. It is only heartening to see America for a change using its unchallenged position in the world, and its resources for a humanitarian cause.

The action also proves that it is a bit premature to talk of Africa, as being a marginalised or forgotten continent.
Plan to eradicate 'last great obscenity'

LONDON — The biggest disaster of 1992 was not seen on television or splashed across world newspapers. The disaster went unnoticed because it was not particularly new. According to Unicef, the greatest disaster was the ordinary everyday hunger and disease which affects children in poor communities throughout the world.

The scale of the disaster is seen in the figures. Each day of the year an average of 35,000 children are killed by diseases caused by malnutrition and poverty.

This is roughly equivalent to a jumbo jet crashing every 15 minutes with the loss of everyone on board.

"No famine, no flood, no earthquake, no war ever claimed the lives of 250,000 children in a single week," says Unicef's executive director James Grant. Now, with the disaster set to continue into 1993, Unicef is calling for a halt.

"With today's knowledge, this tragedy is no longer necessary."

In a new report, "The State of the World's Children, 1993", Unicef puts forward a "$25 billion bargain" to create a breakthrough in what it calls the "last great obscenity."

Meeting the needs of all the world's children for nutrition, clean water, basic health care and primary education would cost an extra R75 billion a year, estimates the report.

This money would fund low-cost strategies to control diseases such as measles, pneumonia and diarrhoea, halve the rate of child malnutrition and diarrhoea, and bring clean water and safe sanitation to all communities.

It would enable family planning services to be made available to all and provide almost every child with a universal education. And the extra money would save about 4 million children's lives a year.

In an unusual move for a UN body, the Unicef report calls for a worldwide popular movement for this cause.

The report points to six ways to spend R75 billion. The sum is less than Americans spend on cigarettes every six months and less than Western Europeans spend on alcohol every three months.

It is less than businessmen in Japan spend on entertainment each year and less than the support package for Saudi Arabia agreed to this year by the Group of 76 countries.

Yet this sum is what it would take, says Unicef, to meet the most basic needs of all the world's children by the end of the century.

"The time has come to banish the notion that the world cannot afford to meet the basic needs of every single man, woman and child," says Grant.

Progress is already being made. Child deaths have been cut by more than half in the past 50 years and the proportion of children starting school has risen from less than half to more than three-quarters.

More than three-quarters of children in developing countries are being immunised against polio, measles and tetanus. A million children who would have been crippled by polio are now growing up normally.

In total, the Unicef report estimates, immunisation is saving more than R3 million lives a year.

Unicef is suggesting that two-thirds of the R75 billion total could be met by developing countries, with the rest coming from the West — although, in the case of Africa, the proportion of outside help would need to be considerably higher.

The sum would be available, it says, if a fifth of all international aid and a fifth of government spending was allocated to meeting basic needs such as food, water, sanitation, basic health care, education and family planning.

The Observer News Service.
New-look approach on Africa called for

GENEVA. — UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has urged fresh approaches to spread prosperity and democracy in Africa, both by the continent's countries and by rich nations.

"Some are inclined to write Africa off as hopeless," he said. "I reject such views. It is our approach that has failed." (1) AFRG 23/12/92.

The UN chief spoke at an inaugural meeting of a nine-member panel of experts, whom he said he appointed to advise "how development in Africa can be better co-ordinated and focused".

He said three issues "must be tackled afresh" if African economies were to grow: cutting crushing debt burdens, boosting markets within Africa's regions and moving economies away from reliance on a small range of exports. — Sapa-AP.
A primary condition. Year ahead for reform.
Top UN team to tackle Africa's economic woes

GENEVA—UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday called for fresh approaches to spread prosperity and democracy through Africa.

"Some are inclined to write Africa off as hopeless. I reject such views. It is our approach that has failed," he said.

Boutros-Ghali spoke at the inaugural meeting of a nine-member panel of experts, whom he appointed to advise on "how development in Africa can be better co-ordinated and focused".

He said three issues "must be tackled afresh" if African economies were to grow: cutting crushing debt burdens; boosting markets within Africa's regions; and moving economies away from reliance on a small range of exports.

The group's tasks included looking at how Africa's raw material exports could be marketed more aggressively, and how to promote foreign investment.

He urged African countries to co-operate more in building a common infrastructure such as roads and telecommunications, and to link up industries.

Democracy and human rights had to be the basis for development.

To diversify their economies, African countries had to gain more expertise in investment decisions but rich countries also had to open their markets wider to goods from poor countries.

The panel is expected to submit recommendations to Boutros-Ghali next summer. — Sapa-AP-AFP.
Tight security for Bush’s Somali visit

MOGADISHU — US forces are clamping down on gun rule in the Somali capital ahead of a visit by President George Bush tomorrow to a country steeped in anarchy.

“I don’t think any American president has ever visited a nation in such a state of turmoil, in such a state of anarchy as President Bush will be visiting here in Somalia,” US military spokesman Colonel Fred Peck said yesterday.

Bush starts his two-day visit on New Year’s Eve in a city where shootings and looting are still common, despite the presence of the US-led military task force since December 9.

In Washington, the State Department said it believed reports of a massacre of 100 people in the southern port of Kismayu to be true.

Sporadic gunfire reverberated around Mogadishu last night, and on Monday US troops shot dead a Somali who opened fire on them near the airport where Bush will land.

In recent days, US military officials have promised to get tougher on lawlessness around the bombed-out city, capital of a country which has had no government for two years.

Yesterday, US troops seized two caches of weapons, including one from a building opposite the wrecked American embassy which Bush will visit.

The US Air Force also dropped 100,000 leaflets on Mogadishu, warning residents that machineguns, mortars, recoilless rifles and “technical” battle wagons, with or without their weapons mounted, would no longer be tolerated.

The UN-mandated force in Somalia to ensure food aid gets past looters to the more than one million people threatened with starvation, now numbers more than 22,000 troops drawn from 18 countries. — Sapa-Reuters.
Relief workers shot by Somali gunmen

MOGADISHU — Gunmen have shot dead five Somalis working for international relief agencies in Mogadishu, aid workers said yesterday.

They said the killings on Monday and other shootings pointed to mounting tension in the Somali capital, where outgoing US President George Bush will arrive tomorrow for a New Year visit to US troops.

Four of the dead were in a bus used by the International Committee of the Red Cross to collect locally hired staff in south Mogadishu and take them to work in the morning.

The bus was stopped and a party started shooting at the bus. The driver and a person next to him were killed immediately and two other people who were badly injured died later,” Red Cross spokesman Horst Hamborg said. The gunmen fled.

CARE, the international agency which helps distribute food to famine victims for the UN, said one of its local security guards was killed when bandits hijacked an agency car at the Green Line war boundary which divides Mogadishu.

Two other CARE workers, the Somali driver and a passenger, were wounded and the hijackers sped off with the car, CARE spokesman Cynthia Osterman said.

The attack came just four hours after rival warlords Ali Mahdi Mohammed and Mohamed Farah Aideed led 10,000 people on a peace march to the Green Line.

"What we feel and see is that tension is increasing," Osterman said. "The troops' arrival had a chilling effect but now people are more used to it. It is a period of testing."

The new peace pact, initially agreed on two days after the first US Marines arrived in Mogadishu on December 3, has kept the warlords' fighters and "technical" gun wagons out of sight.

The intervention forces say they will now use that truce to single out gunmen responsible for frequent lootings, muggings and shootings in Aideed's southern stronghold and Ali Mahdi's north Mogadishu enclave.

Similar pronouncements over recent days have done little so far to halt the lawlessness.

With their primary military objectives secured, American and allied troops yesterday began doing in earnest what they came to Somalia for — feeding the hungry and extending their authority.

US Marine foot patrols were crossing the Green Line and moving for the first time into northern Mogadishu, a haven for the lawless.

Marine helicopters were being used to hopscotch across minefields and deliver food to the starving in five villages within an 80km radius of Bardera, one of six vital inland aid distribution centres. — Sapa-Reuters-AP.
AFRICA was losing annual earnings of more than $130bn as a result of foreign assistance being directed to eastern Europe, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) development centre president Louis Emmerij said.

In a report in the Development Bank of Southern Africa's latest newsletter, Emmerij said Africa was becoming increasingly cut off from the global economy, largely as a result of political and economic restructuring in eastern Europe.

Foreign direct investment, food aid and commercial credits from the developed countries to Africa had dwindled, said Emmerij. The IMF had continued to syphon financial resources away from Africa. This had amounted to $4bn in the past seven years, he said.

Although the amount of development assistance to the southern countries was about $33bn annually, the number of export barriers in developing countries, especially for agricultural products, and the trade barriers regulating multilifters, meant these countries had foregone annual earnings of more than $130bn — almost three times the amount of development assistance.

The UN Development Programme's report had included other items, such as international migration, bringing the total forgone earnings to $500bn a year.

Africa had been further marginalised by the developed OECD countries of the world because of "disturbing" human and natural tragedies.

In addition a marked failure in economic, social and political management over the past 15 years had resulted in an external debt burden of more than $270bn in 1991. But there was no satisfactory solution in sight, nor did creditors have the political will to take action.

"This has led some Africans to believe the debt situation is being used by creditors to control African countries politically and economically, leading to hardly disguised neo-colonialist practices," said Emmerij.

Not only were African countries young by comparison to developed nations, but independence came when there were sharp ethnic divisions, little or no education for the majority of the people and virtually no trained African administrators. Taken together, the extent to which some African nations had held themselves together after independence had been a major achievement, he said.
Peace brings its own difficulties to Tigray...
A Chance For The Children

FEELING grim about Somalia? Here's at least one agony got discovered, and international help is on the way. The fact is, its ordeal is merely a more dramatic and televisual form of the desolation that is the normal and largely unattended condition of several billion people.

The number of Somali deaths that has galvanized the world — 300,000 — is about the number of preventable child deaths that is quietly racked up every week every year in the poorest reaches of the Third World.

It is sobering to contemplate the quirks by which crisis deaths can draw more sympathy and resources than routine deaths, although underdevelopment is the root cause of both.

One who refuses to be numbed by the irony is James Grant, single-minded chief of UNICEF, the international lobby for children. For his holiday gift, he has brilliantly packaged, in his annual report, the contention that it is now possible to achieve "one of the greatest goals that humanity could ever set for itself — the goal of adequate food, clean water, safe sanitation, primary health care, family planning, and basic education for virtually every man, woman, and child on Earth."

You read it right. Grant terms it feasible within a decade to give almost all the world's children a fair start — "to bring to an end the age-old evils of child malnutrition, preventable diseases, and widespread illiteracy." Money-wise, it would take about $25 billion a year extra, he figures, to be spread among poor countries, rich countries, and the international banks.

Grant is a preacher, but here he is not just preaching; he is drawing an analysis from some little-noted developments of the past decade.

The success of UNICEF and others in extending immunization programs lets him say that the "outreach capacity" now exists to put the basic benefits of scientific progress at the disposal of the vast majority of the world's poor — and even in the poorest countries. Here it matters greatly that community health workers are cheap to train and field.

Falling fertility rates let him argue that with the annual number of births soon to be stable or declining, health and education providers can break out of the discouraging trap of having to run just to stay in place.

By the world leaders' summit for children it organized in 1990, UNICEF helped local advocates extract an extra measure of pro-child commitment from their political leaders. To steer that commitment from paper to reality is the promise now. With his eye on the global surge of democratic, women's and environmental movements, Grant suggests that popular demand can alter the ethical climate and make the current daily toll of 40,000 preventable child deaths as repugnant and unacceptable as racism.

In the big development agencies there is a tendency to admire (though sometimes to bristle at) Grant's style of advocacy and to feel that he emphasizes the small picture of child health over the big picture of society-wide development. Grant finds this argument "inhuman" for denying the poor the "few dollars per capita" that would prevent their children from becoming "malignant, blighted, crippled, mentally retarded" and off target in failing to recognize that childhood afflictions are causes as well as symptoms of poverty.

You will see that this is not simply a discussion of differences in the development set, although it is partly that, but a political argument. Not that they're ideologically hard-hearted, but the development agencies necessarily speak first for their bankers, the developed countries. Grant, a missionary's son, runs an international agency but speaks first for a "constituency" of at-risk children.

This is how he becomes impatient: with economists who oppose his preference for "specific targeted interventions" for children; with an international order that puts expensive weapons into the hands of poor governments and that expects those governments to pay their debts, and not least with journalists who do not meet his call for "a new kind of confrontation against poverty.

"If today's obvious and affordable steps are not taken to protect the lives and health and the normal growth of many millions of young children," says Grant, "then this will have less to do with the lack of economic capacity than with the fact that the children concerned are almost exclusively the sons and daughters of the poor — of those who lack not only purchasing power but also political influence and media attention."

Abrasive, overrated, and, at its core, true.
MOGADISHU — George Bush sets foot in one of the most dangerous places for a US presidential visit today to honor American troops battling bugs, bullets and boulders to get food to Somalia's starving.

"I wouldn't invite my family down here," said US military spokesman Marine Col. Fred Peck.

"It's a dangerous proposition when you travel around Mogadishu, but we're going to be taking adequate and thorough precautions to ensure his safety."

The New Year visit will be Bush's swan song as commander-in-chief of the US military before he hands over to President-elect Bill Clinton on January 20.

He is due to arrive at Mogadishu airport from Jeddah in Saudi Arabia. Speaking before leaving Washington, Bush said he hoped his visit would demonstrate "the concern that all Americans feel for Somalia".

"These are humanitarian concerns. And in my view it is proper that the president show this concern to the people over there," he said.

The two-day visit to the Somali capital, the inland famine town of Baidoa and a Soviet-built airfield at Mait Dogle will limit Bush's contact with life outside task force bases to a massively protected minimum.

Bush will spend his two nights in Somalia offshore on the amphibious assault ship Tripoli and travel everywhere by helicopter except when he switches to an armoured car to visit orphans of famine and war in Baidoa.

But the US military is taking no chances with Bush's safety in a city where, until the arrival of US-led forces, one of few constraints on looting gunmen was the fact that bullets cost a dollar each.

Sandbagged machine gun posts and barbed wire went up yesterday outside the gates of Mogadishu airport, where US troops watched from the roof of the terminal building on top of shipping containers that lined the approach road.

US troops shot dead a gunman who fired on them near the airport gates on Monday.

Bush ordered US troops to Somalia this month to stop gun-toting bandits and unruly militias from pillaging food for one million victims of a famine brought on by two years of clan warfare, gun rule and anarchy.

Though looting and ransackings remain part of daily life in Mogadishu, heavy weapons and the "technical" gunwagons that came to symbolise Somalia's killing have virtually disappeared since the first Marines arrived on December 9.

Troops from the United States and 18 other countries in the Somali task force are now cracking down on the freelance gunmen left on the streets after Mogadishu's top two warlords ordered their men out of town.

"If people aren't carrying weapons openly and if every time they do we seize them, this (Mogadishu) will be like Dodge City after Wyatt Earp," Peck said.

Bush, whose presidency began with the collapse of communism in Europe and his dream of a "new world order", will see some of the weapons troops have seized in Baidoa — a legacy of the old Soviet-US rivalry on the Horn of Africa.

The final foreign curtain on Bush's term continues to fall when he flies from Mogadishu to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the country from where US and allied troops thrust into Kuwait to expel Iraqi forces in the Gulf War.

From there, Bush continues to the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi. He and Russian President Boris Yeltsin will sign a second strategic arms reduction treaty that will scrap some of the world's most destructive nuclear weapons.

— Sapa-Reuters.