UNITED NATIONS

1989

JANUARY — JUNE

Simon Barber's Washington Diary



Pik's stand on principle may inhibit settlement in Namibia

S/Times 1/11/89

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FOREIGN MINISTER Pik Botha has many admirable qualities, but it is also fair to say that had he, rather than his exceedingly able adjutants, conducted most of the negotiations on Namibian independence and Cuban troop withdrawal, we might not now have a treaty.

Virtually alone of his Cabinet colleagues, Botha has the vision to lead South Africa out of its quagmire. He is a Protean figure on a stage of wizened spirits. His problem is a preacher's temperament which seems to distil many of Afrikanerdom's most tragic failings.

To put it simply, Botha believes that to be right is enough. Unfortunately, in politics and diplomacy it seldom is.

He is firmly of the opinion that once the implementation of United Nations resolution 435 gets under way on April 1, SA's financial responsibility for the territory ends. Thereafter, it is up to the UN and the rest of the world to ensure the birth of an economically viable new nation.

Technically, of course, Namibia remains SA's soil until the SA flag finally comes down for the last time, in theory early in 1990. Nonetheless, the Foreign Minister has a point.

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The UN has always regarded Namibia as its preserve even while SA has been making its population if not happy at least one of the most subsidised on earth. Now that the UN is getting what it has asked for these many years, why should the subsidy continue, especially when the United States Congress seems determined to maintain trade and investment sanctions on the place until formal independence?

Furthermore, why should not the UN pay for the facilities its blue hats and support personnel will use during the transitional period, facilities put up at no mean expense to the SA taxpayer and which might otherwise be dismantled and brought home?

In short, having paid for the establishment of a national infrastructure that should be the envy of most of the continent, why should SA be asked to pay for its abandonment?

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Such is Botha's thoroughly understandable view. It also seems to be an unshakable one, so I asked him while he was in New York for the signing ceremony what would happen if the rest of the world declined to share it. The answer came back that the rest of the world would be shown up as a bunch of immoral hypocrites.

Obviously, Botha faces some quite serious political constraints — many SA taxpayers will not look kindly on being forced to foot the bill for what is supposed to be a money-saving retreat — but simply highlighting the inadequacies of the UN and the West is not a policy any more than pointing out that "Africa is dying". We know. The question is what is to be done under the circumstances.

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The Minister may have a few ideas on the subject, but he, they and SA generally are not going to get far if their primary goal is to demonstrate moral superiority to a world that could not care less about the demonstration.

The real objective should be a prosperous Namibia whose new, presumably Swapo, rulers will privately, at least, wish to live on amicable, mutually beneficial and respectful terms with their neighbour. Moral grandstanding will not achieve this. Statesmanship, subtlety and an altogether clearer definition of goals might.

UN fails to meet SWA force deadline

ARGUS 3/11/89

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — The United Nations Security Council failed to meet its year-end deadline for agreeing on the composition of the UN force to monitor the transition to independence of SWA/Namibia.

The five permanent members of the Security Council are pushing for a reduction in the size and cost of the transitional assistance group (Untag) envisaged in the UN plan for SWA/Namibian independence.

But non-aligned members of the 15-nation council, concerned that South Africa will "interfere" in the elections this year, want the full contingent of about 7 500 troops and 2 000 civilians.

The council failed to reach agreement during three hours of consultations and is due to take up the matter again this week, with five new members which began their two-year term on Sunday.

Under the independence plan, the UN is to send seven infantry battalions, 360 policemen and about 2 000 civilian administrators.

But the Brazzaville agreement on Angola will in no way change the hostile policy of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) towards South Africa.

OAU President Moussa Traore of Mali made this clear in an interview he gave to the Paris-based weekly magazine, *Jeune Afrique*, in his capital, Bamako.

He was asked: "Will the Brazzaville agreement change the OAU's policy towards South Africa?"

He replied: "Not at all. The Southern African conflict can be broken up into three elements: South Africa's intervention in Angola's home affairs, the illegal occupation of Namibia, and apartheid.

"While the Brazzaville agreement constitutes a major hope for the solution of the first and second elements, it does not affect the third, apartheid.

"Consequently, the OAU's views on South Africa are not affected. As long as apartheid is allowed to continue there, there is no question of its government joining us."

● See page 3.

Good news for hungry Africa

Star 4/1/89

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Some good news at last for a hungry continent. Africa enters 1989 with better prospects for its food requirements — at least in some areas. **RICHARD DOWDEN** reports.

LONDON — Food production in Africa is predicted to be good for 1989 by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and there will be a drop in the continent's food aid needs.

But prospects remain bleak as war in Sudan, Mozambique and Angola, and locusts in the Sahel, continue to cause hunger and destitution.

For most of Africa in 1988 the rain came at the right time, there were seeds to plant and a good harvest resulted. The big success story was Ethiopia where, in spite of civil war in the north-east provinces, the government, the aid agencies and the relief operations run by the rebel movements have kept food supplies flowing.

In the nine West African countries touching the Sahara desert, provisional forecasts predict a record harvest of nine million tons of cereals.

In eastern and central Africa growing conditions are described as "generally favourable" with average or above average crops, while in southern Africa cereal harvests were good last year, according to the FAO report on food supplies and crop prospects published in Nairobi last month.

The report predicts a three percent decline in the need for food aid between 1988 and this year.

But in 1989, sub-Saharan Africa will be threatened directly by war, locusts and the continuing and drastic economic decline of most countries. Locusts swarms in Mauritania are described by the FAO as "alarming" and are expected soon to in Senegal and the Gambia. The report also predicts winter breeding swarms may spread from Senegal across to Ethiopia this year.

Meanwhile, wars in Sudan, Mozambique and Angola are causing the deaths of hundreds of thousands through starvation and disease. In Sudan one aid agency official said the war prevented food from reaching the people.

In all three countries the distribution of seeds, fertilisers and animal medicines has been disrupted by fighting and banditry. Crops which have been harvested have been looted or burnt. All three countries will need substantial food aid this year — but whether it will reach the needy is doubtful.

A recent UN report on Africa's economic decline says the situation is worse now than it was when the Africa Recovery Programme was launched in 1986. Average per capita income has declined by 4,2 per cent since 1986. — The Independent News Service.

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... while declaring he could not condone ...

US envoy slates non-aligned nations

Star 4/1/89

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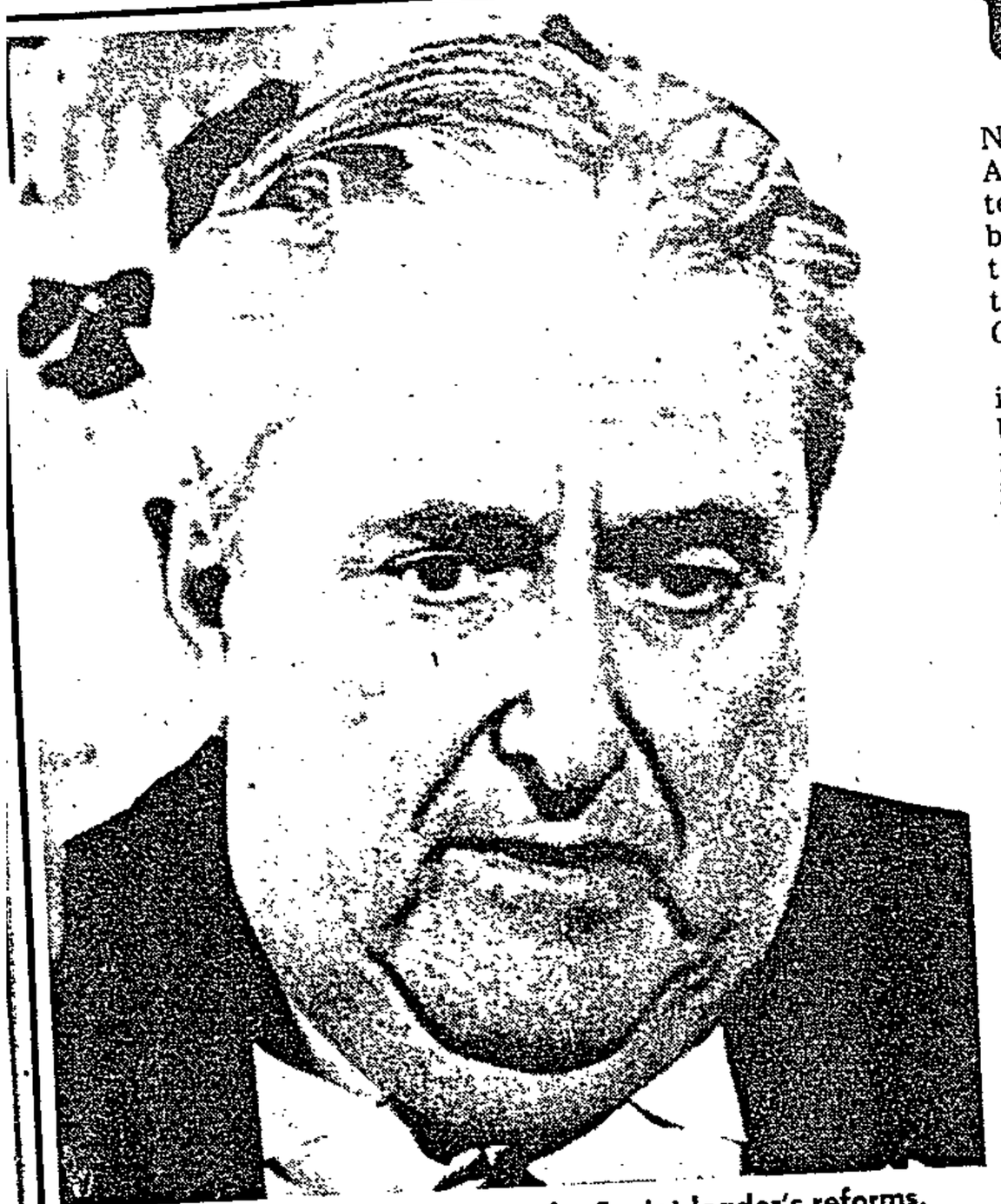
The outgoing US Ambassador to the United Nations says the non-aligned nations caused him greater problems than the Soviet Union or China. VICTORIA GRAHAM reports.



Mr Vernon Walters . . . praise for Soviet leader's reforms.

NEW YORK — Departing US Ambassador Mr Vernon Walters says he has had more trouble in the world forum with the Non-Aligned Movement than with the Soviet Union or China.

Mr Walters, in a wide-ranging interview, also said that UN peacemaking successes in 1988 — ending wars in Afghanistan, the Gulf and Angola — were unprecedented in the 159-member world organisation.

These successes and warming US-Soviet relations have made the United Nations "a better place for the US to do business," Mr Walters said.

But Mr Walters, while saying that anti-American name-calling had virtually disappeared, asserted that the 102-nation Non-Aligned Movement, which is dominated by developing and socialist nations, was "aligned against the US".

"I am not an admirer of the Non-Aligned Movement," he said, "because it isn't non-aligned. It is heavily aligned against the United States and the freedom-loving nations like Western Europe, with an enormous tendency to blame us for the troubles they brought upon themselves."

Mr Walters declined to specify particular nations and said that not all members of the movement, which professes non-alignment with the West or the Soviet Union, were anti-American.

Mr Walters said the non-aligned nations voted against the United States about 80 percent of the time, and said some oppose Washington "because they are just spiteful and envious." He said the non-aligned movement "is moderating, but it has a long way to go".

"Today," he said, "the non-aligned nations give me far more trouble than the Soviet Union and China ... I can understand nations like the Soviet Union or China voting on an issue they think is contrary to their national interest, but a great deal of the non-aligned vote against us is for the sheer pleasure of doing it. It has nothing to do with their own national policy or national interest."

The US permanent representative, who is expected to remain in government service but whose assignment has not been announced yet, defended the practice of annually evaluating UN voting records to determine how often nations side with or against the US.

Each year the US mission prepares a table of 10 key issues, considered vital to the United States, and reports the coincidence of each nation's and group's voting with the US delegation. It also reports how often every nation voted with the United States.

Last year's report said the non-aligned movement as a group voted with the United States 12,9 percent of the time for all votes on an average. It ranged from Belize with 25 percent to Cuba with 5 percent.

Last year China's vote coincided with the US position 13,3 percent of the time, the Soviet Union 10,2 percent of the time.

The US mission has been evaluating voting records at the request of Congress and also lists the amount of US aid received by each nation. Some political figures have said the United States should punish with suspension of aid some nations which repeatedly vote against the US position. But this has not happened.

Mr Walters praised the Soviet Union for its new spirit of international co-operation and improved US relations.

The envoy said many non-aligned nations unjustly labelled the United States as an oppressive colonial power.

Mr Walters, former deputy head of the Central Intelligence Agency, said that when he was appointed to the United Nations in 1985, the world forum was flooded with anti-American rhetoric and name-calling.

But now, he said, the rhetoric has been muted. — AP.

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Good news for hungry Africa

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Star 4/1/89

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A recent UN report on Africa's economic decline says the situation is worse now than it was when the Africa Recovery Programme was launched in 1986. Average per capita income has declined by 4,2 per cent since 1986. — The Independent News Service.

Western Europe, with an enor-

Star

Commodities

Copper (3-mths):
£1742,00
(£1723,00)
Platinum:
$524,75 ($523,25)
Sugar:
£151,80 (£154,90)

Capita

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Nujoma hits out at change to plans

HAVANA — South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) leader Mr Sam Nujoma said yesterday disruption of law and order by South African troops in Namibia meant conditions did not exist for free elections in the territory.

Mr Nujoma, in Havana to attend celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the Cuban revolution, said that Namibia had suffered "a complete breakdown of law and order".

Mr Nujoma denounced plans to amend a United Nations plan on independence for Namibia as contained in tripartite accords signed in New York on December 22 last year.

He said Swapo was disturbed by the fact that the United States and some UN Security Council members had been attempting "to amend the UN plan and call for a reduction of Untag forces from 7 500 to 3 000".

"The reduction to 3 000 men would make a mockery of UN responsibility and is an invitation to South Africa and its surrogates to rig the elections," he added. — Sapa-Reuter.

SA refuses to co-operate, says UN

Star 6/1/89

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Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — Despite the agreement signed last month that will soon set in motion a Security Council plan for the independence of Namibia, the United Nations is still informing visitors to its headquarters that South Africa "persistently refuses to co-operate" in its implementation.

A wall poster several metres in length that was unveiled last year near the public entrance to the General Assembly hall, calling in 35 languages for "independence now" for the territory, has not been removed. There appears to be no immediate intention to amend its now false assertion about the Republic's position.

Referring to the independence plan, the text accompanying a relief map of Africa that shows Namibia chained to South Africa, states "that plan has still not been implemented because South Africa refuses to co-operate".

Visitors taking guided tours seem to pay it little attention. Not far away is an anti-apartheid exhibit. This also excites little interest, perhaps because it is in the same area as two of the most attractive UN artefacts, a depiction of a Chinese railway, carved from whole ivory tusks, and a scale model of the ceremonial barge used by the King of Thailand.

Cuba's 'worms' turn on themselves

Star 9/11/89 (336)

The release of hundreds of political prisoners has left many of Cuban President Fidel Castro's opponents fighting among themselves, writes **CHRIS McGREAL.**

LONDON — An African diplomat wondered who the "worms" were in a bizarre concert of martial music, ballet and film clips of battle scenes shown to entertain dignitaries attending the 30th anniversary of the Cuban revolution.

His English-speaking translator was embarrassed. "They were people opposed to the revolution but they are not a problem any more," she said.

Some of the "worms" agree. President Fidel Castro's recent moves to improve human rights by releasing some prisoners and permitting them to leave the country has left his opponents confused and battling among themselves.

The Cuban leader began easing restrictions on free speech and other liberties nearly two years ago as international attention turned to allegations of abuse by the regime.

Thousands were jailed over nearly three decades of repression against even the most minor public dissent. Hundreds have been released in recent months although hundreds more remain in prison, jailed for crimes ranging from planning insurrection to attempts to leave the country secretly.

Long-term prisoners released

All but about 10 of the long term political prisoners, or plantados, have been released. For the first time the United Nations was allowed to inspect political prisons, and human rights activists have been permitted to meet foreign journalists.

But with the relaxing of restrictions, the "worms" have turned on one another with accusations of spying for the government and using human rights organisations for a quick passage to the United States.

The two principal characters, who jointly headed the main rights group, parted ways last autumn in a disagreement over their campaign. Mr Elizardo Sanchez subsequently accused his rival human rights activist, Mr Ricardo Bofill, of plagiarising a novel, falsifying human rights reports and using the rights issue to get an exit permit.

Mr Bofill was granted permission to leave Cuba after failing in his attempt to form an opposition political party. But before he left he accused his colleague of secretly working for the government, a charge also made by Mr Bofill's successor as head of the Cuban Committee for Human Rights, Mr Pablo Llabre Raurel.



President Fidel Castro . . . evidence that he is still jailing human rights activists.

Mr Llabre, a lawyer who lost his job for criticising the government's failure to respect constitutional guarantees, said: "What we have is a difference in methodology. Mine is to campaign for human rights. Sanchez's (method) involves telling the government of his plans and everything we do."

Mr Llabre denies accusations by other activists that he too is using the movement as a quick way out of Cuba, saying he has already been granted permission to leave but chooses not to.

Mr Elizardo Sanchez dismisses the charge of spying by pointing to the seven years he spent in Castro's prisons. On his desk lies what is rapidly becoming a subversive document in Cuba, a copy of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's speech on glasnost and perestroika.

The speech, and UN declarations on human rights, are the basis of the freedoms demanded by the rights organisations.

"We are not trying to overthrow Castro. All we want is the right to free speech and a free press, travel outside Cuba and an end to arbitrary arrest," Mr Sanchez said. He is not convinced Mr Fidel Castro's relaxation of restrictions on civil liberties comes anywhere near those demands.

"These are only cosmetic changes because they are trying to change the image acquired over the decades. We think there is the political will to keep letting people out of jails but we also have proof that they are still jailing people."

Jailed for laying wreath

There is evidence that he is right. After the UN human rights commission left Cuba in September at least 16 people were jailed on charges designed to clamp down on the dozen or so human rights groups with a few hundred members between them.

Among those arrested were six members of the Association for Free Art, jailed for 70 days after laying a wreath at the monument to the nationalist hero, Jose Marti.

On 29 November Ms Tania Diaz, the secretary-general of the Party for Human Rights, was arrested while visiting her ex-husband and her lover who were political prisoners in the same jail. She was refused permission to visit either and then arrested after she allegedly struck a guard. Within three hours she appeared in court, looking badly beaten, and was sentenced to a year in prison.

Her former husband, Mr Guillermo Rivas Portas, a plantado in jail for more than 25 years, was freed and flown with his children and father to the United States last Tuesday. — The Independent, London.

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Pessimists confounded

World economic growth stronger than expected

UNITED NATIONS — The world economy during 1988 confounded pessimistic forecasts of a year ago and grew at a faster rate than any time since 1984, according to a UN report published at the weekend.

Growth was expected to continue in the short term, but at a slower rate.

But the report, "The World Economy at the End of 1988," said last year's prosperity was highly uneven. In many developing countries growth of income fell behind, or barely kept pace with the growth of population.

Sharp contrast

"The performance of the world economy in 1988, except for the continued sluggishness in some developing regions, stands in sharp contrast to the atmosphere of pessimism that prevailed a year ago," it said.

"Instead of slowing down, as predicted in most forecasts, including that of the UN, the world economy grew faster than at any time since 1984. There was also a significant upturn in international trade, which far surpassed expectations and grew at twice the average rate of the 1980s."

The report, produced by the UN's Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, said world output grew by around 4 percent in 1988, compared with 3,4 percent growth the previous year.

The growth of world trade accelerated more sharply, from 5 percent in 1987 to about 7 percent in 1988.

Three-quarters of the population of the world live in countries whose per capita real income rose in 1988, but one quarter live in countries where it declined, the report said.

It also warned that "a large fiscal deficit in the United States and imbalances in trade relationships among the major developed market economies continue to threaten the stability of the international economy".

Exchange rates of major currencies remained highly volatile and a solution to the problem of external debt of the developing countries was not yet in sight.

"Indeed, in 1988 the debt crisis became more acute in Latin America and most countries of Africa."

In its forecast for 1989, the report said world growth was expected to increase by about 3,5 percent.

Danger persists

Output from the developed market economies would slow to 3 percent but the danger of a sharper deceleration persisted.

"The large imbalances in trade between the major developed market economies remain by far the most important potential threat to the growth and stability of the world economy," it stated.

The report said the reduction of the US fiscal deficit remained critical to the correction of these imbalances and the avoidance of major upheavals in financial markets. — Sapa-Reuter.

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SA astounded by general's reported remarks on Cubans

Star 9/11/88

Troop withdrawal 'on trust'

By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

The South African Government has greeted with consternation the United Nations plan, reported today, to accept the Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola on trust and without verification.

It is likely to challenge the UN on the reported remarks of the head of the UN Verification Mission, General Ferreira Gomes of Brazil, that the world body would simply trust Cuba to adhere to an agreement to remove its 50 000 troops from Angola.

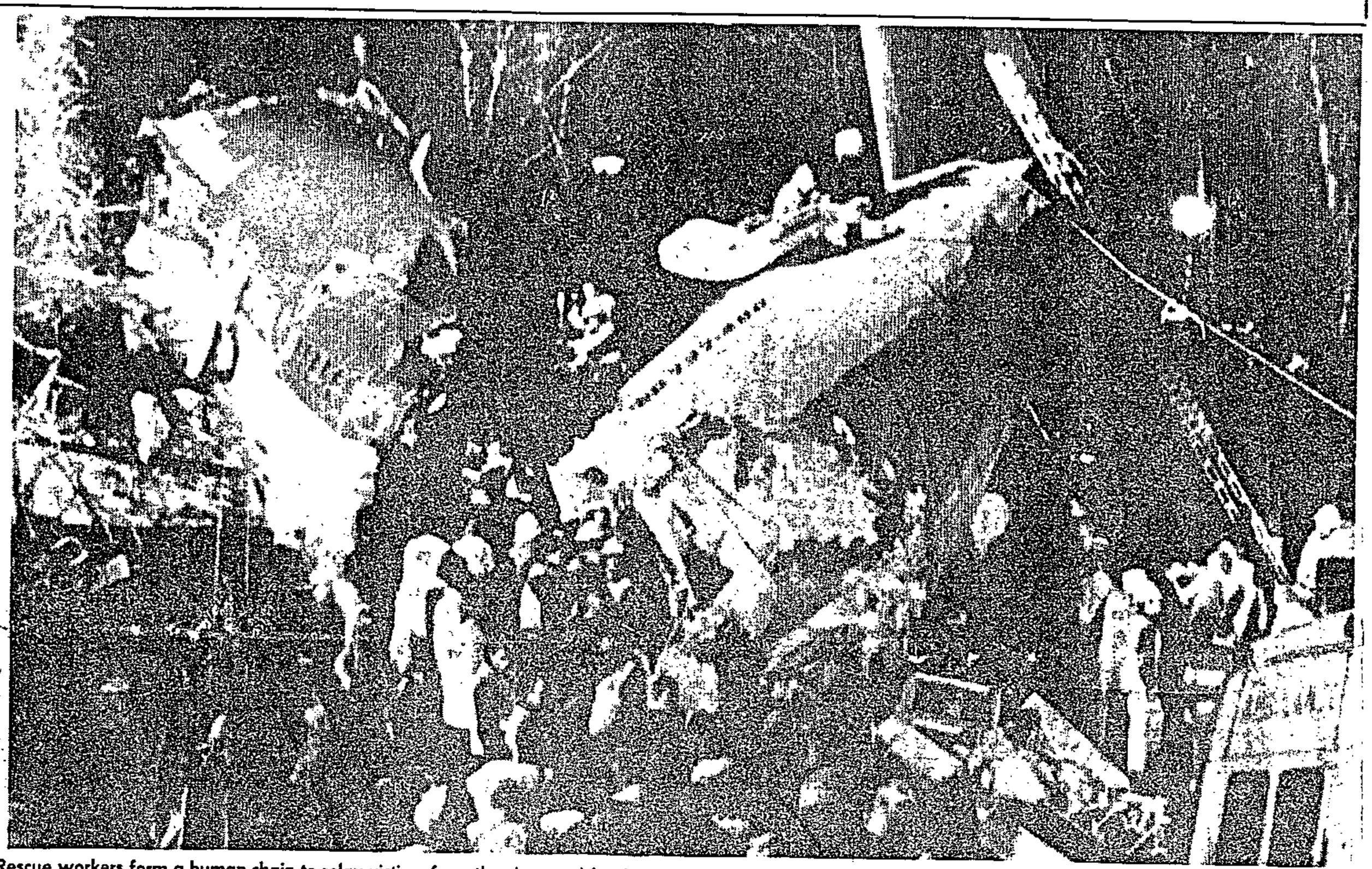
Senior South African diplomatic sources today said the general's remarks most certainly were not in accordance with what South Africa expected and understood by the agreements signed last year by South Africa, Cuba and Angola.

The agreement between the countries made specific provisions for effective verification. It provided for real mechanisms to monitor the withdrawal of Cuba's forces from the region to the satisfaction of everyone, including South Africa, they said.

Immediate approach

The sources indicated South Africa was likely to take up the matter with the United Nations immediately after establishing if the general's comments were reported accurately and in proper context.

The Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, is in Paris today to address an international conference on chemical warfare and could not be reached for imme-



Rescue workers form a human chain to relay victims from the shattered fuselage of the airliner which crashed 160 km north of London last night.

37 killed in UK plane crash

KEGWORTH — A Belfast-bound jet-

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Star 9/11/88

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South Africa is already concerned by the apparent inability of the UN to come to an agreement on the peace-keeping force which is to monitor the implementation of Namibia's independence process.

The starting date for Namibia's independence process, in terms of UN Security Council Resolution 435, is April 1.

The UN was supposed to have agreed on the size and composition of its peace-keeping force by December 31.

It has still not reached any finality on either the size or composition of the force.

General Gomes told the *New York Times* his verification would be based on trust.

"When they tell us there are no more troops, we will tell the United Nations they have gone.

"We will trust the information given by both countries. It would not be normal for two countries to sign an agreement and not to fulfil it,' General Ferreira Gomes reportedly said.



Rescue workers

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"We believe th as a result of th are still some pe police told a new

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Thankless jobs for UN 'bobbies on the beat'

Star 10/1/89
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Unifil, Untso, Undorf and now, waiting in the wings, Untag, the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group, which will police the peace in the run-up to the South West Africa/Namibia elections. United Nations special peace-keeping forces have not always met with success in their efforts around the world. **The Star Bureau** reports.

LONDON — The United Nations peace-keeping forces dress like soldiers and look like soldiers, but their methods have increasingly taken on more of the style of an international bobby on the beat.

Since Korea in 1950 two basic styles of policemanship have emerged from the political mish-mash of UN procedure.

One is hard line, traditionally military policy known in the jargon as "enforcement".

The other is "peacekeeping", a word that has taken on an increasingly technical meaning. It demands that the UN soldier relies more on non-violence than a self-loading rifle.

One description of this job has been: "More a relief operation for a man-made disaster than a military operation."

Korean war

The Korean War, 39 years ago, was the only full-blooded example of "enforcement". For political reasons it is unlikely ever to be repeated. The Congo, which tied up 20 000 men for four years, was technically "peace-keeping", but "enforcement" was in evidence there — such as the pre-emptive strike by UN forces which caused 260 deaths.

In the campaigns since then the UN forces have evolved new techniques of non-violence. They are generally not equipped for anything but self-defence.

Technically, they are not peacekeepers at all, but "observers" whose role is to monitor truce arrangements.

Since 1948 a total of 500 000 people have taken part in their operations and 800 [illegible]



These French United Nations forces seem cheerful enough as they carry out peace-keeping duties in Lebanon.

nese Army allies on the one hand, and on the other the various Arab militias and private armies, most of which seem intent on breaking through the UN lines and hitting the Israelis and SLA forces to the south.

The Israeli military command believes the UN troops have simply not been effective in stopping terrorist infiltration into Israel or the Israeli protected "security zone" which parallels the Israeli frontier in southern Lebanon, several kilometres deep.

they were intended to go, we would have been able to restore Lebanese sovereignity in the area," he added.

The Israelis disagree. They feel the inefficiency of the UN forces there, the lack of willingness, much less a mandate, to stop infiltrations by any one of a number of armed organisations (PLO, PFLP, Amal, pro-Iranian Shi'ite Hisbollah and others) poses a threat to the Israeli northern border settlements.

These settlements were often the targets of terror attacks and rocket [illegible] before Israeli troops

It was in 1982 that the Israeli thrust expelled the PLO from Lebanon and gave birth to the variety of religious and secular armed groups which gives headaches to all parties involved — often with apparently little or no logic.

On tightrope

Israel agrees the Unifil forces are on a tightrope, performing a balancing act over unfriendly territory. "And they look like being here forever," remarked an Israeli military official. "Introducing the UN forces to a region is easy but getting them the hell out of here is another matter because of inherent interests in the United Nations."

Unifil is not the only UN group in the Middle East. There is the Untso-truce supervisors sent out in 1948 and still in their posts along the Lebanese border.

No one hears about them unless they are kidnapped or shot at. Another force, Undorf lies between the Israelis and Syrians along the Golan Heights, one of the quietest Israeli borders of all.

"The Syrians want to keep it that way," said an Israeli officer.

So the spotlight falls on Unifil, and when the UN forces were awarded the Nobel Peace prize last year, it was Unifil which came to mind.

Not all incidents end happily. Official UN figures show 157 Unifil troops have died since the force was founded, about 60 of them described as killed in action. The casualties included French troops when their outpost was attacked by Muslim Shiite extremists, the Hisbollah, and an Irish soldier when his post was [illegible] Israeli shell.

Currently there are UN peace-keeping forces in Lebanon, Cyprus, Iran and Iraq, Afghanistan, India and Pakistan and the Golan Heights.

The first peace-keeping force was the UN Truce Supervision Organisation (Untso) which, in June, 1948, was sent to the Middle East to monitor an Arab-Israeli ceasefire.

The most recent was the UN Iran Iraq Military Observer Group, set up in August last year to monitor the ceasefire there.

It is a thankless task. The UN troops along the Lebanese border, for instance, are damned if they do and damned if they don't, writes **Peter Allen-Frost** from Tel Aviv.

They are caught in the crossfire of the Israelis and their South Lebanese allies.

Periodic forays

This zone is patrolled by Israeli and SLA forces who periodically foray north to attack what the IDF spokesman here refers to as "terrorist positions", usually after armed elements manage to cross into the security zone and hit either SLA soldiers or Israelis.

It is the "zone" which prevents the United Nations Interim Forces In Lebanon (Unifil) from fulfilling its real mandate, said Mr Timor Goksell, UN spokesman in the region.

"Our mandate in 1978 was to move down to the international border but we were prevented from doing so by the Israelis. Had we been able to put our forces where launched the "Litani Operation" in 1978 and established the security zone which has expanded and shrunk over the years, stretching to Beirut during the occupation of much of Lebanon in the wake of the 1982 invasion.

"As long as there is this zone it will be a magnet for all the groups who wish to cross it," said Mr Goksell.

It is more difficult for the Unifil troops today than before the Israeli invasion of 1982, he said.

"Before the 1982 war, when the PLO controlled the area, we at least knew who were the adversaries. Now it is infiltratiors from the north and local Arab supporters of any one of a dozen different armed groups."

Mixed bunch

"Most of our casualties come from accidents," said Mr Goksell, "and those caused by enemy fire usually involve the SLA or southern Lebanese armed militias.'

Unifil is a mixed lot, with six countries (Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Nepal, Ireland and Norway) providing infantry units for the 5 700-man force, while other countries supply medical and logistical support.

For countries such as Ghana and Fiji, UN payment for their participation means a much-needed influx of foreign currency. For other countries it provides field training for their troops who which might otherwise never get even this experience.

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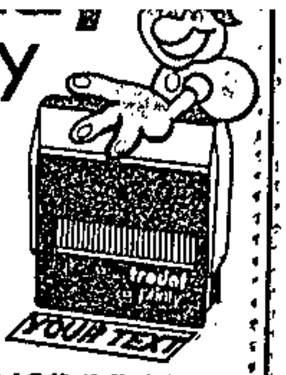


US expects UN to do job properly

Star 10/11/89

By Neil Lurssen,
The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — The United States government has made it plain that it expects United Nations officials monitoring Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola to do their job properly.

The US intervention came after the warning issued yesterday by the Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, that the entire series of interlocking peace agreements reached between South Africa, Angola and Cuba could be endangered if any of the parties did not fulfil their commitments.

He gave his warning in reaction to a reported comment by the UN's Chief Military Observer in Luanda, Brazilian Brigadier-General Pericles Ferreira Gomes, that the UN verification mission would rely on the word of Angola and Cuba.

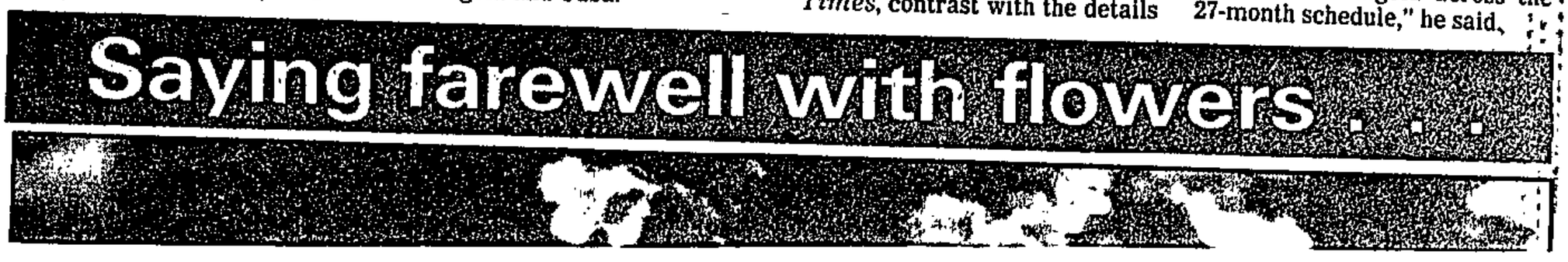
In a statement, the State Department's senior spokesman, Mr Charles Redman, said the verification mission would begin its work this week with the withdrawal of the first Cuban troops.

"We expect that to be conducted seriously and efficiently," he said.

General Gomes's comments, reported in the *New York Times*, contrast with the details of the verification mission as outlined in a report by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, on December 17.

In Washington yesterday, Mr Redman indicated that the US would be watching the departure and the verification process.

"There will be on-site inspection of the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola across the 27-month schedule," he said.



UN deadlock may delay independence

61 Days 10/1/89

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SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON — As the first Cuban troops begin their withdrawal from Angola today, a senior UN official has warned that Namibian independence could be delayed by continued deadlock between the five permanent members of the UN Security Council over the size and cost of the monitoring force.

Even if the issue is resolved this week, there is growing concern that the April 1 deadline for implementation of UN resolution 435 may not be met.

The enabling resolution needed to put 435 into effect cannot be passed until the the council agrees on the size of the UN transitional assistance group (Untag).

The permanent members — including the Soviet Union — who between them must share 57% of the overall costs, are seeking to more than halve the proposed 7 500-man force.

Assuming the enabling resolution is passed next week, the General Assembly is unlikely to approve Untag's budget until the end of the month. It will then take until the end of February before the contributing countries have paid their assessments.

Since the UN does not have sufficient funds to start purchasing equipment before the assessments are in, this will only leave four weeks to ready Untag in time for April 1. Delivery time for important equipment is about 90 days.

Meanwhile, Sapa-Reuter reports from Luanda that the first contingent of Cuban soldiers to withdraw from Angola will receive a ceremonial send-off today.

The 450 soldiers will fly out after a parade through the streets of Luanda.

A further 1 000 Cubans are expected to depart by ship in the next few days.

Key Market Movements — JAN 06 to JAN 09

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UN deadlock could delay Resolution 435

Star Tribune 10/11/89 From SIMON BARBER 336

WASHINGTON. — Namibian independence could be delayed by continued deadlock between the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and non-aligned countries over the size and cost of the monitoring force, a senior UN official warned yesterday.

Even if the issue is resolved this week, there is growing concern that the April 1 deadline for implementation of UN Resolution 435 may not be met.

The enabling resolution needed to put 435 into effect cannot be passed until the the Security Council agrees on the size of the UN transitional assistance group.

The permanent members — including the Soviet Union — who between them must share 57% of the overall costs, are seeking to cut by half the 7 500-man force envisaged in the secretary-general's 1978 report.

The non-aligned states, who will not be footing the bill, claim this will enable South Africa to bias the election process against Swapo.

Snubbed, but at least Pik was there

Pik Botha's address to the United Nations chemical warfare conference in Paris this week was a bold diplomatic hit and run attack, which may or may not have succeeded.
PETER FABRICIUS reports.

The address by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, this week to the United Nations conference in Paris on chemical warfare was an affair typical of the man.

Though most of the delegates walked out on him, he did manage to address what was in effect the United Nations general assembly for the first time since South Africa was thrown out of the body in 1974. Undoubtedly, the medium was his most important message.

The content of his speech made his intentions clear. The thrust of the message was not about chemical warfare. Though he called for an African conference on chemical warfare, this was very much just a small part of the general thrust which was his favourite message: that "African solutions must be found for African problems".

It was yet another offensive in his campaign to penetrate Africa diplomatically, one of the series that included the Namibian/Angolan talks in Africa and President Botha's African expeditions last year.

He repeated the approach that had gone down so well with African leaders when the Brazzaville Protocol was signed, siding with them against the First World.

"Apparently Africa is required to pay a double price," he said. "We have to sell our primary resource materials at bargain prices ... and pay dearly for industrial and manufactured products they sell us.

"And on top of that, we are targeted as an easy receptacle for the waste which results from the profit-making practised at our expense.

"I invite my African colleagues to consider jointly ... how to deal with the problem."

Mr Botha then outlined the help which South Africa could offer and has secretly been offering to Africa mainly in the fields of medicine, agriculture and veterinary science.

As one of his top advisers put it, he took the opportunity offered by the conference to "reach out the hand of friendship and help to Africa".

The irony was that Africa firmly slapped the hand of friendship. Nearly all the African delegates walked out when Mr Botha rose to speak, leaving only Ivory Coast and Gabon, who thereby earned South Africa's undying gratitude.

Even the suppliant neighbouring states appeared to have joined the walk-out, though there is now a suggestion that they might not have been there in the first place.

But it is hard to say in the end whether the affair was a diplomatic success or failure. Was the Foreign Minister being too ambitious in trying to get away with such a bold move?

Mr Botha's officials admit to being disappointed at the snub, even though Mr Botha himself brazened it out by saying that though he regretted the walk-out, he was not angry with the Africans and that this was not the way to solve Arican problems.

There is no doubt that it was a rather ironic blow that South Africa should have been so publicly snubbed by Africa precisely when it was trying to make the point that Africans should be talking to each other.

And more particulary when it was beginning to make diplomatic headway into Africa, as epitomised by President Botha's successful visit to Zaire last year.

Perhaps the Africans realised exactly what Mr Botha was up to and tried to thwart him.

On the plus side, though, was the fact that Mr Botha managed to address the conference at all — and to put across his favourite message unrelated to the topic at hand.

It has been suggested that had it not been for the distraction of the walk-out, he would have been called to order for departing too far from the subject supposedly under discussion.

In some ways the walk-out helped to focus attention on his speech and Mr Botha's officials say that most of the African delegates who walked out listened to Mr Botha's message on video in an adjoining room.

They also feel that the incident helped to underscore Mr Botha's point that South Africa at least was prepared to talk — while others were not.

In the end though, the incident showed once again that Africa is far from ready to put aside its political differences with South Africa in order to seek fuller rewards of material co-operation.

SA 'upper hand' worries Cubans

Protests over cut in UN Namibia force

PARIS — Cuba and African nations yesterday pressed their campaign against any reduction in the size of a United Nations military force which will help to bring Namibia to independence.

Cuba said at a 140-nation gathering in Paris that slimming down the Untag (UN Transition Assistance Group) force would leave South Africa with the upper hand in the territory.

The six African Frontline states — Angóla, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe — made the same point at a meeting in Paris with Britain, one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The Security Council says the planned force of 7 500 neutral troops and 2 000 civilians and police is too big and expensive.

"The reduction of Untag will signify without doubt the continuation of the structures and mechanisms of power implanted by racist South Africa," said Cuban Foreign Minister Mr Isidoro Malmierca Peoli.

Ministers of the non-aligned movement also said any cost-cutting should not include a reduction in Untag's military component.

The five major powers — the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, China and France — will have to foot more than half the bill for the UN force. It is estimated to amount to R1 500 million.

They say a far smaller contingent will be able to monitor the withdrawal of South African troops and oversee elections now that Pretoria is committed to April 1 as the starting date for transition to independence.

But Mr Malmierca said that even 7 500 troops would be inadequate.

'Puppet' army

He claimed that South Africa had 100 000 soldiers in Namibia; had created a "puppet" Namibian army of 20 000 men; and doubled the territory's police force since 1978.

Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Mr Nathan Shamuyarira, and delegates from other Frontline states expressed concern about the proposed cost reduction at a meeting on Monday at the conference with Mr William Waldegrave, Britain's Junior Foreign Minister.

"I said it was for the UN Secretary-general to make an assessment of what is needed," Mr Waldegrave told reporters. — Sapa Reuter.

UN set to nurse finance headache

By DRIES VAN HEERDEN

THE United Nations will be nursing a major financial headache next week when it starts implementing the peace process in Namibia.

The UN, already strapped for cash, will have to foot a bill of at least R40-million to finance the peace-keeping force, Untag, inside Namibia and the withdrawal of the estimated 50 000 Cubans from Angola.

The UN Security Council is expected to try to cut the cost next week. A figure of R11-million — instead of R17,5-million — for the Namibian part of the operation is said to be the target.

The "Big Five" permanent members of the Security Council — the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, China and France — will have to shoulder the bulk of the UN's responsibilities.

One way to cut costs would be to reduce the size of Untag from the present 7 500 military personnel and 2 000 civilian contingent to 7 000 overall.

It is expected that South Africa will protest strongly at such a reduction because of fears that a smaller force would not be able to adequately protect the civilian population from Swapo intimidation.

Next week will see the formal creation of Untag, which will start the biggest UN peace-keeping operation since the Congo in 1964.

April 1 Namibian D-day, UN affirms

NEW YORK — The Security Council agreed unanimously yesterday to an April 1 start for the UN operation that is to bring Namibia to independence.

The Secretary-General, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, was directed to arrange a formal ceasefire between South Africa and Swapo.

The council also called on South Africa to "reduce immediately and substantially the existing police forces in Namibia with a view to achieving reasonable balance between these forces and Untag so as to ensure effective monitoring by the latter".

Untag, the UN Transition Assistance Group, is to lead the territory to independence after UN-supervised elections.

The size of the military component of Untag and the cost of the operation were a subject of intense private consultation among council members, which delayed the formal decision taken yesterday.

Lieutenant-General Vernon Walters, the chief US delegate, told reporters that modern technology should enable the UN to do its job in Namibia for much less money than was envisaged 10 years ago.

The General Assembly, at a meeting expected to be convened soon must approve the financing of Untag.

COST-SAVING

The resolution that set the date for Untag operations directed Dr De Cuellar to examine cost-saving measures.

The council also called on all UN members to consider how to provide economic and financial assistance to Namibians. — Sapa-Reuter.

murder

Waste treaty likely

B/Day 18/1/89 336 10

NAIROBI — The head of the UN environment agency UNEP said yesterday he expected an international treaty controlling the movement of hazardous waste to be signed in Switzerland on March 20.

UN environment programme director Mostafa Tolba told a news conference in Nairobi officials from 159 nations were due to meet in Luxembourg from January 30 to February 3 to finalise details of the convention.

"I am committed to having ministers from member countries adopt and sign the treaty on March 20. I am sticking my neck out to be chopped on this," he said, referring to a range of issues still to be resolved.

These include the rights of countries importing and exporting dangerous waste, penalties for exporters cheating on the true nature of their cargoes and the jurisdiction of nations through which such shipments must pass.

Common

Tolba, an egyptian scientist, quoted draft convention proposals as requiring that waste exporters notify receiving nations in writing of the nature of substances being shipped and their effect on the environment.

He said African governments, several of which had been at the forefront of an international protest against illegal dumping on their continent last year, would hold a meeting in Senegal on January 26 to 27.

These governments planned to adopt a common stand ahead of the Luxembourg talks.

Tolba rejected suggestions that UNEP should help monitor the dumping of waste, saying this would require massive resources and manpower which his organisation did not have.

UNEP would help governments to check that waste exporters complied with the convention once it was signed, he said. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN wants cuts in Namibian peace force

CHR Times 18/1/89

336

NEW YORK. — The UN Security Council has voted unanimously to go ahead with deploying a peacekeeping force to monitor Namibia's independence from South Africa, but called for cuts in the cost of the force.

Approval of the force had been delayed for weeks as the five parmanent council members — the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, France and China — sought sought to pare the cost of the force, at one time estimated to cost $800 million (about R1,9 billion) a year.

The non-aligned nations, particularly the frontline states, lobbied for full deployment of 7 500 peacekeepers, at least 360 military police and 2 000 civilian administrators called for in a 1978 independence plan for Namibia.

But the five permanent members want to hold the cost to between $400 and $500 million (R960 million and R1,2 billion), diplomats said.

"There's going to be a considerable reduction in money," US ambassador General Vernon Walters said after the 15 council members voted.

"Well, I'm a soldier," said



Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar

General Walters, a retired military general. "I can tell you that when you've got sensors and helicopters, you can cover a hell of a lot more ground than you can with soldiers just standing shoulder-to-shoulder."

Call for report

The resolution calls on UN Secretary-General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar to prepare a report estimating the size and needs of the force, to be called the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag).

That report should be ready in about two weeks. The council would then vote on a resolution authorising creation of the force.

The resolution made note of the peace accords signed in December between Angola, Cuba and South Africa.

The terms of the accords call for 50 000 Cuban troops to leave Angola by July 1, 1991, and Pretoria to begin the Namibian independence process on April 1.

The resolution also expressed "concern at the increase in police and paramilitary forces and the establishment of the South West Africa Territory Force (SWATF) since 1978."

Swapo foreign secretary Mr Theo-Ben Gurirab argued that more peacekeepers were necessary.

"The number of South African troops has increased; they were about 45 000-strong in 1978; they are now 100 000-strong.

"South African police have increased from more than 2 000 in 1978 to more than 10 000 now," Mr Gurirab said.

He said the SWATF numbered 35 000 men and the paramilitary force more than 3 000 men. — Sapa-AP

Star 25/1/89 208 336

De Cuellar bows to budget demands

UN to reduce peacekeeping force by 3 000

NEW YORK — UN Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday bowed to budget demands and cut the peacekeeping force for Namibia to 4 650 troops.

Although some 3 000 less than originally planned, it will still represent the UN's costliest mission at an estimated $416 million (about R900 million).

Black African nations and non-aligned countries have clashed for weeks with the US, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China over the size and cost of the force.

The Organisation of African Unity and non-aligned countries insisted on having at least 7 500 troops, as indicated in the original 1978 Security Council plan for Namibia's independence.

Objected

But the five permanent members of the Security Council, who together pay 58 percent of all peacekeeping costs, objected to the projected spending $700 million (R1 680 million) on sending that many troops.

The United States proposed sending about 3 200 in all on the peacekeeping force, called the UN Transition Assistance Group.

About 800 election supervisors would be needed for the early November balloting, expected to last about a week.

South Africa has strongly protested to Angola and Cuba about a build-up of Swapo forces on the Namibian border.

The Soviet Union, the United States and the United Nations have been informed of the alleged contraventions.

In terms of agreements struck last year with Angola and Cuba, Swapo forces would be kept north of the 16th parallel inside Angola — more than 300 km from the Namibian border.

Since then, there have been reports of a significant build up of Swapo forces south of the parallel, close to the border, while Swapo has also been held responsible for at least one recent landmine incident and the stowing of arms caches in the territory.

Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said last night he had asked the South African delegation to the talks at the first meeting of the Joint Monitoring Commission in New York, to appeal to Cuba and Angola to "discipline and control" Swapo.

UMBRELLA

He warned they would have to take the blame if the agreements already reached were jeopardised.

Mr Botha announced at the conference that agreement had been reached yesterday on the composition of the Joint Monitoring Commission which will act as an umbrella body monitoring complaints or problems affecting all the agreements reached among the parties.

Star 26/11/89

Big Five debate Namibian peace plan

336

NEW YORK — Security Council members began private talks yesterday in an effort to end a bitter dispute over the proposed UN operation to grant Namibia independence from South Africa.

Delegates of the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China, the council's permanent members which have insisted on severe cuts in the size and cost of the operation, conferred as African and other non-aligned states denounced the economies.

First estimates had been as high as $750 million (R1,7 billion) for 7 500 UN peacekeeping troops and a large civilian staff, but Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar recommended in a report on Tuesday a force of 4 650 troops and a leaner budget of $416 million (R994 million).

Fearing that South Africa might try through subversion to deny Swapo a decisive victory at the polls, the African states say the force proposed by Dr Perez de Cuellar would be too small to guarantee fair elections under UN supervision.

With an April 1 target for the start of the UN operation and Namibia independence scheduled a year to the day after that, the Security Council and the General Assembly are under pressure to act soon on Dr Perez de Cuellar's plan.

● The UN peacekeeping force that will monitor independence elections in Namibia will buy goods and services from South Africa, a UN spokesman confirmed yesterday.

● Australia will send about 350 troops — engineers and support staff — to Namibia with a United Nations force to help the transition to independence. — Sapa-AP.

UN will minimise purchases from SA

(336)

Star 27/1/89

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — United Nations officials hope to minimise the amount of purchasing they will do in South Africa during the operation leading to independence in Namibia, which is due to begin on April 1.

Although secretary-general Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar said in a report to the Security Council this week that goods and services would be obtained from "local suppliers in southern Africa whenever these are more economical", opponents of trade with South Africa are said to be trying their utmost to restrict such purchases.

UN spokesman Mr Francois Giuliani said no contractual arrangements had yet been made for the UN military and civilian operation known as Untag, which will cost R990 million for one year.

Pressed by reporters, Mr Giuliani repeatedly declined to acknowledge that "local suppliers in southern Africa" meant South Africa. Western diplomats said there was no doubt about it.

UN lists needs for peacekeeping force

The Federated Chamber of Industries (FCI) has a list of equipment required by the UN peacekeeping force for Namibia and has called for offers for the supply of the items needed.

It says the list is the third received. The first is a general indication of what is required. The second details communications equipment needed.

The list includes vehicles, specialised vehicles, housing units including furnishing, tentage, collapsible containers for the storage of petroleum products and water, freezer and refrigeration units and generators.

The FCI says that based on previous discussions, negotiations have already begun with prospective suppliers.

The FCI says that details on the list are scanty in order to leave as many options open as possible until the final UN budgetary details have been worked out.

It urges interested organisations to begin negotiations with the UN as soon as possible. — Sapa.

iary 28 1989

UN peace force to pour millions into SA

w/c Argus 28/1/89

336

by JOAO SANTA RITA
Argus Africa News Service

JOHANNESBURG. — South African companies are on the verge of a multimillion rand bonanza financed by their greatest foe — the United Nations.

The UN procurement section has already sent the South African Federated Chamber of Industries 48 pages of requirements that the 4 650-strong peacekeeping force in Namibia will need, ranging from vehicles to septic tank cleaning services.

A UN report states clearly that the UN force will "purchase goods and services from local sources of supply in Southern Africa whenever these are more economical than sources of supply elsewhere".

Any other assumption will call into question the feasibility of the operation in the time scale already decided," the Secretary-General warned.

A UN spokesman said that in spite of objections by African countries it was obvious that the United Nations has to do business with South Africa.

If the Security Council approves the report, the General Assembly will then also have to approve the estimated budget and there are fears that the whole process could be delayed by Third World countries.

However, United Nations officials are confident that this will not happen and have already identified South African firms regarded as prospective sources of the UN force requirements.

The UN told the FCI that it was supplying it with the lists of its requirements because some South African firms "may have been missed for lack of information".

Vehicle dealers alone stand to make a fortune as the UN has asked for hundreds of vehicles, including 696 jeeps, 176 trucks from one ton to eight-ton capacity, mobile workshops, bulldozers, mobile cranes, refrigerator trucks, lift trucks, ambulances and dozens of different types of trailers.

Vehicles

In addition the UN is also looking for 81 light sedans of 1 600 to 1 800cc and three luxury cars which the UN chose to describe as heavy sedans. Mini buses (32) and three heavy buses are also demanded.

South African vehicle suppliers will have to take into account one specific requirement that the UN has made — all their vehicles must be white.

It is understood that the United Nations is even considering buying some of its requirements from the SADF which will gradually depart from Namibia.

But the UN is, however, not taking any chances and it has made it known that it is looking for hundreds of tents, containers for petroleum products and water, freezer and refrigeration units, and at least 668 generators.

In another list in which quantities are not specified the UN says that it will need office equipment (including IBM personal computers), cleaning services, construction materials, catering equipment, shoe-repair services, septic tank cleaning services, newspapers and periodicals.

From the lists supplied it is obvious that some members of the United Nations intend to have as much comfort as possible as they go on duty in Africa's last colony.

One of the UN lists says the officials stationed in Namibia will be needing television sets, video sets, movie equipment, radio sets and hi-fi equipment.

The UN is also looking for sport equipment and even trophies, diplomas and plaques.

Row over SWA peace force cuts

S/Times 29/1/89

By PATRICIA CHENEY: Washington

DESPITE its pared-back nature, Untag — which will help in Namibia's passage to independence — will still be the biggest United Nations force of its kind since 19 000 peacekeepers were sent to the Belgian Congo in the early '60s.

The force — the UN Transition Assistance Group — will comprise 6 000 men who, according to this week's report by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, will be charged with "keeping borders under surveillance, preventing infiltration, preventing intimidation and ensuring the safe return of refugees and their free participation in the electoral process".

It has already come under fire from a number of black states led by Zimbabwe, which are, as one official described, "in pandemonium" because the force has been cut from the 9 000 originally called for in UN resolution 435.

According to the report, "the permanent representative of Zimbabwe expressed grave reservations ... because such a move would compromise the secretary general's ability to conduct free and fair elections".

Revised

Efforts by Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and a ministerial group from Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia to have Untag kept at full strength also failed.

Under the revised plan, Untag will cost R986-million — down from the original estimated price tag of R1 440-million.

The UN was able to cut down on the Untag force mainly by reducing administrative tasks and doubling the duties to be undertaken by military personnel.

The price tag was also kept low because the normally sanctions-happy member nations swallowed the hard fact that it was cheaper for Untag to buy goods from South Africa than anywhere else.

The national composition of Untag is still to be decided.

Vanessa Courtney (011) 710-2460 (W)
(011) 792-4302 (H)
Ian Riddel (021) 208-4804
Ron Clark (031) 304 6835
2181

UN bonanza for motor-makers

S/Times 29/11/89

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THE United Nations shopping list for its Namibian peace-keeping force promises a bonanza for SA's motor industry.

By Ian Smith

Among many other things, Untag wants to buy more than 1 000 vehicles from SA manufacturers — in a hurry.

UN headquarters sent a list of the peace force's vehicle requirements to the Federated Chamber of Industries this week.

UN procurement chief Sven Sellberg says: "Specifications are scanty to leave room for as many options as possible to improve the prospect of early delivery."

Waiting

The windfall order will strain the industry's resources at a time when waiting lists for some models are stretching into midyear. National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA executive director Nico Vermeulen is confident that most of the orders will be met.

"We must treat this as an opportunity from a most unlikely source and make every effort to supply Untag's needs."

Manufacturers have been in touch with foreign suppliers to try to ensure that kits can be sent to SA as soon as firm orders have been placed. Some assembly plants are also prepared to return to double-shift working to fill the one-off orders.

Toyota Marketing sales director Henk Maree says: "The biggest problem is that the shortage is most severe in commercial vehicles and they are what Untag needs.

"Most manufacturers have no stock at their plants and dealer stocks are low."

Concern

Japanese manufacturers' strict limits on supplies of CKD kits in line with the government's efforts to reduce trade with SA are also causing concern.

Mr Maree says: "The fact that the vehicles are for the UN could mean that Japan will treat them as special exports."

Spin-off benefits will also be felt by body-builders because many of the vehicles will have to be specially fitted.

The motor industry is likely to have most trouble in meeting demand for 696 four-wheel-drive vehicles. In addition, Untag says it will need 84 cars, 59 light trucks, 53 medium trucks and 35 buses.

Special-purpose vehicles include ambulances, refrigerated and recovery trucks, water tankers, mobile workshops, communications vans and sewage-removers. Also needed are bulldozers, road graders, forklifts and two 20-ton mobile cranes.

Manufacturers have been warned that Untag is likely to place orders for 700 tents soon.

Prefabricated or mobile homes will be needed for about 1 000 civilians attached to Untag at 50 sites throughout Namibia. More than 70 industrial walk-in freezers and refrigerators are likely to be ordered, and Untag is looking for suppliers of more than 600 petrol and diesel driven generator sets, ranging from 4,5 kva to 100 kva.

Potential

"This represents a major opportunity for local industry," says Federated Chamber of Industries executive director Ron Haywood. "We are urging potential suppliers to make direct contact with the UN as soon as possible.

"Even if manufacturers and distributors cannot meet the demand they should negotiate with overseas suppliers."

The UN has cleared the way for Untag to deal with SA companies in an effort to cut the cost of the peace-keeping operation. Delivery time is critical if Untag is to meet its April 1 deadline.

Ill Cashworths in new hands

S/Times 29/11/89

By Ian Smith

TROUBLED Cashworths Fashion Holdings, the Cape-based clothing manufacturer and retailer, has been taken over.

Columbia Corporate Finance will help the new MAP consortium to turn the group around.

Controlling shareholders Norman Schutz, Eli Gottschalk and their family trusts will sell 8,5-million Cashworths, representing 56,7% of issued share capital, to the MAP consortium for R2,8-million.

The consortium was formed by merchant banker Harry Spain and Natal clothing manufacturer Yakoob Paruk to take over Cashworths in the deal effective from January 1. Mr Spain will be chairman and Mr Paruk will be joint managing director with Mr Schutz.

The consortium says Cashworths will be used to expand interests in the clothing industry after unprofitable areas have been hived off.

Mr Spain says: "We are confident Cashworths can be turned. It has about 30 stores and the computerised knitting equipment is modern. Prospects look good for the second half of the year."

Cashworths was listed on the DCM in September 1987, but it failed to achieve its prospectus forecast profit in the year to last April because of an extraordinary loss on the sale of an associate company. Attributable income jump by 57% to R1,2-million and earnings were 11,1c a share compared with the previous year's 7c.

The 100c shares opened at 120c, but slumped to 30c this month. Recent sales have taken place at 37c.

last year ... ments.

"We are more decentralised now and ... M&R's wholesale motor ... purely a trading operation and compri...

... to go to work on your

Star 30/1/89 (8) (336)

Fidel Castro blasts UN Security Council

MEXICO CITY — President Castro of Cuba yesterda said permanent members of the UN Security Council must take the blame if South Africa interferes in Namibian elections later this year, the Cuban news agency reported.

According to a report, President Castro blasted the five permanent members of the council for backing a proposal to reduce the size of a UN peacekeeping force in Namibia.

The council's permanent members are China, France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States.

● An initial sum of $90 million (R225 million) has been earmarked by several countries and international organisations for a $575 million (R1 450 million) recuperation plan for the Lobito corridor in southern Angola, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

The sum was offered by countries of the European Community, Nordic countries, Brazil, the World Bank and the African Development Bank following an International Donors Conference in Angola.

● See Page 6.

SA comes under UN human rights spotlight

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GENEVA — A senior United Nations official said yesterda the world was still plagued by daily human rights viations despite emerging solutions to a number of reional conflicts.

UN uner-secretary Mr Jan Martenson said UN efforts ad co-operation between the superpowers had brount about encouraging developments in various partsf the world.

Addresng the opening session of an annual UN Human Rghts Commission meeting, he cited Afghanistan, the Gulf, Cyprus, Namibia and the western Sahara atrouble spots where solutions were emerging.

Star 31/1/89

Mr Matenson told 1 200 delegates representing governmets and human rights experts from non-goverment organisations that the 43-member commissin still had many urgent tasks at hand.

The annal meeting reviews human rights abuses around thworld.

This yer it is expected that South Africa's policy of aparthid will come under fire again. Outgoing commissin chairman Mr Alioune Sene of Senegal called it the most monstrous form of racism. — Sapa-Reuer.

Star 31/1/87 (336) (2001)

UN still split on Namibian force

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — Certain non-aligned members of the United Nations Security Council — including Ethiopia, Senegal and Algeria — have continued to block action on a resolution to approve the UN's transition programme for Namibia recommended by the secretary-general Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The non-aligned states conferred privately on the question and asked for a meeting with Dr Perez de Cuellar to discuss their objections to a proposed peacekeeping force of 4 650, which they believe to be insufficient to maintain law and order and ensure free and fair elections.

The secretary-general has said he would retain the limit of 7 500 officers and men envisaged in the independence plan approved by the Security Council in 1978, but the remaining troops would be deployed only if he were convinced that the smaller group could not do the job.

ALARMED BY SQUABBLE

With an April 1 target for the start of the entire UN military and civilian operation that is supposed to lead the territory to independence a year later, some delegates are becoming alarmed by the squabble over the size of the force, which has pitted the non-aligned states against the big powers.

● The general secretary of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), Mr Ide Oumarou, says the UN must remain vigilant against any South African attempts to manipulate Namibian independence.

He repeated the OAU's opposition to the reduction of the UN peace-keeping force.

UN INSPECTION FORCE TOO SMALL — CASTRO

HAVANA — Cuban President Fidel Castro said on Sunday a 4 650-strong UN inspection force was too small to oversee Namibia's transition to independence, the Cuban-based Prensa Latina news agency reported.

He denounced a UN report's proposal for a force of that size instead of the 7 500 originally proposed.

It would be better to send the 7 500 troops and then reduce that number if possible, Castro told more than 2 000 Namibian students.

Castro said the recent UN resolution on Namibia was acceptable enough because it "recommends that the UN secretary-general try to cut down expenses but does not speak of the reduction of troops.

"But, the secretary-general and his team made a report that does not satisfy Cuba and the other peoples of the Third World," he said.

If SA succeeded in thwarting the free self-determination of the Namibian people, the weight of responsibility would fall on the permanent members of the security council, Castro said. — Reuter.

Plea for full UN Namibia force

HARARE. — Church organisations, representatives of liberation movements and journalists attending the symposium on world peace which ended in Harare today have called on UN secretary-general, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, not to reduce the number of Untag forces bound for Namibia.

In a statement released at the end of the symposium this afternoon, delegates told Mr de Cuellar they were concerned that South Africa might deny Namibia the opportunity to fully realise its right to self-determination.

Represented were church councils from Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, South Africa, the ANC, PAC and Swapo and the Union of African Journalists.

"We are convinced that the full Untag force is the minimum necessary to ensure that the election to the constituent assembly of Namibia will be free and fair," the group said in a statement to the UN secretary-general.

They also raised the concern that South Africa might now or in the interim period, take decisons "that may deny the Namibians the opportunity to fully realise their right to self-determination".

The group said they had heard "with alarm of manoeuvres of the South African adminstration in Namibia to sell off social facilities and public institutions to private interests". Those affected could include health, postal and telecommunications services, railways and civil aviation.

"We call on your excellency to investigate with a view to preventing the Pretoria regime from undertaking such action which would impede the use of such services by all Namibians regardless of colour, race, origin and creed," the statement said. — Sapa.



Mr Perez De Cuellar

Pik urges UN: don't delay

SOUTH African Foreign Minister Pik Botha urged the United Nations yesterday not to delay Namibia's transition to independence from Pretoria.

Mr Botha said the UN Security Council should this week ratify Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's 416 million dollar proposal to deploy 4 659 troops in Namibia to supervise the move to independence.

UN troops are scheduled to arrive in Namibia on April 1 but final ratificatioin of the timetable has been delayed by a row over the size of the force.

A number of African states have said at least 7 500 men are needed to prevent South Africa interfering in the independence process.

"I do not contemplate a delay," Mr Botha told reporters at a briefing in Cape Town. "It just has to be April 1. It must be. We cannot go on like this. The moment we slip on that, then I predict big problems." — Sapa-Reuter.



ANOTHER TROUBLE SPOT . . . and another chance for UN peacekeeping soldiers to show compassion, fairness and firmness

PEACEKEEPERS OF THE WORLD

S/Times 12/2/89

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THE Blue Berets serving in United Nations peacekeeping operations were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1988.

This symbolic recognition of the peacekeeping role of the United Nations reflects the resurgence of this international body in attempting to enhance collective security and peace in the global system.

Assisted by a parallel development of great import — improved bilateral relations between the superpowers — the role of the UN, especially in peacekeeping, has been strengthened to reflect this important relational change between Moscow and Washington.

Our region may soon see the deployment of a UN peacekeeping force in the form of UNTAG (United Nations Transition Assistance Group) as Namibia braces itself for formal decolonisation and independence.

Somewhat surprisingly, the UN Charter of June 26 1945 does not provide for peacekeeping, nor are the instruments for attaining peace clearly spelt out. Necessity was clearly the mother of invention.

While the legal roots of collective security are found in Article VI of the UN Charter, the building blocks of peacekeeping — consensus and co-operation — come from informal processes such as trust, communication, reciprocity, equality, neutrality, fairness and impartiality.

Essential

In the opinion of the Austrian

its role in the decolonisation process of different states. Since 1948, the UN has dispatched several military observer groups: UNMOGIP (UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan) in 1948; UNOGIL (UN Observer Group in Lebanon) in 1958; UNSF (UN Security Force in West New Guinea) in 1962-63; UNYOM (UN Yemen Observer Mission) in 1963-64; and DOMREP (Mission of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the Dominican Republic) in 1965-66.

Most recently, UN peacekeeping forces were called upon to assist in Afghanistan, and in the internecine *jihad* (Holy War) between Iran and Iraq. Despite its name, there was nothing particularly "holy" about the brutality that characterised the war.

Formed by the Agreement on Afghanistan of April 1988, UNGOMAP (UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan) monitors the Soviet troop disengagement from that war-torn country.

Impartial

In the case of Iran and Iraq, UNIMOG (UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group) with 350 officers drawn from 26 UN member states, oversees along a 1 200km border a ceasefire reached between Iran and Iraq on August 20 1988.

Besides UNTAG for Namibia, UN peacekeeping operations are also planned for Kampuchea and Nicaragua.

S/Times 12/2/89 (336)

commander of UNFICYP (UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus), Günter Greindl, a blue-helmet soldier should possess three essential qualities: fairness, firmness and friendliness.

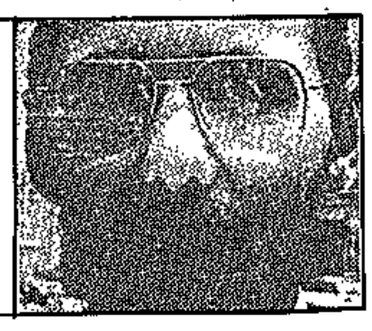
Not surprisingly, the reputation of UN peacekeeping hinges squarely upon these qualities, painstakingly cultivated by the late Dag Hammarskjold and by Brian Urquhart, the recently retired UN Under-Secretary General for Special Political Affairs.

The UN is principally involved in two kinds of peacekeeping — military observer missions comprising a limited number of professional officers without any military capability, and the deployment of UN forces equipped with weapons for self-defence.

In the case of the former, UN military observers signify a symbolic presence characterised by impartiality. In the case of the latter, UN troops are deployed in a neutral role to monitor and prevent hostility between two or more warring factions or states.

by André du Pisani

Managing Director of Research, SA Institute of International Affairs



Shortly after its formation in 1945, the UN was involved in the role of military observer in UNTSO (UN Truce Supervision Organisation in Palestine) in 1948. This first act of peacekeeping continues to this day. UNTSO comprises 300 military officers from 15 UN countries.

UN troops were first deployed in November 1956 in the Sinai during the Suez crisis, when UNEF (UN Emergency Force) was formed. UNEF I (as it is now referred to) collapsed in 1967 as a consequence of the Six-Day War. UNEF II was created in 1973 after the Yom Kippur War to monitor hostility between Israel and its Arab neighbours and was disbanded in 1979.

Apart from the volatile Middle East, where a number of UN peacekeeping operations are still in progress — UNIFIL (UN Interim Force in Lebanon) since 1982, UNOF (UN Observer Force) since 1974, and UNFICYP (as mentioned above) since 1964 — UN peacekeeping operations have been launched in various other parts of the world.

Many South Africans are likely to remember the disastrous and tragic experience of ONUC (Opération des nations Unies au Congo) between 1960 and 1964. ONUC — the biggest UN peacekeeping operation to date, comprising some 20 000 men — illustrated some of the more intractable problems associated with conflict resolution.

Failure

With troops mostly from African countries — Tunisia, Morocco, Ghana and Ethiopia — and assisted by Sweden, Ireland, India and Indonesia, ONUC had no representatives from the then permanent members of the UN Security Council — the USA, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom — although these states assisted with air transport.

Racked by the secession of Katanga and fuelled by mercenary activity as well as by ONUC's inherent inability to restore law and order, the operation failed dismally. ONUC underlined the difficulties associated with UN peacekeeping in a context of unstructured withdrawal by a metropolitan power and the financial difficulties arising from failure to reach consensus on this important aspect of peacekeeping.

The peacekeeping operation in Cyprus (UNFICYP), which was started in 1964 and continues today, is the first in which the United Kingdom participated. Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Ireland and Sweden are also involved. As such a long-standing operation, UNFICYP highlights the necessity for good military leadership and discipline for successful peacekeeping.

An aspect of UN peacekeeping that deserves special mention is

Despite the present wrangling over the size and cost of UNTAG, Namibians may be fairly confident about the impartiality and professionalism of UNTAG.

Under the command of Indian General Prem Chand, UNTAG is likely to draw on the considerable experience gained during other peacekeeping operations.

On reflection, it seems that this unique form of international peacekeeping, although not without problems such as the composition and funding of operations and an inability to function in contexts of escalating internecine violence, offers two unique advantages.

First, it creates diplomatic space for the UN Secretary-General and for the parties involved to explore peace and pursue political settlements.

Secondly, it introduces some rationality and a psychological threshold into the conflict equation, which, if effective, may discourage further violence.

UN chief concerned

Star 13/12/89 By James Tomlins, (336)
The Star's Foreign News Service

PARIS — United Nations Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, in a hard-hitting exclusive interview, criticised member nations which had forced him to reduce the size and cost of the UN peace-keeping force in Namibia.

He told the Paris-based magazine *Jeune Afrique*: "I have told all those nations concerned in Namibia that if I am given a responsibility, then I must also be given the means to carry it out.

"As far as I am concerned, it is important to note that if the costs are reduced, then my terms of reference must be changed.

Agreement

"Reducing the costs also signifies reducing our responsibilities. All that is not very honest.

"We must come to an agreement without endangering Namibia's independence. We must not seek pretexts in order to delay this independence. This independence has been awaited for such a long time."

The UN Secretary-General last Friday agreed to deploy a peace-keeping force in Namibia of 4 650 soldiers instead of the 7 500 agreed on earlier. Costs have been cut from about $700 million (R1 759 million) to $416 million (R1 026 million).

Profits from UN in offing

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

South African businessmen are set to reap a rich harvest as the implementation of United Nations Resolution 435 in Namibia draws near.

The Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of South Africa (Assocom) yesterday received yet another list of materials and equipment to be required by the UN peace-keeping force which will monitor the Namibian independence elections.

The list, according to Assocom's foreign trade secretary, Mrs Bess Robertson, has been circulated to all Chambers of Commerce and Industry countrywide.

Mrs Robertsonsuggested that interested businessmen contact Mr Dermot Hussey at the UN's Commercial Purchase and Transportation Service department in New York.

A spokesman for the world body said in New York recently that it was "quite obvious that the reality of the situation is that the UN has to do business with South Africa." This departs from the UN's long-standing policy of advocating mandatory sanctions.

The new list of materials required ranges from chartering and leasing of fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, purchase of vehicles of all types, water purification and treatment equipment, to both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

Go-ahead from UN expected

NEW YORK — After several weeks' delay, the United Nations Security Council appeared set to give final approval today to a Namibia independence plan monitored by a pared-down UN military-civilian force.

Council members emerging from closed-door consultations told reporters yesterday they had reached agreement on virtually all points of an enabling resolution. Some delegations might have to refer back to their capitals overnight, they added.

The delay has centred on plans to send only 4 650 troops in the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag), instead of the 7 500 envisaged when the independence plan for the territory was first drafted in 1978.

● It is reported from Luanda that about 3 000 Cuban civilians — doctors, engineers, teachers and construction experts — will remain in Angola when the full force of 47 000 troops is withdrawn by mid-1991.

Assocom announces Untag's shopping list

UNTAG would be chartering and leasing fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, Assocom announced yesterday, after receiving an updated list on expected requirements for the peace force to be based in Namibia.

The provision and erection of prefabricated or portable housing — including domestic, military and warehousing configurations — would also required.

Assocom foreign trade secretary Bess Robertson said Untag had received many quotations, but had not allocated orders as the final budget had not been passed by the UN.

Assocom had been monitoring developments at the UN over the past few months concerning the implementation of UN resolution 435 — and particularly the requirements for the Untag peace force — to alert business to the economic opportunities available.

It was also watching developments at the UN High Commission for Refugees to establish its requirements at

ZILLA EFRAT

the nine transit camps where returning Namibians would be received.

The list of products ranged from fresh, frozen, processed and canned foodstuffs, to all types of vehicles, domestic and office furniture, office machines and office supplies, rented vehicles and water purification and treatment equipment.

Catering services, fencing and barbed wire, pickets and sandbags, tents of all sizes, electric generators, refrigerators and freezers were needed, as were essentials like pharmaceuticals, sanitary supplies and stationery.

Quotations were requested for heavy equipment, including construction and workshop equipment.

Alcoholic and non-alcholic beverages were also included.

Assocom said interested parties should contact Dermot Hussey, commercial purchase and transport service, UN, New York.

UN puts seal on Namibian plan

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NEW YORK — The UN Security Council yesterday authorised an independence plan and UN peace-keeping force for Namibia — taking one more step to end 74 years of SA rule.

The 15 council members unanimously adopted a resolution implementing an independence plan for Namibia that has been in readiness since 1978. 19 Dec 1984

April 1 was set as the date to begin the one-year plan for Namibia's transition to an independent, black majority-ruled nation.

At a cost of about $416m, the operation will be the biggest peace-keeping mission since the Belgian Congo operation of 1960-64. — Sapa-AP.

● See Page 3

UN gives Namibia plan the green light

Cape Times 17/2/89

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NEW YORK. — The Security Council yesterday authorized an independence plan and UN peacekeeping force for Namibia.

April 1 was set as the date to begin the one-year plan — in readiness since 1978 — for Namibia's transition to an independent nation.

Yesterday's resolution also approved a recent report by UN Secretary-General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar on implementing the plan, which calls for sending 4 650 UN peacekeepers, 500 police supervisors and at least 1 000 civilian election monitors to Namibia.

Mr Perez de Cuellar has estimated the project will cost $416 million (about R998,5m) in its first year, making it the biggest UN peacekeeping mission since the Belgian Congo operation of 1960-64.

Meanwhile, the General Assembly prepared to authorise funds for a 70-man team of UN military observers who will monitor the withdrawal of 50 000 Cuban troops from Angola.

That group, the UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem), is budgeted at $9,2m (about R22,1m) for this year and a total of $19,4m (about R46,6m) over its entire 31-month mandate of overseeing the Cuban withdrawal.

In London, meanwhile, the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said yesterday that Britain believed it was vital for change in South Africa that an independent Namibia was a success.

In an address to the Foreign Press Association in London, he said Britain and the rest of the European Economic Community were ready to help an independent Namibia economically and the territory was eligible for membership of the Commonwealth.

In Cape Town, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said last night that the approval by the Security Council of the implementation of Resoluton 435 was the final step in bringing the settlement plan for Namibia's independence.

In a statement, he said this meant that a force of 4 650 UN troops had been approved and the UN would have to act in a strictly impartial way towards all the parties involved. — Sapa, Sapa-AP

Untag chief due in SWA

WINDHOEK. — The first members of Untag, the UN Transitional Assistance Group, are expected here today.

They are the head of the Untag police contingent, Commissioner Steven Fanning, and the UN legal representative, Miss Rachel Majangya.

In London, meanwhile, an anti-apartheid group yesterday angrily accused the UN of sanctions-breaking against its own arms embargo on South Africa. Arms deals expert Mr Abdul Minty said Untag was risking its integrity by negotiating to buy and lease SADF equipment to use in Namibia.

And in Dublin the Irish parliament has agreed to send 35 policemen to Namibia as part of the UN team. — Sapa, Own Correspondent

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B Day 1/7/1989

UN 'may amend sanctions' to smooth Untag's path

LONDON — The UN was considering amending sanctions against SA to ease problems for the planned peace-keeping force for Namibia, Jane's Defence Weekly said.

The publication also said the UN was exploring the "feasibility and cost effectiveness" of creating its own stockpile of weapons and communications equipment for use by peace-keeping forces.

"It has been suggested that the creation of a UN stockpile of equipment would have eased the UN's predicament over how to supply the projected peace-keeping force in Namibia."

Jane's said SA's domestic arms industry, whose potential exports have been hit by a UN-sponsored arms embargo, was likely to be the beneficiary of a proposed new move to ease existing restrictions to cut UN operational costs in Namibia.

"The current economic and military sanctions against SA are expected to be amended shortly. This will enable the UN to obtain goods and services from Pretoria when the 4 650-strong UN transitional assistance group, which will supervise the move towards Namibian independence, is ready for operations in April."

Jane's quoted UN spokesman Francois Guiliani as admitting the ban "is under review at the moment".

He said no contractual arrangements had been made so far either with SA or Namibian firms, but UN officials have already identified various sources of supply.

Jane's said the possibility of the UN acquiring military and non-military products from Pretoria had assumed major significance because of pressure from the five permanent members of the Security Council — the US, the Soviet Union, the UK, France and China — to reduce Untag costs from $700m to $416m.

In a report to the UN Security Council last week, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said it was necessary to emphasise the estimate of $416m was based on the assumption that Untag would purchase goods and services from local sources of supply in southern Africa whenever these were more economical than sources of supply elsewhere.

Jane's said Guiliani made it clear SA was included in the secretary-general's remarks.

"As the largest and most developed economy in the region, SA is the only source for many of the goods and services that Untag will require." — Sapa.

UN invites Zeph

336 10

THE United Nations special committee against apartheid has invited President Zephania L Mothopeng of the PAC to be its special guest at the observance of the 29th anniversary of the March 21, 1960 anti-pass campaign that ended with the Sharpeville and Langa massacres.

Part of the invitation reads as following "UN pleased to invite you to attend and address the meeting as its special guest. Would appreciate receiving the soonest possible indication so that United Nations can make necessary arrangements for your travel".

The arrangements are also for Mr Mothopeng to meet with the UN Secretary General, Dr J de Cuellar whilst at the UN. A special Press conference will also be held arranged for him by the UN. He is scheduled to meet there with Labour leaders.

The Untag man with R1bn to spend . . .

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B1 Day 20/2/89

HELOISE HENNING

THE UN official with R1bn to spend on commercial purchases and transport for the Untag forces arrives in Windhoek on Thursday.

Dermot Hussey, in charge of supplies for the Untag forces, will be staying at the Kalahari Inn, FCI Southern Transvaal GM Ken Mason told Business Day.

He said the chamber had endeavoured to keep its members informed of the business opportunities that could arise from the UN force's presence in Namibia.

Untag's positioning date is April 1.

Mason said the UN policy was neutral and would favour southern African suppliers and not concentrate on SA goods only. He added Hussey had specified he would source the cheapest supplies.

Availability of manufactured goods, would also be a consideration.

Mason was concerned local car manufacturers would be unable to deliver supplies immediately because they were already working on three-month waiting lists for supplies to local dealers.

He said the rand's value would give local goods a competitive edge on imported goods which would be subjected to further duties.

Last week Assocom released a list of goods the UN had advised them of. The list ranged from leasing helicopters and aircraft to stationery and beverages.

Electronic equipment was needed and offices and living quarters would have to be established.

SA won't have Swedes in UN transition group

STOCKHOLM — South Africa has formally rejected Swedish participation in a multinational force to oversee independence for Namibia later this year, a senior Swedish official said yesterday.

He said the Swedish government received official notification from the United Nations on Sunday.

Prime Minister Mr Ingvar Carlsson would brief the parliamentary foreign affairs committee and intended to issue a statement afterwards.

The official said the Pretoria government maintained that Sweden's strong anti-apartheid stance and support for the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) meant its troops could not be trusted to play an impartial role.

Sweden, which participates in many peacekeeping forces around the world, had already begun training soldiers for the Namibia mission.

FINLAND

In Helsinki, a Finnish government spokesman said Finland had been asked to participate in the force and would formally accept later.

The UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag) will oversee the South African military pullout and Namibian elections as part of a US-brokered peace plan which also includes the withdrawal of 50 000 Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola. — Sapa-Reuter.

Lucky Luck may get you to USA

Star 21/2/89 By Paula Fray 336

South Africans who do not meet with the strict qualifications to apply for American immigrant visas can chance Lady Luck next month when that country draws the names of 20 000 people worldwide for possible emigration.

According to the American Consul in Johannesburg, Mr Tom Furey, a computer will randomly select 20 000 names of people from "underrepresented countries" in a lottery-type selection.

This programme is to "enhance the diversity in immigration to America" and comes after a trend where about 60 percent of American immigrants came from only 13 countries.

South Africa is one of the 162 "underrepresented" countries which used fewer than 5 000 immigrant visa numbers in the fiscal year of 1988. People born here qualify for the lucky dip. However, South Africans born in Britain do not.

The stringent qualifications which normally apply — such as family ties or special job skills — fall away for this programme and people from the 162 countries need only fill the applications correctly to qualify.

ABOVE NORMAL QUOTA

The 20 000 applications are above the normal quotas and will be split into the 1990 and 1991 fiscal year which starts on October 1.

Applicants must simply submit their name, date and place of birth, address and details of spouse and of children on specified stationary.

Any person accepted automatically means the rest of his immediate family could get a visa too.

The application period is only the month of March after which a computer will randomly select from all the people who have applied.

Mr Furey said he did not know what the response would be, but added that "hundreds of thousands — even millions" may possibly apply.

However, the people chosen by the computer only qualify to apply and still have to comply with legal and medical laws before they get their visas.

● For more information, contact the American Consular Section at (011) 331-1681.

UN funds for Namibia to be approved soon

NEW YORK — The United Nations General Assembly plans to approve $416,2 million (R1 040 million) this week for Namibia's transition to independence.

SAY 22/2/89

UN officials said the assembly's finance committee yesterday began reviewing Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar's request for one year of funding.

Later this week, the entire General Assembly was expected to approve the assessment, said UN spokesman Mr Juan-Carlos Brandt.

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BIGGEST

The Namibian peacekeeping force, called the UN Transistion Assistance Group (Untag), consists of 4 650 peacekeeping soldiers, 500 police supervisors, more than 760 civilian staff, 820 locally recruited staff and 620 election monitors provided by donor governments.

On April 1, Untag will begin implementing a one-year plan for Namibia's independence — the biggest UN peacekeeping operation since the 1960-64 Congo crisis which at its peak involved 19 828 troops. — Associated Press.

Bid to boost UN force

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ADDIS ABABA — The Secretary General of the Organisation of African Unity, Ide Oumarou, urged African nations yesterday to provide troops or civilian staff to boost the size of the UN peacekeeping force in Namibia. — Sapa-Reuter. Sowetan 22/4/84

Untag: Japan asked to ease restrictions

B | Day 23/2/89

HELOISE HENNING

MOTOR manufacturers Toyota and Nissan are to appeal to their Japanese suppliers to relax restrictions to enable them to supply vehicles to the soon-to-be-deployed United Nations forces in Namibia.

Toyota SA director of vehicle sales Henk Maree told Business Day: "We want additional CKDs (completely knocked down kits) from Japan. It is not fair to expect the SA consumer to suffer.

"There are already delays in production because of the limitations on the number of kits we can import."

Maree said Toyota would not divert local supplies to Untag, which was expected to be in the market for several hundred vehicles.

Nissan SA CE John Newbury also said he would apply to Japan for more imported kits so that the company could bid for Untag business.

Maree said Untag's organisers had left their orders very late. The first forces are to be deployed on April 1. Waiting lists for cars and commercial vehicles in SA range from three months to a year.

UN supplies official Dermot Hussey is due in Windhoek today. He has told the Federated Chamber of Industries he will buy from the cheapest supplier, and would not hesitate to import.

Maree said importing was not that easy. Besides the added customs costs the motor industry world-wide operated on waiting lists.

Reserves in four countries

UN troops line up for Namibia

B/Day 24/2/84

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NEW YORK — Finland, Kenya and Malaysia will each provide an infantry battalion as part of the UN military and civilian operation to oversee Namibia's impending transition to independence.

Diplomatic sources said four reserve battalions, on stand-by in their home countries, will be earmarked by Bangladesh, Togo, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

The military component of the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag) will consist of 4 650 troops — three enlarged infantry battalions each of about 850 officers and men, plus 300 military observers, 1 700 logistics troops and 100 headquarters staff.

The logistics troops will come from Australia, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Poland and Spain. Military observers will provided by 14 countries.

Untag's military make-up, proposed by UN secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar, will be announced when the Security Counci gives its formal approval.

Untag will also have a civilian component consisting of 500 police, about 760 administrative staff and 620 electoral personnel. Another 820 civilians are to be recruited locally.

Much of the material support for the Untag opration is expected to be supplied by SA companies.

The Security Council has set April 1 as the start-up date for the Namibia independence plan with elections tentatively set for November to choose a constituent assembly. — Sapa-Reuter.

...ville sub-outfall sewer and lation of water meters.

...past year the fund was topped up, and now stands at just over "alarmingly huge" waiting list of residents.

Apartheid is a form of genocide, says UN commission

GENEVA — The UN Human Rights Commission yesterday passed a series of resolutions strongly condemning SA, including one charging that apartheid was a form of genocide.

Almost all developing and communist states joined in the attack on Pretoria, while Western nations generally opposed or abstained on most of the resolutions.

The motions, similar to ones made last year, were taken up during the 43-nation commission's annual review of rights around the world.

Several Western delegates, including the American representative, said they found apartheid repugnant but could not support calls for mandatory economic sanctions.

Most Western nations voted against paragraphs in one motion that said the commission was "convinced that the crime of apartheid is a form of the crime of genocide".

Several Western delegates said a resolution condemning SA for its continued "illegal occupation" of Namibia did not take adequate account of the agreement between SA, Angola and Cuba.

There was unanimous agreement to a resolution saying the commission was "appalled at the evidence that children in SA are subjected to detention, torture and inhuman treatment". — Sapa-Reuter.

Contest to supply Untag toughens up

B | Day 27/2/89

PETER DELMAR

SOUTHERN AFRICAN suppliers were not assured of getting the lion's share of the millions of dollars the UN would spend on Namibian independence, a top UN buyer said yesterday.

Chief UN procurement officer Dermot Hussey said from Windhoek offers had been received from around the world to supply the more than 6 000 members of the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag).

Hussey arrived last week with some $200m to spend on equipment and accommodation.

The UN General Assembly is expected to approve an overall budget of $416m within the next few days. (33b)

He said his first priority was to find accommodation for the UN officials who would start arriving next month.

Hussey said the UN had not yet decided whether Untag would be able to buy supplies from SA companies. However, local businessmen had been quick to exploit the opportunities presented and were generally competitive.

He acknowledged a ban on SA goods would "make life a lot harder" for himself and his officials.

Namibians welcome task force leader

WINDHOEK — Thousands of Namibian black nationalists welcomed the arrival of the Indian head of a UN task force yesterday as a visible sign that independence for the SA-run territory was finally at hand.

Dozens of riot police sealed off Windhoek's biggest hotel as General Prem Chand and his team of colonels and aides arrived from the airport.

Chand is the head of the military component of the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag).

Swapo members thronged a nearby car park singing freedom songs.

"We hope the coming of the UN to Namibia means a definite end to South African colonialism," said one placard.

Earlier, the crowd gave Chand a tumultuous welcome at the airport, where he told reporters he regarded the implementation of the Namibian independence plan — due to start on April 1 — as "a fascinating challenge".

There were no incidents at the airport or hotel, although traffic was chaotic. The noisy but orderly crowd later moved to the nearby black township of Katutura, a Swapo stronghold.

The Swapo show of strength in Windhoek appeared to have been organised to show support for the organisation, which is widely expected to win the November election.

None of the many other political groups which will fight the election appeared to be represented in the crowd.

The independence plan, which seemed unthinkable a year ago, was worked out as part of a deal which included the withdrawal of about 50 000 Cuban troops from Angola. — Sapa-Reuter.



Swapo supporters storm towards the control tower building at Windhoek's airport yesterday to try to catch a glimpse of Untag military commander General Prem Chand as he steps off the SAA Boeing 747 from Frankfurt.

Whites have preview of what's ahead

By Brendan Seery

WINDHOEK — If Namibia's whites wanted to know what it will be like when Swapo leader Mr Sam Nujoma returns to this country, they could have had a preview at Windhoek's airport yesterday.

The blue, red and green colours of Swapo were everywhere as singing and ululating supporters of the organisation swamped the arrivals area.

The clenched-fist Black Power salute was everywhere, while here and there were sprinkled placards — "Welcome to colonised Namibia, Gen Prem Chand", "Namibia will be free", "SA troops should stop intimidating civilians", "Reduction of Untag is UN's partiality towards South Africa".

The 40 km route to the airport was clogged with what looked like the majority of the roadworthy vehicles from the Katutura township.

A German tour group, arriving at the airport to return home via Johannesburg, was subjected to a barrage of freedom songs and slogans.

There was a negligible police presence at the airport and there were no incidents of violence involving the generally well-disciplined crowd.

Untag's leader looks forward to co-operation

By Brendan Seery, The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — Independence for Namibia moved one step closer yesterday with the arrival here of General Prem Chand, the commander of the military component of the United Nations group that will monitor the Resolution 435 settlement process.

General Chand and about 20 other senior military officers and officials of the UN's Transition Assistance Group (Untag) flew in to Windhoek's airport on an SAA flight from Frankfurt yesterday to a colourful welcome from about 2 500 Swapo supporters.

After being met officially by the commander of the SWA Territory Force (SWATF), Major-General Willie Meyer, General Chand held a press conference.

VETERAN

A veteran of the UN's previous peace-keeping missions in the Congo and Cyprus, he said he was looking forward to the full co-operation of the South African authorities and others involved in the Namibian situation.

He will meet South African Administrator-General Mr Louis Pienaar early this week and will be briefed by senior SWATF officers on the current military situation in Namibia.

General Chand said he would travel extensively to see the changes that had taken place in Namibia since Resolution 435 was passed by the UN in September 1978.

He remarked that although he was not aware of the weekend discussions in Luanda between South Africa, Angola and Cuba, he would welcome anything that would help Untag "in our somewhat difficult task".

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SA pledge on peace

SOUTH Africa is committed to the holding of free and fair elections under UN Resolution 435, and will not do anything to subvert the peace plan, vows Pretoria's Administrator-General in Windhoek, Mr Louis Pienaar.

SOWETAN Africa News Service

In an interview at his offices at South West Africa House here, Mr Pienaar said that both he and his administration were committed to the principle of free and fair elections, and they were bound to act impartially.

Mr Pienaar said that, under Resolution 435, he would no longer be the "representative of South Africa", but would be bound, as a prisoner of the terms of Resolution 435" to "act as impartially as a judge hearing the case".

The Administrator-General dismissed suggestions that Swapo, for example, would be at an unfair disadvantage during the transition period to independence, which officially begins on April 1, with the arrival here of the UN special representative for Namibia, Mr Martii Ahtisaari. He said the whole process would always be subject to the scrutiny of the UN's Transition Assistance Group (Untag), and that, in any case, Swapo had itself accepted the administrative arrangements agreed in Resolution 435.

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PHILADELPHIA Hospital in Dennilton was given a shot in the arm when it received a heart machine from Premier Contract. Admiring the new machine are matron Twinkie Ndala, superintendent Dr Louw Steyn, matron Elizabeth Mafisa and Mr Mike Caradoc Davies.

Blast: 3 injured

TWO 13-year-old girls and a 29-year-old man were injured — two seriously — in an explosion at a house in Bishop Lavis, about 25 km from Cape Town last night.

Mr Paul Kleinsmidt, MP for Elsiesrivier, heard a loud explosion at 5.50pm. He rushed outside and saw a man staggering from a half-built house with a 13-year-old girl in his arms.

Police found a handgrenade at the scene and confirmed the explosion was caused by

Rent row in Thokoza hotting up

TENSION is rising in Thokoza township on the East Rand over electricity tariffs which were increased in January and are to be effective this week.

Robbe cop jailed

SOWETAN REPORTE

SIX men were sei in the Johanne magistrate's yesterday to a tota years' imprisonme they will serve an e 97 years.

The six membe gang, one of whc former policemar convicted on s charges of a robbery, assault intent to cause g bodily harm ar temped armed rol

The ex-polic Themba Nkha who was leader gang and commit offences durin period of service police force, sentenced to 34 ye will serve an effec years.

Gang

The effectiv sentences of the

UN silent on SA buying spree for Namibia

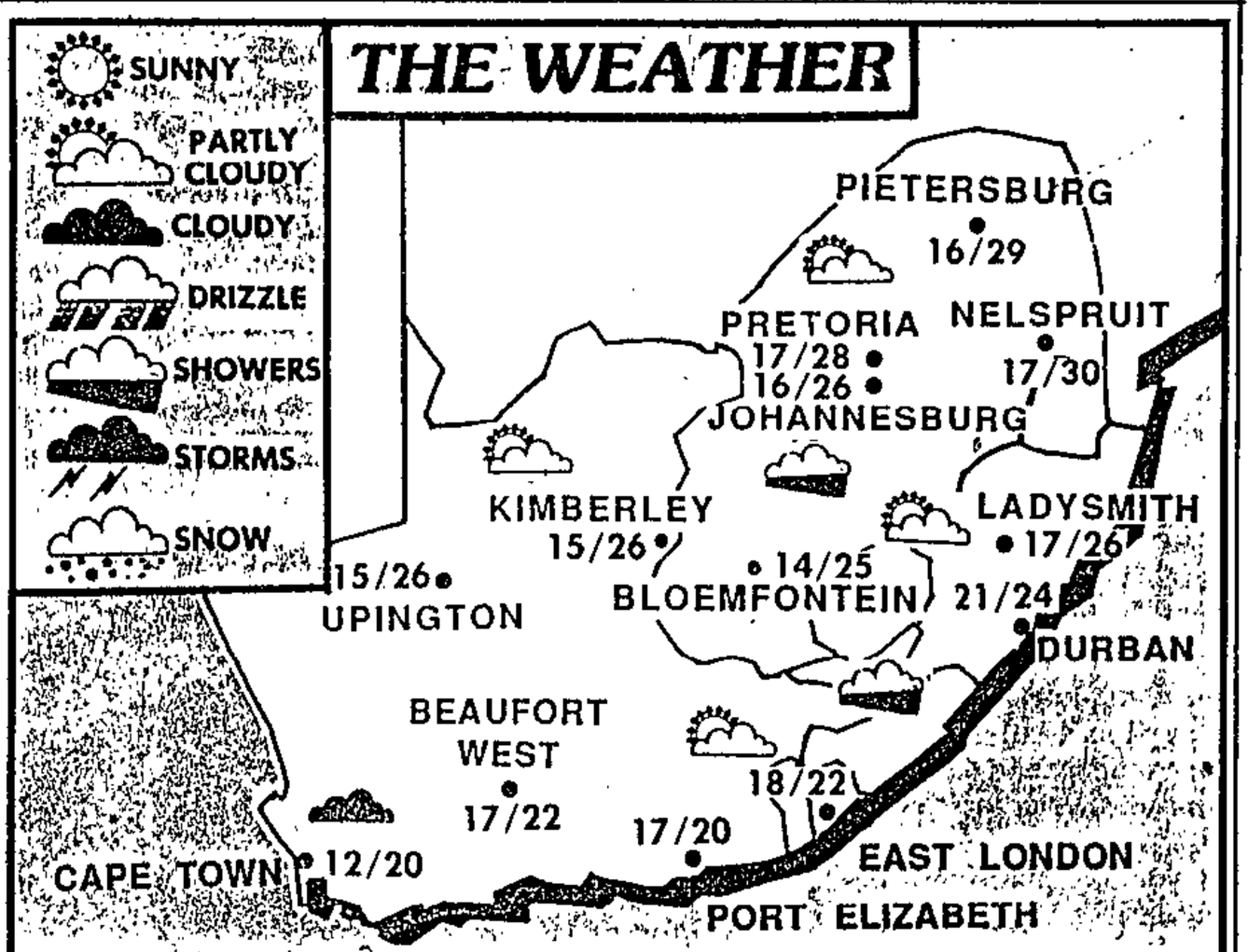
Special Correspondent (336)

NEW YORK — United Nations officials are maintaining a discreet silence over the extent of purchasing in South Africa for the big military and civilian operation in Namibia in its transition to independence. Star 2/3/89

Mr Luis Gomez, UN financial controller, said that anti-mine vehicles would have to be leased from the Republic in the initial phase of the operation, but he confirmed reports that helicopters and light planes would be obtained in Europe.

The West German delegation announced yesterday, shortly after the General Assembly unanimously approved a $416 million (R1 billion) budget for the UN exercise in the territory, that Bonn was shipping 167 motor vehicles to Walvis Bay for delivery to the UN.

Ironically, the UN's transport in Namibia will probably have to run on South African oil just as the UN prepares hearings on the effects of the voluntary oil embargo against the Republic.



TRANSVAAL — Partly cloudy and warm but hot in the lowveld and north of the Soutpansberg. Scattered thundershowers are expected in the north-east. JOHANNESBURG CENTRAL — Today: 8 am 18 deg C; yesterday: max N/A; min 15 deg C; rainfall 42,5 mm; so far this month 42,5 mm; so far this year 385,8 mm; average rainfall for March over 92 years 106 mm; average annual rainfall 769 mm.

Swiss banks lose business for SA links

Star 2/3/89

The Star's Foreign News Service

GENEVA — Switzerland's "big three" banks have reacted calmly to being shut out of a big Euro-loan for Canada because of their business links with South Africa.

The loan is being sought by the province of Ontario. The Canadian government has officially distanced itself from the boycott.

Officials of the Union Bank of Switzerland, the Swiss Bank Corporation and Credit Suisse put a brave face on the decision.

"Of course, we do not like to lose business but we see this as a completely isolated case," said Mr Robert Favarger, director-general of the Union Bank, on Swiss television.

"South Africa is a loyal customer of many, many years' standing. We do not take loyalty lightly."

He emphasised that Swiss banks and the Swiss government had always opposed apartheid and had made their position against apartheid clear over the years.

Australia unlikely...

UN general visits the focal point of bush war

The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — The Commander of the UN military force which will monitor the Namibian independence process, Lieutenant-General Dewan Prem Chand, left Windhoek yesterday to visit the northern area of the country which was the focal point of the 22-year bush war between South African security forces and Swapo.

General Chand was accompanied on his visit by members of his staff and Major-General Willie Meyer, the commander of the SWA Territory Force. A SWATF spokesman said the two generals would return to Windhoek at the weekend.

The UN military commander arrived here on Sunday to make advance preparations for the arrival of his 4 650-member force, which will monitor the peace and independence process detailed in UN Security Council Resolution 435.

The plan provides for a ceasefire between South Africa and Swapo, and South African forces will begin a phased withdrawal from this country.

A total of 1 500 South African troops will remain on Namibian soil until after the certification of results of the planned one-man, one-vote elections which are scheduled for the first week of November.

UN Transitional Assistance Group soldiers, in three enlarged infantry battalions, will monitor the ceasefire and the South African withdrawal, as well as guard key installations.

Peacekeeping money approved

UNITED NATIONS — The General Assembly yesterday approved $416 million (R1 billion) for the UN peacekeeping mission to free Namibia after 74 years of South African rule.

The General Assembly's consensus approval of funds yesterday came after its budget subcommittee, overriding objections from black African nations, decided on Tuesday night that UN peacekeepers in Namibia may buy goods from South Africa as long as this is the cheapest supplier.

Countries led by Zambia and Zimbabwe had delayed approval of the peacekeeping assessment by trying to make the UN heed its own calls for trade embargoes on South African products.

Britain, France and the United States opposed the restrictions, citing the higher cost of buying goods and services elsewhere. — Sapa-AP.

SA and Swapo: ballot battle looms

336

BRENDAN BOYLE

WINDHOEK — The guns have gone quiet in South Africa's 22-year border war against Namibia's South West Africa People's Organisation, but hostility continues. Star 4/3/89

Thousands of Swapo guerillas and hundreds of South African troops died in the conflict that started in 1966.

Now the two sides must cooperate under United Nations supervision to bring independence to the territory that was their battleground. The confrontation has moved from the bush to Windhoek, where the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (Untag) is set to begin monitoring the territory's transition to independence from April 1.

"We know what sort of thing to expect from South Africa and we will appeal to the United Nations. But if we feel our position is being jeopardised in we will take to the streets for mass protests," said Swapo Chairman Mr Dan Tjongarero.

South African Administrator General Mr Louis Pienaar, who will rule Namibia until independence, acknowledged there would be many disputes before independence is achieved.

"There are many rapids to be negotiated. Make no mistake, it will not be easy," he said.

He has met with leaders of Namibia's many moderate black and white political parties, has no plans to make contact with Swapo.

"If they want to see me they can ask for a meeting, but I think they should rather speak to the UN representatives here," he added.

South African officials privately acknowledge they expect Swapo to win more than half the vote in the November 1 election of an assembly to draft an independence constitution.

Their goal is to prevent Swapo from gaining the two-thirds majority that would allow them to adopt their own socialist constitution without compromise.

With only 75 000 whites among Namibia's estimated 1,5 million people, Pretoria will need some black support to prevent a sweep by Swapo.

Pretoria is setting up reception centres for returning guerillas and refugees without consulting Swapo or the United Nations. Some are in former South African army camps.

Broadcasting remains under Mr Pienaar's control with no immediate plans to give Swapo or other left-wing parties access to the airwaves.

Mr Pienaar has outlined election rules that would give voting rights to hundreds of demobilised South African soldiers and civil servants and, by raising the voting age from 18 to 21, disenfranchise thousands of young blacks loyal to Swapo.

Though his proposals must be approved by the UN he said he had prepared a draft proclamation as a basis for negotiation with UN Special Representative Mr Martti Ahtisaari.

In Windhoek's township of Katutura, Mr Tjongarero vowed to fight every South African attempt to manipulate the November election.

"They are already out there, spreading horror stories about Swapo and what they say a Swapo government would mean. We have to follow behind them, telling people the real story." — Sapa-Reuter.

Takeover by Untag under consideration

Talks being held on use of SADF assets

Star 8/3/89

336

Parliamentary Staff

Negotiations were under way between South Africa and the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (Untag) peacekeeping force in Namibia over the future use of defence equipment and infrastructure installed by the SA Defence Force in the operational area, the **Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr W M Breytenbach**, told Parliament yesterday.

Speaking during an interpellation debate on a Conservative Party question on the fate of immovable SADF equipment and infrastructure in the operational area, Mr Breytenbach said negotiations were being held to decide which camps and equipment the UN soldiers would use during the independence process and which movable facilities would be ultimately brought home by the SADF.

It was likely certain facilities and equipment would be let to the Untag force.

The estimated value of immovable defence equipment and infrastructure was about R480 million, he said. The withdrawal of the South African forces did not mean this sum represented a loss, but rather an investment in the development of a neighbouring country.

It showed the SADF was a "builder" not a "destroyer" in the region.

CP concerned

Mr Tom Langley (CP, Soutpansberg) said his party was concerned at the absence of compensation for South Africa for the loss of the facilities, and also at the risk that the military camps and immovable equipment could be used in future by Swapo or even Cuban troops.

He had the impression the SADF and the Department of Foreign Affairs "just want to be rid of South West Africa".

Mr Roger Hulley (PFP, Constantia) said developments in Namibia "highlight the frighteningly high costs of waging war on foreign soil".

Capital expenditure on defences on home borders was a long-term asset, but money spent on the Namibian/Angolan border "could have been far better spent for peaceful purposes here in South Africa".

He suggested that when the SADF finally withdrew, the Government should privatise facilities on tender ... selling office blocks to commerce, allowing urban camps like Oshakati and Katimo Mulilo to be used for emergency housing and later sold, handing over schools to the Namibian education authorities, and developing rural camps like Omega in the Caprivi Strip for tourism.

Responding to the debate, Mr Breytenbach described Mr Hulley's proposals as "good suggestions", but lashed the CP for raising "silly questions" at a time when "the success of the SADF and the Department of Foreign Affairs has created the most favourable circumstances we have ever had" to have a negotiated settlement in Namibia.

Abuse of women alarms

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar called yesterday for redoubled efforts for women's rights and said violence against them was a major concern.

Many states, both developed and developing, have reported sharp increases in rape, wife-beating and criminal sexual abuse of women and girls.

In a message marking International Women's Day, Dr de Cuellar said: "Violence against women is still a major concern in many countries."

He said: "Equal treatment for women workers in wages and working conditions often remains nothing more than a hope."

In his message, issued during his absence on a three-week Asian tour, the Secretary-General said: "Let us today redouble our efforts to ensure that over half of the world's population, its women, will have the opportunity to play their multiple roles in society on a more equal basis."

He said that women were among the most important resources on whom developing countries should count in their planning. — Reuter.

Space snag for UN peace force

WINDHOEK — The UN peace operation in Namibia has run into a major logistics problem — it cannot find sufficient accommodation for its civilian officials.

Senior UN official Abdou Ciss told a Press conference in Windhoek yesterday: "We are experiencing difficulty in finding accommodation, particularly in Windhoek. Six hundred staff will eventually be stationed there and there are simply not enough rooms."

The head of the UN military force, Gen Prem Chand, said the first airlift of equipment, accompanied by a small contingent of peace-keepers, would arrive in the territory today.

Meanwhile, Swapo is seeking to allay the fears of whites in the territory who, facing the prospect of a socialist black government, are leaving in increasing numbers.

Swapo central committee member Dan Tjongarero said in an interview: "Reconciliation is going to be our first priority. Our biggest challenge is going to be to create a trust to such a level we don't have a large number of people fleeing to SA or elsewhere.

"The people of Namibia have been subject to anti-Swapo propaganda for years. They have been told that we are going to kill their children, rape their daughters and take their homes. We are going to have to convince them otherwise.

"We must convince them that there is nothing to fear and much to hope for," he said.

Tjongarero added: "We are aware of a lot of people leaving Namibia, but none that we will deeply miss at this stage."

Swapo has moderated its broadly Marxist stance and is actively trying to persuade white investors and businessmen to remain.

"We are for a mixed economy. We have ruled out wholesale nationalisation without adequate compensation," Tjongarero said. — Reuter.

Star 10/3/89 (1336)

UN group to hold talks on Swapo bases

The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — A United Nations delegation will fly to Luanda next week to discuss with the Angolan government preparations for the monitoring of Swapo bases in their country by peacekeeping troops of the world body.

The commander of the military component of the UN's Transition Assistance Group (Untag), Major-General Dewan Prem Chand, told a press conference in Windhoek yesterday that the monitoring of Swapo bases was one of his force's tasks during the implementation of the Resolution 435 peace and independence plan for Namibia.

General Chand said Mr Marrack Goulding, of the UN's section dealing with peacekeeping operations, would head the UN delegation to Angola.

General Chand said he was not aware of South African accusations that there were still some Swapo bases inside the 16th paralel in Angola — a violation of the Brazzaville accords and agreements which paved the way finally for the implementation of the UN plan.

HOPE FOR WITHDRAWAL

He hoped the armed Swapo personnel in these camps would be withdrawn north of the 16th parallel before the start of the implementation phase on April 1, or soon thereafter.

Asked about whether he was concerned that Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels might attack the UN peacekeepers, as they have threatened to do, General Chand said: "I do not like to anticipate events."

It was revealed at the press conference that the airlift of UN troops and equipment was scheduled to begin today and that advance parties of the Kenyan, Finnish and Malaysian infantry battalions of Untag would be among the first arrivals.

The head of administration for Untag, Mr Abdou Ciss of Senegal, said most of the troops would be "self-sufficient" in supplies when they arrived, bringing with them rations for a certain number of weeks. Mr Cisas would not comment on where the bulk of other supplies needed by the group would be bought, but did not exclude the possibility that fuels would have to be bought from South African sources.

Riddle of grounded troop-carrier

WINDHOEK — Did Tanzania bar a United States Air Force plane carrying United Nations troops from flying over its territory on a flight from Australia to Namibia? And if so, why?

These questions were being asked in Windhoek today after the giant Lockheed C-5A Galaxy, one of the biggest aircraft in existence, failed to arrive as scheduled at the airport here.

It was carrying members of the Australian contingent of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (Untag) which will monitor Namibia's transition to independence.

Australian members of Untag already in Windhoek said the 380-ton plane had touched down at Nairobi to refuel but had not taken off again because the Tanzanians had refused to grant overflying permission for the last leg of the flight to Windhoek.

Other UN officials in Windhoek said the plane had been grounded by mechanical problems.

It was not immediately clear why Tanzania should have barred the American plane from overflying.

The first field units of Untag arrived in Windhoek today on a scheduled SAA flight from Frankfurt.

They included troops from Finland, Denmark, Yugoslavia and Italy.

Another US Air Force plane is due in Windhoek on Saturday carrying British troops who will provide communications for Untag. — **Saturday Star Africa News Service.**

More Untag forces heading for Namibia

B|Daily 13|3|89

WINDHOEK — More than 70 British troops, who will form the communications backbone of the UN peace-keeping force in Namibia, were expected to arrive in Windhoek late yesterday.

The were en route from Nairobi aboard a US C5 Galaxy — the largest aircraft in the West. ~~321~~ 336

The first group of armed Untag troops — 36 Australian members of the engineering construction squadron — landed in Windhoek on Saturday.

Meanwhile NP leader F W de Klerk said at the weekend developments in Namibia were of extreme importance in an overall economic and development strategy for southern Africa.

De Klerk, on a brief private visit to Windhoek, also said in as much as government was involved in the implementation of Resolution 435, it would strictly adhere to the agreed international framework. — Sapa.

Star 13/3/89

'Umbrella Man' who must keep peace in sunn

General Prem Chand will be the man in the middle during Namibia's transitional period to independence. As commander of the 4 650 soldiers of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (Untag), General Chand will have to ensure that there are no violations of the independence agreements. **JOAO SANTA RITA** of The Star's Africa News Service reports.

It took nine years before Lieutenant-General Dewan Prem Chand could finally assume on the ground his position as commander of the United Nations forces in Namibia.

But, as a man used to the obstacles faced by all U N peacekeeping operations, General Chand was fully aware of the political difficulties that others still had to resolve before he could begin doing the job for which he was appointed in January 1980.

Although a peace agreement was then very far from being accepted, in that year General Chand travelled to Namibia for talks on the creation of a demilitarised zone between Namibia and Angola, which was regarded as an essential part of the negotiations then going on.

General Chand, fit and trim-figured despite his 73 years, is a handsome man who dresses and speaks immaculately.

He is neither a stranger to Africa nor to the United Nations and has been asked several times to come out of retirement to work for the U N.

While still with the Indian Army, he commanded the U N peace force in the then Belgian Congo during the bloody clashes in 1962 and 1963. The U N troops under his command in the Katanga area (now Shaba province) helped restore peace after a secesionist rebellion.

He retired from the Indian Army in 1967 but was asked to come out of retirement in 1969 to command the U N troops sent to Cyprus, where he had to cope with the 1974 Turkish invasion and its aftermath, a task for which the lightly armed 4 000 troops he led was never intended.

After he retired from there at his own request in 1976, the then Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr Kurt Waldheim, described General Chand's work in Cyprus as "a near miracle".

A year later General Chand was appointed United Nations special representative for Rhodesia as part of a U N settlement plan that was never implemented.

Although his appointment never had any practical effect, he managed to meet several African leaders as part of the diplomatic efforts aimed at finding a solution to the Rhodesian war.

According to former army colleagues, he has a particularly good understanding and appreciation of the potential and operational capacity of the U N peacekeeping forces.

"He knows what they can and cannot do," one former colleague was quoted as saying.

Possessing great charm, he has been described as both looking and being exactly the sort of Indian general that Sandhurst would have turned out.

In fact, he was trained at the Indian Army's Staff College at Quetta.

General Chand is also described by those who know him as being a man of scrupulous fairness and integrity. He was said to have been a popular commander and a man who carried out orders firmly and compassionately.

While in the Congo he was nicknamed "the umbrel-

ıy Namibia

336

la man" because the U N force stationed there was known as the "U N Umbrella", but in Windhoek some local journalists have started calling him "Salvador", saying he resembles the late Spanish painter, Salvador Dali.

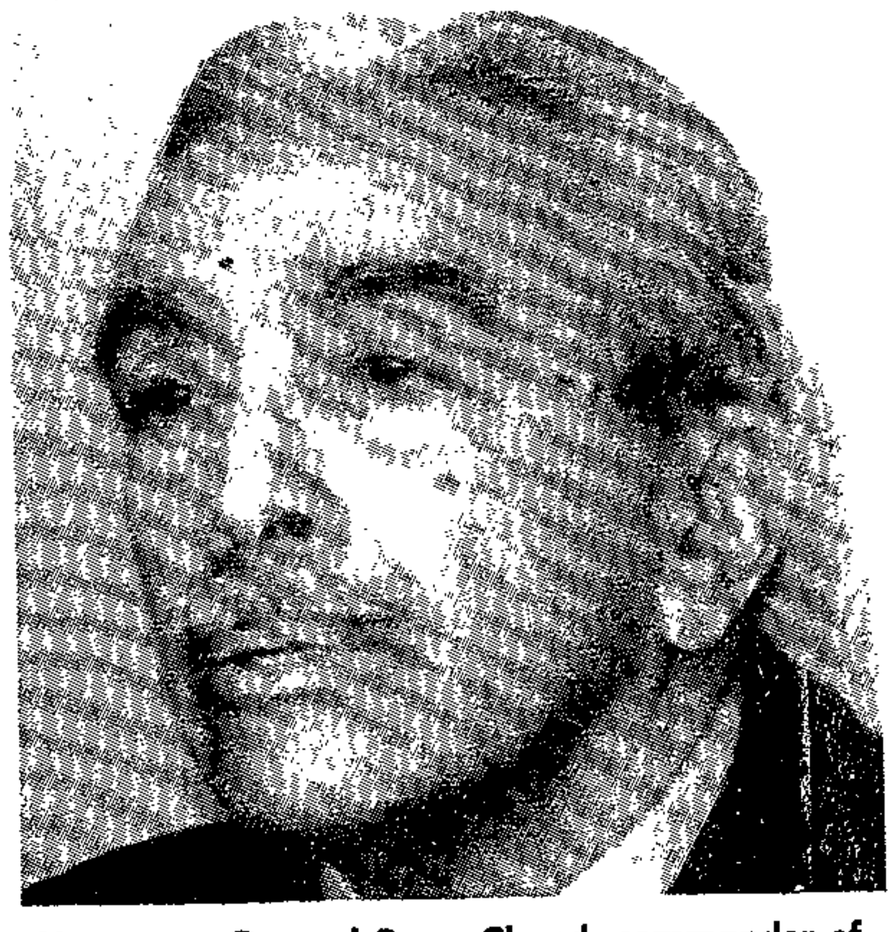
General Chand was born in 1916 of Hindu-Punjabi parents and did his military training at Lahore and Quetta.

He served on the North West Frontier and in Malaya during the closing stages of World War 2.

He has served with the First Gurkha Rifles and was given command of the regiment's centre at Dharamsala and later held appointments as deputy director of military training, director of selection of personnel, director of personnel services and director of military intelligence.

In 1959 General Prem Chand was appointed Brigadier-General (Staff) at the headquarters of the Western Command at Simla and was promoted to Chief of Staff in 1961 with the rank of major-general.

He was later appointed Chief of Staff at the headquarters of the Eastern Command in Calcutta. He was then posted to the Ministry of Defence as director-general of the National Cadets Corps from where he retired.



Lieutenant-General Prem Chand, commander of the United Nations forces in Namibia.

territory about whether they could possibly be free and fair.

of UN Resolution 435 from the beginning of ...

Windhoek agog at arrival of UN troops

Star 13/3/89 (336)

By Brendan Seery, The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — Heads turned on Windhoek's ier Street this morning as workers hurrying to their offices encountered a blue-bereted group of UN soldiers striding out purposefully.

The soldiers — officers from the Finnish Army who will command one of the infantry battalions of the UN's Transition Assistance Group (Untag) — were apparently on their way to confer with other commanders of the peacekeeping force, who are currently billeted at the Kalahari Sands Hotel.

Windhoek has been agog since Friday, when the first UN troops arrived in Namibia to help oversee the world body's Resolution 435 peace and independence plan for the country.

A local newspaper cartoonist greeted the peacekeepers with the serenade: "Welcome to my world", while Windhoekers waved warmly on Saturday as a convoy of British Army Land Rovers, painted in the white and blue colours of the UN, wound its way through the city.

NO NONSENSE

Scores more spectators thronged the Windhoek Airport — renamed from the former J G Strijdom — to see the arrival on Saturday of a 300-ton C5A Galaxy of the US Air Force Military Airlift Command, which brought in 36 Australian soldiers and 70 tons of equipment.

The Aussies were carrying American-made M16 and Nato-issue 7,62 mm automatic rifles.

Local journalists were surprised by the no-nonsense approach of the US fliers, who came complete with a press and public relations unit.

The Galaxy, which is based in Travis, California, flew first to Australia, and then on to Kenya, where it re-fuelled.

On the ground at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta airport, the huge aircraft was delayed by technical problems. These were later rectified when an aircraft from England flew in spare parts.

GRAND SHOW

A second Galaxy, painted in the camouflage drab greens and browns of the Military Airlift Command, arrived yesterday, bringing in 70 British signallers and tons of equipments.

The arrival of both the airborne behemoths provided a grand spectacle, as standard operating procedure when approaching strange airfields is to fly two circuits before the final approach.

The pilot of one of the planes explained a thorough look at the Windhoek runway was necessary because the Galaxy would have only about a metre of clearance on either side when it landed, because of the large width of its wheel base.

Scrambling around looking for angles, local journalists found that the commander of the Danish troops who will organise the movement control for the Untag operations, was a Major Jems Koevfoed, whose name is pronounced similarly to that of Koevoet ("crowbar" in Afrikaans), SWA Police's controversial counter-insuregency unit.

When the similarity was pointed out to Major Koevfoed, he laughed. His name means "the cow's foot".

Billet shortage looms for Untag force

B/Day 15/3/89

WINDHOEK — The first 500 UN military and civilian personnel have just arrived in Namibia, but already an acute accommodation problem looms.

The civilian operation head, Senegalese Abdu Ciss, said yesterday his staff were working seven days a week almost round the clock seeking vehicles, equipment and local workers.

"But our biggest problem at this moment is accommodation," Ciss said in an interview yesterday.

The civilian side of Untag — the UN force which will oversee Namibia's transition to independence — is made

PETER DELMAR

up of about 100 people.

There are almost 400 military personnel already in the territory.

The total Untag force is expected to number about 4 600.

The military element, led by General Dewan Prem Chand, has its headquarters at the plush Kalahari Sands Hotel. Ciss's officials operate from a small complex of offices formerly occupied by insurance company staff.

Ciss said he hoped to recruit about 800 local staff and that interpreters were badly needed.

He said finding suitable vehicles was difficult. Among the UN's requirements were four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Ciss also has to find accommodation in about 50 centres around Namibia where Untag personnel will be officially deployed from April 1.

Government sources said the Windhoek Teachers' Training College would be an ideal headquarters for the Untag operation.

Ciss and Prem Chand held discussions with SWA Territory Force officials at The Bastion defence headquarters yesterday.

Their content was not disclosed.

'Capacity pressures on base metals must ease'

Relly forecasts shocks in financial markets

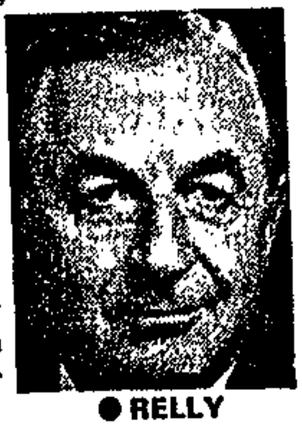
B/Day 15/3/89

LONDON — It was clear growth would have to slow during the next year to ease capacity pressures in base metal markets. The cooling in business activity did not need to be severe, but it would be accompanied by further shocks in financial markets which might intensify investor interest in gold, Anglo American Corporation chairman Gavin Relly said yesterday.

Addressing the IMM Metals 2000 conference in London, Relly said the changes in the mining industry's fortune over the past two decades had been dramatic. The early 1970s saw the end of the "golden years".

He said at the time it was easy to attribute slower growth and higher inflation largely to the impact of higher energy prices. More expansionary policies would restore growth. This response had brought a cyclical upswing in the late 1970s. It also brought intolerable inflation and another recession.

Against this background the business environment for the base metal mining industry deteriorated sharply. Faced with over-capacity, surplus stocks and low prices, producers had had to shorten their time horizons and concentrate on survival.



● RELLY

The experience of precious metals producers was very different and it was here the mining industry concentrated its exploration and development expenditure. Now the wheel had turned for base metal producers.

Fears were being expressed about the adequacy of supply capacity for many of the base metals.

The temptation for mining companies to continue to focus their investment effort in relatively small, quick pay-back gold projects, might prove irressistible for some time.

There was some unwillingness to bring forward existing plans for large, complex base metal projects, with their long pay-back periods, or to hurry into new commitments. Many observers said the recovery, in its seventh year, could not last much longer.

This view could not be dismissed lightly. Growth in the industrial countries had been running at what appeared to be an unsustainable rate. Monetary policies had been tightened but inflation was creeping higher, Relly said. — Sapa.

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Pressure on UN over use of SAA

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — The United Nations is coming under increasing pressure to use other carriers as well as, if not other than, South African Airways to transport civilian staff assigned to duty in Namibia, officials said.

National airlines in Zambia and Zimbabwe are said to be eager to siphon off some of the lucrative business that has been SAA's virtual monopoly, thanks to its Frankfurt-Windhoek route.

Most, if not all, of the advance parties that have been in and out of the territory in the run-up to the April 1 launch of the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag) have flown by SAA, officials said.

The spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, was asked yesterday for an estimate of the amount of money that the UN had spent on buying SAA tickets. He was unable or unwilling to say.

Meanwhile, the lustre of the Namibian assignment is said to have dulled somewhat for many UN staff after some advance parties returned to New York with tales of rising prices, including rents, in Windhoek.

● From Washington it is reported that the first group of Canadian soldiers assigned to the Untag force have set out on their journey.

An advance party of 42 soldiers flew yesterday to Zurich where they will join Danish and Irish soldiers before flying to Windhoek.

A larger group of 200 Canadians will depart on April 10. They will be stationed near Windhoek in support of the battalions of troops from Kenya, Finland and Malaysia who will make up the bulk of the Untag force.



Australian members of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group sort out their equipment after arriving at Windhoek in the giant American Galaxy aircraft in the background.

Heat on UN not to fly SAA only

336

Star 15/3/89

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Mr Sam Nujoma, the president of Swapo, met South African officials secretly in Zambia last week to discuss details of the ceasefire in Namibia and the independence process, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The first group of 42 Canadian soldiers assigned to the United Nations peacekeeping force flew yesterday to Zurich where they will join Danish and Irish soldiers before flying to Windhoek. A larger group of 200 Canadians will leave on April 10.

They will be stationed to support troops from Kenya, Finland and Malaysia. — The Star's Foreign News Service-The Independent News Service.

Untag arrives by air and sea

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16/3/88

WINDHOEK — Ten ships and 26 aircraft will bring the rest of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group's military and civilian complement to Namibia to monitor the countdown to independence.

The ships will dock at the South African port of Walvis Bay.

The first ship is expected from Botany Bay in Australia at the end of this month.

Although the implementation date for the United Nations peace plan is April 1, the last UN representatives are only expected to be in place by the middle of next month. — Sapa.

Business hopes for Untag bucks

Star 17/3/89

In a country where unemployment runs at a conservatively estimated 20 percent, word soon spread and there were queues of hopeful job applicants outside the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (Untag) offices in the United building in Windhoek's Kaiser Street.

With R1 150 million to spend on the implementation of the Resolution 435 peace and independence plan for the territory, Untag should, in theory at least, provide a valuable shot-in-the-arm for the local economy. The reality, though, is somewhat different.

Much of the money Untag will be spending in this region will find its way into the bank balances of South African businesses, while the money spent in Windhoek will go to a comparative handful of existing businessmen, reinforcing the old axiom that "the rich get richer and the poor get poorer".

In fact, the peacekeeping operation has already started to hurt the poorer man-in-the street in the Namibian capital.

Potential problems

The head of administration for Untag, Mr Abdou Ciss of Senegal, recognised the potential problems when he told reporters after his arrival that he hoped the presence of the large UN group (4 650 soldiers and more than 1 500 civilians) would not make life more difficult for the locals.

Journalist Andre de Bruyn complained this week in his column in a local newspaper that the Untag deployment had been a signal for all-out price scalping by local businessmen with dollar signs in their eyes. He cited the example of a brandy and coke and a fruit juice costing R8,24 in a city centre hotel where many of the UN personnel are staying. All prices were rising to the point where Windhoekers were getting squeezed, he said.

Those aiming to make a fast profit at the expense of their local customers should remember, he warned, that the Untag dollars would not be here forever.

Making a quick buck has become the watchword

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BY BRENDAN SEERY
The Star's Africa News Service

Three days before advertisements appeared in Windhoek newspapers, people had heard through the grapevine that the UN's Transition Assistance Group was looking for 800 local employees.

of not only the businessmen, but also property owners, who have seen that there is a dire shortage of both office and living accommodation and that Untag is prepared to pay to get what it wants.

Mr Ciss said the three biggest problems facing Untag were "accommodation, accommodation and accommodation". Modest three-bedroomed houses, which would probably rent for around R800 a month in South Africa, are fetching anything between R1 700 and R2 000 a month. Tenants who have lived in some houses for many years are finding themselves out on the street as greedy landlords double and even treble rents.

One local company, which provides housing for its senior management staff, has had approaches from a number of its lower level employees for assistance, as they have been given notice to quit their homes. Some skilled and valuable people have already been lost to the Namibian economy because of a lack of suitable housing.

Scores of nurses and doctors living in state-provided flats at the Windhoek Hospital complex were given notice to move out when their buildings were made available to Untag. Single male railway workers had to vacate their rooms in the Phillip Troskie hostel to make way for UN people.

House prices, significantly higher than those in South Africa, have not felt an upwards acceleration, but could do so soon, according to estate agents.

Buying of property by foreign embassies has boosted the market significantly, with 21 houses so far having been sold for diplomatic accommodation. The West Germans stole the headlines by paying more than R3,7 million for a hillside mansion.

Good weather eases the pain

Cure for Africa's ills remains as elusive as ever

NAIROBI — Kind weather and a boom in metal prices may ease some of Africa's economic pains, but a cure for its ills remains elusive.

"Of the decisive factors at work in the African economic performance in 1989, the prospects of good weather conditions would seem to be the only assured factor," the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa predicted recently.

The Addis Ababa-based commission says African economies grew on average 2,5 percent last year — double the rate in 1987.

They were helped by widespread rains, which boosted farm output by 3,8 percent.

But economic growth still lags behind the rise in population of about 3 percent a year, and is only half what African officials say is needed to put the world's poorest continent back on the road to sustained recovery.

Africa's $230 billion foreign debt, on which repayment dues swallow more than 40 percent of annual export earnings, is a major obstacle to development.

Despite recent initiatives by industrialised nations, including write-offs, longer repayment periods and new aid, the UN commission reported little evidence of any breakthrough in resolving the debt crisis.

Africa's cereal crop rose a healthy 7,8 percent to 71,8 million tons over the past year.

But Sudan, northern Ethiopia, Angola and Mozambique again faced famine or near famine because of civil war or the effects of the 1987 drought, or both.

At the same time Africa, which relies on exports of minerals and crops for nearly all its self-earned income, is still reeling from a slump in commodity prices in the 1980s.

Export earnings for countries south of the Sahara plunged by $24 billion between 1980 and 1987. Provisional figures from the commission point to a 2 percent fall last year for the whole continent, to $50,3 billion, though metal producers have fared well.

A jump by nearly one-half last year in world dollar prices for copper — which have continued to soar — means Zambia and Zaire, Africa's biggest producers of the metal and among its most debt-distressed, breathe easier.

A surge in aluminium prices, which rose by nearly two-thirds last year, according to estimates this month by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), proved a boon for Guinea and Sierra Leone.

And Zimbabwe was finally able to scrap plans to shut down nickel mines as prices for the metal surged by 183 percent.

SUFFERING

Oil producers such as Algeria, Gabon, Libya and Nigeria, all members of the Organisation of Petro leum Exporting Countries, are still suffering.

Traditionally they, and non-OPEC oil producers like Angola, Egypt, Cameroon, Congo and Benin, earn about 70 percent of Africa's export revenues.

But IMF figures show free-market dollar prices for crude oil last year were on average one-fifth lower than in 1987.

The UN Commission estimates the economies of African oil exporters grew only 1,8 percent in 1988 against 3,7 percent for countries without oil.

After oil, the commission lists coffee, tea and cocoa as Africa's most important — and, currently, least successful — commodities.

Coffee prices rose by 8 percent last year and tea prices by nearly 5 percent, bringing only modest comfort to producers like Kenya and Uganda.

But cocoa prices fell by over one-fifth on average and the Ivory Coast, the world's biggest producer, this month underlined the impact when it reported a rare trade deficit for the first eight months of 1988.

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ssets and investments	15 325	9 386
t assets	121 247	98 102
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rs and holding company	49 126	30 512
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tions	50 000	42 270
t asset ratio	2,3 : 1	1,8 : 1
et value per ordinary share	663c	689c

Long NTC, manufacturers of electrical transformers gh voltage switchgear, increased their contribution ally. National Flanges maintained their profitability.

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rectors have proposed a final dividend of 11 cents

It's the UN peacekeeping farce

336 Star 18/3/87

GRAHAM REES

I DON'T know what they do to the enemy ... but God they frighten me.

So spake Wellington at the Battle of Waterloo.

Another time, another place, but the young soldiers about to go into action for the first time are tense.

In full battle gear, guns at the ready and water bottles full, they wait, brows speckled with the sweat of fear, as their transport plane circles for a landing.

Betraying his origin, one whispers encouragingly to his mate: "This is it, cobber. Move farrst and keep yer 'ead down Bruce. We're going in t'Windhoek."

To a green kid from dingo country beyond Ayres Rock, this United Nations jaunt into darkest south western Africa can be bleedin' scary.

The atmosphere is now electric ... a jolt ... a screech of tyres on tarmac ... a barked command "Stand by".

Mirth over 'gung-ho' Aussies

WINDHOEK — The arrival of Australian troops in Namibia to help supervise free elections has sparked much mirth.

As their massive tr[illegible] orted ground to [illegible] ort.

The adrenalin is really pumping now ... but easy on that trigger, son.

"OK everybody move. Fan out but don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes. After all we ARE supposed to be a PEACE-keeping force."

In a flash, the Aussie Untags have their plane surrounded with guns trained on the encroaching jungle.

Hey, 'ang on Bruce ... that ain't jungle — nobody told us they had real buildings here. God, it's quiet out there - too danged quiet.

A soft, chuckling sound is carried on the breeze. That's got to be them dingoes they call jackals.

No, who's this guy in pinstripe coming towards us unarmed? "Hello chaps. I'm from the Administrator's office. Welcome to Windhoek."

Trying to hide the red faces under the blue berets, the Aussies retreat.

Hey Bruce, better radio the plane behind us to drop the Rambo stuff or they might even start shooting at us, mate.

SW 15/2/87 (336)

Finns suspend SA sanctions for Untag role

FINLAND will suspend trade sanctions against South Africa to facilitate the purchase of "basic" military equipment as part of its new peace-keeping role with the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (Untag) in Namibia.

It was reported in London this week that the Finnish government had also stopped aid to Swapo to secure its place among the troops monitoring the transition to independence.

According to the latest issue of *Jane's Defence Weekly*, it has been confirmed that Finland had cancelled a R250 000 grant to Swapo so as to meet Pretoria's demand that participating countries should be neutral.

The Finnish Foreign Affairs Ministry would not specify what type of military equipment would be bought from South Africa, but other sources believe it will include vehicles, mobile accommodation and observation huts.

Other developments in Namibia include:

● A Bel Air 310 Airbus with about 170 Untag personnel on board landed at Windhoek airport on Thursday.

The latest arrivals include military and civilian personnel from Ireland, Denmark and Canada, who will be joining representatives from about 10 countries already in Namibia.

Members of a 500-strong police monitoring unit are expected to arrive next week.

● Air Zimbabwe is "extremely keen" to open air links with an independent Namibia, and a team is due to go there shortly to look at the prospects.

● The South African Government has decided to monitor the movement of people over the South African/Namibian border.

This is in the light of the large number of foreigners who have been granted conditional entry into Namibia in connection with the implementation of the independance plan.

● The Organisation of African Unity this week gave Swapo $5 million (R12,5 million) for its election campaign.

● **Kaizer Nyatsumba** reports the Association of Chambers of Commerce as saying that the Untag offices in Namibia.

● United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar revealed this week that a sum of $38,5 million (R96 million) was needed to help repatriate about 58 000 Namibians currently living in exile.

Mr Perez de Cuellar was opening a pledging conference to fund a Namibia repatriation programme run by the UN High Commission for Refugees. — The Star's Foreign News Service, Sapa, Reuter and Associated Press.

UN reports on the 'frontline' children

HARARE — A UN report documenting and assessing the impact of poverty, war and destabilisation on the development of children in southern Africa is expected to be published here soon.

"Children on the Frontline" pays particular attention to Angola and Mozambique. — Sapa.

Africa 'used as a dumping ground'

Star 21/3/89

BASLE — African nations warned yesterday they would not sign a United Nations-sponsored treaty to control the trade in hazardous wastes unless the industrialised countries stopped using them as a "dumping ground".

The chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, Mali's President Maoussa Traore, told a 107-nation gathering of Ministers and officials that OAU members would not sign unless their interests were protected.

"The industrialised countries have not hesitated to use Africa as a dumping ground," Mr Traore said in a speech delivered by his Environment Minister. "We cannot sign a convention unless we are assured that our interests are safeguarded."

United Nations Environment Programme executive director Mr Mostafa Tolba urged delegates to agree on the document, due to be signed tomorrow, in order to control "this commerce of poison".

Ratification by only 20 countries would make the document official.

If not properly handled, dangerous wastes such as dioxin and DDT can cause cancer, birth defects, cardiac arrest and miscarriages.

Western companies, facing tough restrictions at home, sometimes send dangerous substances to countries with more lax regulations, paying them substantial amounts to accept the waste.

Environmental groups say the treaty has been dangerously watered down, asserting that a clause allowing bilateral agreements distinct from the convention would allow the trade in hazardous wastes to continue.

UN officials say such agreements must be compatible with the "environmentally sound management" of wastes, but environmental groups have called for tougher and clearer language. — Sapa-Reuter.

RJ-bn

Untag will top bill

SATURDAY STAR CORRESPONDENT

UNITED NATIONS — In a subtle shift of emphasis, the United Nations has decided to designate the military-civilian operation in Namibia in the territory's transition to independence a "decolonisation exercise", rather than a peace-keeping one.

A summary of current yearly costs for all peace-keeping activities by the world body shows that the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag), due to be in place on April 1 and already gearing up, will be more expensive than all other comparable operations combined.

The net cost, approved by the General Assembly after a bitter argument about how and where the money would be spent, is $406,6 million (R1,01 billion). This represents substantially more than 50 percent of all UN peace-keeping costs for the year, and is equal to about half the regular UN budget for all activities other than peace-keeping.

Costs for the UN force in Lebanon are paltry by comparison, according to the UN financial summary — only $140,6 million (R351 million).

Least costly operation

The least costly such operation is one of the longest-lived — the UN military observer group in India and Pakistan — which has been on duty since a violent row over Kashmir first erupted decades ago. Its expenses for a year are $3,9 million (R9,7 million).

The newest peace-keeping activity, the Iran-Iraq military observer group is budgeted at $94,7 million (R236 million). Other UN peace-keeping operations are in the Golan Heights, other parts of the Middle East, Cyprus, Afghanistan and Pakistan and Angola.

The mission sent in to verify the Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola, which was part of the Namibian settlement, will cost the United Nations $9 million (R22 million) for the year, the report said.

An asterisk was placed alongside the Untag item, with this footnote following: "Untag is more properly characterised as a decolonisation exercise rather than a peace-keeping operation."

Virtually all the peace-keeping accounts are heavily in deficit. Perhaps the UN authorities felt they might keep Untag out of the red by renaming it.

● Saturday Star's Africa News Service reports from Windhoek that two senior UN legal advisers attached to the Untag arrived there yesterday to study racially discriminatory legislation which should be scrapped in terms of the Resolution 435 peace and independence plan for the country.

The two experts paid a courtesy call on South Africa's Administrator-General in Windhoek, Mr Louis

Namibian exercise is most costly of its kind

Pienaar. Mr Pienaar sparked some controversy there earlier in the week when he told local and international journalists that he did not believe that all discriminatroy legislation would have to be repealed to comply with Resolution 435.

Mr Pienaar said he and his legal experts were identifying those pieces of legislation, such as security laws, which they believed were discriminatory in such a way they would prevent the holding of free and fair elections under the UN plan.

Meanwhile, a senior UN official has said that most of the civilian and military members of Untag will be on Namibian soil by the end of this month, in time for the start of the implementation of the peace and independence plan on April 1.

Mr Anouar Sharif of Tunisia, who will act as the Untag media spokesman during the 12-month transition period to Namibian independence, said most of the world body's personnel would be flying into the country.

Danish troops

It is expected that the first soldiers of the 4 650-member Untag military component will fly into Windhoek early next week. They will be Danish troops who will be responsible for arranging movement control and transport schedules for the rest of the troops.

The commander of the UN troops, Lieutenant-General Dewan Prem Chand, arrived here last Sunday and has spent the past few days visiting SADF bases in northern Namibia — the focal point of the 22-year bush war between South Africa and Swapo insurgents.

General Chand is expected back in Windhoek over this weekend to hold talks with his local counterpart, SWA Territory Force commander Major-General Willie Meyer.

● See Page 8.

Careers at crowning point

(336) Star 23/3/89.

BY BRENDAN SEERY,
The Star's Africa News Service

After waiting in the wings for ten years, Finland's Mr Martii Ahtisaari will at last be able to take stage centre in the Namibian independence show which begins on April 1. However, the United Nations Special Representative for Namibia will be sharing the limelight with the other major actor, South Africa's Administrator-General, Mr Louis Pienaar. And the speculation among political observers here is that the combination could result in drama and fireworks.

Mr Martii Ahtisaari of the United Nations and Mr Loius Pienaar, the Administrator, who are both experienced diplomats and bureaucrats, will be co-operating, in theory at least, to ensure that the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 peace and independence plan for Namibia goes ahead smoothly.

Both will realise they are close to the end of their careers, and that the Namibian exercise will be the crowning point, and so both will not want to be seen to come off second-best in encounters with their opposite number.

But both men will, in a sense, be prisoners to the expectations of their employers, and to the long history of antagonism between Pretoria and the UN, although Mr Pienaar has vowed to act "as impartially as a judge" during the transition to independence.

He has said that from the start of implementation of the plan on April 1 he will distance himself from Pretoria and will not be "the representative of South Africa".

Yet the fact remains that South Africa mistrusts the UN, particularly on the question of impartiality, given that the world body was responsible for declaring Swapo "the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people".

Mr Pienaar has already shown how touchy the South Africans will be over the question of impartiality, with his sharp reaction to last week's controversial incident involving Australian soldiers addressing a gathering in Grootfontein attended by a number of Swapo supporters.

Although Mr Ahtisaari is a bureacrat and not a UN politician, he will no doubt also harbour some misgivings about South African bona fides in the Namibian independence exercise, given the fact the peace plan has been stalled for more than a decade.

However, so far UN officials and soldiers on the ground in Namibia say they have been given nothing but co-operation by their South African counterparts.

Under the terms of the plan, Mr Pienaar will be in charge of administering the territory, and will organise majority-rule elections for a Constituent Assembly, including registration of voters and the vetting of returning exiles.

However, Mr Ahtisaari has made it plain that everything will have to be done to his satisfaction.

Possible areas of conflict that look likely to emerge include the voting age and the scrapping of discriminatory legislation.

Mr Pienaar has said he favours 21 as a minimum voting age, while UN officials have said they want 18. Mr Pienaar has also said he does not believe that all discriminatory legislation will necessarily have to be scrapped from April 1, but rather only those discriminatory laws which would intefere with the holding of free and fair elections.

The world body's Resolution 435 plan says that within six weeks of its implementation there will have to be "completion of repeal of discriminatory and restrictive legislation".

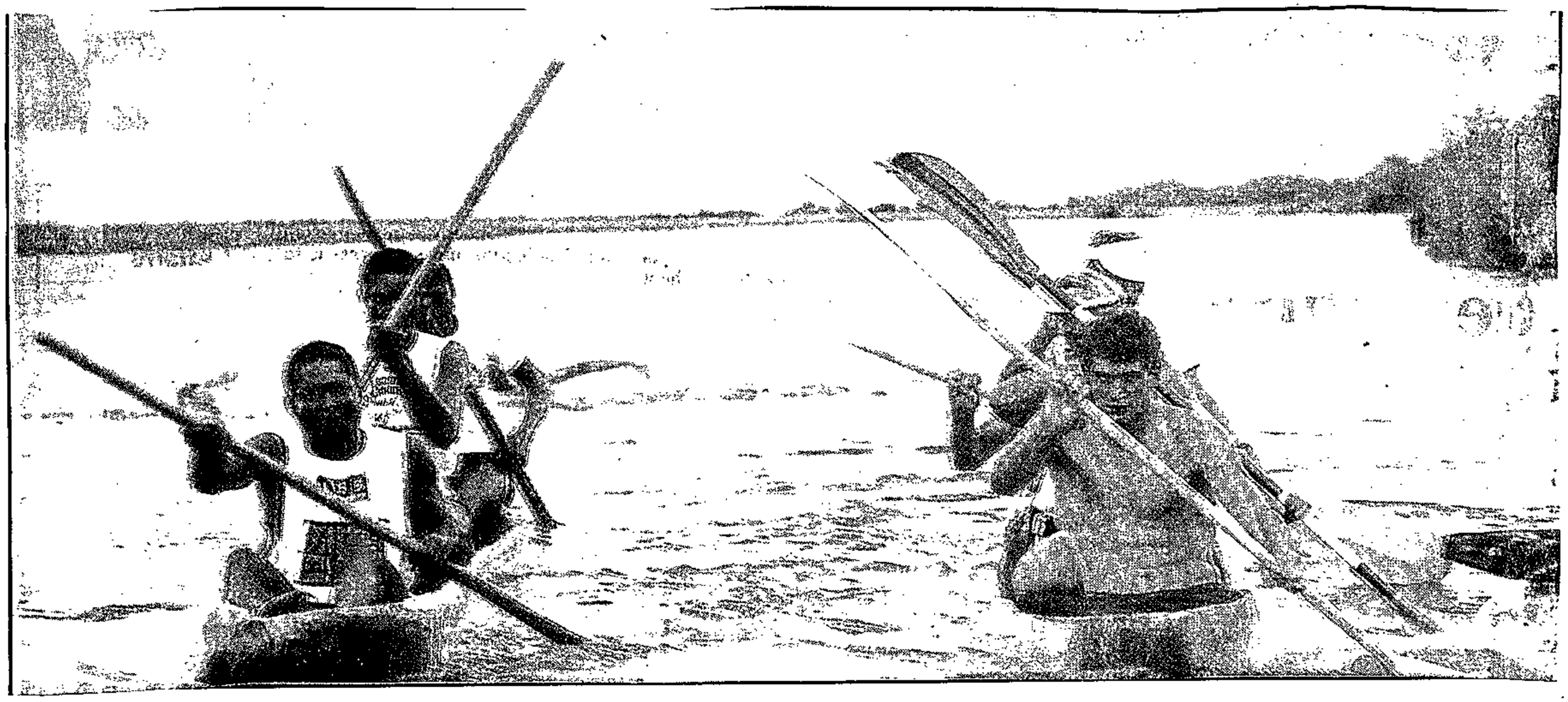
Mr Ahtisaari has said that, in the case of a dispute with Mr Pienaar which cannot be resolved, he could report back to UN Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar and to the Security Council. But the veteran UN man added: "I hope in most cases this can be avoided."



Mr Martii Ahtisaari . . . harbours some misgivings about SA.



Mr Louis Pienaar . . . mistrusts UN on question of impartiality.



CANOE CHALLENGE: Top paddlers challenge locals in "watos" dugouts before the start of the Unitrans/Safair 42 km canoe race.

Untag could be Rundu's final lifeline

Star 25/3/89

LARRY LOMBAARD

THE town of Rundu is nestled snugly within the hollows of a strip of high ground which overlooks the Kavango River. From the town's vantage point, looking across the river, Angola is a sprawling savannah of bush and rich grassland as far as the eye can see.

Rundu is situated on key terrain in military terms. There is excellent observation from the high ground and the landform rises majestically above the surrounding flat countryside, providing for effective deployment of defensive positions. A good base from which to launch river and land patrols.

From the military point of view Rundu was an ideal location during the 17 years of the Namibian border conflict. The SADF quite simply became the nucleus from which the infrastructure of this charming little town was formed.

Today an air of uncertainty prevails among the 300 or so civilians who made Rundu their home. The SADF is about to pull out, making way for the Untag peace-keeping forces, and in their absence they will leave a capital and income vacuum.

Morale, however, is high in Rundu. As they await the arrival of Untag and the elections, the community enjoyed a touch of relief last weekend when a party of 80 flew in from Johannesburg for a canoe race.

Untag is a constant topic of discussion. The standing joke is Rundu has eight days in a week.

A guttural South West accent informs us with a grin: "*Hier is dit Maandag tot Vrydag. Dan het ons Saterdag, Sondag, Untag!*"

But there are fears among many that Rundu will become a ghost town before long.

"Once the SADF pull out, that's it. No more income, no more business. We're as good as dead," said a young bank employee. "Me, I'm going to have to find a job in the Republic, as much as I hate the thought."

'Swapo will win'

Another Rundu resident, *Maritjie* emblazened on her name tag during the carnival festival at the finish of the race, says she has no option but to return to the Republic. "My husband's in the air force," she says. "We have no option, we have to leave. All we know is that he will be transferred to Bloemfontein." She wrinkles her nose in disgust. "I'd rather stay here. My friends are here and I love this town."

Many, however, are stubborn in their belief that the town will survive. "I won't leave," said Ian Botha, a local toughie who enjoys the bush, loves the tranquil Kavango waters and who runs a catering service for the SAP, SADF and schools over a 200 km front. "I have lived here all my life. It's my country.

"Look, I have no doubt that Swapo will win the elections. But there will still be place for us whites here. These radical guerilla leaders always become moderate once they gain power.

"In fact, I'd rather stay here than go back to where you're going. There's peace here — the pawpaw is going to hit the fan in the cities back in SA."

There are many, particularly among the local SAP, who plan to continue living at Rundu. They will be needed, they say, to maintain law and order during the elections. Many hope to be absorbed in the police force of the new government and settle in the area.

Peet Fourie, organiser of the Kavango event and a schoolmaster at the local high school, echoes those who see a positive future ahead of them.

"When Untag arrives, they may not provide the same income for us as the SADF, but we will survive," he said. "Somehow, we'll survive..."

White thugs attack Untag men at party

Sowetan 28/3/87

336

POLICE are investigating charges of assault following a punch-up involving Untag members and Namibian civilians at Tsumeb, a police spokesman said in Windhoek yesterday.

A Briton, Lance-Corporal Mark Jarvis (25), sustained a broken jaw in the brawl at a party after a rugby match on Saturday, while another soldier suffered from concussion.

"We will not tolerate this sort of thuggery," Chief-Inspector Kierie du Rand said.

Earlier reports said three British signallers and four Australian engineers from Grootfontein military base attended the rugby match and the braai later at the invitation of Tsumeb residents.

Shortly before midnight, the United Nations men, in civilian clothing, prepared to leave when they were tackled by about 20 whites and beaten up.

Some of the UN soldiers were kicked while lying on the ground.

Chief-Inspector Du Rand said it was not yet known what had caused the incident.

The incident was given wide publicity in yesterday's Australian newspapers.

The Australian carried the story on its front page, claiming that the Australians and four British soldiers were set upon after the rugby match.

The newspaper said seven of the soldiers came to the assistance of a colleague who had been knocked to the ground by a white mob outside the ground. — Sapa.

Gift of 167 vehicles for Namibian peace

WINDHOEK — As a voluntary contribution to Untag, 167 Volkswagen cars and minibuses will be handed over to Untag by the head of West Germany's diplomatic observer mission in Namibia, Dr Gerd Massmann, tomorrow.

The German cars will be among the first Untag vehicles to arrive in Namibia, according to a statement by the mission today.

They are due to arrive in Walvis Bay aboard the ship "MS Ango" early tomorrow.

The cars will be received by Mr Abdou Ciss, chief of the Untag administration and other UN-officials in a special ceremony.

In a statement, the West Germany government said it was reaffirming its commitment to support United Nations efforts to assist in the independence process in Namibia.

A car maintenance unit consisting of about 60 people will also be sent to Namibia. Later this year electoral personnel from West Germany will form part of Untag's poll-watch unit.

Apart from supplying the vehicles, Germany is contributing to the financing of Untag's overall budget to the tune of DM 62 million. — Sapa.

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Court sequel to Untag attack

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — Five Tsumeb men accused of attacking a group of Australian and British soldiers assigned to the UN supervisory force will appear in court in the northern Namibian town today on assault charges.

Police spokesman Chief Inspector Kierie du Rand said five white locals would probably face charges of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and damage to property.

About 20 locals were alleged to have beaten up eight Untag soldiers outside the local rugby club last Saturday night.

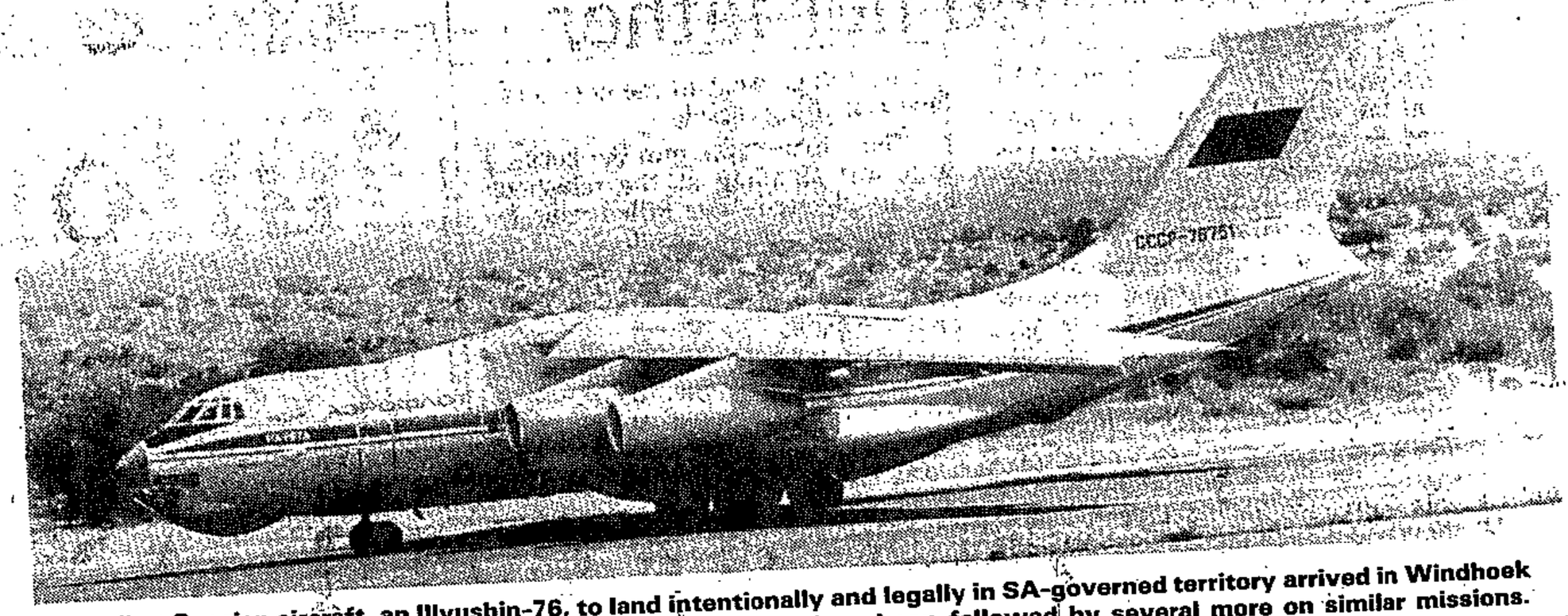
The soldiers, four Britons and four Australians based in Grootfontein, had been invited to a rugby match.

The town's bullies drew a stern reproof from Mayor Tonie Botes, who yesterday decried the incident and urged Namibians to avoid "emotion and brutality" during the territory's transition to nationhood.

British signaller Lance-Corporal Mark Jarvis, the worst casualty in the most serious conflict between Untag members and Namibians, will soon be flown to London for specialist treatment to a broken jaw, UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said yesterday.

Eckhard disclosed a shooting apparently aimed at Untag members billeted in Windhoek. A vehicle was shot at about a week ago "but not hit".

No further such incidents occurred after soldiers reported the matter to police, said Eckhard.



The first Russian aircraft, an Illyushin-76, to land intentionally and legally in SA-governed territory arrived in Windhoek on Thursday, carrying equipment for Untag forces. It has since been followed by several more on similar missions.

...MP's is the knowledge
...stitutional mechanism
...ut of office.
...ders will try again this
...a to accept the peace

Theresa Player ... she's flying home from her mod

Law Commission calls for Bill of Rights in SA

HE South African Law ommission has called for a gotiated Bill of Rights pro-cting individuals from ar-trary State actions to be troduced as soon as possi-e.

And the distinguished body ges the extending of an ual and equivalent fran-ise to all citizens — irre-ective of race.

The landmark report by e commission — estab-hed by law to advise the overnment on legal mat-rs and headed by two peal Court judges — was leased last night.

The remarkable docu-ent, drawn up by a working oup of the Law Commis-on led by Mr Justice P J J

By DRIES van HEERDEN

Olivier, says: "There is no way in which the withholding of the vote from black persons can be legally justified."

It urges the Government "to purge the statute books" of all discriminatory laws and to state its acceptance in principle of a Bill of Rights "as soon as possible after the tabling of the commission's final report."

Such a Bill should be the result of thorough negotiation and eventually approved "by the entire nation, regardless of race and colour."

Judge Olivier's task group was appointed in 1986 after Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee requested the SA Law Commission to investigate and make recommendations on the protection of group rights in the present constitutional set-up.

The Olivier Report is published as a working paper of the commission and comments are invited until the end of August after which a final report will be submitted to Parliament.

The commission proposes a five-phase plan to introduce a Bill of Rights into South Africa:

● Parliament should endorse the idea of such a Bill as part and parcel of a future

☐ To Page 2

O CAN BE WON TODAY! S

Big welcome awaits Ahtisaari on Friday

Rte 29/3/89 . Political Staff (336)

CAPE TOWN — The UN Special Representative for Namibia, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, will arrive in Windhoek on Friday to head the UN force monitoring the independence process, which starts on Saturday.

Namibia's political parties were preparing a colourful welcome for him at Windhoek Airport.

According to the UN peace plan, electoral campaigning is due to start only on August 1. But the election build-up is expected to begin soon after April 1.

"There are those that would argue it has already started," said a South African official.

● It is understood that the Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, and the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, will be among the witnesses at Friday's prisoner exchange at Ruacana, where Rifleman Johan Papenfus is to be exchanged for three Cuban and 12 Angolans, including a MiG pilot.

Untag 'wants to rent equipment from SADF'

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

The United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (Untag) in Namibia is negotiating with the South African Defence Force to rent equipment, Assocom's foreign trade secretary, Mrs M E Robertson, said yesterday.

Reporting on her recent two-day trip to Namibia to establish contact with Untag authorities and offer Assocom's services in publicising the UN peace-keeping force's requirements, Mrs Robertson said Untag authorities were satisfied their widely advertised needs "had reached all major suppliers" in Namibia and South Africa.

SA QUOTES TOO HIGH

Untag authorities had placed orders for the supply of motor vehicles and four-wheel trucks with a Japanese supplier since the quoted prices were "more competitive" than those received from South African suppliers, according to Mrs Robertson.

She also revealed that the German government had donated a number of vehicles on the understanding that they would be available for future UN operations.

Since the delivery of these vehicles was not going to be immediate, Untag urgently wanted to rent about 100 motor vehicles and 100 four-wheel trucks for a two-month period, she said.

Untag had received many offers for the supply of foodstuffs and pre-fabricated housing units, and there was still a need for 300 office chairs and desks.

Fifty to 100 caravans are also urgently needed. These should have refrigeration, cooking and air conditioning facilities, in addition to showers, toilets and tents to serve as verandas, she said.

Pienaar and Ahtisaari will meet at airport

B1Dem 25/3/89 (336) (285)

WINDHOEK — UN special representative in Namibia Martti Ahtisaari will be met by Administrator-General Louis Pienaar, when the UN official arrives at Windhoek airport tomorrow.



● AHTISAARI

Officials said yesterday Ahtisaari and Pienaar would each make statements of intent and answer questions from the media before leaving the airport.

On Saturday, Ahtisaari takes control of the biggest UN field operation aimed at escorting Namibia to independence over a period of about 12 months.

The UN operation oversees the withdrawal of SA troops from Namibia and the holding of free and fair elections for a constituent assembly, assigned with the drafting of a constitution for the emerging new state. The elections are planned for the first week of November.

Namibian Police Commissioner Lt-Gen Dolf Gouws said yesterday only airport staff, passengers and journalists would be permitted to enter the airport buildings when Ahtisaari arrived.

Members of the public would not be allowed beyond the airport gate.

□ Four UN soldiers were injured yesterday, one of them seriously, in two separate car crashes in Windhoek.

A Bangladeshi soldier involved in one crash was in a serious condition, a UN spokesman said. — Sapa-Reuter.

BJ Day 30/3/89 (R2) 336 (B)

SA VEHICLE SUPPLIERS LOSE OUT ON UNTAG CONTRACT

SOUTH African vehicle suppliers who were hoping to secure lucrative Untag contracts have lost out to a Japanese competitor.

However, a number of local companies have been included on a Untag shortlist of possible suppliers for the 50 to 100 prefabricated housing units required by the peacekeeping force.

Assocom sent details of Untag's requirements to the South African business community last week after a meeting between its foreign trade secretary M E Robertson and Untag's commercial, purchase and transportation office head Allan Robertson.

SUSAN RUSSELL

Assocom said Untag had received a number of offers of pre-fabricated housing units from SA sources, 75% of which were included on a short list.

Untag was also negotiating with the SADF to rent equipment.

Untag was granted diplomatic immunity in terms of a Government Gazette published on March 17.

This has exempted it from paying import surcharge, customs duties and excise duties as well as the fuel levy on petrol and distillate fuels, with retrospective effect from February 1.

No US reward for Cuban pullout

SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON — The US has no intention of easing sanctions or otherwise rewarding Cuba for withdrawing its troops from Angola, says a confidential memorandum circulated by Secretary of State James Baker to US missions in Latin America.

The March 23 memo states: "US policy has not changed in the light of the southern African accords. No modification is contemplated in the absence of significant changes in Cuba's internal repression and unacceptable international behaviour."

The memo warns President Fidel Castro has been touting a "warming trend" in US-Cuban relations to persuade other countries there is no point in continuing to isolate his country as the US "will soon abandon this policy".

Queues for UN jobs

OUT-OF-WORK Namibians are queueing for jobs with Untag, crowding into UN offices and spilling on to pavements.

"The other day I could not get through to my office," said Untag administration chief Abdou Ciss, adding that the UN sought to be "among the best" employers.

Job-hunters spilled on to the pavement outside the UN's Windhoek administration headquarters after the organisation advertised for interpreters proficient in English and any one of some 11 ethnic languages spoken in the territory.

Ciss said UN policy on salaries was "not to be the best, but to be among the best".

"We are paying local salaries," he said, which would earn an interpreter the salary of a school-teacher.

Ciss said UN officials vetted applicants to ensure the organisation did not employ convicted criminals or political activists, but said the UN would not consult police.

"The policy we follow ... is not 100% proof. We just do our best. But we have no intention of going through any police."

The UN planned to employ some 800 Namibians in civilian posts throughout the country during the eight-month run-up to territory-wide elections under UN stewardship, Ciss said.

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(*British)

Preliminary Announcement

wing are the abridged consolidated statements for the year ended 31 December 1988 together with comparatives for 1987.

nsolidated Income Statement

	1988 R'000	1987 R'000
rnover	62 709	50 903
perating profit before interest, taxation and extraordinary item	9 464	10 061
terest	1 787	1 507

Consolidated Balance Sheet

	1988 R'000	1987 R'000
Capital Employed		
Share capital	187	187
Share premium	21 786	21 786
Non-distributable reserves	735	1 394
Distributable reserves	9 244	4 757

SA releases grip on Africa's last colony

B/Day 31/3/87

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KEVIN JACOBS reports from Windhoek

NAMIBIA's United Nations chaperones, so long in the wings, aren't quite sure how to mark the passing tomorrow of absolute South African rule in the continent's last colony.

No UN flags will be run up symbolically at dawn tomorrow, no drums and trumpets will greet UN Special Representative Martti Ahtisaari at Windhoek Airport today.

Ahtisaari, a Finnish former diplomat, has waited more than 10 years to take up his job as manager of the UN's most complex and costly supervisory job in its 43-year history — overseeing independence after 105 years of foreign rule for a country half the size of Western Europe, but with a population about half that of Soweto.

Before dawn tomorrow some 15 000 soldiers of the eight-year-old South West African Territory Force will have demobilised and returned to civilian life. Depleted SADF forces will be confined to bases after 23 years of bush warfare.

Beginning tomorrow, Ahtisaari heads up an international force of 4 650 soldiers, 500 uniformed policemen, 700 administrators, 600 poll monitors and some 800 locally employed translators in an eight-month transition culminating in nationwide elections early in November.

Resolution 435, approved in 1978 by the UN Security Council, charged the organisation with supervising a settlement package drafted by five leading Western nations to coax a reluctant Pretoria into relinquishing disputed control of the territory it has ruled since 1915.

Trade-off

Ten years on, US linkage of Namibian independence to withdrawal of Cuba's 50 000-man expeditionary army from Angola loosened SA's resistance, and the trade-off was agreed in New York last December.

Ahtisaari's supervisory job runs in tandem with Administrator-General Louis Pienaar, whose Pretoria-conferred authority becomes the core of daily government until independence.

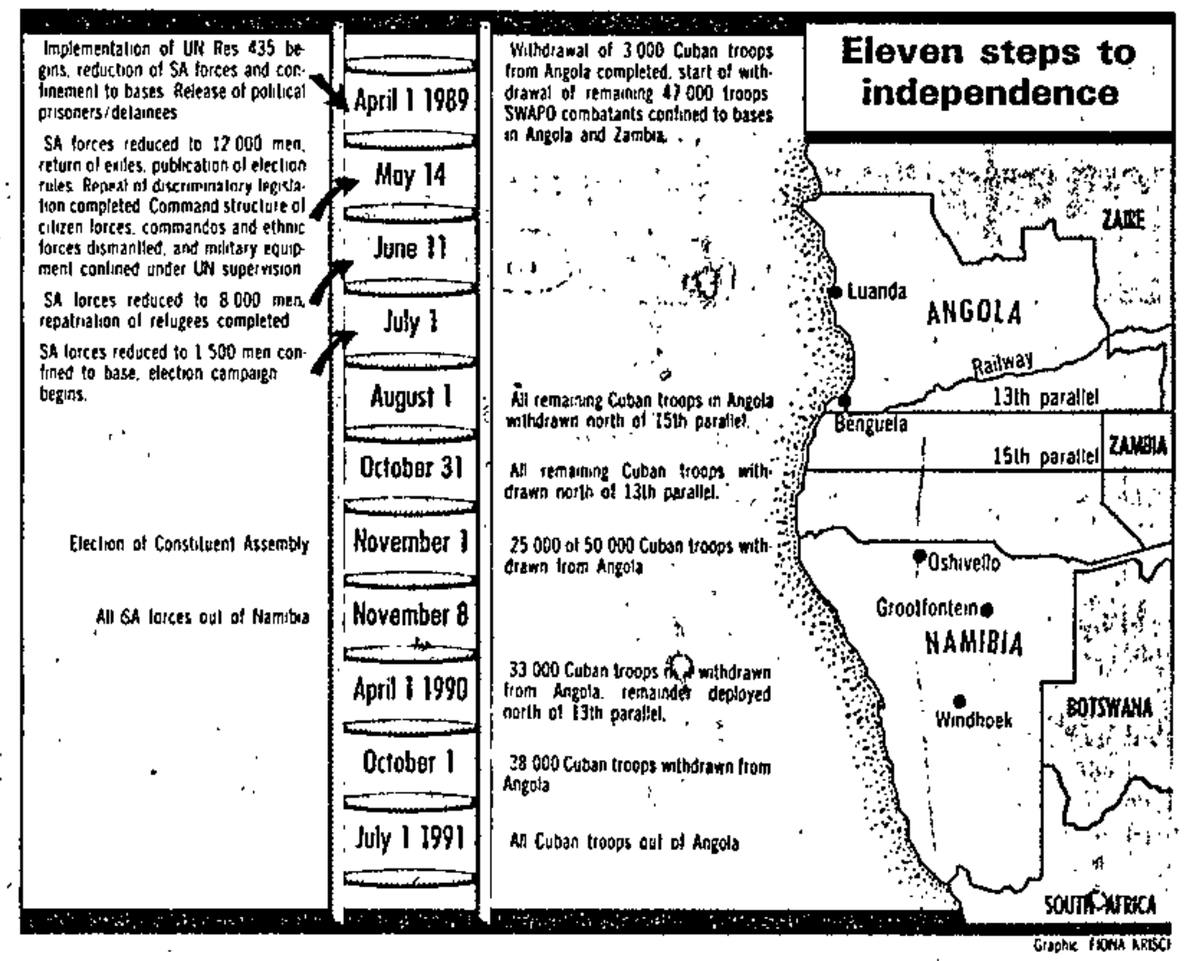
"The Special Representative's job is essentially to ensure that there will be a process of free and fair elections apprximately seven months after April 1," Cedric Thornberry, the UN's second-ranking administrator, said in Windhoek this week.

The R1bn peace operation takes up where the war ended. Under the phased settlement plan, SA's soldiers withdraw, refugees and disarmed guerrillas return as civilians, political prisoners are freed by both sides, voters are registered and elections in November precipitate a constituent assembly.

In the uniforms of some 20 nations, UN soldiers will monitor a ceasefire accepted by Pretoria and Swapo, ensure that SA's diminishing forces are confined to bases, prevent intimidation and guard borders against infiltration.

Across the borders, principally in Angola, UN military contingents in concert with Frontline states' officials will ensure Swapo guerrillas are restricted to bases until they stash their weapons and return as civilians to take part in UN-guaranteed "free and fair elections".

About 500 civilian police monitors from 15 nations will be deployed with Namibian police to ensure impartial law enforcement during the transition.



Socialistic Swapo, with its historic power base among the majority Ovambos, expects to sweep the poll and take the two-thirds clear majority in proportional representation that will allow it to write the new nation's constitution.

Spectrum

Most minority whites appear to favour free-enterprise rule by the DTA alliance, led by wealthy Afrikaner farmer and businessman Dirk Mudge. Second best wish for whites seems to be a good enough electoral challenge by the DTA to deny Swapo 67% of the poll, forcing it into a coalition with junior government partners who would hold out against an outright socialist constitution.

Some 42 political parties are registered in Namibia, in a spectrum from far right-wing to far left, across 11 major ethnic groups.

Demography and the territory's turbulent recent history frustrate accurate predictions of Namibia's post-November government.

But mischievous observers here recall that, late last year, about the time Pretoria effectively signed away white rule in its apartheid outpost, a monolithic rock landmark known as Mukurob — The Finger of God — inexplicably fell from its narrow, 1 000-year-old pivot in the desert south of Windhoek ...

SOME PUBS PUT OUT OF BOUNDS

UN soldiers deployed in Namibia's outback are being warned to stay away from some pubs and clubs to avoid bruising confrontations with resentful, right-wing locals.

British signaller Mark Jarvis, under treatment for a broken jaw suffered in a rugby club brawl, will be sent home to London soon, Untag spokesman Fred Eckhard said.

Military commanders are impressing caution and diplomacy on troops spreading into the vast territory. Untag military chief Lt-Gen Prem Chand has asked unit commanders "to take appropriate precautions to reduce chances of this kind of thing happening again," said Eckhard.

"The British contingent commander, Lt-Col Neil Donaldson, has advised some of our men to stay clear of certain establishments in certain towns, but we are not prepared to say which they are," British spokeswoman Francis Edwards said yesterday.

"In the run-up to independence, some feelings are bound to run high."

UN man to get big welcome

WINDHOEK — The SWA police have announced strict security measures will be in force at the Windhoek airport today for the arrival of the UN special representative for Namibia, Mr Martii Ahtisaari.

Police Commissioner Lieutenant-General Dolf Gouws said the security measures would, of necessity, inconvenience the public, but were necessary in view of the massive crowds expected to go to the airport to welcome the UN man.

Overseer

He will oversee Namibia's transition to peace under the Security Council Resolution 435 settlement plan.

Only accredited journalists, diplomats, VIPs, and airline passengers and their immediate friends or families would be allowed into the airport grounds, said General Gouws.

Shock for Swapo as UN aid is halted

NEW YORK — The United Nations Secretary-General, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, delivered a body-blow to the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) at the weekend, cutting off UN aid just before the deadline for Namibia's transition to independence.

The decision followed a stormy meeting at UN headquarters on Friday night and ended a decade of UN nurturing of Swapo. Dr de Cuellar wants the UN to steer a strictly impartial course while monitoring Namibia's elections.

The decision was unrelated to clashes on Namibia's Angolan border.

Separate moves are under way to deny Swapo its privileged observer status at the United Nations. Some officials fear that South Africa might renege on the promise of independence if Swapo wins at the polls.

To forestall such a move, Dr de Cuellar is trying to distance the UN from Swapo, but there are doubts whether he will succeed. — The Independent News Service.

Sat 3/4/89

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Pik demands a firm stand in letter to UN

Mr Pik Botha has called on the UN Secretary-General to take a firm stand over Swapo's "violation of the ceasefire agreement" in northern Namibia at the weekend.

The text of a letter sent by the Minister of Foreign Affairs yesterday to Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar was released today.

It reads: "With reference to our telephone conversation of 1 April 1989, I have to inform you that a grave situation has arisen on the northern border of Namibia as a result of continued and escalating violence by Swapo of the agreement signed in New York on 22 December 1988 by the People's Republic of Angola, Republic of Cuba and the Republic of South Africa.

"The incontrovertible facts are:

● "During the night of 31 March 1989 and on 1 April 1989, an esti mated 600 to 800 Swapo elements crossed the border from Angola into Namibia. This figure could be as high as 1 000 men. They are heavily armed with AK 47 semi-automatic rifles, mortars and even ground-to-air missiles. These elements entered the territory in their uniforms.

● "On the basis of information obtained from those captured, Swapo elements were ordered to cross the border into Namibia in uniform and under arm, inter alia, in order to establish bases in Namibia.

"They claim that their commanding officers informed them that as a ceasefire was in existence they need not fear resistance. Should resistance be encountered the United Nations would take care of them.

Swapo elements

● "Information indicates that between 4 000 and 5 000 Swapo elements are presently below latitude 16 degrees south.

"Mr Secretary-General, this inexplicable action on the part of Swapo constitutes a clear violation of agreements reached between South Africa, Cuba and Angola. These agreements were endorsed by the Security Council. We are clearly dealing with a situation where Swapo is flouting those agreements and is defying the Security Council.

"In addition, Swapo has of course violated the written undertaking it gave to you to cease all hostilities as of 1 April 1989.

"I trust that you will agree that this is an intolerable situation. The Republic of South Africa has acted strictly in terms of its commmitments and will continue to do so.

"It is significant, Mr Secretary- General, that at the time of writing no statement has yet been made by the leadership of Swapo on this crucial disregard of its obligation to you, the Security Council, and the international community at large.

"One cannot help to feel compassion for such unnecessary carnage of Swapo elements who could have re-entered Namibia quite legally to participate peacefully in the political process according to the agreed procedures.

"The leadership of Swapo will have to account for their callous disregard for human life and contempt for international agreements.

"They will have to explain their action and its dire consequences to the people of Namibia. Swapo's leadership should urgently be brought to its senses.

"As you are aware, Swapo was required by this time to have all its personnel confined to bases north of latitude 16 degree south. These bases should, in terms of agreement, be monitored by Untag.

"I should be grateful to learn whether Untag is in fact monitoring such bases and to enquire whether the monitoring reports could be made available to me.

"The Administrator-General will continue to act in concert with your special representative regarding any steps considered necessary.

"I was in the territory on 31 March and 1 April 1989, where I met with your special representative and his staff. I have a deep understanding of the onerous task assigned to them, particularly at this time of such threatening crises.

"I trust, Mr Secretary-General, that you and the Security Council will make it possible for my Government to co-operate and fulfil its commitments in terms of the agreements. I appeal to you and to the Security Council to take a firm and clear stand on this act of defiance by Swapo." — Sapa.

West sees hope in the example of Zimbabwe

LONDON — The West still believed the UN monitoring force would have enough men to supervise the independence process in Namibia, Western diplomats said yesterday.

About 1 000 members of the UN force — which at full strengh will number more than 5 000 — are already in place.

The diplomats recalled that the Rhodesia-Zimbabwe independence exercise had been monitored by a Commonwealth force of only 1 200 men.

They said the population in Zimbabwe was several times larger than Namibia's and the Rhodesian bush war was more widespread.

The diplomats said the fighting on Namibia's northern border was unfortunate, but expressed confidence that the situation would be brought under control.

Confident

They pointed to the fact that in the run-up to Zimbabwe's independence there had been an assassination attempt on Robert Mugabe, intimidation and "dirty tricks" that cost dozens of lives.

"But the independence agreement still held up and we remain confident of success in Namibia too," said one diplomat.

"The parties to the agreement have got to be made to abide by it. You can pour thousands more men in, but it isn't going to achieve any better results if the parties refuse to stop fighting."

Black African states were critical when the major world powers insisted on reducing the UN force from an originally envisaged 7 500 men to the present number because they wanted to keep costs down. — Sapa.

UN forces 'up to full strength by April 30'

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — United Nations forces, woefully lacking on the Namibia-Angolan border when up to 1 000 Swapo fighters crossed from Angola at the weekend, would be up to full strength in the territory by the end of April, said a UN spokesman today.

This means a total complement of 4 650 troops, including three infantry battalions. But Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar has been authorised to go up to 7 500 soldiers, if necessary, in a compromise between African critics of the smaller number and the cost-conscious Big Five permanent members of the Security Council who must foot much of the bill.

Repeated warnings

The UN spokesman, Mr Francois Giuliani, who was closely questioned about the clashes between Namibian units and insurgents sent over the Angolan border by Swapo — up to 1 000, according to a complaint by South Africa to the UN — blamed the Security Council for the UN's weakness in the crucial area.

He said the secretariat had repeatedly warned the council that its delaying of an enabling resolution for the UN Transitional Assistance Group (Untag) would create problems.

As a result, instead of having six weeks, a minimum set by the Secretary-General to mount the UN operation, he had to settle for four weeks, Mr Giuliani said.

He said that only about 100 UN troops were in northern Namibia, most of them logistical and communications staff.

Mr Giuliani, pressed by UN reporters to say which side was responsible for the clashes between Swapo and South African-led forces, replied: "I am not going to take sides on this issue unless I have firm guidance, which I do not have."

Dr Perez de Cuellar gave an oral report to the Security Council last night on the situation, on the basis of data supplied by a four-member inquiry team that visited the border area.

It was led by Mr Cedric Thorberry, the deputy head of Untag, and in-

dric Thorberry, the deputy head of Untag; and included Brigadier Daniel Opande, the Kenyan deputy commander of UN troops.

Brigadier Opande, Mr Edward Omotose and Lieutenant-Colonal Klaas Roos of the Netherlands were scheduled to meet in Luanda today with Mr Marrack Goulding, a former British ambassador to Angola who is the UN official in charge of all UN peacekeeping operations.

Mr Goulding was on a tour of the Gulf area, where the UN also has troops, when he was ordered urgently to Luanda to confer on the Namibian crisis.

Fears

Officials were alarmed over the weekend by reports that South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha threatened to expel the United Nations from Namibia if he did not receive a satisfactory answer from the Secretary-General about Swapo's ceasefire violations.

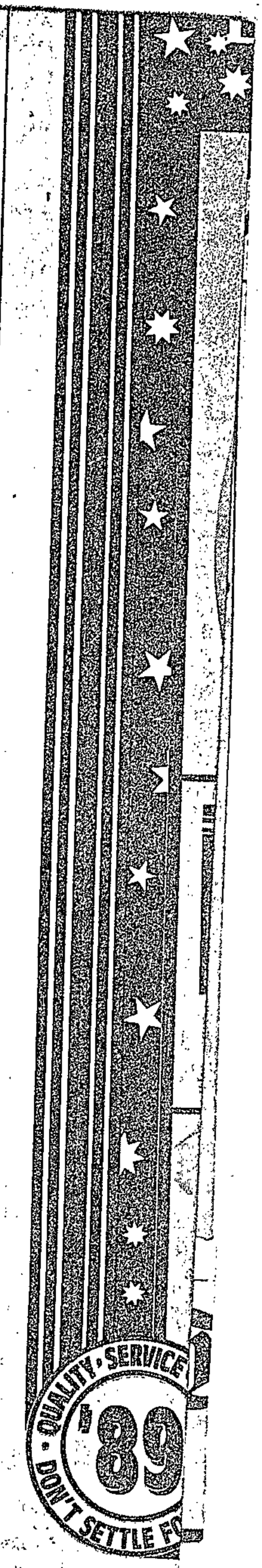
But a letter from Mr Botha to Dr de Cuellar seems to have allayed the most acute fears.

Mr Botha said: "I have a deep understanding of the onerous task assigned to them (Untag), particularly at this time of such threatening crisis."

Still, he said, South Africa expected a firm and clear stand by the Secretary-General and the Security Council on what he called an act of defiance by Swapo.

UN officials said privately they believed the crisis would be contained and that the good relations between South Africa and Dr Perez de Cuellar would carry the day.

In a rare Soviet-South African meeting, Mr Jeremy Shearer, South Africa's chief UN delegate, discussed the situation with the president of the Security Council, Mr Aleksandr Belonogov, who was notably restrained in his comments later to reporters about events in Namibia.



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4/4/89
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AHTISAARI

PEREZ

UN chief under fire over report

B1 Day 3/14/89

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SIMON BARBER

NEW YORK — Under pressure from Swapo's non-aligned supporters UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Monday night presented a closed Security Council session with a watered-down version of Namibia fighting.

Council president Aleksandr Belonogov of the Soviet Union complained they were not shown special representative Martti Ahtisaari's original report.

It was on the original the US State Department is believed to have based its statement Swapo had launched a major infiltration from Angola.

East bloc diplomats said Swapo leader Sam Nujoma met military commanders in Ngiva last Wednesday and instructed them to start caching as many weapons as possible in Namibia before Swapo forces were restricted to bases in Angola.

Ngiva is well south of the 16th parallel behind which Swapo was supposed to have withdrawn.

Swapo UN spokesman Theo-Ben Gurirab admitted Nujoma "addressed our combatants on March 29".

He added: "He issued directives to all of them and specifically instructed those inside the country to make contacts with Untag for the purpose of being confined and monitored by Untag. This is exactly what they were doing when they were attacked by SA."

Britain's Sir Crispin Tickell emerged angrily from the chamber and suggested Gurirab's remarks should be "taken with a large grain of salt".

Belogonov's delegation in private blamed Swapo for the fighting.

B/Dam 10/4/89 336

Namibian crisis will not sink UN

NEW YORK — The UN came close to collapse over the way it handled its peacekeeping role in the Congo.

But, more than 25 years on, accusations that its peacekeeping force in Namibia is partly to blame for the worst fighting there in 23 years is unlikely to cause such a crisis, diplomats said on Friday.

Speaking hours before UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was to defend his decision to unleash SA forces on nationalist guerrillas in northern Namibia, diplomats on all sides said they expected he and his representative in Namibia, Martti Ahtisaari, would ride out the storm.

Western and some Third World delegates said harsh African and non-aligned criticism of the Untag group in Namibia was more emotional than substantive.

Several UN diplomats blamed the crisis on the imprecise wording of accords reached since 1978 when UN resolution 435, the framework for Namibian independence, was passed.

Swapo says 435 allows it to establish bases inside Namibia under UN supervision and that is what its guerrillas were trying to do when they were attacked.

No-one else accepts this reading of the accords. Both the UN and SA say Swapo bases were to be well away from Namibia, in Angola or in Zambia. — Reuter.

SA forces Swapo fighters out of Namibi

African countries aim for 'human-centred' develo

(336) Star 10/4/89

ADDIS ABABA — African finance and planning ministers are set to endorse an alternative development strategy which puts greater emphasis on social welfare than cures prescribed by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

The ministers meet to endorse the plan today after four days of talks by the planning ministers who also discussed many other issues including food resources, the locust threat, environmental management and transport and communications.

Ethiopia's Planning Minister Mersie Ejigu, opening these talks last Thursday, referred to differences Africa had with the fund and bank in the early 1980's and said:

"The search for an appropriate development strategy for much of Africa is just as elusive and as emotionally charged as ever."

Africa's plan for reforms was reviewed by the finance ministers last month in Malawi, then toned down to avoid alienating the fund, the World Bank and other donors.

The thrust, however, remains the same. Africa wants the main say in what shape the reforms take.

"This is a fundamental departure from the current practice in which external development agencies play a principal role in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of adjustment programmes in member states," says the plan.

Despite growth of economies and exports and improved payments and budget balances in some countries which had adopted orthodox reforms, "starvation and malnutrition, abject poverty, and external dependence have worsened," it adds.

The plan is provisionally called the African alternative to structural adjustment programmes: A framework for transformation and recovery.

It calls for "human-centred" reforms and measures for long-term rebuilding of economies.

It criticises the fund and World Bank, saying they focus on short-term balancing of finances at the expense of social services such as health and education, which have been hit by spending cuts.

"Permanent crisis management is no substitute for development," said a supporting document presented to the planning ministers' meeting and quoting a representative of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, under whose auspices the meetings are held.

The commission's executive secretary Adebayo Adedeji said in an interview on Friday he envisaged no problem in having the framework accepted by the fund, World Bank and donors.

It was consistent, he said, with the long term objectives of the UN programme of action for African economic recovery backed in 1986 by the UN, the IMF and the World Bank.

Adedeji insisted the African alternative was a framework for constructive negotiations with multilateral institutions and bilateral donors. "Africa is too weak, too fragile, too dependent for con-

ment

(336)

frontation," he said.

The framework offers a 29-dish "menu", split into four courses.

An individual country would choose one or more of several dishes from each course to suit its own needs.

Options include a limit on foreign debt repayments to "manageable' levels, a switch in spending from non-productive activities plus potentially including defence — to ensure at least 30 percent of public spending goes to social services, and greater mass participation in decision-making and implementation of programmes." — Sapa-Reuter

Disunited Nations must give thanks for Angola 'linkage'

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D|Day 11/4/89

SIMON BARBER in Washington

FOR MOST of the eight years since it was first officially mooted by Chester Crocker in mid-1981, "linkage" has been a dirty word. Even after its embodiment in the accords on Cuban troop withdrawal and Namibian independence signed last December in New York, the United Nations still treats it as it treats most other facts and refuses to acknowledge it. As UN spokesman Francois Giuliani pointed out last week: "We have never agreed to the linkage between the UN plan and those accords."

Too bad, because had the fates of Namibia and Angola not been so tied together, Resolution 435 would now be dead and the mass graves in Ovamboland considerably more crowded than they already are.

Assume, for a moment, that the UN plan could have been implemented in the absence of "linkage" (a fantastic notion in itself), and try to imagine how the plan could possibly have survived Swapo's invasion of northern Namibia in the early hours of April 1. Apart from anything else, the SADF would in all probability now be deep inside Angola.

We have a pretty good idea of how the UN would have responded from the way it did, in fact, respond. Cravenly. There is really no other way to describe the compromise suggested by an extremely harried Secretary General Javier Perez De Cuellar to his men in the field, Martti Ahtisaari in Windhoek and Marrack Goulding in Luanda.

De Cuellar's suggestion was that the Swapo intruders be rewarded for violating the ceasefire by being disarmed and permitted to stay. In other words, he was willing to grant them their principal objective of their adventure. This despite his predecessor's firm stipulation in a letter to the South African Prime Minister on March 9 1979, that "no party to a conflict may expect to gain after a ceasefire a military advantage which it was unable to obtain prior to it".

As currently constituted, the UN exists to give the small and inept the illusion that they are big and competent. In some respects, this is not a bad idea. A little bit of play-acting is often therapeutic, but only so long as the actors are not let loose in the real world where real things — like lives — are at stake.

The Monday after the incursion began, the UN Security Council met to hear the Secretary General's account of what had happened. By then, most of the members had the facts pretty straight, right down to the part about Sam Nujoma visiting his military commanders in Ongiva the previous Wednesday and telling them to put every man and weapon they could lay their hands on over the border while South African forces were confined to barracks as required by the UN plan.

However, in order to get out of the room in one piece, De Cuellar was obliged by the Council's non-aligned majority to amend the truth a bit. The current President, Soviet representative Aleksandr Belonogov, admitted that the members were not even shown Ahtisaari's original report, a damning document compiled on the spot by Untag's Kenyan, Malaysian and Nigerian senior military representatives and Ahtisaari's chief deputy, Cedric Thornberry.

Now there is something rather unnerving about an institution that cannot even tell itself the truth in private session. One is also surely entitled to wonder about the basic morality of the members who dictate this kind of behaviour so that they may run about unchallenged in the corridors outside the session spreading the most arrant lies.

The reality (that Swapo was entirely to blame) did not fit the wish (that it was all the fault of the "racists"), so to hell with the reality.

That apparently being the accepted norm of conduct at UN headquarters, it is scarcely surprising that the organisation should blithely flout its own commitments.

For example, the Secretary General and the Security Council have decreed that the so-called "impartiality package" agreed by the Western contact group, Swapo, the Frontline states, Nigeria and SA, should be binding upon the body as a whole as of April 1.

Naturally, the package as it applies to the UN system is largely being ignored. The UN Council for Namibia soldiers on — under the leadership of Zambian representative Peter Zuze — claiming that it serves at the General Assembly's pleasure, not the Security Council's. A nice but irrelevant distinction.

On April 3, Swapo's Theo-Ben Gurirab was still flitting in and out the delegates-only lounge adjoining the Security Council chamber as if he owned the place, the lapse of Swapo's special observer status notwithstanding.

Asked about this, Gurirab replied insouciantly: "We don't know why we should be the ones most faithful to the agreement."

Fortunately, none of this matters. The territory may still legally belong to the UN, but thanks to linkage the deal through which it is to become independent belongs to other, more serious, parties — SA, Angola, Cuba, the Soviet Union and the US. And while Untag may strictly speaking derive its legitimacy from the Security Council, in fact it is the servant of these five, the facilitator of what they wish to achieve.

The UN, very deliberately, has been short-circuited and with it Swapo, which is why there was no need for a formal Security Council debate last week. The agreements on constitutional principles, the electoral system and the monitoring of SA and Swapo bases, the impartiality package — even Resolution 435 itself — have been subsumed by the New York principles, the Geneva and Brazzaville protocols and the tripartite and bilateral accords of December 22.

The issue is no longer simply Namibian independence but, to cite the standard phraseology in each of the latter agreements, peace in south-western Africa, a peace that is to be overseen not by the UN but by the joint commission established under the Brazzaville protocol. The UN could have killed 435 last week by succumbing to its institutional mendacity, but the members and observers of the joint commission did not wish it so.

While the UN backed and filled in New York in what seemed an almost conscious effort to force SA into some kind of rash unilateral action upon which blame for the crisis could then be pinned, members of the commission worked each in their own way to keep things together.

The US issued a series of strong public statements, including a detailed and unequivocal legal analysis designed to sink any attempt to let Swapo's intruders remain in Namibia.

Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos preempted any effort by the OAU and his fellow Frontline states to establish a case for Swapo or meddle with the UN plan by publicly rebuking the movement for failing to "exercise total control" over its men.

The Soviets applied pressure to the necessary soft parts. Pretoria, secured in its position by such support, reacted with commendable restraint.

The commission then met at Mount Etjo and announced that it had agreed on arrangements for the intruders to be taken to Angola, allowing just enough time for Swapo to save face by making it own announcement first.

While the members have had their differences — certainly Angola and Cuba were remiss in ignoring Pretoria's complaints that they had failed to pull Swapo north of the 16th parallel as agreed in the Geneva protocol — the commission shares a common interest in making the settlement work.

Thanks to linkage, that interest is far bigger and more compelling than Swapo's idiocy and its apologists in the UN.

Sowetan 13/4/89

Uphill drive for UN

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LONDON — The United Nations' projected peace-keeping deficit of 1,5-billion dollars, coupled with its inability to halt the fighting in Namibia, has cast doubt on its ability to fulfil its commitments to the world community.

This is one of the points made in an article in *Jane's Defence Weekly* which examines the UN's role in some of the world's trouble spots.

It says warnings that cuts in the Untag force would jeopardise the Namibian peace process appear to have been borne out by the fighting. Untag was also running about three weeks late in its deployment.

The article points out that the financially-crippled world body has been struggling to raise the funds required to buy or lease equipment for the Namibian peace-keeping operation, including helicopters, transport aircraft and mine-resistant vehicles.

UN 'cannot enforce agreem

The United Nations has been blamed by many for last week's clashes in northern Namibia. Critics have said that had the UN troops been stationed there in time the clashes would not have occurred. But, as **JOAO SANTA RITA** of The Star's Africa News Service reports, experts disagree with this, saying the UN troops are not there to enforce the agreements.

Allegations that the United Nations could have stopped last week's clashes in northern Namibia are nonsense, say experts in international affairs and strategic studies.

Following the clashes between Swapo and SWA Police many Third World countries and even Western analysts said that had the United Nations troops been stationed in Namibia they would have been able to handle the affair rather than turn the job over to the South West African Police and the South Africans.

Professor Deon Fourie, of the department of strategic studies at the University of South Africa, said these criticisms were not valid.

"In this case, as in many others, the UN forces' role there is to monitor the events and nothing else," he said.

Therefore, when Swapo infiltrated the territory they would not have been stopped by the United Nations troops no matter how many men the UN had there at the time.

"If Swapo had encountered UN troops in the border and told them they wanted to go through they would have done just that and no UN force would have intervened," he said.

The UN forces would probably have then reported that there had been a violation of the accord and left it to the political bodies and the administrator-general to solve the problem.

Professor Fourie pointed out that even in situations where United Nations forces had been sent to keep fighting armies apart they had not intervened when the fighting had started.

In the Middle East, UN forces had left their positions separating Egypt and Israel when ordered to do so by the Egyptian authorities, thus opening the way for the 1967 Six-Day War.

Article 42 of the UN Charter states that the Security Council "may take such action by air, sea or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security".

However, in a book on its structures and activities, the UN itself underlines that "a United Nations peace-keeping operation is not an enforcement as envisaged in Article 42 of the Charter".

It adds that all UN soldiers, although armed, are authorised to use their arms "only in self-defence and with the utmost restraint".

The peace-keeping operations, says the UN booklet, "seek to achieve their objective by negotiation and persuasion rather than by force".

Professor Fourie said that under the agreements signed by all parties involved in the Namibian and Angolan conflicts, the responsibility for maintaining law and order in the territory falls upon the SWA Police not the United Nations.

"One could presume that after monitoring the violation the UN and the Administrator-General would then have to call on the police to enforce the agreements — as was done last week," he said.

Professor Mike Hough of the Pretoria-based Institute of Strategic Studies said the role of the UN forces in Namibia was not to constitute a barrier on the border.

But, he said, the presence of the UN troops in northern Namibia could have made Swapo more cautious.

"Initially, Mr Sam Nujoma said his forces had always been inside Namibia and that South Africa was lying when it said the guerillas had come across the border. If the UN troops had been stationed in northern Namibia they would have known that they could not so easily try to say that the UN was lying," he said.

However, Professor Hough agreed that if Swapo had come across the border when UN troops were already stationed there, the "peace-keeping" force could not and would not have stopped them.

Their role was simply to monitor events, he said.

Critics of the United Nations seem also to have failed to understand that this time the role of the UN is even more limited than usual.

Violations of the agreements, although referred to the UN, are not to be solved by the International body but by the Joint Monitoring Commission made up of South Africa, Angola and Cuba and in which the United States and the Soviet Union have observer status.

Significantly, it was this body that met to decide on the measures to take to put an end to Swapo's incursion and not the UN.

United Nations officials stationed in Namibia were called in only at the end of the meeting at Mount Etjo to be informed of the decisions taken by Cuba, Angola, South Africa, the United States and the Soviet Union and to help in plans to implement and verify them.



Any UN soldier is authorised to use his arms "only in self-defence and with utmost restraint".

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Untag seeks soldiers for patrols

WINDHOEK — UN officials hoping to save Namibia's independence plan are juggling with their international army to find soldiers ready for bush deployment.

Peace-keeping officials acknowledged difficulty in ascertaining the extent of Swapo's voluntary withdrawal to Angola, but believed "political will" on all sides would keep the peace plan on track.

UN sources said a sixth Swapo guerrilla turned himself over to a UN-manned checkpoint at the weekend. None of the five already under UN protection had been taken to Angola by last night.

KEVIN JACOBS

Officials said the SADF reduced units camped close to UN assembly points after UN criticism that they were discouraging guerrillas from reporting, but no further Swapo use of the truce was evident.

Angola said at the weekend about 500 guerrillas had pulled back to positions north of the 16th parallel.

UN peace-keeping chief Marrack Goulding said in Luanda his officials had no firm

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Untag juggles forces to find 'front-liners'

From Page 1

count of Swapo fighters leaving Namibia.

A multinational army is still trickling into the territory to build up the 4 650-man military contingent assigned to Untag to supervise the run-up to elections.

UN officials said they were juggling resources to find soldiers ready for the task of patrolling and shepherding to safe points any Swapo guerrillas seeking refuge in churches under the truce agreement.

The only ready-to-roll infantry unit is the 800-strong Finnish battalion initially assigned monitoring and border-patrol duties in eastern Kavango.

Hindsight proves criticism of UN was unfair and built on ignorance

Cape Times 19/4/89

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Defence Correspondent

UNITED NATIONS Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, his representative Martti Ahtisaari and Untag commander Lieutenant-General Prem Chand would probably agree about the truth of that allegedly Confucian saying that "he who makes peace ends up fighting everybody else".

Between them they have had to bear the brunt of criticism from a spectrum of people and organizations, ranging from confused onlookers and the anti-UN school to Swapo sympathisers and front organizations desperate to find some sort of scapegoat other than their leader, Mr Sam Nujoma.

Yet, if one reviews the happenings since April 1, it is obvious that such criticism is probably both unfair and ignorant. Hindsight has clarified at least six of the complaints which have been frequently heard so far:

● When Mr Martti Ahtisaari allowed the elements of the South West Africa Territory Force and South African Defence Force to be activated he was accepting the better of two unpleasant options. If he had not, the South African Government would certainly have abrogated implementation of Resolution 435 and the entire peace process would have gone back to square one.

That would have entailed months of ferocious fighting until most of the insurgents had been killed, captured or driven back over the border, followed by months of tortuous negotiation aimed at cutting through the renewed suspicion and hostility caused by the fighting.

● The Untag force was not cut from 7 500 men simply to save money at all costs. It was reduced because the Swapo "armed struggle" had dwindled to almost nothing so that 4 000-plus men should have been enough to monitor all parties and ensure they played the game.

Things were so quiet that the South African Government voluntarily disbanded the Koevoet counter-insurgency unit; I can now reveal that at the end of January both the South African Government and Dr Perez de Cuellar's office agreed that, apart from symbolic reasons, an Untag military element was not strictly necessary for implementation of Resolution 435.

● Even if the Untag force had not been cut, the monitoring troops would still not have been in position on April 1. The Untag troops who arrived before April 1 were the advance party, consisting of specialists such as engineers and signallers and administrative, logistic and other support troops told to set up a proper structure for the main body due later in the month.

This was why it was such a scramble to get them to the border and why they were so underequipped for the task that the South Africans had to supply them with everything from tents and blankets to flagpoles and rations.

● Given the restraints under which UN peacekeeping forces work, even a full-strength Untag military component of 7 500 would not have been able to do anything about the big Swapo incursion except make feeble protests — which, of course, was what Mr Nujoma was banking on, except that he seems to have misunderstood the withdrawal timetable and moved three months too soon.

● The Untag force is not cowardly, useless, inefficient or irrelevant: its operating ability has been crippled by the drastic change in circumstances as a result of Swapo's incursion.

Prior to April 1 the war was over and Untag was there to ensure it stayed that way. The Swapo incursion changed all that by causing a resumption of the war. Needless to say, this put Untag in a spot because, as a peacekeeping force, the last thing it must do is get involved in a shooting war in which purely practical considerations would, sooner or later, force it into actions which could be construed (rightly or wrongly) as taking sides.

● Lieut-Gen Prem Chand is being written off as an ineffectual old man. I think this is unfair. He has had to throw his arrangements out of the window, weld together a motley array of national contingents and, in the absence of the actual monitoring components, hastily pull rear echelon personnel and specialists away from their main tasks and redeploy them in a totally different role and location.

Any military man who has had to go through what the army calls "marrying-up drills" or change detailed operational plans in the heat of battle, as it were, would probably reckon he handled a very ticklish job quite well.

The UN General Assembly's long history of knee-jerk partisanship in Swapo's favour has tended to obscure the fact that the Security Council is in charge in Namibia and that, while there has been some friction on the ground, in general the Untag senior leader group has conducted itself with discretion and usually with acceptable correctness.

The same can be said for the South Africans.

Untag 'protect' Swapo

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OSKAHATI — The delay in transfering the remaining surrendered Swapo guerillas across the Angolan border is due solely to "humanitarian reasons", an Untag monitor said in Oshakati yesterday.

The officer, who asked not to be identified further, said the three still being treated in hospital all had "dangerous" wounds and immediate transfer to Angola could jeopardise their health.

Information about them is hard to come by, but the only reason for this was to protect the guerillas from being harassed by the press, the monitor said.

He said they had suffered a definite setback due to shock and fear, after the Press had earlier been allowed to photograph them.

Low key

News of a further two guerillas still to be "channelised" from points near Swartboois-drift and Pupa Falls in the north western Namibia were also supplied yesterday.

The monitor would not confirm that two more Swapo fighters had in fact checked in to the gathering points in these areas but intimated that, if not, they would soon be doing so.

The low key affair which saw the first three guerillas and their Untag escorts slip over the Angolan border at Ruacana Falls on Tuesday, was also not an attempt at subterfuge, the monitor said.

"On the contrary we want it publicised, we want people to know about it. The Pakistanis are doing their best," he said.

There are 18 Poles, 25 Malays and 20 Pakistani monitors in the north, under the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel Farouk Afzal. — Sapa.

Group to show alleged slaying

WASHINGTON — The group which is to televise allegations that South African security forces effectively executed Swapo fighters by shooting them at point-blank range is determined to drag South Africa back as a major issue of coverage by the American media.

Calling itself *South Africa Now*, the weekly 30-minute show is produced by *Globalvision*, a small independent producer based in New York, in association with the Africa Fund, a tax-exempt education organisation.

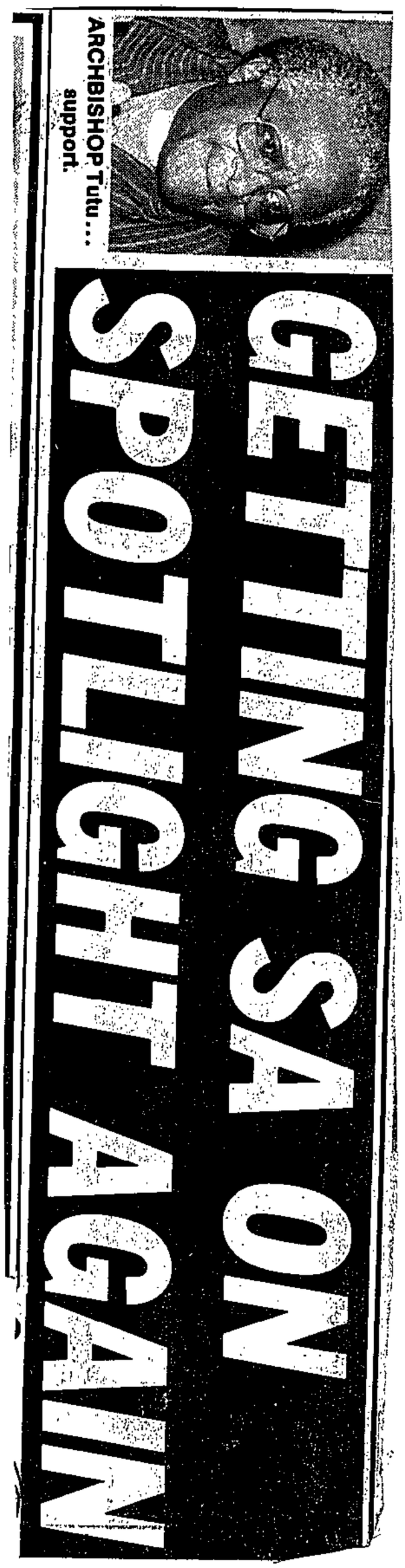
It has received warm endorsements from Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Rev Allan Boesak, Mr Dennis Goldberg of the ANC and former South African newspaper editor Mr Donald Woods.

Globalvision was founded by Mr Rory O'Connor, an experienced producer of investigative reports for television and a newspaper columnist.

The company launched *South Africa Now* as a 13-part series last year in response it said at the time, to Pretoria's clampdown on the media.

Senior producer, reporter and co-anchor of the show is Carolyn Craven, a former White House correspondent for *National Public Radio* and an associate producer for *ABC News* in New York.

Her co-anchor is Fana Kekana, a South African actor who came to the US in 1977. He has performed in several plays about South Africa including *Woza Albert* and the Broadway production of Asinamali and in the Broadway production of Poppie Nongena.



SA BUSINESS PRICES OUT OF THE UN MARKET

CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

CAPE TOWN — SA business is destined to get only a minimal amount of business servicing the various needs of the Untag monitoring forces now gathering in Namibia — for the primary reason it is pricing itself out of the market.

Sources at Untag's procurement offices in Windhoek indicated yesterday their first contacts with SA business indicated the latter was operating under the false belief that because of its close proximity to Namibia it had a geographical advantage which it could exploit in offering goods and services at a premium to Untag.

Needed

They said many businesses — from those capable of supplying vehicles to a range of accommodation and office requirements — had been too greedy in pitching their tender prices, to the extent that Untag procurement officers had been instructed to look elsewhere for their needs.

Untag set up procurement offices in Windhoek last October and soon after published a list of "generic" items that would be needed to support the UN monitoring effort.

It was indicated that most of these would be procured from the UN's own resources around the world. Motor vehicle requirements were mostly placed with a Japanese supplier as the prices quoted were more competitive than those obtained from SA manufacturers, even with exemption being given in respect of import surcharges, customs and excise duties.

A similar picture is emerging with respect to other products of an infrastructural nature needed by the Untag forces. All tenders and quotes are being stored on a special data base and are then analysed at UN HQ in New York.

UN rejects OAU Namibia mission

HARARE — A three-man OAU team — bound for Namibia to monitor the territory's independence process — would return to Addis Ababa today without reaching Windhoek because the UN would not allow it to set up an observer mission there, officials said yesterday.

Delegation chief Yilma Tadesse said in spite of a request to the UN last February and an invitation from SA to set up an observer mission in Windhoek, the UN had not given the OAU approval to do so.

He said: "In view of this attitude of the SA government, I am baffled about the silence of the UN secretary-general to our request."

Tadesse, OAU assistant secretary-general in charge of political affairs, was accompanied by Brigadier Hashin Mbita,

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UN rejects Namibia mission for OAU

● From Page 1

executive secretary of the OAU liberation committee, and Mensa Bonsu, chief of the OAU decolonisation secretariat.

He said his team wanted to go to Namibia to assess the situation on the ground, look into the question of logistics and meet UN special representative Martti Ahtisaari and discuss with him deployment of the OAU observer mission's personnel.

"We are racing against time. The sooner we are allowed (to set up the mission) the better and it will enable us to discharge our responsibilities properly."

The mission was important for the OAU in its commitment in the decolonisation of Africa.

Tadesse said the OAU viewed as "crucial" for the destiny of Namibian people that the elections be conducted in conformity with provisions of UN resolution 435.

☐ Reuter reports from Luanda that Swapo said at the weekend that all of its guerrillas remaining in Namibia could withdraw to Angola by Friday if they were not obstructed by SA forces.

It reacted cautiously to SA's statement last Friday that it would confine its troops in Namibia to their bases for 60 hours from Wednesday, to allow Swapo fighters to pull out. A Swapo spokesman said: "We are waiting on the ground to see if that really happens." — Sapa

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UN men visit war zone

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Sowetan 26/4/89

WINDHOEK — Senior UN officials toured Namibia's war zone yesterday for a first-hand look at the UN operation mounted to end fighting between Swapo and South African-led security forces.

The visit to the northern border area by United Nations Under-secretary - General Marrack Goulding and Finnish envoy Martti Ahtisaari, who heads the UN operation in Namibia, came one day before South African forces were to start a 60-hour pullback.

South Africa has pledged to confine its forces to their bases during that time to allow safe passage.

OUR

UN team attacks Africa report

NEW YORK — A UN team this week attacked a report which said that much-criticised reforms promptly the World Bank and International Monetary Fund were helping solve Africa's economic woes.

The UN Economic Commission for Africa said the World Bank report contained contradictions and lacked documentation.

The recent report said sub-Saharan Africa's economic plight was less dismal than believed. It said there were signs of a turnaround, particularly among nations that made adjustments with World Bank and IMF support.

Third World countries had often accused the two agencies of imposing overly harsh conditions for their aid, creating risks of social unrest.

"The question is whether this sudden turnaround is in fact a turnaround of Africa's economic situation, or whether it merely reflects a turnaround in the perception of some observers," the UN panel said.

Suffers

"The essence of the World Bank's conclusions . . . emanate from a compilation and presentation of basic statistics which differ from what is common practice, for example in other World Bank reports," the commission said.

"The report suffers from a lack of documentation regarding basic data, concepts and criteria which would allow the reader to replicate its analyses.

"It further does not show the degree of consistency commonly deemed necessary in serious economic research."

Herald 27/4/89

Change eating habits to beat famine

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NAIROBI — Africa should stop trying to eat like the West and go back to traditional foodstuffs if it is to eradicate famine, a new development plan for the continent says.

"Imitative modernism"; in which urban dwellers copy Western lifestyles and eating habits, must carry some of the blame for Africa's inability to feed itself.

The continent could produce abundant quantities of such staple foods as maize, sorghum, millet, yam and cassava, says the plan which finance and planning Ministers adopted at a meeting in April organised by the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

Africa's ecology did not suit widespread cultivation of wheat, barley, rice and oats — grains much sought after for everyday needs like bread and beer.

The plan, entitled "The African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes", warned that unless Africans ate more local food the goal of self-sufficiency "will forever remain unfeasible".

In the circumstances, Africa will find itself in the always humiliating situation of food-dependence, it added.

The Lagos Plan of Action, endorsed in 1980, enshrined the target of food self-sufficiency as the top priority for the poorest continent.

But reports submitted to this month's ministerial meeting showed the target was still well beyond reach.

Population

One quoted UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) figures which indicated that in two decades Africa would need to spend $28 billion (about R72 billion) every year on food imports.

Its own exports like cocoa, coffee and tea would earn only R30 billion annually by then.

The FAO estimated that food and drink imports cost a total R25 billion in 1988 — some 16,5 percent of total merchandise imports.

Other reports portrayed the hardships of farmers trying to cope with outdated tools and technology, lack of research and fertilisers, environmental decay, locusts, and — in a continent plagued by recurrent drought — inadequate irrigation aids leading to an overwhelming reliance on rain-fed cultivation.

Civil wars have hampered food production and aggravated hunger, and Africa's bulging population, expected to grow to one billion by the year 2000 from 600 million now, adds to the problem.

"Today one out of every four Africans depends on food aid for his survival," said the UN Commission's executive secretary, Mr Adebayo Adedeji.

"With a population of one billion, where is the food aid to come from?" — Reuter.

Soviet Untag man a KGB agent, says US

SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON — The Soviet UN diplomat deputed to serve on the Untag commission, that will oversee Namibia's first election, has been identified as a KGB agent by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Washington Times reported yesterday that UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar ignored private State Department protests and that Viktor Andreyev left New York to take up his post in Windhoek two weeks ago.

He had been serving in the UN secretariat since 1985.

"We asked why they were sending an intelligence officer and said we opposed it. He has never seen a fair election," a State Department official was quoted as saying.

UN spokesman Francois Giuliani confirmed Andreyev's posting but denied any knowledge of his being a KGB agent.

The Times quoted US officials who said the the Soviet Union was expected to establish a mission in Windhoek which would become a "major KGB base".

Moscow, meanwhile, was cutting back its embassy in Luanda from "several hundred diplomats and staff" to 20 persons.

□ KEVIN JACOBS reports from Windhoek that UN administrator and Untag chief Martti Ahtisaari has appealed to SA-led security forces in Namibia to keep their fingers off the trigger while Swapo guerrillas clear out of the territory.

"It is imperative that residual Swapo personnel be given safe passage while they make their way to the border," he said yesterday.

Restraint

Ahtisaari publicised his concern a day after police announced that three Swapo guerrillas were killed by security patrols freed from a 60-hour confinement to base.

He appealed for "maximum restraint" by all sides over the next two weeks, set by the three-nation Joint Monitoring Commission last week as a test period to verify final withdrawal of all Swapo's guerrillas to points behind the 16th parallel in southern Angola.

Costly SA loses out on Untag spending

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — South Africa is too expensive for the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (Untag).

Untag officials had been expected to go on a multi-million-rand South African buying spree for equipment needed in Namibia.

But Association of Chambers of Commerce (Assocom) foreign trade secretary Mrs Bess Robertson said she had been informed by the purchasing division of Untag in Windhoek that South African prices "were too high".

Mrs Robertson said when the first lists for equipment needed by Untag were received, Assocom circulated these among all Chambers of Commerce and Industry countrywide, and Untag compiled its own database of suppliers from the responses.

"When I was in Windhoek in March they told me they could compile a very good database and had received tenders from all over the world.

VEHICLES

"Last week they said that they hadn't bought from South Africa in many cases as our prices were so high," Mrs Robertson said.

"Motor vehicles, for example, were not bought from South Africa but directly from Japan. The German government also donated a large number."

She said she tried to establish the position on foodstuffs last week but the UN again told her the prices were too high and that they would get most from abroad.

"South Africa is not doing as well from this as we had hoped but things may change. For the expatriation camps which are still to be established they may need a lot of supplies which it is expected will come from South Africa."

UN wants SA troops back in their bases

NEW YORK — UN secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar, gravely concerned about the situation in northern Namibia, had asked SA to order its troops there back to base, his spokesman said yesterday.

He disclosed the development after Perez de Cuellar briefed the Security Council. Perez de Cuellar had told chief SA delegate Jeremy Shearar of his "grave concern about certain aspects of the present situation" and asked that troops be confined to base much earlier than the May 13 date envisaged in an agreement reached last week in Cape Town.

Questioned further, the spokesman said Perz de Cuellar believed the troops "should be confined to base now".

Contrary to a report by Shearar, there was no evidence that Swapo rebels planned to re-infiltrate the northern area to retrieve weapons they left behind after last month's bloody clashes with the SADF.

The Cape Town accord was reached by representatives of SA, Angola and Cuba, with the US and the Soviet Union represented by diplomatic observers.

The spokesman said UN representatives Martti Ahtisaari and Marrack Goulding, who were also present, lodged objections

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UN wants SA troops back in their bases

to the proposed May 13 target.

"The secretary-general is responsible for the Untag operation in Namibia. In his judgment, the deployment of these forces for so long is something to be concerned about," the spokesman said, referring to Untag.

□ KEVIN JACOBS reports from Windhoek that Foreign Minister Pik Botha's warning of an imminent Swapo invasion from Angola triggered international alarms, but by late yesterday security forces had no evidence of new infiltrations.

● From Page 1

Puzzled UN officials — who alerted offices in Angola and New York — wondered what had touched off Botha's outburst in Parliament.

Security forces spokesman Fanie Krige said: "I have no information of anything happening in the north.

"Nothing untoward has happened today and all is quiet up there."

Senior UN official Cedric Thornberry said: "We are puzzled by the whole business."

There are two sets of clues but the answers are the same

UN group issues book of cartoons lambasting apartheid

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The UN Special Committee Against Apartheid, constantly seeking ways to promote its campaigns, has just issued a book of 71 political cartoons slamming South Africa's race policy and including contributions from newspapers in such "bastions of freedom" as Iran, East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Since the publication appears to be directed primarily at a Western audience, 25 cartoons are by Americans. There is one from Britain.

Press freedom

Evidently, the committee is concerned about press freedom in the Republic. A cartoon by the American Vic Runtz depicts the late President John Vorster smashing a light bulb marked "Free Press" and President Botha greets a beggar wearing a sign reading "Blind, Deaf and Dumb" with the remark: "A potential journalist."

A well-known American cartoonist, Jeff Danziger, drew a correspondent heavily burdened with cameras and confronted by a security officer who orders: "Shoot to kill ... he's armed!"

"See, the problem is when people carry TV cameras it incites violence," says an armed security man depicted in a contribution by the American Dana Summers.

Going crazy

A cartoon in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* by Tony Auth carries the caption: "Our blacks are happy and content, but as soon as someone points a television camera at them they go crazy. Looting, rioting, burning. Something must be done."

There are other drawings in the same vein, including French cartoonist Jean Plantu's smiling policeman sitting on a gagged and bound black while he peruses a newspaper whose front page reads: "Aujourd'hui, rien" (Today, nothing).

A foreword by Major-General Joseph Garba, chief delegate of Nigeria and committee chairman, expresses the hope that the booklet "will prove to be an additional tool in the international campaign against apartheid".

The American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organisation, is identified as having helped to obtain permission for the reproduction of all the copyright cartoons.

Untag official denies working for the KGB

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — Accused KGB agent Victor Andrev denied US allegations he works for Moscow's spymasters, and UN officials defended his appointment as a senior UN administrator based in Namibia's capital.

"I consider it to be ridiculous, and not aimed at myself but at Untag," the Soviet official said at his office here yesterday.

The 10-year veteran of the UN's New York secretariat said he "does not and never has" worked for the KGB, Moscow's secret service.



● ANDREV

SA government spokesman Gerhard Roux said Administrator-General Louis Pienaar was unaware of Andrev's suspected KGB links.

Reports from Washington cited unidentified sources in the US State Department as querying Andrev's appointment as regional director for Untag, overseeing Namibia's passage to independence. According to the reports, the State Department protestedto UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar about Andrev's appointment.

Cedric Thornberry, senior aide to Untag chief Martti Ahtisaari, defended Andrev as "one of the very highly qualified people from the UN secretariat who have been selected to be senior officials of Untag".

UN chief under fire from Pik

MINISTER of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha has blasted United Nations Secretary-General Dr Perez de Cuellar for "protecting" Swapo.

In a letter to Dr de Cuellar, Mr Botha suggested that his attitude to Swapo's violations of the peace accords could "encourage Swapo to repeat its senseless incursions" of April 1.

"I urge you, Mr Secretary-General, to make it clear to Swapo that it should comply immediately with its commitments."

Mr Botha said he was perturbed by the views and allegations Dr de Cuellar had conveyed to South Africa's Ambassador to the UN, Mr Jeremy Shearar, on May 3 and in a report to the Security Council on May 4.

"You have lost sight of the elementary fact that Swapo ... alone was responsible for the current disruption of the settlement process ... Swapo categorically undertook not to engage in tactical movements, cross-border movements and all acts of violence and intimidation in, or having effect in, Namibia."

As long as all Swapo forces were not confined to base north of the 16th parallel and Untag could not verify this fact, Swapo was in breach of its commitments to the Secretary-General and the Security Council.

PETER FABRICIUS
Political Correspondent

"I do not find a single word in your report of May 4 mentioning this fact nor condemning it."

Referring to criticism by Dr de Cuellar of the two-week verification period of Swapo withdrawal, Mr Botha pointed out that this had been agreed to by the Joint Commission.

He said Dr de Cuellar was "implying that Swapo should be pardoned for one-sidedly violating its commitments and that my Government as well as the governments of Angola and Cuba should be blamed for taking action to restore the situation as it should have existed on 1 April 1989.

"There is a clear tendency on your part and on the part of the Special Representative to ignore the agreements reached between Angola, Cuba and South Africa ...

"On the one hand, you overlook the fact that Swapo illegally crossed the border carrying large quantities of automatic arms, RPG-7s and surface-to-air missiles and that Swapo cached much of this equipment.

"This attitude on your part is not acceptable to the South African Government."

ren

Untag call: freedom for prisoners

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — UN officials on Namibia's independence programme have called on SA and Swapo to free Namibian political prisoners and detainees.

Letters urging freedom for political prisoners and co-operation in tracing Namibians listed as missing have been sent to the governments of SA, Angola and Zambia, and to Swapo and other political groups in the territory.

A list of about 300 names of suspected detainees is appended to the letters, Untag deputy chief Cedric Thornberry said yesterday.

Unanswered

Anti-Swapo groups in Namibia accuse the guerrilla movement of holding at least 100 dissident members in detention camps in Angola and Zambia, while Swapo officials say they will demand the release of supporters jailed under terrorism and security legislation.

Unanswered yet is the status of Swapo guerrillas or activists jailed by Walvis Bay courts under SA's jurisdiction for violence in the port enclave.

Under the independence programme, Namibian political prisoners or detainees must be released by the first week of June.

Cash shortage blocks environmental plan

Africa told to face up to problems if it wants help

NAIROBI — Africa must show more resolve in tackling its environmental problems if it wants foreign donors to help, a UN-sponsored report says.

The report says the amount of money allotted by African governments for an environmental campaign launched in 1985 remains a serious block on implementing the plan.

While possibilities for outside assistance exist, donors are waiting for clear evidence of commitment on the part of the African governments before they make their firm and concrete offers, it adds.

Cairo

The report, compiled by officials from the Nairobi-based UN environment programme (Unep) and representatives of African countries, will be submitted to a three-day meeting of the continent's environment ministers starting in Nairobi tomorrow.

The conference is part of the so-called Cairo programme for African co-operation launched in 1985.

The Cairo programme's goals are to halt environmental degradation, help Africans to produce enough food and energy for themselves and to achieve a balance between environmental resources and the population.

Africa's population has tripled over the past 40 years to 600-million people and is expected to reach one billion by the year 2 000.

The conference will pay particular attention to toxic waste dumping in Africa and to threats to the world's ozone layer posed by chlorofluorocarbons, widely used in aerosols, refrigeration and packaging, Unep said.

A row which erupted last year over toxic waste subsided after most of the world's governments adopted a treaty in March to check trade in such waste.

A spokesman for the African group said then, however, that although they approved the treaty they would consult further before signing.

In one case, 4 000 tons of Italian toxic waste was found in leaking barrels in the Nigerian port of Koko. A ship chartered by Italy to remove the waste was turned away from five Western European countries before returning to Italy.

The Cairo programme focuses on four broad areas of concern; deserts and arid lands, rivers and lake basins, forests and woodlands and the sea.

But in a continent fighting to cope with huge foreign debt and widespread poverty, and where services like health and education suffer from shrinking budgets, environmental issues do not necessarily rank among many governments' top priorities.

The report noted a meeting was held in March 1988 between representatives of 19 African countries, 13 donor countries and UN agencies to discuss the programme.

Urged

Donors named projects they were willing to support and suggested African countries approach them for aid. A year later some donor nations had still not been contacted.

African governments were also urged to contribute some of the funds they obtained from the UN development programme and other sources to help implement the Cairo programme. But by February only 15 countries had done so. — Reuter.

SOWETAN Tuesday May 9 1989

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UN plea over missing 300

SOWETAN AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

WINDHOEK — Letters have been sent by the United Nations to the governments of South Africa, Angola and Zambia, and to Swapo, asking for assistance in obtaining information about 300 people believed to be held as detainees or who have disappeared.

The letters are being sent in accordance with a stipulation in the Security Council Resolution 435 settlement plan, which states that all political detainees or prisoners, wherever they are held, must be released. In addition to prisoners held by the South Africans, there are also alleged to be a number of detainees held by Swapo.

UN official, Mr Cedric Thornberry, told reporters in Windhoek yesterday that a list of 300 names appended to the letters included not only those believed to be in detention, but also those who had "disappeared".

Mr Thornberry once again pledged that the UN would act impartially in the Namibian independence process, saying the world body's Transition Assistance Group (Untag) had repeatedly warned its members against conduct that could be "misinterpreted" by certain sections of the population.

He remarked that there had already been some occasions when Untag troops or police monitors had returned gestures which elsewhere would have been seen as a "sincere gesture of reciprocity or solidarity" but which had been seen in Namibia to have a "political connotation."

The principle of impartiality was a "two-way street" and he expected the Namibian administration under Administrator-General Mr Louis Pienaar, to act in the same impartial manner.

The UN was slated last week by Mr Pienaar for allegedly showing bias towards Swapo in a number of incidents around the country.

B Daily 16/5/89

Namibian visit for Perez may still storm

NEW YORK — In response to bitter African criticism of the UN operation in Namibia, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is considering a personal visit to the territory, diplomats said yesterday.

They said Perez, after meeting delegates from non-aligned and African states, also mentioned a possibility of naming an African deputy chief of Untag in Namibia.

Martti Ahtisaari, the Finnish UN Secretariat official in charge of Untag, has drawn much of the African fire. It was he who recommended SA troops be freed from confinement in their Namibian bases to help local security police deal with infiltrating guerrillas. More than 300 guerrillas were killed in subsequent clashes.

Ahtisaari's handling of the situation has left a residue of bitterness, particularly in Swapo, which has long been recognised by the UN General Assembly as the "sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people" and has the right to maintain a UN observer mission in New York.

If Perez were to go to Namibia, it would probably not be until some time next month, diplomatic sources said. This would represent a policy shift as his spokesman has said repeatedly he would not go to Windhoek until after independence. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN official tries to cool SA tempers

The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — The United Nations Transition Assistance Group (Untag) in Namibia has denied there is conflict with South Africa over the actions of the 500 UN police monitors deployed in the territory.

Senior UN official Mr Cedric Thornberry yesterday attempted to pour oil on the stormy water of the relationship between Untag and South African Administrator-General Mr Louis Pienaar.

Mr Pienaar accused Untag on Tuesday of interfering in the administration of Namibia, which, until independence, remains in South Africa's hands.

Mr Thornberry told journalists in Windhoek he did not believe the monitors were acting outside their mandate. The UN policemen were receiving complaints which they then had to "filter" before passing them on to the SWA police for full investigation.

INTIMIDATION

All investigations by the SWA police would be monitored by the UN policemen.

Mr Thornberry said a "considerably larger number" than 50 complaints of intimidation or misconduct had been made to the UN police.

● Sapa reports that Mr Pienaar and UN special representative Mr Martti Ahtisaari have formed a working group to investigate all alleged violations of the principle of impartiality.

● Two policemen from Oshakati in northern Namibia were suspects in a shooting which claimed the life of a 26-year-old Swapo supporter, Mr David Indongo, police spokesman Chief Inspector Kierie du Rand said yesterday.

● Sapa reports that five reception centres to accommodate returning refugees and exiles are being established in Namibia. People are expected to start arriving on May 22.

Untag police strength in Namibia to double

The Star's Foreign News Service

NEW YORK — The United Nations Secretary-General yesterday decided to double the strength of Untag's police component in Namibia to 1 000.

Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar informed the Security Council of his decision during a closed-door meeting called to hear a report on the situation in the territory.

Sir Crispin Tickell, the British chief delegate who is the council president for the month, said Dr Perez de Cuellar also told members he proposed to take steps to strengthen the position of his special representative in Namibia, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, who has run into some criticism for his handling of events so far.

Sir Crispin said naming a new deputy for the Finnish official was mentioned, but he declined to confirm that an African would be chosen for the post.

The Star's Africa News Service reports that the repatriation of the estimated 58 000 Namibian refugees cannot begin until an amnesty has been declared and all restrictive laws have been repealed, says a senior UN official.

Mr Nicolas Bwakira, the head of the UN's High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) operation in Namibia, said in Windhoek yesterday: "The basic conditions of security and safety must be met" before the operation could begin. If the conditions were met, then the UNHCR could start the operation, as planned under Resolution 435, on May 15."

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Untag team conquers Namibian logistic nightmare

The head of the UN advance party in Namibia, Lieutenant-Colonel Jean-Robert Hinse of the Canadian Army, has completed an arduous job. His team ensured men and equipment were correctly placed. **BRENDAN SEERY** of The Star's Africa News Service reports.

WINDHOEK — Without Lieutenant-Colonel Jean-Robert Hinse and his team of 70 experts operating in both New York and in Namibia, the United Nations operation may never have got off the ground.

As head of the reception and assistance team, Colonel Hinse was the man who was responsible for seeing that 4 500 soldiers, 500 police monitors, 637 vehicles of all types, 309 cargo containers and more than 10 000 tons of freight all found their way to Namibia.

A total of 75 different air flights, involving airforces of Britain, USA, Canada, Australia, Spain and Italy, as well as airlines from Mozambique, the USSR, Ethiopia, Kenya and Switzerland were drawn in.

Troops and equipment left for Namibia aboard aircraft and ships that left from 33 different departure points around the globe.

US Airforce C-5 Galaxy jet transport planes ferried Australian engineers via Nairobi, Finnish infantry soldiers via NATO bases in Western Europe, and Malaysian troops via Europe and Africa.

The men and women of the Canadian logistics unit handling Untag's supplies arrived in Windhoek aboard a Boeing 707 and a C-130 Hercules from their country's airforce.

Polish peacekeepers came in via Italy on board an Iluyshin passenger plane belonging to the USSR state airline, Aeroflot, while another Iluyshin high-wing jet cargo plane made history by becoming the first Soviet plane to touch down here.

The five cargo ships docked according to schedule in the harbour at Walvis Bay, and convoys of white-painted UN trucks streamed along the desert road to a marshalling point at the resort town of Swakopmund. A team of 70 drivers were flown in aboard a giant Galaxy from Denmark to help move the mass of vehicles.

The figures are awesome:

- 4 456 military personnel and 500 police monitors moved by air.
- 637 vehicles moved by sea.
- 80 vehicles moved by air.
- 10 000 tons of cargo sealifted.
- 1 100 tons of cargo airlifted.
- 22 special trains used for in-country deployment.
- 1 300 flying hours chartered.

For his role in the successful deployment of the UN's Transition Assistance Group (Untag) in Namibia Colonel Hinse has received the warm praise of his UN colleagues.

The deployment phase officially finished last week.

The job had been "a big headache", Colonel Hinse admittedd in an interview in Windhoek.

However, he made no secret of his pride in completing the operation within the 60-day deadline provided for under the Security Council Resolution 435 peace and independence plan for Namibia.

Colonel Hinse and his colleague, Lieutenant-Colonel Andy Seguin, were seconded to the UN Headquarters in New York by the Canadian government in August last year.

Colonel Hinse, who is ordinarily stationed at the National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa, said Canada's armed forces were considered some of the world's leaders in military logistics, supply and deployment, and had helped in this capacity on a number of previous and current UN missions.

In October last year, before the UN peace plan had been accepted and ratified by all the countries concerned and the world body itself, Colonel Hinse flew to Namibia with an advance team.

The team was responsible not only for transport troops and equipment, but also for arranging accomodation and food for them on arrival, as well as air traffic control and medical services.

The fierce fighting which broke out in northern Namibia at the beginning of April between insurgents of the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) and South African troops necessitated some fancy footwork.

Colonel Hinse and his team hastily arranged additional airlifts to bring in an infantry battalion from Finland to bolster the UN forces who were thin on the ground in the battle zones.

He said, however, that the fighting did not mean drastic changes to the rest of the timetable.

Colonel Hinse, who comes from Quartier Villeray in Montreal, now heads for home — hopefully for some well-earned rest.

He doesn't yet know what his next assignment will be.



Canada's Lieutenant-Colonel Jean-Robert Hinse, head of the 70-strong Untag advance party.

'Boat people' take to the seas again

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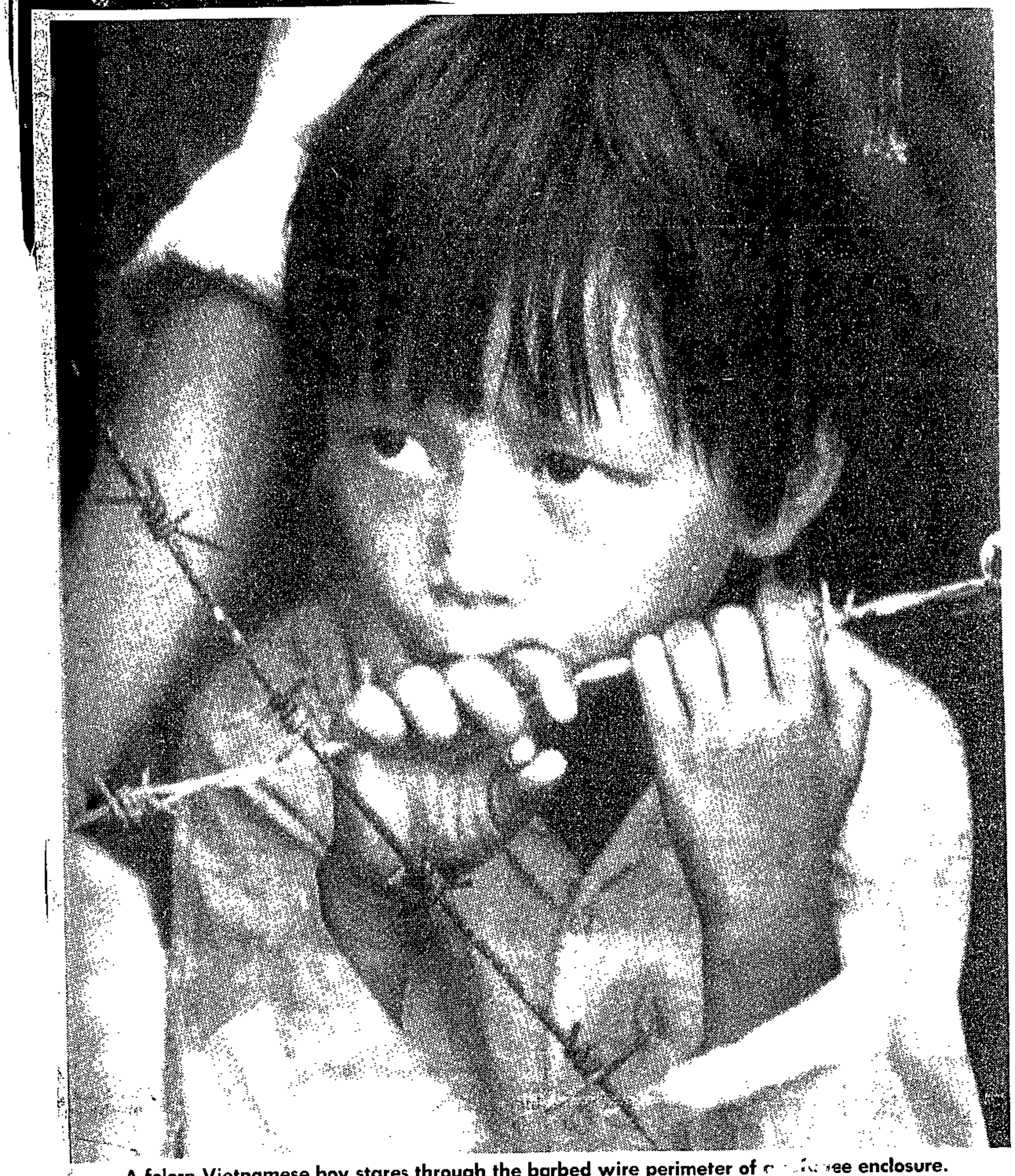
Star 19/5/84

A slow boat to asylum. The latest reports on the plight of the Vietnamese refugees flooding into Hong Kong.



A folorn Vietnamese boy stares through the barbed wire perimeter of a refugee enclosure.

In the past two weeks, 4 000 people have reached Hong Kong from Vietnam by junks, sailing boats, rowing boats or trawler.

They are arriving at the rate of 650 a day.

What the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) calls an overwhelming and unprecedented influx is also being measured in Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

The surge will have featured prominently at this week's talks between British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the High Commissioner for refugees, Mr Jean-Pierre Hocke. No-one is certain what is the cause.

It may be the weather, which is at the moment calm enough for a sea crossing; it could be that another poor harvest has plunged Vietnam into still greater poverty.

It could be sudden panic caused by the realisation that there is barely a month to go before an international meeting in Geneva to try to resolve the fate of Vietnam's refugees.

It could even be increased pressure from the Vietnamese government, which sees in the refugees one of its very few bargaining counters to normalise relations with the West.

Whatever the cause, it has spelt confusion for receiving countries, reopened doubts about the commission's role in the region, and sparked new fears throughout the world that the UNHCR is being sucked into condoning a policy that will lead to enforced repatriation.

Lst year the plight of boat people in Hong Kong was bad enough.

People had been arriving in a steady stream since the fall of Saigon in 1975. They were taken into camps where they lived in discomfort while decisions were made about their resettlement.

They were at least accepted as bona fide refugees, in keeping with a 1979 international agreement. But on June 16 a new policy came into force.

All new arrivals are to be screened by the Hong Kong immigration service, watched over by the UN commission.

Those screened "in" were to be processed for resettlement, those screened "out" were to be given the option ti return to Vietnam.

On paper the arrangement seemed fine.

But Western countries have become wary of what they call "economic migrants" — people eager to better their lives by adopting the disguise of refugees.

In practice, the Hong Kong policy has been a catastrophic failure.

Since June last year more than 15 000 boat people have reached the colony. Of these, 1 200 have been screened — but only three have been screened in.

In 1988 about 44 000 refugees left Vietnam by boat to seek asylum abroad: 18 451 went to Hong Kong; 13 312 to Malaysia; 5 448 to Thailand; 3 827 to the Philippines, and the rest to Indonesia, Singapore and Japan.

Those who travelled by the Gulf of Thailand faced appalling hazards at the hands of pirates, who pillaged the boats and raped the women. — The Independent News Service.

Vote against firms doing business with SA

NEW YORK — The US and Britain cast the only votes against a UN resolution on Friday condemning trans-national corporations that "continue to collaborate with the racist minority regime in SA".

The Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) economic committee's vote was 34 in favour and two against.

The resolution, one of several dealing with trans-national corporations, will go to the ECOSOC plenary for endorsement.

It said it deeply regretted that measures taken so far by some governments and trans-national corporations fell short of the comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against SA called for by the UN.

It also called on governments to prohibit their trans-national corporations from all forms of collaboration with SA including not only direct investments but also services, technology licensing, distribution and franchising agreements and other such arrangements.

legal practice there.

UN group in attempt to strengthen oil embargo

Star 24/5/89

The Star Bureau

NEW YORK — A United Nations group which heard evidencelast month on the effectiveness of the voluntary oil embargo against South Africa has urged all states to adopt measures to strengthen the ban, pending Security Council action that would make it mandatory.

Recommended by the United Nations General Assembly, the embargo has been accepted by many states, but importers have found ways to get around it, although at some cost in terms of higher prices.

ENORMOUS COST

According to the UN group, "the cost to South Africa as a consequence of the voluntary embargo was enormous financially, politically and strategically".

In its report, the group called for enhanced enforcement measures against those who violated the ban and more cooperation among states, institutions and inter-governmental bodies to make it more effective.

The panel reiterated its recommendation, endorsed by the General Assembly, that the Security Council should make the embargo mandatory. This is impossible as long as the United States and Britain, which have the power of veto, oppose economic sanctions against the Republic.

Namibia to have new UN spokesman

The Star Bureau

NEW YORK — The United Nations is to have a new spokesman in Namibia, replacing Mr Anwar Cherif, who was originally designated for the job, and Mr Cedric Thornberry, who has been doing it since the crisis over Swapo incursions.

The new man is Mr Fred Eckhard, who spent weeks in Namibia before returning to New York and now will go back there as the principal media adviser to Mr Martti Ahtisaari, head of Untag and special representative of the Secretary-General.

Mr Eckhard, an American who was an official of the UN Association of the United States and editor of its well-regarded publications until he joined the UN secretariat, is due to arrive in Windhoek later this week.

Troops return to base

IN THE short life, 53 days old today, of the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 it has, on a number of occasions, come perilously close to collapse.

On Friday, in yet another effort to save it and get the Namibian peace plan once more firmly on the tracks, members of the joint committee, Angola, Cuba and South Africa — held a crucial round of talks in Cahama, Angola.

The United States and the Soviet Union attended as observers.

The "Cahama minute" was drawn up by the three nations after hearing confirmation that South African soldiers in Namibia were once more back in their bases and Swapo forces in Angola had moved to bases north of the 16th parallel.

The joint agreement was that the implementation of Resolution 435, which should culminate in free and fair elections in Namibia, must be continued.

The immediate benefit ought to be a cesation of hostilities in the country, at least in the northern region which has known no lasting peace in many of the last 22 years.

Indeed, the Cahama Minute proclaims a de facto ceasefire in the north of Namibia, on the basis of assurances that both the SADF and Swapo's armed troops have been confined to their basis.

If there is peace in the country, especially in the north, then one of the major stumbling blocks on the road back home for an estimated 58 000 refugees will have been removed.— *Sowetan Africa News Service.*

SA laws may have to be repealed — UN

WINDHOEK — SA legislation controlling publications in Namibia would have to be repealed if it was found to be inhibitive of free and fair elections, UN spokesman Cedric Thornberry said yesterday.

He said negotiations were still continuing between officials of UN special representative Martti Ahtisaari and the office of the Administrator-General, Louis Pienaar, to abolish restrictive and discriminatory laws, and the declaration of a general amnesty.

These measures were necessary to prepare the way for the return of Namibian refugees and exiles.

The UN had received the names and personal details of 201 people who were released by Swapo at camps north of Lubango in Angola.

Thornberry said the UN would compare the list with names appearing in consolidated documents which it had obtained in the last weeks.

The names of 280 appeared in those papers listing political prisoners and detainees held by SA and Swapo. — Sapa.

ursday June 1 1989

UN urges better deal for women

LONDON — Women hold the key to economic development and slower population growth, but many are trapped by cultural values and fundamentalist religions that put men first, says the head of the United Nations Population Fund.

Dr Nafis Sadik of Pakistan issued the agency's *1989 State of World Population Report* last week and called for a fivefold increase in world spending on family planning. She said population control should be on a par with major economic investments.

With the world's population at 5,2 billion and current growth at 90 million people a year, the UN forecasts a stable population of 10 billion 100 years from now.

"This will not happen unless more of the world's women are given more health care, family planning services, education and employment opportunities," Dr Sadik told a news conference.

Without such measures, she said, the world's population could nearly triple to 14 million by the year 2100, crippling development and creating enormous potential for social upheaval. — Sapa-AP.

Caribbean plans ban on cricketers

Star 1/6/89

The Star's Foreign News Service

PORT OF SPAIN — England cricketers still on the United Nations blacklist for playing in South Africa will be denied entry into countries for next year's tour of the West Indies — if a recommendation from Caribbean sports Ministers is accepted by their governments.

"Notwithstanding the International Cricket Conference (ICC) decision, players must have their names removed from the UN register to gain access to a country," said a communique by the Caribbean Community (Caricom) sports Ministers.

The Ministers said the recommendation would be put to a Caricom heads of government conference in July.

The blacklist includes several English, Australian and West Indian players who have been to South Africa.

RIGHT OF REFUSAL

They can have their names removed by writing to the UN and promising not to go to South Africa in future.

But the British government does not recognise the register, and the Test and County Cricket Board has said that while it voted for and upholds the ICC resolution, it would not advise players one way or the other on what to do.

The ICC resolution, proposed by the West Indies and passed unanimously in January, imposes bans from international cricket of three to five years for players going to South Africa from April 1.

But it exonerates all who went before that date.

"Governments have the right to refuse entry into their countries for any reason," said West Indies Cricket Board president Mr Clyde Walcott.

Star 9/6/89

UN's new Namibia man not a stranger to diplomacy

By JON QWELANE
of The Star's Africa
News Service

The newly-appointed United Nations Deputy Special Representative for Namibia, is no newcomer to high-level diplomacy and endeavours to find peaceful solutions to regional conflicts.

WINDHOEK — Mr Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, a man of vast diplomatic experience, has been involved with the Namibian issue from the early days of UN Security Council Resolution 435 since 1978. The following year he took part in the "Namibia proximity talks" in New York.

Attended

Before then, between 1973 and 1974, then Assistant Principal for External Affairs in the Office of the President of Botswana, Mr Legwaila had attended the 28th and 29th sessions of the UN General Assembly.

In 1974 he was made senior private secretary (political assistant) to the then President of Botswana, the late Sir Seretse Khama, and he held the post until 1980.

Mr Legwaila's first appearance on the scene of regional peace initiatives was in 1976 when he took part in the Rhodesian settlement talks in Geneva.

He was also there when the Lancaster House Talks, chaired by Britain's Lord Carrington, formally ended the war and transformed Rhodesia into today's black-ruled Zimbabwe.

Diplomat

A career diplomat, Mr Legwaila has been Botswana's Permanent Representative to the United Nations since 1980. In addition to that he has at the same time been his country's High Commissioner to Guyana, Jamaica, and Ambassador to Cuba — posts he held concurrently with that at the UN.

He has regularly represented Botswana at sessions of the Organisation for African Unity (OAU) since 1975, and has been his nation's envoy at meetings of the non-aligned countries since 1976.

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and history, and a masters in international relations, both from Canadian universities.

Mr Legwaila (52) assumes his new post in Windhoek in two weeks, though the appointment as deputy to Mr Martti Ahtisaari takes effect this coming Monday.

His new rank will be that of Assistant Secretary-General of the UN, the same as Mr Ahtisaari's.

Jurist to probe Namibian cases

BDay 14/6/89 336

WINDHOEK — UN special representative in Namibia, Martti Ahtisaari, sent a second round of letters last week to Swapo and the SA, Zambian and Angolan governments about lists of political prisoners and detainees, UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said in Windhoek yesterday.

He told a media briefing he understood independent jurist Prof Carl Norgaard was looking into "11 cases where the SA government doubts the political nature of the offences".

There were 28 convicted and four awaiting trial prisoners whose positions were being discussed between officials of the Administrator-General's office and the UN.

Eckhard said 379 Namibian exiles and refugees — 147 from Zambia and 232 from Angola — arrived in Windhoek yesterday at the start of the UN-sponsored repatriation programme.

Four flights landed at Windhoek and mechanical problems with one aircraft were responsible for the lower-than-expected number of arrivals. Eleven flights were originally scheduled for June 12.

Eckhard said the repatriation schedule for the first week, which "had seemed a little ambitious", had been scaled back "for all the wrinkles to be ironed out of the process".



● AHTISAARI

"This in no way suggests that the overall schedule cannot be adhered to," he added.

A few flights planned for yesterday were cancelled because of organisational difficulties at the points of departure.

In reply to a question, Eckhard said all Namibians returning through the Windhoek airport entry point were allowed into the country, but could not yet confirm whether the same applied to Ondangua in the north.

Asked about the welcome returnees received from Swapo supporters, Eckhard said while it did not seem to be an organised political demonstration, "it was inconsistent with what we asked for".

"We can only reiterate our initial appeal to all parties again to refrain from any political activity at the (reception) centres or at the airports."

On the question of the 201 detainees allegedly released by Swapo in Angola, he said they were being "looked after" by the Angolan goverment pending their return, which was being organised by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Concerning alleged refugees from Angola crossing the border into northern Namibia, Eckhard said the UN was looking into the matter.

He said the world body had "no confirmation whatsoever of fighting in southern Angola." — Sapa.

Delay in airlift of Frontline exiles

Namibian elections may be jeopardised

WINDHOEK — United Nations officials said yesterday that likely delays in completing the airlift home of 41 000 Namibian exiles would endanger the timing of elections planned for November.

"If the airlifts fall behind schedule, that puts the election date in doubt and that will throw another spanner in the works," a senior UN official told Reuters.

Hundreds of political refugees, some of whom have lived in exile for decades after fleeing South African rule in Namibia, were airlifted into three airports in different part of the country on the second day of a UN-organised repatriation operation.

Some flights from neighbouring black states have already been delayed, making it unlikely that the airlift will be completed within the six-week timetable.

Independence elections are planned for November, when a constituent assembly is due to be voted into power.

The independence plan has already come close to collapse following bloody clashes between South African-led security forces and black nationalist guerillas of the South West African Peoples Organisation (Swapo).

It was saved by the diplomatic efforts of the three major parties to the agreement — South Africa, Cuba and Angola.

Optimism

Pretoria has agreed to decolonise Namibia if Cuba withdraws 50 000 troops from neighbouring Angola.

Despite the UN officials' remarks, the overwhelming mood in Windhoek was optimistic, with some refugees who arrived on Monday leaving UN registration points to return home.

The *Namibian* newspaper, a harsh critic of South African rule in the territory, told the returning exiles yesterday that they should not relax yet. "Namibia is no Utopia. The forces which contributed to your departure from the land of your birth have by no means been silenced," it said in a front page editorial.

At UN transit camps, security was tightened yesterday to prevent harassment of the so-called "returnees".

It was a far cry from Monday when journalists were allowed to mix freely with the former exiles inside refugee camps and Swapo supporters sang freedom songs around the perimeter fences.

"The people need peace, quiet and privacy now," a camp supervisor said. — Reuter.

Blacks 'positive' about owning homes

By Esmaré van der Merwe, Reuter

Lendl is off UN blacklist against SA

NEW YORK — Tennis star Ivan Lendl, golfing great Jack Nicklaus and gymnast Mary-Lou Retton are among 90 athletes removed in the past year from a UN sports "register" after promising not to participate in any future matches in South Africa.

"All these have stated categorically, and also in written form, that they will withhold co-operation with South Africa," ambassador Mr James Gbeho of Ghana told a news conference yesterday organised by the UN Centre against Apartheid.

He said 576 names had been added to the "Register of sports contacts with South Africa" during the past year, bringing the total since it was compiled in 1981 to 3 392.

A total of 224 deletions had been made since 1981, including the names of 45 US sports figures and 92 from Britain.

But Mr Gbeho denied the large number of additions meant the pressure on South Africa was failing. — Reuter.

'Release US funds to UN now'

Star 16/6/87 By David Braun, The Star Bureau 336

WASHINGTON — US Secretary of State Mr James Baker has urged the Senate to rescind a decision to tie American funds for the United Nations machinery in Namibia to compliance with regional peace accords.

The Senate recently approved by voice vote an amendment which would release $26 million (R73 million) of $78 million (R219 million) designated for southern African peacekeeping forces only when President Bush certified to Congress that all Swapo forces had been withdrawn to north of the 16th parallel in Angola.

The balance of the money would be released once Mr Bush certified that Cuban and South African troops had been withdrawn in accordance with the peace accords signed by the two countries and Angola.

The amendment has not been passed by the House of Representatives.

Conservative senators who proposed the amendment are deeply suspicious of Cuba, Swapo and the Angolan government, and they do not believe these parties can be trusted to implement their side of the peace accords.

Mr Baker told key senators yesterday the amendment would hamper effective implementation of the accords, and it could upset the work of 11 years of peace negotiations.

The State Department expressed its opposition to the amendment from the outset, saying the UN peacekeeping force was now in place in Namibia and deserved the full support of the US.

Untag now the kings of the road

2/09 19/6/89 336

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — One thing about the United Nations — they may be slow out of the stalls but when they get rolling, they really get rolling.

Foreign generosity has ensured that the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag) in Namibia now has a 1 500-vehicle fleet that must be the envy of most governments in Africa.

The most common colour for cars in Windhoek is white — with black lettering and missing number-plates. And the most common curse of local drivers is: "He's either drunk or he's **** Untag!"

After starting out firing distinctly on too few cylinders, Untag now has Namibia looking like the biggest open-air parking garage on the continent.

Courtesy of Japan, a large part of a donated fleet of 800 four-wheel-drive Toyota Land Cruiser station wagons (about R80 000 each) stands outside Untag's military headquarters in the Suiderhof suburb like the starting grid for the Rugged-Country-Doctor-of-the-Year Rally.

Then there are the 160 Volkswagens — sedans and mini-buses — that were a gift from West Germany. Plus the fat-cat Mercedes-Benzes driven by the top echelon, who also have diplomatic immunity. That's apart from locally hired cars.

In northern Owambo the organisation has leased a tougher line of run-about, Casspirs and Buffels — now painted white — from departing South African forces.

And late last week Untag advertised a tender for seven, 25-seater buses.

They may need more cars soon, to keep another 500 foreign policemen mobile when the officers requested in addition to the Namibia force is approved in New York.

But, strangely, some of the policemen drawn from about 15 national forces and already serving in Owambo don't have driving licences.

That seemed to have been forgotten from the list of qualifications the volunteers had to meet: at least six years' experience of police work and fluency in English.

Back in Windhoek, locals aren't convinced that any of Untag's 7 000 members have any driving ability. In retaliation, they've taken to stealing the distinctive black-on-white Untag number-plates — 41 at last official count.

One number-plate not spotted yet — but heavily bid for in advance — is UNTAG 435.

UN repatriation programme in Namibia well under way

336 Star 20/6/89

By Jon Qwelane,
The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — The United Nations programme to repatriate 47 000 Namibian exiles is well under way, and by yesterday 5 015 had arrived from Angola and Zamiba.

About 190 Swapo leaders and members also arrived on Sunday, but a United Nations spokesman said their trip had been privately arranged and not by the UN High Commission for Refugees.

Instability, particularly in the northern part of Namibia, has resulted in returnees asking to stay longer at the reception centres being run by the High Commission and the Council of Churches in Namibia.

The initial plan was to release refugees into the care of their families after one week at the centres to make room for other returnees. So far, only 149 returnees have left the reception centre at Dobra near Windhoek. There were no figures for the Ongwediva centre in the north.

There was still no word yesterday about more than 200 refugees in Swapo's Angolan camps who had allegedly been held by the organisation for "spying".

Swapo has said they have been released into the care of the Angolan government, but the UN has no firm information.

Our Special Correspondent reports from New York that the UN has delivered a letter of complaint about alleged intimidation in northern Namibia by elements of the Naminian police, Swapol.

Mr Martti Ahtisaari, head of Untag, informed the Administrator-General, Mr Louis Pienaar, that the UN expected urgent measures to correct the situation. But according to senior officials in New York, the issue is not regarded as a serious threat to the independence plan.

Mr Joseph Legwaila, the newly appointed deputy to Mr Ahtisaari, is expected to arrive in Windhoek tomorrow.

New organisation wants 1990 dedicated to African refugees

Star 21/6/87 (336)

Municipal Reporter

The fledgling Organisation for African Refugees has sent letters to mayors of South Africa's biggest towns asking them to appeal to the United Nations to make 1990 "The Year of the African Refugee".

Spokesman Mr J P Thomas said the patrons of the organisation were Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Dr Denis Worrall, Chief Mangosothu Buthelezi, the Anglican Bishop of Liverpool and former England cricket captain the Reverend David Shepherd, who visited this country last month, and former US Ambassador to South Africa Mr Edward Perkins.

Johannesburg mayor Mr Koos Roets said he only received his letter on Monday and was considering his reaction.

UN transit camps full

Namibian refugees are 'afraid of going home'

Star 22/6/89

336

By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — Namibian refugees are apparently scared of returning to their homes in the north of the country and are reluctant to leave transit camps run by the UN's High Commissioner for Refugees.

The head of the UNHCR mission in Windhoek, Mr Nicolas Bwakira, said he was aware of the problem, but would not comment further until he had exact figures of the number of people who had left the transit and reception centres.

Under the plan to repatriate more than 40 000 Namibians from Angola and Zambia, returning refugees are expected to stay in church and UNHCR-run reception centres in Namibia for up to seven days, before leaving to be re-united with their families.

According to a Windhoek newspaper, *The Times of Namibia*, very few refugees have so far left te DoBra reception centre outside the city, and the camp is said to be "100 percent full".

Fear attacks

A church worker at the centre, the Rev Franz Houben, told the paper people were in fear of returning to their homes in northern Namibia because they felt they could be targets for their political opponents.

A refugee who returned home last week from Angola said he was worried about the presence in the existing police force of members of Koevoet.

The South African administration maintains, however, that refugees could be used for political purposes by agitators preying on their concerns.

Another Windhoek newspaper, *Die Republikein*, claimed yesterday that Swapo's Radio Freedom, which broadcasts from Luanda each evening, had been warning refugees to be on their guard because they could be murdered by "agents of the Boers".

The UN office in Windhoek admits that fewer refugees are leaving the camps than was originally intended, but says the situation is better in the reception centres in the north than in Windhoek.

UN to probe role of transnationals in SA

The Star's Foreign News Service

NEW YORK — Eleven prominent persons, including two former Chiefs of State, have been appointed to a United Nations panel that will hold hearings in Geneva in September on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia.

The group will take oral and written testimony and submit recommendations later to the UN Secretary-General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar.

At a UN press conference, Mr Peter Hansen, executive director of the Commission on Transnational Corporations, said the South African Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Industry were being invited to send representatives.

He predicted a more positive response from 800 companies with interests in South Africa than was the case for hearings in 1985. He said these were greeted with some suspicion and attracted only one business group, the International Chamber of Commerce.

DISINVESTED

Two questions would be uppermost, Mr Hansen said: whether transnational corporations in South Africa contributed to the elimination of apartheid or whether they strengthened the system.

Noting that 277 companies, including 155 based in the United States, had disinvested from South Africa since 1984, he said several sold out to local interests and only about 50 "left South Africa completely".

The UN panel will include former President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe, former President Belisario Betancourt of Colombia and former Chancellor Burno Kreisky of Austria.

The hearings will be held from September 4 to 6.

APARTHEID: FIRMS FACE QUIZ

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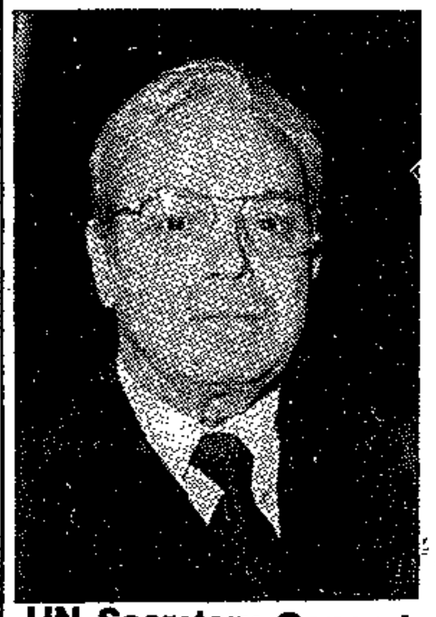

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SOWETAN Correspondent

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The UN panel will include former President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe, former President Belisario Betancourt of Columbia and former chancellor Burno Kreisky of Austria.

A former British Labour Cabinet Minister, Lady (formerly Dame Judith) Hart and former US Republican senator Lowell Weicker also will serve in the group.

The hearings will take place from September 4 to 6.

Now UN calls for axing of Koevoet men

From MARK VERBAAN

WINDHOEK. — The alleged murder of a young civilian in northern Namibia on Tuesday has reinforced urgent calls for some 2 000 members of a former paramilitary unit to be immediately removed from the ranks of the South West African Police.

The 6 500 strong SWA Police (Swapol), responsible for maintaining law and order during the territory's transition to independence from South African rule, recently incorporated into its ranks members of the disbanded counter-insurgency unit known as Koevoet (Crowbar).

Already Koevoet's presence in the Swapol has sparked a school boycott involving tens of thousands of pupils in the north.

Even white academics have mounted placard demonstration outside the Windhoek home of of the South African administrator-general, Louis Pienaar.

In terms of the United Nations-sponsored independence plan, the police fall directly under the control of the administrator-general and he alone has the power to determine its membership.

So far Pienaar has ignored demands, some coming from the United Nations, for the expulsion of Koevoet members from the police.

On several occasions disappointment has been expressed over the fact that the UN's special Representative, Martti Ahtisaari, has not publicly voiced his dissatisfaction with the situation. However, UN headquarters in New York disclosed on June 20 that Ahtisaari had in fact written a "confidential" letter to the administrator-general voicing his concern over the Koevoet issue.



The Right Rev David Sheppard

UNITED NATIONS

1989

JULY — DEC.

Third World aid 'must rise'

BONN — Industrialised nations should drastically increase aid to Third World economies to help them overcome staggering debt burdens, said a report released yesterday.

The report also said the US could play a key role in solving the $1,2 trillion Third World debt problem by reducing its massive fiscal and current account deficits.

The recommendations were made in a report prepared by former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and a group of independent experts formed in 1988 by the UN Conference on Trade and Development.

The report said in the last five years developing countries had suffered from a reverse flow of funds, meaning more capital had left those countries than had come in.

The net investment flow from industrialised countries to developing countries dropped to $10bn in 1986 from $20bn in 1982, it said.

To counter this trend, the report said sizeable amounts of official development assistance (ODA) were urgently needed to start and support the self-sustaining economic growth essential to developing countries' efforts to free themselves from the debt crisis.

The Schmidt plan calls for doubling ODA loans provided by industrialised countries in the next five years. It also suggests studying a "mechanism of automaticity" that would gradually let each donor country's ODA loans increase as a percentage of gross national product.

The Schmidt panel specifically focuses on the plight of the poorest debtor nations, mostly located in sub-Saharan Africa. For these, it recommends the establishment by the industrialised nations of a $1bn endowment fund administered by the African Development Bank. — Sapa-AP.

United Nations survey shows decrease in growth of world trade

GENEVA — The rate of growth in world trade is expected to fall to slightly less than 6% this year and to about 4% in 1990, according to the United Nations World Economic Survey.

The UN report said exports of manufactures are expected to increase at a faster pace than average for total world trade, while the growth of exports of raw materials will slow markedly.

Own Correspondent

The report also predicts a drop in output in the developed market economies from 2,8% in 1989 to 2,6% next year. The slowdown is expected to be more pronounced in Japan and the US than in Europe.

The report said with capacity utilisation rates at high levels in most developed market economies, inflation, as measured by consumer prices, is expected to increase to an average of about 4% in 1989 before subsiding in 1990 as a result of slower growth.

Sisulu speaks to UN's Africa group

By Stan Hlophe 336 Star 7/7/89.

Mrs Albertina Sisulu will address the United Nations's Special Committee on African Affairs in New York today.

A spokesman for the South African delegation said from New York yesterday the overseas visit had been a success.

The delegation, which included UDF members Sister Bernadette Ncube, Mr Curnick Ndlovu, Mr Titus Mafolo and Mr Azachar Cachalia, was warmly welcomed, the spokesman said.

The delegation's next stop would be London where Mrs Sisulu, wife of jailed African National Congress leader Walter Sisulu, would see her exiled children.

The spokesman said Mrs Sisulu had met several heads of state and had consistently called for comprehensive sanctions against South Africa as a peaceful weapon for political change.

In discussions she had highlighted:

- The plight of political prisoners on the death row.
- Restrictions in the country.
- Police harassment.
- Disappearances and assassinations of activists.

In Stockholm Mrs Sisulu met the Swedish Prime Minister, Mr Ingvar Carisson, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Sten Anderson.

In France she met President Francois Mitterrand and his wife Danielle.

In the United States she met President George Bush; Secretary of State Mr James Baker; an assistant Secretary for African Affairs, Ambassador Herman Cohen; and the chief whip of the Democratic Party, Congressman Bill Gray.

Mrs Sisulu said there could be no negotiation unless the climate was right. Factors that would help create this atmosphere were:

- All political prisoners being released.
- Exiles being allowed to return home.
- The ANC, PAC and other groups being unbanned.
- The state of emergency being lifted.

Africa devises recovery plan

LONDON — Africa launched its own plan for recovery from economic stagnation yesterday.

A report by the Economic Commission for Africa, the UN thinktank based in Addis Ababa, called for "adjustment with transformation" and criticised the harsher aspects of reform programmes put forward by international financial institutions.

ECA executive secretary, Professor Adebayo Adedeji, called the 1980s "a lost decade" and said a quarter of Africa's population was now dependent on food imports.

He stressed reform was essential for Africa but said orthodox programmes of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund had not produced sustained growth. — The Independent News Service.

The Bookie's Bet

Gosforth Park tomorrow: Best bet — Diareus, Race 4. Best eachway — Fred's Ambition, Race 9.

Uproar over toxic waste

By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

A Government investigation into the feasibility of a huge toxic-waste plant near Alexander Bay on the west coast has been described by opposition politicians and environment groups as shocking.

Government spokesmen confirmed yesterday that such an investigation was being made.

If approved, the plant could mean the importation of 500 000 tons of toxic waste a year, which would make South Africa a major dumping ground.

The Democratic Party spokesman on environmental affairs, Mr Rupert Lorimer, said the concept was horrifying. He would oppose it unless the final product was non-toxic and there were substantial financial advantages in terms of foreign currency.

The Conservative Party's environmental spokesman, Mr Carel Schoeman, also condemned the plan, saying the party would oppose it strongly.

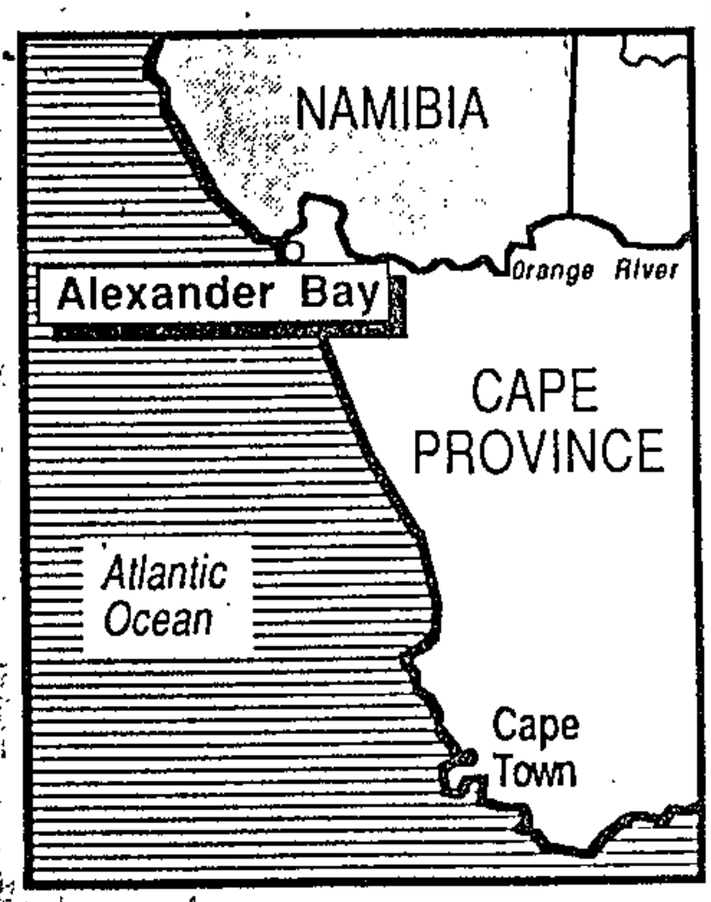
Mr Boet du Preez, chief executive officer of the Habitat Council, the co-ordinating body for voluntary organisations concerned with the environment, said he was shocked.

While acknowledging the financial benefits of such a scheme, he said the potential danger of toxic-waste disposal along the coastline was considerable.

Professor Richard Fuggle of Cape Town University's department of environmental science said a toxic waste plant had merit, but it should be carefully investigated and not endanger the environment.

The director of the Endangered Wildlife Trust, Dr John Ledger, said: "One's first reaction is of horror.

"But if a country has the expertise to dispose of toxic waste in a responsible way, one should rather opt for that instead of having it being thrown round carelessly."



living costs and do not expect the Government's recently announced R60 handout to make much difference to them.

Building a new road to economic recovery

Star 10/7/89

336

A UN Economic Commission for Africa document, released last week, attacks some of the key tenets of IMF and World Bank policies in Africa. They are inappropriate or applied without sufficient consultation and flexibility, it says. **MICHAEL HOLMAN** reports.

LONDON — A document which attacks Africa's pervasive lack of democracy and argues for more democratic political structures to facilitate development seems an unlikely product of the continent's United Nations-funded economic think-tank.

It is also surprising, given the source, to read a critical commentary on the fact that developing Africa spent less on education than on the military in the mid-80s. Or that annual public expenditures on health have accounted for less than a third of military outlays.

Yet these are among the sentiments underpinning a new economic recovery programme for Africa, launched in London. It challenges the policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

The architect of the document — "African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes", endorsed at a recent meeting of African finance ministers — is Professor Adebayo Adedeji, executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), based in Addis Ababa.

Africa had been candid about the nature of its problems, said Mr Adedeji at his press conference. And he was equally candid about what the ECA sees as a failure on the part of the world's leading lending and development institutions.

Painting a bleak picture of a continent in continuing decline, he went on: "It has now become apparent that the orthodox structural adjustment programmes that Africa has been pursuing have failed to overcome the economic crisis and in many cases have made recovery even more difficult."

The charge is the latest development in a long-running dispute in which the Economic Commission, other UN agencies such as Unicef, non-governmental agencies such as Oxfam and most African governments, are at odds with the IMF and the World Bank over how to respond to Africa's economic crisis.

Since the fund and the bank control most available aid and development resources, the alternative programme stands little chance of getting off the ground in the short term.

But it provides an important indicator of the anger and frustration of many African governments, which maintain that although they have been implementing IMF and World Bank-inspired policy reforms, hardship is increasing, stability is being undermined and capacity to service growing external debt is declining.

Among the measures the document advocates are multiple exchange rates, limits on debt service payment so as to allow more resources for development, selective subsidies and price controls, and cuts in defence spending and in non-productive public sector activities. It also recommends limited use of deficit financing for productive and infrastructural investments, differential export subsidies and what it calls greater mass participation in decision-making and implementation of programmes.

Above all, the document stresses the need for more consultation between governments and lending institutions — based on greater recognition that the continent's widely diverging economies are not susceptible to a single solution — and more effort to alleviate the impact of adjustment on Africa's poor.

In the coming months formal and informal consultations among the protagonists will be continuing in the search for the consensus that Mr Adedeji says Africa seeks.

The real issue is not whether to adjust or not, but what kind of adjustment is needed, he concludes. — Financial Times.

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Star 11/7/87

No pay, no light Untag learns

The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — The Windhoek headquarters of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (Untag) had its electricity cut off for unpaid accounts.

The Windhoek Observer reported that a municipality meter reader went to Untag headquarters at 10 am on Thursday and switched off the power.

It printed photographs of two warning notices sent to Untag, threatening that if accounts totalling R1 544,58 were not paid, service would be suspended.

UN official Mr Dermot Hussey paid the bill with a personal cheque. The power was restored half an hour later.

Newspaper editor Hannes Smith described the incident as something which could have been "torn from the pages of an absurdist play".

UN says IMF-World Bank programmes for Africa have failed

NAIROBI — More African countries were turning to the IMF to bail out their economies although, the UN Commission for Africa said, IMF and World Bank programmes on the continent had failed.

About 30 countries in sub-Saharan Africa have accepted, or plan to accept, reforms approved by the IMF or World Bank.

They often include steep currency devaluations, budget and subsidy cuts, relaxation of price and trade controls and introduction of producer price incentives for farmers.

When Zaire ditched a programme of reforms agreed with the IMF in 1987, the then Prime Minister Sambwa Pida Mbagui complained: "They tend to treat us like a colony."

Last month, however, Zaire announced a new agreement on a recovery plan for 1989-90.

Critics of the IMF argue its reform packages focus too much on short-term balancing of finances through spending cuts which undermine health, education and other social needs.

The UN Commission for Africa said: "There is mounting evidence that stabilisation and structural programmes are rending the fabric of African society."

It recommended gentler treatment of Africa's economic problems. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angula accused unnamed members of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) and former members of the Koevoet police unit of the UN's assignment as supervisor of "free and fair" elections leading to Namibia's independence from South African rule.

Foreign Minister Luke Mwanan-shiku told reporters.

The OAU has accused SA of planning to rig the results in favour of the DTA.

UN plan to keep Namibia ticking if SA fundis leave

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BIDaily 13/7/89

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — UN officials concerned at possible withdrawal of SA expertise from Namibia are planning gap-filling programmes.

They will be set up at a closed-door conference in Vienna this month.

Part of the focus, sources say, will be the effect on essential services of Pretoria's withdrawal of more than R500m in budgetary underpinning and loan guarantees.

UN organisers are telling invited participants they regard the planning session as crucial to the smooth running of essential services in the territory in the run-up to independence and delicate transition period.

Selected trade unionists, church representatives, commerce and industry leaders and parastatal corporation chiefs have been invited to participate in discussions at UN offices in Vienna from July 24-28.

Government departments and officials have been excluded by the UN General Assembly's Council for Namibia.

Advance documentation says it will be one of three proposed seminars intended to "emphasise the mobilisation of development and technical assistance to Namibia".

The Council for Namibia, largely supported by the Non-Aligned Movement and Organisation of African Unity, was created in 1967 as a nominal government for the territory in the face of Pretoria's refusal to recognise General Assembly demands to end its disputed rule.

Council officials have organised the conference from the UN's New York headquarters.

They apparently have not involved administrators assigned to Untag, which is shepherding Namibia towards independence.

"The seminar will be conducted in closed working session," a Council for Namibia preparatory document says.

"The purpose of the seminar is to survey and assess Namibia's technical assistance requirements, with special emphasis on human resources, during the transition and the immediate post-independence period."

Organisers also plan "to draw up proposals for sectoral contingency plans which would ensure the functioning of essential".

The Council for Namibia has been a major financier of Swapo operations outside direct military activity. It has footed the bill for much of the movement's travel and administration expenses.

Under SA pressure an "impartiality package" was drafted by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar before last year's regional agreements on Namibia and Angola cut off council funds to Swapo.

B|Day 17/7/87 336

Call to cancel Africa's 'small change' debts

NAIROBI — The foreign debt of Africa's poorest nations is "small change" in the Third World debt crisis, but they are least able to carry the burden, says a UN-sponsored report.

The report, commissioned by the UN African Recovery Programme, proposed that creditor governments cancel all debt on aid owed to them by low-income sub-Saharan countries.

"The 31 countries which fall in that category are the ones least able to cope with the debilitating drain of resources," said the report released here this week.

It put the sum owed by such countries at $68bn, calling it "small change" compared with Third World debt totalling $1,3-trillion.

Weakness

About 86% of the 31 countries' debt was owed to official creditors. "Thus low-income Africa's debt poses no threat to the international financial system . . ."

The countries include the Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.

Underlining the fundamental weakness of African economies, the report noted that in sub-Saharan Africa the ratio of debt to economic output, measured by gross domestic product, was nearly twice that for the world's most indebted countries.

The proposed write-off of aid debt was one of several recommendations. Others included pruning a menu of options for debt relief drafted at the Toronto summit of the seven biggest industrial democracies in June last year.

The leaders of the seven — Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the United States and West Germany — were meeting again in Paris this past weekend and the debt crisis was on the agenda.

The UN-sponsored report urged the Paris Club of official creditors to scrap the third and last option on the Toronto menu, which allows longer debt repayment terms.

This merely contributed to an increase in debt stock and future debt service obligations unless it was expected that the principal would be paid when due.

It would therefore offset relief provided under the menu's other options which offer partial debt cancellation and interest rate cuts.

The report said creditor governments should also cancel more than one-third of the debt incurred by low income African countries on export credit, extended on mainly commercial terms.

Alternatively they should consider concessionary terms such as the 0.5% annual interest and 40-year repayment period set for credits extended by the World Bank's soft-aid affiliate, the International Development Association.

Aid debt

It proposed rescheduling agreements should cover three years, which would avoid costly and time-consuming annual negotiations.

The report noted that some donors, notably the US, Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union, had not cancelled any aid debt owed by low income African countries.

Canada, West Germany, Scandinavian countries and the UK had by the end of last year already cancelled nearly all aid debt owed by such countries and France last May announced it would cancel all their debt to Paris. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN launches a new plan to halt the economic ruin of Africa

LONDON — The UN launched a new plan yesterday to stave off further economic ruin in Africa, saying World Bank and IMF programmes had failed.

Executive secretary of the UN's Economic Commission for Africa, Adebayo Adedeji, said the past decade had been one of disaster and economic failure for Africa which must not be repeated.

The new plan is the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP).

It says tighter credit as advocated by World Bank/IMF can cause inflation and cuts in outputand investment, even if current account improves.

About 30 African nations have such programmes. — Sapa-Reuter.

Reform or not, SA will field UN slings

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BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Namibian moves, and hints of substantial policy changes in the event of Mr F W de Klerk being elected president, have not dented the stubborn hostility of the UN majority towards South Africa.

NEW YORK — With the new General Assembly session scheduled to begin in little more than 50 days' time, the group of African states have already fired their opening shot aimed at ensuring that "the question of apartheid" remains a hot agenda item.

As if regular debate on the subject — the UN's hardiest perennial except for disarmament — were not enough, the group also obtained agreement to hold a special session on apartheid on December 12, 13 and 14.

Still hard up because of the failure of many states to pay their UN dues — the United States alone owes about $500 million (about R1 350 million) — the world body hardly needs this reaction when members will be struggling to complete the business of the regular assembly for a December 19 adjournment.

In private consultations, they agreed also that "normal" debate on apartheid would take place three weeks before the special session.

If delegates thought this was a clear case of political overkill, none wanted to say so publicly.

Short of a dramatic policy shift, South Africa will be unable to defend itself in either debate, having been denied representation in the General Assembly since 1974, when, as president, the then Algerian Foreign Minister Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, engineered the ouster of the Republic's delegation on a credentials technicality.

No olive branch

Major-General Joseph Garba, former Foreign Minister and for several years chief delegate of Nigeria, will preside over this year's assembly, the 44th, and is unlikely to want to change what was started by his Algerian predecessor.

General Garba is a famous and vocal critic of the Republic in his year-round capacity as chairman of the assembly's special committee on apartheid.

So South Africa's chief delegate, Mr Jeremy Shearar, can hardly look to him for an olive branch.

On the secretariat side, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar has been far more restrained in his remarks about the Republic's policies than was his predecessor as Secretary-General, Mr Kurt Waldheim, now the president of Austria.

Dr Perez de Cuellar may be unhappy with some aspects of the situation in Namibia.

However, he has often emphasised his view that it is not the duty of a secretary-general to lambast a member state when, along with General Garba, he will be sharing the podium with a new under-secretary-general for political and general assembly affairs.

Mr Ronald Spiers (64), a career member of the United States foreign service, will be succeeding in that important post Mr Joseph Reed, who has become the White House chief of protocol.

Bush nominee

Mr Spiers's field of expertise is disarmament and his biographical details make no mention of any significant Africa connection.

He was nominated for the high UN post by President Bush and received two distinguished service awards from former President Reagan, who also appointed him to the personal rank of career ambassador — a distinction he shares with fewer than half a dozen State Department colleagues.

Ideologically then, he may be considered as conservative as is Mr Reed, who sometimes flaunted his Republican credentials by wearing a tie on which the name "Reagan" was repeated in stripes.

Food ferried to returning exiles

B1 Day 25/7/89

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WINDHOEK — Hundreds of tons of food hand-outs are being trucked across Namibia in an international support programme intended to feed thousands of returning exiles for up to a year.

The first foreign donation through the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) — 540 tons of Canadian canned fish — is being ferried to more than 40 church-run distribution centres.

Officials said a consignment of Finnish cooking oil was expected to arrive in Walvis Bay docks today, and almost 2 000 tons of rice from Thailand should arrive early in August.

WFP field organisers will supervise a R14m feeding programme over a year, distributing about 9 100 tons of food to exiles and refugees returning to the territory under a

KEVIN JACOBS

repatriation programme that began its seventh week yesterday.

More than 1 000 tons of locally bought maize-meal, skimmed milk, canned fish, dried beans and sunflower oil have been distributed to three major reception centres near Windhoek, Ondangua and Grootfontein.

In the past 11 years, the WFP has spent almost R80m on food for Namibian exiles in Angola and Zambia.

Planning was based on Angolan and Swapo claims that up to 80 000 Namibians had fled to the neighbouring territories. Only half that number registered with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to return, raising questions about UN spending.

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Star 23/7/89.

Police unwilling to join UN force

The Star's Foreign News Service

MUNICH — The head of West Germany's police officers' union has strongly rejected a United Nations request for German participation in the security force intended to guarantee a smooth transition to Namibian independence.

Union chairman Mr Hermann Lutz described the UN plea for West German police participation in a Namibian security force as "completely unacceptable".

The "democratic conditions" necessary for a useful contribution by West German police were still lacking, he said in a radio interview.

Mr Lutz said he expected his government to support this view.

'A SCANDAL'

In Bonn, however, pressure from both sides of the Bundestag is growing on the government to accept the UN request.

Bonn spokesman Mr Herbert Schmuelling said the request was of "basic importance" and deputy chairman of the opposition Social Democrats, Mr Herta Daubler-Gmelin, said it was a "scandal" the Bonn government was still keeping the UN waiting for an answer.

The Social Democrats' South Africa expert, Mr Guenter Verheugen, said West Germany could not "dodge its historic responsibility for South West Africa" and would have to comply.

The UN reportedly wants a contingent of about 30 West German police officers to serve in a 15-nation force of 500.

Untag force is 'inadequate'

ADDIS ABABA — African heads of state, ending a three-day OAU summit, yesterday said the size of UN peace-keeping forces in Namibia was inadequate to guarantee free and fair elections.

The Organisation of African Unity also told the UN Security Council to order South Africa to halt its alleged intimidation of voters ahead of Namibian elections set for November 6.

It demanded that the UN press South Africa to disband its counter-insurgency unit, Koevoet, widely accused of intimidating voters.

It said the UN should force South Africa to release all Namibian political prisoners and detainees before the elections and called for a halt to what it said was a bias by South Africa's controlled media against Swapo. — Reuter.

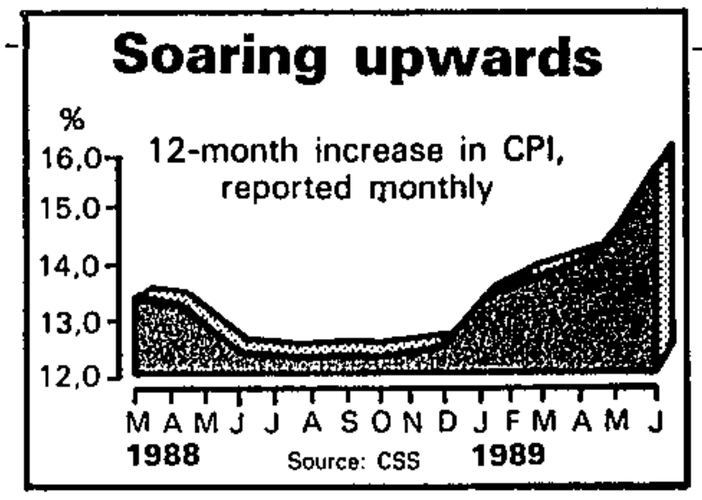
CPI

Overdrive

Driving inflation to heights last seen in August 1987 is the cost of transport, which rose 24,1% in June compared to the same month a year ago. Transport costs were revved upwards by exorbitant rises in prices of vehicles (29,2%) and running costs (28,3%). However, these excessive rises were neutralised somewhat by the relatively slower rise in the cost of public and hired transport (9,1%).

FINANCIAL MAIL JULY 28 198

Soaring upwards



June's inflation rate, as measured by the year-on-year increase in the consumer price index (CPI), rose from 14,9% in May to 15,7%. Further annual upticks may be less sharp for technical reasons. Month-on-month increases in the second half of last year were higher, averaging about 1,2% compared to a May-June increase of only 0,4%. This means year-on-year figures in the second half of 1989 will be off a higher base.

However, the annualised rate of increase for the past three months is around 16,9%.

The CPI rose to 177,7 (1985=100), a seasonally adjusted increase of 1,4% compared to May — slightly lower than May's 2% rise on the previous month.

But where to from here? Will we see inflation galloping on uncontrollably or can the reins be pulled in in time?

Trust Bank economist Nick Barnardt believes the rand's recent relative stability against non-dollar currencies in the first half of this year will keep SA's inflation rate from reaching the 20,6% peak of January 1986. Sharp decreases in the value of the rand against all major currencies last year helped push the inflation rate upwards in 1989 but recent relative stability is expected to keep inflation close to 16% until February next year, he says. But only if VAT isn't introduced at a high rate to accommodate excessive government spending.

"The exchange rate is the best indicator of where inflation is going because it's the fundamental barometer of domestic spending and tells us if this exceeds the country's financial resources," says Barnardt.

However Econometrix economist Azar Jammine isn't as optimistic. He believes damage already done by a sustained period of excessive credit growth from 1987 to the present, coupled with ongoing higher levels of government spending, has condemned SA to an increasing inflation rate for longer than is generally anticipated. "It could possibly hit 20%," Jammine says. "The effects of money supply growth take two years to filter out of the inflation rate."

Other components contributing to upward inflation in June were the cost of education (20,2% up) and reading matter (20,7%). And having a roof over one's head was 15,4% more expensive — the results of steep bond rate increases in the past 12 months.

Food costs rose a more moderate 11,2%, pushed up by a 23% rise in fruit and nuts. Alcoholic drinks rose 22%, cigarettes, cigars and tobacco 21,4% and coffee, tea and cocoa 22,5%.

The last time annual inflation was over 15% was in November 1987 on its downward path from the January 1986 high of 20,6%. And once again transport costs made the major contribution — soaring by 37,3%, while housing rose 13,5% and food 18%.

Low transport costs helped produce the lowest inflation rate (10,1%) in recent years in February 1984. They rose only 5,4% w... housing rose 17,4% and food 9%.

Inflation last dropped to single digits f... four months in 1978. But to experience w... most Western and other developed nat... have mastered — average annual sing... digit inflation — one would have to go ba... to 1973 when it stood at 9,6%.

IMF to listen to SA address in earnest

Star 31/7/87

By Trevor Walker

CAPE TOWN — South Africa, long denied participation in nearly all the representative bodies of the UN, is set to make a comeback at the one body that really counts, the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Finance Minister Barend du Plessis says: "When I speak at this year's annual meeting on September 27 I expect member countries to be much more receptive to our economic line of reasoning.

"South Africa is visibly playing a major role in Sub-Saharan Africa and political rhetoric cannot gainsay this."

For many years now, when the South African minister of finance delivered his annual address to the IMF, the hall was empty except for a handful of South African and foreign journalists.

It had become a tradition that South Africa's statement to the meeting was made just after lunch, which allowed delegates an extra coffee.

However, this year the position is different. The political advances that have been made in Angola, Namibia and Mozambique and certain other countries, will be reflected in a more positive approach being adopted by delegates.

Political developments in Sub-Saharan Africa have turned favourable for South Africa in recent months and the pivotal role that it should be allowed to play has become much more obvious and visible.

Deputy Reserve Bank governor Dr Japie Jacobs says South Africa's sensible and honest approach to development in the region is b:ing recognised.

"Our participation in and financial commitment to the Lesotho Highlands water project has been acknowledged."

South Africa was a founder member of the League of Nations, the UN and the IMF.

The small economies of Swaziland, Lesotho and Zimbabwe are all represented at the IMF.

Angola, Mozambique and Namibia are expected to be granted membership.

South Africa, despite US sanctions, remains the power house of the contintent, south and north of the equator in macro terms.

However politicians might wish it away, the facts speak for themselves.

Its electricity utility, Eskom, is building five mega stations, any two of which would be able to satisfy the rest of the continent's electricity requirements.

Egypt, Nigeria, Libya, Zimbabwe, Angola use about the output of one of SA's power stations.

South Africa has more macadamised roads, rail lines, train engines, aircraft, tugs, ships than any other nation on the continent.

Zimbabwe had recently hired eight locomotives from South Africa because of failures in its own fleet, but if it had had the necessary foreign exchange SA could have supplied 50 units.

The World Bank had prejudiced the positive role that SA should be allowed to play in the economic advance of Sub-Saharan economies, but local political sources say the wheel has turned and the economic realities that fostered perestroikia and glasnost have become an equal reality in Southern Africa.

336 6/8/89 Argus

UN not doing its job, says police chief

UNITED Nations police monitors are not monitoring the SWA police as they should, SWA police commissioner Lt-Gen Dolf Gouws said in Windhoek yesterday.

The Swapol chief earlier welcomed a statement by UN secretary-general Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar that the UN was stepping up its monitoring function following the arrival of 500 additional police monitors.

"I must point out that this is not happening in practice," said Gen Gouws.

"It is essential that they see for themselves what is happening, instead of being dependent on second and third-hand reports which are not always factually correct.

He said he found it "inexplicable" that UN forces had not taken up a Swapol invitation to post police monitors in police stations and operations rooms.

"We have extended invitations to provide them with offices so that they can be present the whole time.

"But they don't want to accept it."

The general added that the settlement plan in Namibia stipulates that UN special representative Mr Martti Ahtisaari arrange for the UN to accompany the existing police force in the routine maintenance of law and order.

"So actually the onus is on Untag."

Gen Gouws said the relationship between Swapol and the UN monitoring force was "generally good" but Untag was reluctant to accompany Swapol on patrol.

Swapol had given Untag 10 mine-resistant vehicles which, according to UN technical personnel, were roadworthy and in a condition to travel – in spite of earlier UN claims that nine of the vehicles were inoperational.

Gouws denied that cases reported to Untag only involved police behaviour.

Since April 1, 403 cases have been reported to the police by Untag.

A total of 103 were against Swapol and 63 percent were found to be false or unfounded.

Gen Gouws said 30 percent of the complaints were being investigated and six cases were awaiting a decision by the attorney-general.

On the continued presence in Swapol of members of the counter-insurgency unit, Koevoet, Gen Gouws said the unit had always been part of the SWA police force.

"We need the whole police force, we need them too," he said.

■ Last night another round was fought in the slanging match over the ownership and control of Walvis Bay when Constitutional Development Minister Gene Louw said the political leaders of Namibia should keep Walvis Bay out of the political arena.

The minister told an election meeting there could be no argument about the future status of the territory as Walvis Bay was an inseparably part of South Africa and would remain so even though it was ringed by Namibian territory.

The United Nations, he said, had confirmed an Organisation for African Unity agreement that however artificially the borders of African countries had been drawn by colonial powers, they should remain unchanged.

"Who are Swapo to now lay claim to Walvis Bay in their election manifesto, and to the 13 South African islands along the coast?" Sapa

UN body deliberately favours Swapo – claim

336 STN 9/8/89

By David Braun
The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — The US government has been urged to cut off all further funding of Namibia's independence process until the United Nations Council for Namibia has been obliged to drop its support for Swapo.

The conservative "think-tank", International Freedom Council, this week released a report in Washington which claimed the UN Council for Namibia (UNCN) had deliberately and systematically refused to adhere to the terms of the impartiality package, that it had given serious attention to its role during Namibia's independence process, and that it had deliberately decided to illegally continue its activities.

The impartiality package was agreed to in 1982 by the Western contact group, the Frontline states, Nigeria, Swapo and, later, South Africa. The UN endorsed the package.

In addition to stipulating freedom of speech, assembly and movement, the right of peaceful return of exiles and detainees, the repeal of discriminatory laws which might abridge the conduct of free and fair elections, the impartiality package includes directives for the Secretary-General and UN bodies to act impartially throughout the transition process.

The International Freedom Council claims the UNCN considers itself exempt from these provisions.

The council said in its report: "Historically, UNCN activities have been aimed solely at providing an international support apparatus for just one of the parties involved in the Namibian election process — Swapo. There is no evidence of a change in this proclivity.

"To date, the UNCN continues its partisan activities designed to boost Swapo's image internationally and inside Namibia."

The council called on President Bush to withhold payment of $78 million (about R210 million) for the independence process until the UNCN had been brought into line.

Cops probe attack on UN

By PETER KENNY

SOUTH West African Police detectives were yesterday investigating Thursday's attack on a United Nations post in the Namibian town of Outjo, in which a private security guard was killed.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack which killed security guard Michael Hoaseb as shrapnel and bullets raked the building.

Initial police reports said two white men and a black man had been seen driving away in a car with false UN markings after the attack.

Investigating officer Chief Inspector Charl Human told the Sunday Times:

"We cannot exclude the possibility that this attack was carried out by a specific organisation, but we do not have anything definite to go on at this stage."

UN officials in Outjo said they hoped the attack, the first on the world body since the Namibia peace process began on April 1, was not the start of a campaign that could upset the delicate peace process.

A similar attack causing only slight damage and no injuries was also carried out on a miltary compound in Outjo where the UN's Kenyan troops are billeted.

Mr Martti Ahtisaari, the UN's special representative in Namibia, has condemned the attacks as acts of terrorism.

Give De Klerk 'time for reform'

Suzman plea to UN for moderation

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The Star Bureau

GENEVA — Mrs Helen Suzman told the United Nations yesterday that more moderation towards Pretoria at this time will help Mr F W de Klerk's reform campaign.

It was not, she said, a time for further economic sanctions.

Mrs Suzman communicated her message to the UN Human Rights Commission's sub-committee on protection of minorities. It was by Dr David Littman, representative in Geneva of the World Union for Progressive Judaïsm.

He said the message could well be Mrs Suzman's last communication to the UN as an MP – she formally retires in three weeks' time.

She said: "The international community should hold its hand for the moment to give Mr de Klerk the necessary encouragement to go forward with changes and translate the enlightened speech he made at the beginning of the year into the practical reality of apartheid's dismantlement.

COSMETIC CHANGES

"A great deal will depend on the outcome of the elections. The changes over the past 10 years are not only cosmetic (but) have come about mainly as a result of economic expansion within the country.

"This is not the time for further economic sanctions, but rather for massive injection of investment capital.

"More moderate UN resolutions at this crucial moment might well help to encourage the Government along the road of reform to end apartheid."

Mrs Suzman said changes in the attitudes of the outside world could well contribute to the rebuilding of a divided society and creation of a non-racial democratic system.

South Africa, she ended, has tremendous human and economic potential.

Court inspects

Zairean president to report

SA under fire at Geneva talks

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Observer 3/9/89

THE United Nations is holding a three-day session in Geneva next week to assess the impact of disinvestment and sanctions against South Africa.

The Association of Chambers of Commerce of South Africa (Assocom) has been invited to put its case against further sanctions and disinvestment on the grounds that such action is not helping to end apartheid.

Also to be discussed is next June's re-negotiation of South Africa's foreign debt by a group of international banks.

The banks are facing increased pressure to cut further loans, demand rapid repayment of outstanding amounts and refuse to reschedule existing loans.

The efficiency of disivestment and sanctions against South Africa will be assessed and it is expected the reluctance of British multinationls to cut ties with South Africa will be weighed against the successful US disinvestment campaign.

The UN estimates 277 multinationals have severed direct investment links with South Africa over the last five years.

Tougher SA sanctions wanted

GENEVA — A UN panel of experts will recommend tougher international economic measures against SA, one of its members said yesterday.

"I expect this report to be extraordinarily tough," former US Senator Lowell Weicker told a news conference after three days of hearings before a panel of "eminent persons".

The group, appointed by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, is due to publish its recommendations to the UN General Assembly in a report tomorrow.

International and SA businessmen have been among those testifying before the panel in Geneva.

The General Assembly does not have the authority to impose sanctions that must be obeyed by all members. The Security Council does, but Britain and the US have vetoed sanctions extending beyond a mandatory arms embargo.

"We hope out of these hearings...certain specific actions will be tightened or taken to force the SA government to come to their senses, to come to the negotiating table with the rest of the population there," former Zimbabwean President Canaan Banana, co-chairman of the panel, said.

Neither Weicker nor Banana would reveal what the panel's recommendations would be.

Weicker, a liberal Republican, criticised Congress for not acting firmly enough to press for an end to apartheid.

"It would be nice if in our country, the United States, we could use a panel report as the reason for our action rather than a tragedy," Weicker said.

While some delegates had told the panel that sanctions should be strengthened and broadened, others — especially businessmen — had said these might only stiffen the resolve of the government and hurt blacks rather than help them.

That view met little sympathy from Banana.

"We find a bit of contradiction in terms," he said, "in respect of those who argue for the death of apartheid and yet at the same time argue against measures that must bring that death about." — Sapa-Reuter.

Sanctions 'working'

● FROM PAGE 1.

But the same could hardly apply to Switzerland. Even if banks there had put a "cap" on new lending to South Africa, it still remained the centre for the sale of half of South African gold production and all of the world supply of diamonds.

Although Japan had imposed limited sanctions on trade with South Africa and participated in the ban on new lending, "there is evidence that Japanese companies also have benefitted materially from the sanctions imposed by other countries".

Because of South Africa's need to re-negotiate its foreign debt, the next nine months would see "a unique opportunity for the international community to demand tough concessions".

The report added: "We believe that there are clear signs of a changing mood among some sections of the white community in South Africa. We do not underestimate the problems that lie ahead, or the intransigence of those who currently hold a monopoly of political and economic power.

"But there are indications that an increasing proportion of the white community is reluctantly coming to the conclusion that — in part as a result of sanctions — it will have no alternative but to negotiate on fundamental constitutional change."

Panel co-chairpersons were Dame Judith Hart, former British Labour government minister, and the Reverend Canaan Banana, former President of Zimbabwe.

AND MORNING OF SALE

Sanctions against SA are working, UN panel

FOREIGN NEWS SERVICE

GENEVA — Economic sanctions against South Africa are working, despite their being consistently opposed or "routinely flouted" by many governments.

This is the summing-up conclusion by the United Nations panel of eminent personalities who have been receiving testimony here on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia.

"Sanctions are effective," their report says, "both in terms of their economic impact on the white minority and, as important, through their psychological impact on white morale."

As an example of the cumulative effect, the panel report cited South Africa's low growth rate (1,5 percent this year, 1,5 lower still next year), inflation at 16 percent and 18-20 percent interest rates.

The panel decided to ask the UN General Assembly to investigate abuses of sanctions "with the specific aim of publicising the names of both

● TO PAGE 2.

the countries and companies involved".

"We are particularly concerned," it added, "about the gross abuses that have been brought to our notice in the critically-sensitive areas of armaments, oil and coal.

"But abuses of anti-sanctions legislation are deep-rooted. We believe they must be extirpated, and that countries and companies must be forced to live up to their obligations."

In constantly opposing mandatory sanctions, Britain, the report said, has even continued to encourage trade links, "though it has gone some way with so-called 'voluntary' measures".

While Bonn remained firmly against disinvestment and distinctly lukewarm on other economic sanctions, West German banks generally had a good record on financial sanctions.

September 11 1989

Attack on Untag post — 3 whites arrested

Star 11/9/89

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By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Africa
News Service

WINDHOEK — Detectives of the SWA Police have arrested three white men — two of them South Africans — in connection with the attack last month on a UN district office in the farming town of Outjo, in which a Namibian security guard died.

Police liason officer Chief Inspector Kierie du Rand said the three men — South Africans aged 22 and 28 and a 52-year-old German national — had been arrested in the town of Rietfontein in southern Namibia over the weekend.

The suspects are due to appear in court in Outjo today in connection with charges of murder and sabotage.

The arrests were the culmination of an intensive joint investigation conducted by UN police officers and local detectives. The probe at one stage reached as far as Tzaneen in South Africa, added Chief Inspector du Rand.

Extensive damage was caused to the Untag regional office in Outjo during the attack, in which rifle fire and white phosphorus hand grenades were used. Namibian security guard Mr Michael Hoaseb — employed by the UN as a night watchman at their Outjo premises — died in the attack.

An ineffectual rifle and grenade attack was launched at around the same time on a nearby barracks of the Kenyan infantry battalion of Untag.

Tougher sanctions call

336 Star 4/19/89

The Star's Foreign News Service

GENEVA — The UN panel which has been conducting a three-day public hearing in Geneva on multinational corporations in South Africa has called for tougher economic sanctions to combat apartheid, including restrictions on trade credit.

The panel said: "We believe that the most promising tool is the possibility of increasing financial sanctions — particularly by restricting the availability of trade credit."

It called on governments and the public to insist that commercial banks push for an end to apartheid as a condition for rescheduling their $8 billion (about R22 billion) South Africa debt, covered by the partial moratorium imposed by Pretoria in August 1985.

The statement, released yesterday, also called for better monitoring of trade flows, closure of existing loopholes in sanctions such as in the oil trade, and urged new items be put on the list.

The UN panel said sanctions had had an economic impact on the white minority and a psychological impact on white morale. "But the impact of sanctions has been seriously undermined by the fact that they are not comprehensive, not universal and, in many crucial areas, not mandatory."

It called on the UN General Assembly to investigate evidence that some countries had ignored specific measures imposed by the UN.



DP co-leader Denis Worrall and Val Rose-Christie of the Black Sash in discussion during yesterday's visit by DP MPs to the Western Cape townships of Khayelitsha and Mitchell's Plain — scenes of unrest deaths last week.

UN drafts conduct code for Namibia's elections

B|Day 13|7|88

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — In a rare display of political unity, nine Namibian parties have pledged to respect a UN-drafted code of conduct in their election campaigns.

Party bosses accepted the document yesterday in Untag's Windhoek headquarters, at a ceremony arranged by UN special representative Martti Ahtisaari.

Ahtisaari, spurred by concern over inter-party violence and a need for reconciliation, guided initially reluctant party leaders through a series of multi-party discussions to the agreement endorsed yesterday.

A preamble to the 16-point pact states: "Everyone has the right to put forward their political principles and ideas, without threat or fear, to every other person without exception.

"But freedom of political campaigning also carries responsibilities, including the duty to accept every other person's freedom to campaign."

Signatory parties agreed to discuss violations of the code at twice-weekly meetings of a committee of leaders.

Under the pact, the parties undertook:

☐ To forbid intimidation by followers, and to ban all weapons from their rallies.

☐ To notify SWA police and Untag of planned rallies to avoid overlapping meetings, and to avoid language "which threatens or incites violence."

☐ Not to disrupt opponents' rallies.

☐ To allow free access to voters by all parties.

Additionally, the parties pledged to honour Ahtisaari's certification of election results. Many people, whites especially, have expressed fears that Swapo followers would resort to violence if the movement failed to gain a majority in the November election.

Agreed 336

Signatory parties were Swapo, Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), Action Christian National (ACN), Federal Convention of Namibia (FCN), Namibia Christian Democratic Party (NCDP), Namibia National Front, National Patriotic Front (NPF) and Swapo-Democrats.

The UDF, party to drafting the code of conduct, failed to arrive for the signing ceremony but had agreed in advance to honour it, Ahtisaari said.

soning its fuel load.

UN prisoner investigation

WINDHOEK — A UN mission to investigate whether Swapo still held any political prisoners was at Luanda in Angola, UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said here yesterday.

He said the mission had already visited southern Angola and was due in Zambia later this week.

UN special representative Martti Ahtisaari sent the mission to Angola earlier this month after claims by former Swapo-held detainees that many more were still being held. Swapo has released 201 people and invited the international community to investigate these claims. — Sapa.

Japan's booming person-

$18,38bn.

500 more UN monitors wanted

NEW YORK — The United Nations Secretary-General, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, said yesterday that he was seeking Security Council assent for the dispatch of 500 more police monitors to Namibia, bringing the total there to 1 500.

He said Namibia was for him one of the main political items before the United Nations General Assembly.

He added that he and his staff in New York and Windhoek were working night and day to bring Namibia to independence from South Africa.

● See Page 13.

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Repatriation: R24-m UN shortfall

Stw 20/9/89

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WINDHOEK — With the official United Nations-sponsored repatriation of over 41 000 Namibian refugees and exiles drawing to a close, the UN has a shortfall of about R24 million to meet in the operation, a spokesman, Mr Fred Eckhard, said yesterday.

He told a media briefing in Windhoek the operation had a budget of about R100 million.

On June 12, the first group of Namibians was airlifted into the country from Lusaka and Zambia, in the biggest operation of its kind undertaken by the UN.

Returnees from 44 countries were housed at a number of reception centres around the country before moving on to secondary centres near their areas of origin, or to their homes.

All returnees are to receive food rations for a year after their arrival and the UN is studying the educational, health, housing and employment needs of the returnees, the deputy head of the UN High Commission for Refugees in Namibia, Mr Sylvester Awuye, told the briefing.

He told the briefing that although the organised repatriation programme was almost at and end the UMHCR would continue to assist Namibians wanting to return home. — Sapa.

Terrorism 'repugnant'

Star 26/9/89 The Star Bureau (336)

WASHINGTON — Terrorism was a means that no end, no matter how just, could sanctify, President Bush told the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York yesterday.

"Terrorism of any kind is repugnant to all values a civilised world holds in common," he said.

He appealed to all countries to join forces to combat the threat of terrorism. He said every nation, and the UN, should send the outlaws of the world a clear message: Hostage taking and the terror of random violence were methods that could not win the world's approval.

Mr Bush also had strong words for regional conflicts, describing them as a dangerous combination of regimes armed with old and unappeasable animosities and modern weapons of mass destruction. "Regional conflict may well threaten world peace as never before," he said.

UN sees a new Bush

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By PETER PRINGLE

NEW YORK — In his homecoming to the United Nations on Monday, Mr George Bush was as gracious and expansive as he was 17 years ago when, as the US ambassador to the world body, he was known as the Host with the Most.

But the tone of his message was different. SBW 27/9/89

In those far off days, under President Nixon, the United States viewed the United Nations mostly as a bunch of unruly, undeveloped countries falling increasingly under Soviet influence.

It was an organisation not to be encouraged. A younger and more dashing Mr Bush saw his main task as the promotion of Mr Nixon on New York's social circuit.

Yesterday, in a vastly different age, when the United States has been forced to take the UN more seriously, the President was just as enthusiastic in his new position.

In contrast to the studied aloofness, and often harsh criticism, from the US delegations of the Nixon and the Reagan eras, Mr Bush was cheerleading, prodding and massaging the unwieldy international body into facing the great challenges presented by the end of the Cold War. — The Independent News Service.

UN not funding Swapo — Ahtisaari

By Jon Qwelane,
The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — United Nations special representative for Namibia, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, yesterday responded angrily to a local newspaper which has consistently alleged the UN still supported Swapo financially.

Mr Ahtisaari said it was not his policy to respond to newspaper reports even if they were "misleading, inaccurate and even politically motivated".

But he made the exception in reacting to articles in *The Times of Namibia* which, he said, had the "obvious risk of confusion" they could sow at this stage of the implementation of the UN peace plan.

The newspaper has twice claimed the UN General Assembly had allocated approximately R4 million "to Swapo's election campaign". Mr Ahtisaari stated categorically that no payment had been made to Swapo by the UN after April 1.

The Times, owned by Swapo's main rival, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), said Namibian parties opposing Swapo intended raising the matter of alleged financial support for Swapo with both Mr Ahtisaari and the Administrator-General, Mr Louis Pienaar.

At issue are monies the UN General Assembly has allocated to its Council for Namibia which, before Resolution 435 was implemented, was run by Swapo in Lusaka to train future civil servants and other administrative personnel for an independent Namibia.

Said Mr Ahtisaari: "It is difficult to see how this newspaper (*The Times*), acting in good faith, could have so confused the nature of this budgetary report.

Attack on UN building: two more SA men held

Star 28/9/89

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9By Jon Qwelane,
The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — Two more South Africans have been arrested, bringing their number to four, in connection with the bomb and machine-gun attack on a regional headquarters of the United Nations last month.

Mr Darrel Stopforth (22) of Rosettenville, Johannesburg, and Mr Leonard Veenendal (23) of Southdale, Johannesburg, have joined Mr Arthur Archer (28) and Mr Craig Bakker (21), both of no fixed addresses, in the cells.

Police in Windhoek said the arrest of Mr Stopforth and Mr Veenendal followed intensive investigations. They were assisted by the South African Police in Johannesburg.

A fifth man, Mr Horst Klenz (52), believed to be West German, has also been held.

The arrests are a sequel to a hand-grenade and automatic rifle attack on the Outjo regional headquarters of the UN last month.

A Namibian national, Mr Manuel Hoaseb, a security guard guarding the building, was killed in the attack.

Within days police had released identikits of three of the suspects. Identity parades were held and witnesses pointed out the men they believed were involved in the attack.

The men are expected to appear in court tomorrow.



United in the palace of hypocrisies

STAR (336) 6/10/89

Speakers at the United Nations General Assembly receive worldwide coverage as they proclaim their devotion to peace, freedom and justice. Yet many truths are left unsaid, reports **TERRY COLEMAN of The Independent.**

The United Nations started as Utopia in the making, with talk about inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights. Then it became grand opera, with Khrushchev banging his shoe on the podium and Macmillan drily requesting a translation. Now the dog days are over: official.

Iran and Iraq have got tired of war, and 412 UN observers are monitoring a ceasefire, just like 40 of their colleagues on the Russo-Afghan border. And when President George Bush made his speech to the General Assembly recently, he waved from the podium at Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who waved back. So happy days are here again? But what a palace of hypocrisies it all is!

This is the time of year when the UN gets on television and gets noticed because heads of state and prime ministers and others come to its permanent headquarters in New York to address a new session of the General Assembly of 159 members.

As an institution it's a lovely idea, which arose out of the desolation of the war in 1945. Its charter is American in its high hopes. So it is sad that over the years the UN has become a fiction.

By this I do not altogether mean that many of these 159 united nations are themselves a fiction. But I do mean that, though Mr Bush and Mr Shevardnadze now find it happily possible, for their own reasons, to be civil to each other, Mr Bush is entirely unlikely to have changed his view of the UN, which he was describing on last year's campaign trail as "an unreal place torn by tensions".

Unreal it remains. You do not need to penetrate far into the palace on the East River to see that. A pretty Swedish guide leads round a dozen American visitors. She shows them a display by the UN's World Health Organisation (WHO) which goes on about health care for the whole world by the year 2000. The whole world? How many WHO officials have lately looked at any African village, or any town in southern Italy, or at large parts of New York City for that matter?

Then go into the chamber and listen. Terrorism is denounced, and in their places you will see the representatives of Iran, Iraq, Libya and Syria, who appear unmoved.

So was Yasser Arafat, before his recent conversion to peace. Listen, and human rights will be extolled, at which the representatives of Burundi and Burma, murderous regimes, do not turn a hair.

No-one, says article 4 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, shall be held in slavery, and yet there sits Mauritania, a member since 1961, which did not formally abolish slavery until 1980.

Folksy talk

And everyone, according to article 13, has the right to freedom of movement and to leave his own country. Is that so in Rumania, East Germany, or even in Gorbachev's Russia?

Now the world knows that the UN is in session when Mr Bush comes to New York, gums up all the traffic for four hours, and is seen on television giving a folksy talk to Mr Shevardnadze and the assembled delegates of the other 158 countries.

But the assembly's formal business starts a week before with the installation of its new president. This year it was a Nigerian. He was the only candidate. Major-General Joseph Garba accepted the office, remarking that his unanimous election must be seen as a tangible expression of the confidence of the membership in his abilities.

It was nothing of the sort. It was Buggins' Turn. The rules are what are known as those of equitable geographical rotation. It happens to be Africa's turn, and General Garba happens to be the representative of Nigeria, which happens to be a tyranny. The man does have a history. In 1975 General Yakubu Gowan, who was a soldier and a Sandhurst man, was president of Nigeria. General Garba was his security officer.

While General Gowon was away in Kampala, General Garba in Lagos announced his overthrow.

General Garba was pushed out of the army in 1980 and made permanent representative at the UN in 1984. Now he is reported to have ambitions to become secretary-general.

The present secretary-general is Perez de Cuellar, of Peru, who has held the office since 1982. He is your classic bureaucrat but, as he says, he's never concerned if there's a down because he knows that after a down there will be an up. He invites you to look at the marvellous "menu" the UN has to offer.

Only a man who has seen it all could be happy with a menu like Namibia, the Middle East, Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq, Kampuchea, the Western Sahara, central America, Cyprus, terrorism and Aids.

"I used to say I could play many games of chess simultaneously, and here I cannot concentrate on one board at the expense of another."

In the plenary assembly, President Carlos Menem of Argentina, dark and eloquent, did a bit of demagoguery, declaring that Argentina would fight unstintingly for the Malvinas. Then he evaded deviously when asked whether he was going to pardon General Galtieri.

And so to the Falklands. What if Margaret Thatcher wouldn't give them back? He was, he said, totally opposed to war. Quite. The foreign minister of Austria had earlier made a suggestion typical of his own city-state. "We already had the blue helmets of the UN peacekeeping forces," he said: "Wouldn't it be nice when we could also have the green helmets protecting the environment?"

Then came a magnificent piece of delusion from the President of Venezuela. First foreign debts. The likes of Venezuela have all borrowed too much from gullible lenders, and now, first, don't want to repay and, second, consider the original giving of the loan an insult and a provocation.

That's normal. But the president had a truly original turn of mind. He wished Puerto Rico, which is American, to become "one more of our Latin American republics". This is just what Puerto Rico does not want. In two referendums, less than 10 percent have voted for independence.

Now if there are "corridor opportunities" at the UN, there are also what I shall call crystal chandelier opportunities. I call them that because they take place not at the UN itself but in the delegates' hotels, which seem to have meeting rooms with low ceilings from which such chandeliers ridiculously hang.

So, to breakfast under chandeliers with the President of Bolivia, Jaime Paz Zamora. He is the new president of a country that since its independence in 1825 has had more than 60 revolutions. It lost its Pacific coastline to Chile after the war of 1884.

It is four times the size of the United Kingdom. It has chronically suffered from strikes, coups, military governments and 3 000 percent annual inflation. It has gold, silver, natural gas and cocaine. Che Guevara was killed there. In 1986, US troops helped Bolivia in the fight against drug traffickers.

Mr Paz looks like an Inca. He said that because Bolivia had stopped having military coups — which had been an effort — and because inflation was now down to 12 percent, his country was no news any more.

Narcoticised

A sister-in-law of his had been murdered, and he himself had nearly been killed by his enemies. He wanted to do what he could so that Congress would take some notice of him, but relations with the United States had become narcoticised. All their conversations began and ended with drugs, and there was nothing in-between. He wanted to make the realities known. I have never seen the like. Here was the president of a sovereign state asking a few assorted reporters, over breakfast, what to do.

So why didn't he talk to Mr Bush like that? He said he'd told the president, who didn't answer him.

I took a taxi back to the UN, where the traffic was bad, but nothing like as bad as on the dreaded day that Mr Bush went there. "Why", asked the driver, "don't they give the UN to some nice country that deserves it?"

STAR 10/10/89

Swapol 'keeping officials in dark'

Police are not co-operating with Untag – UN chief

(336)

NEW YORK — Namibia's police are not fully co-operating with UN officials and are withholding security information and denying them the right to visit detainees, the head of the United Nations said yesterday.

In a report to the Security Council, Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar also said the South African-trained South West African Police Force (Swapol) was dragging its feet on investigating cases.

"In many cases they have proceeded very slowly and there is a risk that some of them will not be completed within the transition period, with the result that important and crucial evidence may thus be lost," said the UN chief.

About 1 500 UN police monitors are in Namibia to supervise the conduct of Swapol during a one-year period in which the territory is to gain independence from South Africa.

Dr Perez de Cuellar's report notes that there is no arrangement under which the UN monitors may visit detainees at Swapol stations and says the monitors are not present when Swapol members accused of offences are questioned.

Swapol had also "on occasion" failed to inform the UN monitors of its schedule of patrols, making it difficult for the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag) supervisors to accompany them, he said.

"Nor has Swapol always shared with Untag information relevant to the security situation in Namibia, though it has often made unsubstantiated allegations of imminent infiltration by Swapo combatants from southern Angola," Dr Perez de Cuellar said.

"It is clearly important that security information should be shared with Untag, in order to prevent any recurrence of disturbing terrorist incidents which have taken place in recent weeks, including a murderous attack on Untag locations at Outjo on August 10 and the assassination of a leading official of Swapo in Windhoek on September 12."

The UN chief also noted that he has had to increase the number of police monitors from 500 to 1 500 since April "in order to deal with complaints received from Namibians who do not wish to address themselves directly to Swapol".

Namibians are reluctant to complain to Swapol about its officers, about the former South African-led military personnel in Namibia or about political parties allied with Pretoria.

Dr Perez de Cuellar's report reviewed conditions in Namibia since Untag began operations there in April. — Sapa-AP.

1,5 million deaths laid at SA's door

Star 12/10/89

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The Star's Foreign News Service

GENEVA — A United Nations agency has claimed that South Africa's "military aggression and destabilisation of its neighbours" has cost the region more than $60 billion (R165 billion) and 1,5 million lives in the nine years from 1980 to 1988.

The claims were made by the UN Economic Commission for Africa in a report.

"The $60 billion loss to the Frontline states was determined through a careful computation of Angola's and Mozambique's estimated rates of growth of gross domestic product over war and non-war years and through calculating also the impact on the GDP of the other states which are targets of direct aid and indirect South African actions," the UN information department explained.

SA denies UN charge

NEW YORK — SA has denied allegations in a UN report that it encouraged wars and economic instability that cost nearby black countries $60bn and 1,5-million lives this decade. (336)

Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, Lesotho and Swaziland lost $10bn through economic destabilisation in 1988 alone, said the report. — Sapa-AP.

BDay 13/10/89

SA devasted lives and the economies of its neighbours, says UN

NAIROBI — SA's "export of violence" and its "deliberate destruction of economies and lives with neighbouring states" has had a devastating impact on the economic development and human well-being of the Frontline states in southern Africa, says a report published by the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

Pretoria's military aggression and its economic de-stabiliation cost the region $10bn in 1988, or 40% of the achieved regional gross domestic product. Since 1980, 1,5-million lives have been lost, more than half by children, from war-induced starvation, the destruction of health services and civilian/military casualties.

Over the period 1980-1988, the cumulative regional cost of SA's "total strategy" was $60bn. According to the study, most of these costs have been incurred as a result of the destruction of transport routes, direct war damage, higher energy costs, destruction of export commodities, reduced productivity through rural terrorism, trade boycotts and embargoes by SA and extra costs on defence and transport.

Mozambique and Angola are singled out by the report as having borne the brunt of SA regional de-stabilisation. Mozambique has been a key target, says the report, because its transportation network is vital to the region's attempts to reduce dependence on SA.

Pretoria's policy of "commando attacks, sabotage of economic installations and mass terrorism", mostly carried out by the SA-trained and financed Renamo rebel group, have caused nearly 1-million war-related deaths, driven 4,6-million people from their homes and cost the country $15bn between 1980 and 1988.

In Angola, Pretoria's support for the Unita rebels and their economic sabotage of key transport routes, such as the Benguela railway, contributed to an economic loss of $27bn-$30bn between 1980 and 1988.

The report calls for tougher economic sanctions and embargoes against SA and says the external funding needs of the region to ameliorate the burden of SA aggression are $3,5bn a year. — Financial Times.

UN attempts to stem 'disinformation' on constitution moves

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — UN officials seeking to stem "disinformation" have emphasised their commitment to a set of democratic principles designed by Western powers to underpin Namibia's first constitution.

Concern is being targeted at one of the so-called 1982 Principles, requiring two-thirds of the proposed 72-seat Constituent Assembly to enact the territory's founding law, and the same majority to pass future constitutional amendments.

Reports denounced by Untag officials and diplomats have hinted that Swapo — the most likely majority victor in next month's election — might try to dodge the obligation.

Administrator-General Louis Pienaar wrote the majority voting requirement into a draft law structuring the assembly that will be precipitated by the November election.

Diplomatic sources say the provision may not survive current discussions between Pienaar and Untag boss Martti Ahtisaari to streamline the draft before it is promulgated.

But officials say the requirement will not be abandoned, and that UN negotiators are pursuing legalistic argument that Pienaar would be powerless to enforce it even if it were included in the final proclamation.

Untag spokesman Fred Eckhard yesterday declined to comment on the discussions.

"However, it must be emphasised that the principles concerning the Constituent Assembly, as laid out in Security Council document S/15 287 of 12 July 1982, have been accepted by all parties and form an integral part of the settlement," he said.

He said UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar reported to the Security Council in New York that the independence plan "includes agreements and understandings reached by the parties . . . including the text of the principles concerning the Constituent Assembly, and these remain binding on the parties".

Diplomatic sources said the statement sought to erase suggestions that the UN was proposing to abandon the underpinning principles.

SA lauds fairness of election B/Day 15/11/89

UN approves Swapo govt for Namibia

(336)

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — UN special representative Martti Ahtisaari put his stamp of approval on Namibia's election last night, setting the territory on course for independence under a future Swapo-led government.

Namibians had given the world "a shining lesson in democracy", restraint and tolerance, Ahtisaari told reporters an hour after final poll results had been announced.

Administrator-General Louis Pienaar, also lauded the election and urged Namibians to "hold thumbs and pray for the future of this country.

"We have witnessed a decisive and historic step in the constitutional development of this territory."

Ahtisaari's endorsement of the poll guarantees world recognition of Namibia's electoral results.

Official tallies disclosed that 670 830, or more than 97% of the territory's 701 438 registered voters, participated.

Under a proportional representation system, allocation of seats in a 72-member assembly gave Swapo 41 seats, the DTA 21, the United Democratic Front four, Action Christian National three, and one each to the Federal Convention of Namibia, Namibia National Front and National Patriotic Front.

Swapo secured 57% control of the assembly with the rival DTA holding 28% influence.

The constitutional assembly will meet for the first time next Wednesday.

Swapo's leadership offered no public comment on the election results last night.

However, the jubilation of thousands of party-followers touched off street celebrations in downtown Windhoek which jammed lunch-hour traffic yesterday. And revellers were still partying in Katutura



NUJOMA ... greets supporters yesterday

township late last night.

The final tally fell far short of Swapo's predicted landslide. Only in northern Owambo, heartland of Swapo's Owambo-based support, did the party sweep the polls with a 94% regional victory that turned around an earlier lead by the DTA.

Swapo's performance finally ends its status in the UN General Assembly as "sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people".

Swapo will have the majority power to form a government, but lacks the two thirds required to pass a constitution into law. But Swapo leaders, among them party president Sam Nujoma, have committed themselves to seeking consensus on the nation's founding law.

"In this election there have been no losers," Ahtisaari said last night, flanked by

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Swapo government

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senior officials.

At a separate news conference, Pienaar told reporters he had met Nujoma earlier in the day and discussed "the responsibility of all concerned ... to build bridges across the gaps that have existed in the past.

"It is the responsibility of all of us, and especially of those who assume political leadership in this territory, to promote a feeling and ideal of reconciliation," Pienaar said.

☐ EDYTH BULBRING reports that an SADF spokesman said yesterday the remaining SADF troops in Namibia would be withdrawn within seven days after the elections had been certified.

About 1 500 SADF troops had been confined to bases in Grootfontein and Oshivello.

The spokesman said this arrangement was in accordance with the terms of the settlement plan and the SADF had complied with all the stipulations.

In a statement issued yesterday, President F W de Klerk said SA was ready to co-operate with an independent Namibia.

More than 95% of the country's people cast their votes on a democratic basis and government accepted the outcome.

He was grateful the election proceeded peacefully and called on others to accept the results and to co-operate to preserve the order that marked the elections.

DANIEL SIMON reports that Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said last night during a television interview the SA government was ready to assist an independent Namibia.

Botha said he hoped Namibia would become a signatory to the Customs Union — already existing between SA and several neighbouring states — and that it would show an interest in the idea of a Marshall plan for the southern African region.

SA would curtail government expenditure on Namibia in the near future and he hoped the UN, US and the world community would help Namibia maintain its infrastructure and living standards.

UN votes today on giving PLO government status

Star 11/2/89

(336)

UNITED NATIONS — European and US diplomats were working up to the last minute in an attempt to block passage of a General Assembly resolution recognising the PLO as the government of Palestine.

The US State Department vowed to cut off all US funding for the United Nations if the resolution passed during a scheduled vote tonight.

The United States funding is about R560 million annually, a quarter of the UN's budget.

"We are urging that this destructive resolution be withdrawn or, at a minimum, that any action on it be deferred," a State Department official said late yesterday.

A British diplomat, speaking privately, said the 12 European Community nations are continuing their efforts.

The General Assembly resolution says the Palestine Liberation Organisation "has the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of the State of Palestine."

It also says the PLO "shall be construed, within the United Nations, as the State of Palestine."

That designation would elevate the PLO to non-voting observer nation status, the same as North and South Korea, Switzerland, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican. — Sapa-AP.

UN decisions criticise Israel

Stem 5/12/67

NEW YORK — As delegates huddled on a controversial resolution upgrading the UN status of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the General Assembly yesterday adopted three resolutions criticising Israel.

One recognises the PLO's right to establish an independent state and calls on all states to put an end to military and economic aid to Israel. It also asks for the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. (336)

A second resolution declares Israel's continued occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights and other occupied territories a violation of international law. The third said Israel's decision to impose jurisdiction over Jerusalem was illegal. — Sapa-Reuter.

Three suspects in UN attack on the run

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — Three men held for a terrorist attack against the UN escaped from police guards yesterday after seriously wounding one of the officers with his own pistol.

The three men facing murder and weapons-possession charges — South Africans Darryl Stopforth and Leonard Veenendal and German national Horst Klenz — were on the run late last night with two unidentified accomplices who aided their breakout.

Police described the five armed suspects as dangerous and said roadblocks were being put in place in a wide search for their light-coloured Nissan Langley, which was thought to be heading south.

Const R van Wyk who was wounded in the escape was being treated in Otjiwarongo for a bullet wound in the back and was said to be partly paralysed.

Police put out conflicting reports of the incident in an attack ranking as one of two most widely publicised crimes in Namibia during the transition to independence. The other was the assassination of Swapo official Anton Lubowski in September.

A black Namibian security guard died in the August 10 gun-and-grenade attack on an Untag office in Outjo.

Police said the three suspects overpowered two police guards during a drive from the town back to the capital.

Pik warns UN: don't damage SA's aims

Staff Reporter

United Nations support for proposals made in a "Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa" would seriously damage future negotiations within South Africa, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha warned last night.

In a letter to UN Secretary-General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mr Botha urged the General Assembly not to adopt the draft at its special session on apartheid next week.

He said the Government was irrevocably committed to the creation of a new South Africa based on a free and equitable constitutional, social and economic system. Its sincerity was shown by the release of long-term security prisoners and the permitting of peaceful demonstrations.

South Africa had also made a positive contribution towards independence in Namibia, and supported efforts to end conflicts in Mozambique and Angola.

Included in the Government's political aims were: equal human rights; protection of minority groups and indiviuals; and that no individual or group should have the right to govern others without their consent.

CREDIBLE NEGOTIATIONS

"The South African Government fully realises the urgency of getting credible negotiations off the ground and trusts that it will soon be in a position to make further announcements that will clear the way for negotiations with recognised leaders.

"The adoption of this declaration would have an extremely negative effect on the initiation of negotiations between the relevant parties in South Africa."

Mr Botha said the declaration was an attempt to incorporate as much as was possible of the Harare Declaration, which endorsed the position of only one of the parties likely to take part in negotiations, the ANC, thereby putting it in a preferential position.

"The ANC can qualify itself for participation by commiting itself to the peaceful resolution of differences. Such a commitment will match the South African Government's commitment to a new political constitutional dispensation aimed to meet the political aspirations of all through peaceful means."

He said that by suggesting a continuing role for the UN and the international community, and promoting the concept of an interim government, the proposals overlooked South Africa's rights as a sovereign state.

"If the international community wishes to encourage the people of South Africa to proceed on their declared course of creating a new South Africa ... the way to go about it is hardly to promote continuation and extension of sanctions."

PAC to sit in at UN

Sunday Times Reporter

THE chairman of the Pan Africanist Congress, Mr Johnson Mlambo, will attend this week's special session of the United Nations in New York — where South Africa will again be heading the agenda.

Mr Mlambo will be joined in New York by the PAC's secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Gora Ibrahim. Later, Mr Mlambo will fly to Guyana as a guest of that government.

The theme of the special UN session will be "the elimination of apartheid".

It is expected that the Harare Declaration, stating the ANC's preconditions for negotiations with the South African Government, will form the basis of the discussions.

Both the OAU and the Non-Aligned Movement have recently adopted the Harare Declaration as the cornerstone of their policy towards South Africa.

Apartheid: Yet another debate in UN begins

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — Foreign Ministers or their deputies from more than 30 member states will lead delegations at a special session of the UN General Assembly on the question of apartheid, which opens today.

Although several heads of state were said to have indicated their intention to attend, only President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe were named in a list of leading participants issued by the UN.

Western nations that have decided to send Foreign Ministers are Canada, Finland, France, Greece, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Ireland and Italy.

Japan's Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Naoki Tanaka, also is in the list. The Japanese have been targets of sharp criticism from African and other Third World members because of their emergence as South Africa's leading trading partner.

In speeches in the world body, Japanese delegates have often expressed opposition to apartheid, sometimes in harsh language, but their protestations have left many unconvinced.

The three-day special session comes towards the end of the regular session of the General Assembly and is a classic example of the UN's propensity for overkill, since apartheid has already been debated at length during the normal proceedings.

Nevertheless, delegates are already talking of the possibility of holding another special session in the New Year to review Pretoria's promised reforms.

If these are not as sweeping as members would wish, pressure for strong economic sanctions appears inevitable.



UN groups achieve rare unity to condemn apartheid

Argus 15/12/89 336

NEW YORK. — The United Nations General Assembly, speaking with one voice, has unanimously condemned South Africa's apartheid system as "a crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind" and demanded its abolition.

For the first time in the UN's history, black African nations reached a compromise with the United States and Britain on the subject of apartheid, adopting the declaration by consensus yesterday.

The delegates then stood for a moment of silent meditation at the close of the three-day Special Session on Apartheid.

"A declaration, however solemn and however unanimous, will not itself help the people of South Africa in their efforts to create a new and non-racial society," said the assembly's president, Mr Joseph Garba of Nigeria.

"But it will lend tremendous power to our arguments henceforth when addressing proponents of apartheid, whether inside or outside South Africa."

To win US and British support, the Africans diluted a statement proposed by the Organisation of African Unity.

They abandoned the OAU's demand for increased sanctions against South Africa and its call for an interim government during the transition to a non-racial democracy.

Instead, the declaration raises the possibility of lifting trade embargoes if Pretoria begins repealing apartheid within six months.

The declaration pledges that the world community will "not relax existing measures aimed at encouraging the South African regime to eradicate apartheid, until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes."

It then asks Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to report by July 1 on South Africa's progress in abolishing apartheid.

Delegates from 118 nations, including Presidents Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, castigated South Africa's racial segregation policies during three days of debate.

"I believe, and I know many of you share this belief, that a stage has been reached in South Africa where a possibility for real and fundamental change exists," Mr Garba told the assembly.

"De Klerk, who came to power this year, says he wants a new constitution within five years that will bring blacks into the national government.

"However, he has made clear he opposes black majority rule and a one-man, one-vote system, and envisions a system in which whites would have veto power on major policy decisions, has vowed to end apartheid and has implemented some limited reforms." — Sapa-Reuter.

Pik slams UN declaration

PRETORIA. — The Declaration on Apartheid adopted by the United Nations General Assembly last night was fundamentally flawed and unacceptable to the South African government, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today.

He said it was also bizarre, coming at a time when the government was moving rapidly and resolutely towards creating a climate for negotiations.

In a statement he said the declaration, adopted by a special session of the General Assembly by consensus, sought to prescribe to South Africa what form its constitution should take.

This action was in flagrant contravention of the United Nations Charter and was therefore outside the powers of the General Assembly. South Africa had no obligation to take cognisance of the declaration.

Mr Botha said it was encouraging that some states had had the foresight to negotiate the removal of some of the more obnoxious elements that had been contained in the earlier drafts of the declaration.

"What remains is, however, fundamentally flawed and unacceptable to the SA government, not least because it seeks to endorse negotiating positions of one probable party alone, of many whose participation in the elaboration of a new constitution for South Africa will be essential."

He said the sooner South Africans of all persuasions gathered around a table to work out their own future, without outside interference, the better it would be. — Sapa.

It's double standard time

S/Times 17/12/89

336

THE United Nations held a three-day anti-apartheid jamboree here this week and ended up demanding standards for South Africa that many of its members fail miserably to practise.

Speaker after speaker noted that it was up to South Africans to shape their own future — and then adopted what amounts to the broad outline of a new system.

Countries like Haiti, Panama, Cuba, Albania, Nigeria, Zambia and China, where dissidence gets short shrift, joined in a call for all South Africans to have the right to form any political party of their choice.

It was also demanded that all South Africans be allowed to enjoy universally recognised human rights, freedoms and civil liberties, protected under an entrenched Bill of Rights.

Even the United States supported a provision in the UN package of principles for South Africa that would be impossible to enforce in the US — that there could be no political party that furthered "racism".

Removal

Observers noted that such a ban was impossible in the US, where freedom of expression is protected by the First Amendment to the constitution and white racist organisations such as the Ku Klux Klan can function openly, protected by the law.

After three days of talking, in which representatives were given 10 minutes each and heads of state 20 minutes to present their cases against South Africa, the world body adopted by consensus a resolution based on the OAU declaration in Harare in August and later endorsed by the Commonwealth.

Intense lobbying by South African and some Western diplomats led to the removal of some provisions, such as a demand for additional mandatory sanctions, the establishment of an interim government in South Africa and an international framework for constitutional negotiations — and many of the UN delegates went out of their way to reassure the South Africans that the declaration should not be seen as an ANC document.

But to the South African Government this is exactly what it was, and therefore direct interference in South Africa's internal affairs.

A disappointed South African Ambassador to the UN, Mr Jeremy Shearar, said afterwards: "It is a great pity that the document did not acknowledge reforms taking place in South Africa. That made it a one-sided document.

"It is a fundamental failing of the UN and of the whole negotiating posture that it sacrifices principle for expediency — and that was done again this week," said Mr Shearar.

United

The declaration emphasised a commitment to a peaceful solution for South Africa and made no demands that sanctions be tightened — which some observers saw as a softening of the UN's traditional hard line — but it castigated South Africa for causing "untold loss of life and destruction of property" in the region and described apartheid as a "scourge and an affront to humanity that must be fought and eradicated in its totality".

It said South Africa must be transformed into a united, unfragmented, democratic and non-racial country with justice and security for all and with universal franchise, a nonracial voters' roll and a secret ballot.

It should have an independent, nonracial judiciary and an economic order that would promote the wellbeing of all South Africans.

"A democratic South Africa shall respect the rights, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries and pursue a policy of peace, friendship and mutually beneficial co-operation with all peoples," it said.

Credit

Among other acts such as the release of political prisoners and ending the state of emergency, it called on the SA Government to "cease all political trials and political executions".

The UN apparently sees for itself a role in South Africa's future. It included in the declaration a set of guidelines for the negotiating process which contains an agreement by all parties on "the role to be played by the international community in ensuring a successful transition to a democratic order".

Some observers believe leading Western countries gave support to the declaration because they did not want to be accused of undermining an international consensus against apartheid.

The observers said the statements of the Western ambassadors should be studied carefully, particularly where they gave credit to the De Klerk Government for its reform steps in recent months.

These statements were more significant than the UN consensus, they said. But they added that the SA Government had created expectations and that it was vital that these should not be dashed by a slowdown in the country's reform momentum.

● See Page 8

From our Special Correspondent: Washington

UN heads home as Namibia raises flag

KEVIN JACOBS

WINDHOEK — With most of their task successfully behind them, Namibia's UN chaperones are slowly heading home. But the capital is simumtaneously preparing for one more red-carpet influx for independence celebrations.

Untag's mission is running down and dozens of military and civilian officials are leaving the territory that has been their temporary home for the past nine months.

Cautious plans are being made to run up the national flag of sovereign Namibia before Untag's mandate expires on April 1, and hoteliers are already taking booking calls from African capitals.

Heads of state of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) will be standing in line to attend independence celebrations of the organisation's newest applicant for membership.

Western governments and many of the 100-odd states in the Non-Aligned Movement are also expected to mark their approval of Namibia's UN-supervised release from foreign rule by dispatching senior diplomats or ministerial-level envoys for the historic flag-raising.

"The hotel industry does expect to be over-run," said prestige Kalahari Sands Hotel GM Peter Kastner.

"The authorities dealing with it are aware that accommodation will be short — certainly it will be worse than it was during the November elections.

In place

Canadian logistics soldiers and British signallers are packing to leave by mid-January, and some 100 military observers drawn from scores of nations have already departed for their home countries.

Three infantry battalions — Finnish, Kenyan and Malaysian — will stay in place until independence, and a handful of Untag administrators will staff an office for some six months after independence, officials said.

UNITED NATIONS

1990

But General Thurman disputed that.

Pik's Hungarian visit should boost trade and co-operation


Mr Botha

BUDAPEST — The Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, has held talks with Hungarian counterpart Mr Gyula Horn in the first known visit of a senior South African official to a Warsaw Pact country.

Hungarian Foreign Ministry sources indicated that Mr Botha would leave today for an unknown destination.

South African Foreign Affirs sources said he was not expected to visit other countries.

Commercial, academic and tourist contacts between South Africa and Hungary have increased in recent months. Other issues that may have been discussed during Mr Botha's visit included landing rights for South African Airways, and access to South African mining technology.

Hungary's Foreign Ministry gave only sparse details of the previously unannounced visit, saying Mr Botha was making a two-day visit.

The SA Foreign Affairs Department said Mr Botha was visiting Hungary "to acquaint himself with recent events in ... Eastern Europe and inform the Hungarian government of the latest developments in South Africa".

A Foreign Affairs spokesman in Pretoria, Mr Thomas Markham, said further comments on Mr Botha's Hungarian visit would be available on the Minister's return at the weekend. Mr Botha left South Africa on Tuesday.

The Hungarian state news agency, MTI, said Hungary expected the visit to boost trade with Pretoria and ease visa restrictions between the two countries.

Mr Botha was also to meet the Hungarian Democratic Forum and the League of Free Democrats opposition groups, MTI said.

Mr Miklos Szabo of the League of Free Democrats said the meeting with Mr Botha was a protocol meeting.

"But we'll take the opportunity to express to Botha the need for radical reform in South Africa," he said.

"At the same time, we are of the view that international relations ought not to be subjugated to ideological considerations," Mr Szabo added.

An indication of the shift in Hungary's attitudes towards Pretoria came last November, when it abstained in a UN General Assembly vote on tougher sanctions against Pretoria.

Yesterday's news angered African members of the UN, who last night pointed out that Hungary was a member of the UN Special Committee on Apartheid, set up in 1963, which has been in the forefront of the campaign against Pretoria.

4/11/90

SKILLED WORKERS

Hungarian radio stated clearly that the question of Hungary and South Africa establishing diplomatic relations would not be discussed.

Budapest Radio quoted a Hungarian Foreign Ministry statement as saying: "The aim of his talks cannot be the immediate establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, but that could happen later on as relations gradually improve."

Hundreds of East Europeans were reported to have responded to Pretoria's recruitment campaign aimed at reducing South Africa's chronic shortage of skilled workers. — Staff Reporter-Reuter-AP-Financial Times News Service.

Lucky punter wins

In a fizz over

Un recruits volunteers to fill army posts

Sunday 9/11/90

WINDHOEK - The United Nations Development Programme has recruited 21 health volunteers to fill vacancies left by departing South African Defence Force personnel in Namibia, according to an Untag radio broadcast through the SWABC.

UNDP's liaison officer Emily Pastor, said before arranging volunteers to fill these vacancies, UNDP worked with the Department of Health to appoint 13 returnee doctors. Volunteers in education and civil aviation would be recruited shortly also to fill posts left by SADF personnel.

Pastor said the organisation's emphasis on training required that for every outside expert brought in, one local counterpart was trained to do the same job.

UNDP, the world body's coordinating agency for world development, has been in Namibia since April collecting information on a number of sectors including health, education, labour and the fiscal situation. This information has been collected with the intention of presenting policy options to Namibia's newly formed government.-Sapa

The Star Finance

Days of world commodity pacts seem numbered, say analysts

Star 15/11/90

LONDON — The future looks thin for international commodity pacts as talks on freer world trade set the tone for the 1990s.

Over the past decade, accords to stabilise prices have operated for tin, coffee, cocoa, sugar and rubber, promising decent returns for producers and steady supplies of raw materials for consumer countries.

One by one — with the sole exception of rubber — the agreements have foundered.

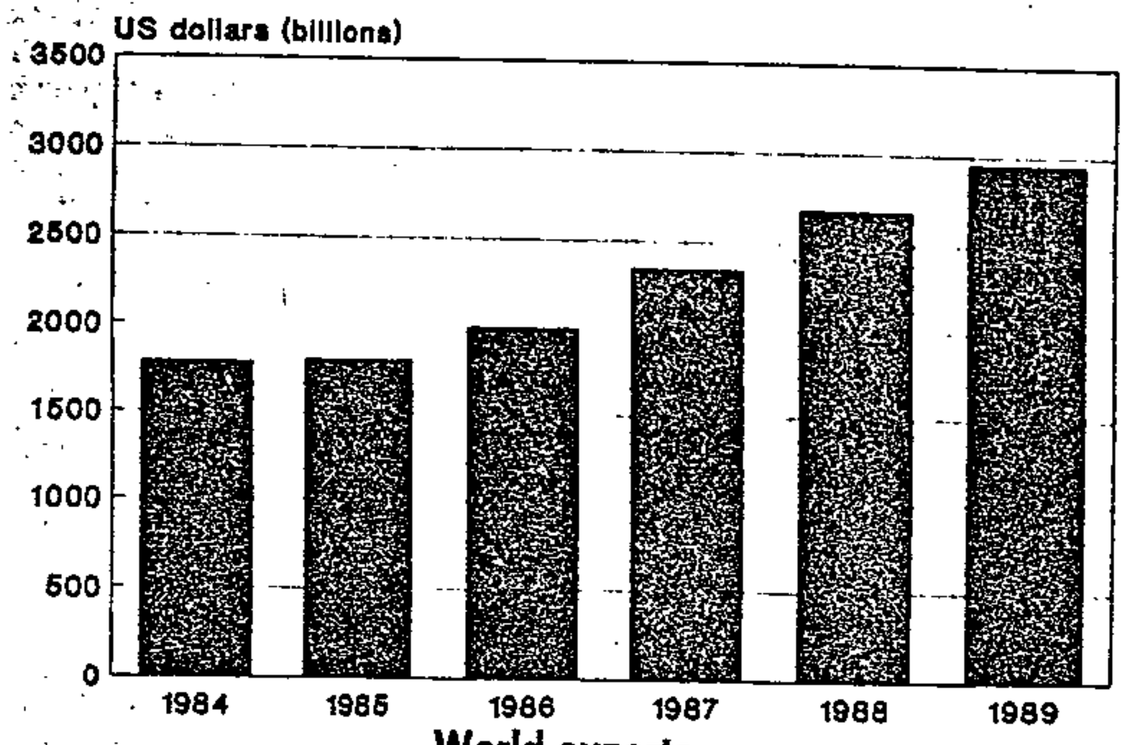
Now commodity analysts say the free market philosophy prevalent in many developed countries has bred mistrust of such pacts, unless there is a compelling political reason for them.

"The interventionist approach is very much discredited," says one commodity analyst.

Recent US and European calls for a new international coffee agreement show exceptions can be made if foreign and domestic policy require them, analysts say.

By supporting a new pact, Washington can aid the economies of Latin America and foster democracy.

In particular, Colombia can be helped to fight its drug barons and perhaps staunch the flood of cocaine into America and Europe.



World exports

The US and the European Community also support the rubber agreement, the only pact currently functioning.

But a drive for freer markets in talks held within the 105-nation forum of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) has darkened the outlook for price-supporting agreements.

"Gatt and trade liberalisation could be the theme of the next decade and I don't think that bodes very well for commodity pacts," says James Fry, managing director of London-based research group Landell Mills Commodities Studies.

"The times when both consumers and producers want pacts for economic as opposed to political reasons are very few," says another analyst.

Consumer-producer price pacts came into vogue in the late 1970s, supported by industrial countries worried about shortages of raw materials.

In 1980 the UN negotiated its Common Fund for Commodities, designed to nurture such accords.

But consumers' faith in the idea, already dwindling by the mid-1980s, was dealt a crippling blow in 1985 when the International Tin Agreement crashed, leaving £500 million (now $800 million) of debts to banks and brokers.

It was one of the world's largest commercial defaults.

After more than four years of legal wrangling, member governments of the tin pact have just agreed to pay creditors £182,5 million in an out-of-court deal.

The UN commodity fund finally came into force this year, but is limited to funding research and development in producer countries and is unlikely ever to fulfil its original purpose.

Producer-only cartels such as the Opec and the Association of Tin-Producing Countries have had more success, inspiring other groups to follow suit.

Five Central American coffee-producing countries agreed in December to withhold 15 percent of their exportable crop until the last quarter of next year in a bid to boost depressed world prices and help their beleaguered economies.

But officials in the US, West Germany and Japan see little more mileage in consumer-producer pacts.

"I can't see that there is a big future for that kind of agreement," says Peter Baron, West German representative to several international commodity organisations.

"It is best to leave the markets to do the business and support producing countries by other means."

Japanese government officials say buffer stocks, which buy at times of surplus and sell during shortages, are no longer able to keep prices stable in the long run.

"Japan, like many other nations, is unlikely to be an advocate of the idea of a buffer stock," says an official in Tokyo.

A senior member of the commodities division of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) says he firmly believes the failed consumer-producer coffee pact can still be revived.

Traders believe the key is whether top producer Brazil can accept a cut in its world market share, something it has adamantly opposed up to now.

But Mr Fry says the future for commodity pacts could lie in following the example of the International Wheat Council, which keeps statistics and acts as a valuable forum for discussion, but has not had the power to intervene in the market since 1979.

"The Wheat Council could set the mood for the way things are going," he says. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN predicts economic slowdown

NEW YORK — The world economy was expected to slow down further in 1990 and developed countries could face a recession, the United Nations said on Thursday. (330)

The UN Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, in its annual survey, predicted 3% growth in world output for 1990, below an estimated 3,2% growth last year and 4,4% growth in 1988.

The developed countries, which also grew 3,2% last year, might grow by less than 3% in 1990, it said.

"Although the rate of growth of the developed market economies is expected only to slow down, a sharper deceleration or a recession remains a possibility." B1pay 15/11/90

But it said modest growth was expected in developing countries after slow growth in many of them last year, particularly in Latin America and Africa.

The survey said revolutionary changes in Eastern Europe and reforms in the Soviet Union would have profound implications not only for the region but for the rest of the world.

"The prospects for an end to the debilitating arms race of the Superpowers change both the political and economic prospects of the world as a whole," it said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Namibia moves to curb border bandits

WINDHOEK — Namibian police and their UN monitors have stepped up patrols along the border with Angola amid growing concern over an upsurge of cross-border banditry.

But the UN Transition Assistance Group (Untag) yesterday refused to reveal details of a report it has compiled on lawlessness in the north of Namibia.

Namibian and UN police have reported an escalation in banditry since Angolan government forces and Unita rebels intensified fighting at the end of last year.

Armed men wearing items of uniform from both sides have reportedly been crossing into Namibia and robbing, pillaging and rustling cattle.

An Untag spokesman said yesterday: "Banditry is of increasing concern. I cannot give figures. The matter is under discussion between local and UN police."

He said a group of 10 armed men raided eight cuca shops (shebeens) about 3km inside Namibia on Friday night, stealing goods valued at about R3 500.

"Six cows were also stolen from a farm nearby. The South West Africa Police are investigating."

Residents believe they are either Unita fighters or members of the MPLA government's army separated from their units.

Own Correspondent

Lightning visit

Fierce fighting has been taking place in recent weeks around Unita's stronghold in south-eastern Angola.

Namibian president-designate and Swapo leader Sam Nujoma is reported to have discussed the issue with Angolan government officials and with President Eduardo dos Santos during a 24-hour lightning visit to the Angolan capital, Luanda, at the weekend.

The Namibian, a pro-Swapo newspaper, said the military situation on the border was on the agenda of talks between the two leaders.

In terms of a UN independence plan expected to result in sovereignty for Namibia in about April, there are 1 500 police monitors assisting some 4 400 troops and more than 1 000 Untag civilians.

The troop strength is in the process of being scaled down, but police are expected to remain at full strength until after independence.

Namibia's independence plan is tied to a phased and simultaneous withdrawal from Angola of some 50 000 Cuban troops who have been helping Luanda's forces fight Unita.

Diplomatic observers and political analysts believe peaceful independence in Namibia cannot be achieved without the end to civil war in Angola which neighbouring African states have been battling to bring about in recent months.

Suzman praises F W at the UN

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The Star's Foreign News Service

GENEVA — Former Democratic Party MP Mrs Helen Suzman has asked the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to encourage fundamental change in South Africa by, for once, adopting an encouraging resolution.

In a message to the commission, Mrs Suzman praised President de Klerk for his "courageous speech" on Friday.

She said she was especially pleased by the imminent unconditional release of Mr Nelson Mandela because "only his authority will curb the extremists".

Mrs Suzman said the UN may soon be called upon to play a crucial role in the new thinking in South Africa.

"I hope the UN Commission on Human Rights will decide to give every possible encouragement to an ongoing attempt at mutual reconciliation in South Africa," she said.

"May your important commission lead the way by passing a constructive and progressive resolution, thereby indicating that it, too, wishes to contribute to this welcome wind of change that could well develop into a strong movement toward a non-racial society, based on justice for all," she said.

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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The Human Rights Commission welcomes the release of Nelson Mandela and urges the South African Government to implement all the measures considered essential for

Declaration on apartheid and its destructive consequences in Southern Africa

(A/RES/S-16/1)

PREAMBLE

We, the States Members of the United Nations, assembled at the sixteenth special session of the General Assembly, a special session apartheid and its destructive consequences in southern Africa, guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in the context of our efforts to establish peace throughout the world by ending all conflicts through negotiations, and desirous of making serious efforts to bring an end to the unacceptable situation prevailing in southern Africa, which is the result of the policies and practices of apartheid, through negotiations based on the principle of justice and peace for all:

Reaffirming our conviction, which history confirms, that where colonial and racial domination or apartheid exist, there can be neither peace nor justice;

Reiterating accordingly, that while the apartheid system in South Africa persists, the peoples of Africa as a whole cannot achieve the fundamental objectives of justice, human dignity and peace which are both crucial in themselves and fundamental to the stability and development of the continent;

Recognising that, with regard to southern Africa , the entire world is vitally interested that the processes in which that region is involved, leading to the genuine national independence of Namibia and peace in Angola and Mozambique, should succeed in the shortest possible time, and equally recognising that the world is deeply concerned that destabilization by South Africa of the countries of the region, whether through direct aggression, sponsorship of surrogates, economic subversion or other means, is unacceptable in all its forms and must not occur;

Also recognising the reality that permanent peace and stability in southern Africa can only be achieved when the system of apartheid has been eradicated and South Africa has been transformed into a united, democratic and non-racial country, and therefore reiterating that all the necessary measures should be adopted now to bring a speedy end to the apartheid system in the interest of all the people of southern Africa, the continent and the world at large;

Believing that, as a result of the legitimate struggle of the South African people for the elimination of apartheid and of international pressure against that system, as well as global efforts to resolve regional conflicts, possibilities exist for further movement towards the resolution of the problems facing the people of South Africa;

Reaffirming the right of all peoples, including the people of South Africa, to determine their own destiny and to work out for themselves the institutions and the system of government under which they will, by general consent, live and work together to build a harmonious society, and remaining committed to doing everything possible and necessary to assist the people of South Africa, in such ways as they may, through their genuine representatives, determine to achieve this objective;

Making these commitments because we believe that all people are equal and have equal rights to human dignity and respect, regardless of colour, race, sex or creed, that all men and women have the right and duty to participate in their own government, as equal members of society, and that no individual or group of individuals has any right to govern others without their democratic consent, and reiterating that the apartheid system violates all these fundamental and universal principles;

Affirming that apartheid, characterized as a crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind, is responsible for the death of countless numbers of people in South Africa, has sought to dehumanize entire peoples, and has imposed a brutal war on the region of southern Africa, which has resulted in untold loss of life, destruction of property and massive displacement of innocent men, women and children and which is a scourge and affront to humanity that must be fought and eradicated in its totality;

Therefore we support and continue to support all those in South Africa who pursue this noble objective. We believe this to be our duty, carried out in the interest of all humanity;

While extending this support to those who strive for a non-racial and democratic society in South Africa, a point on which no compromise is possible, we have repeatedly expressed our objective of a solution arrived at by peaceful means; we note that the people of South Africa, and their liberation movements who felt compelled to take up arms, have also upheld their preference for this position for many decades and continue to do so;

Welcoming the Declaration of the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Organisation of African Unity on Southern Africa on the Question of South Africa, adopted at Harare on 21 August 1989, and subsequently endorsed by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its Ninth Summit Conference held in Belgrade in September 1989, as a re-affirmation of readiness to resolve the problems of South Africa through negotiations. The Declaration is consistent with the positions contained in the Lusaka Manifesto of two decades ago, in particular regarding the preference of the African people for peaceful change, and takes into account the changes that have taken place in southern Africa since then. This Declaration constitutes a new challenge to the Pretoria regime to join in the noble efforts to end the apartheid system, an objective to which the United Nations has always been committed;

Noting with appreciation that the Commonwealth Heads of Government, at their meeting in Kuala Lumpur in October 1989, noted with satisfaction the strong preference for the path of negotiated and peaceful settlement inherent in the Harare Declaration and considered what further steps they might take to advance the prospects for negotiations;

Also noting with appreciation that the Francophone Summit in Dakar in May 1989 likewise called for negotiations between Pretoria and representatives of the majority of people with a view to the establishment of a democratic and egalitarian system in South Africa;

Consequently, we shall continue to do everything in our power to increase support for the legitimate struggle of the South African people, including maintaining international pressure against the system of apartheid until that system is ended and South Africa is transformed into a united, democratic and non-racial country, with justice and security for all its citizens;

In keeping with this solemn resolve, and responding directly to the wishes of the majority of the people of South Africa, we publicly pledge ourselves to the positions contained hereunder, convinced that their implementation will lead to a speedy end of the apartheid system and heralding the dawn of a new era of peace for the peoples of Africa, in a continent finally free from racism, white minority rule and colonial domination;

POLITICS

Marches for bread and butter issues

AS politicians and the media waited for the world's best-known political prioner to walk to freedom last week, the people of the townships seemed to have something more immediate on their minds.

They, too, took advantage of Pretoriastroika to take to the streets: but the demands they raised were not those we might expect in these stirring times.

In Cape Town on the day Parliament opened, a few thousand people marched to demand that it dissolve. Last Saturday, a couple of hundred demonstrated against the rebel cricket tour.

Between those two events, an estimated 50 000 marched in Alexandra, 40 000 in Atteridgeville, 70 000 in Garankuwa. Tembisa, Tokoza, Daveyton, Vosloorus and Wattville also saw stirrings of grassroots protest.



Worm's Eye

Steven Friedman

In each case, people rallied to demand better houses and conditions, reduced rents and service charges.

While the size of the crowds might be overestimated, there is little doubt that it is bread and butter issues which are mobilising people at the grassroots now.

This does not mean township residents have no political aspirations. In all the marches, African National Congress flags were displayed. But, as expectations of change grow, what the township rank-and-file want changed most of all is their immediate conditions.

Some grassroots reaction to Mandela's release confirms this. At his Soccer City rally, the crowd reacted most warmly when he talked of education, housing and crime. Many people, reports tell us, believe he will deliver them equal pay and lower rents.

This places obvious pressure on the government. Raised expectations of change could lead to a new round of township mobilisation around bread and butter issues.

It was this sort of protest which sparked the 1984/86 unrest. On the East Rand, it has already prompted a tough police reaction. If it is not handled skilfully, we could face another bout of violent conflict.

The government may only be able to avert this if it ensures that police do not act as they did on the East Rand — this may be difficult because many policemen are frustrated now.

But, as a previous column noted, it will not find it easy to defuse the protests by meeting people's expectations.

Township material protest may be sparked by the present political climate. But it has just as much to do with the authorities' failure to improve significantly township conditions despite a concerted attempt in the mid-1980s.

One of the immediate causes, for example, may be that township councils still can't pay their way and that the provinces have had enough of paying their mounting bills. They have insisted that the councils raise charges for services and several of the townships where ferment is emerging have done just that.

The government wants to cut spending now and is unlikely to pour millions into improving conditions. Scrapping apartheid local government and Group Areas would be longer-term solutions but would take time to take effect; in any event, our rulers might want to keep these issues as bargaining chips for negotiations.

Some extra-parliamentary activists are aware of the problems and see them as an opportunity for mass mobilisation. They hope that crowds of 40 000 or 50 000 may swell to ten times that. This, they believe, will place the government on the defensive — much as it did in Eastern Europe.

This strategy would almost certainly be doomed. Events through the 1980s showed repeatedly that, while mass mobilisation is an important weapon for resistance movements, it cannot on its own force the government into retreat.

Unlike Eastern European political systems, this one enjoys the support of the security forces — and of several million people. If the system is threatened by mass protest, it will curb it.

More importantly, mobilisation on its own probably wouldn't change people's immediate conditions — and that could be a severe problem for resistance movements.

If people at the grassroots expect Mandela — and the resistance movements — to yield material changes, their support might wane if conditions don't improve. The ANC and its allies may be under as much pressure to deliver improvements as the government.

If they want to do this, they may have to choose the option community leaders are pursuing in Soweto and parts of the Eastern Cape: there, activists are trying to negotiate interim solutions which will improve conditions among their constituents.

They obviously hope that, if they can win improvements, their support will grow and they will strengthen their organised base.

Thus far they have succeeded in getting the authorities to talk to them: they have yet to win concrete changes.

The mounting problems in the townships give the government one incentive to talk to them.

Another reason it might choose to do this is its desire to find negotiating partners. Some Nat strategists believe that the best way to do this is to bargain on real material interests, rather than on abstract issues.

If resistance movements choose this strategy, not only might they strengthen their support on the ground, but they might recapture the political initiative. Instead of reacting to government moves, they would be forcing it to confront issues it cannot solve on its own — but which demand at least temporary solutions soon.

National political leaderships are not comfortable with these issues and it is unlikely that they will take them up themselves.

But local leaderships are ideally placed to negotiate them: if they get the go-ahead from national leaders to do that, the danger bubbling in the townships now could become an opportunity.

DEREK BAUER'S WORLD



LETTERS

TV's Mandela coverage left us all dancing in the dark

■THE coverage of Nelson Mandela's release by SABC TV's news department was truly abominable. If TV viewers had been wondering whether the spirit of the new era was really moving through SABC-TV's *News* and *Network* programmes, the pathetic coverage of the Mandela release should dispel any lingering doubts.

While the TV networks of the world devoted enormous resources to cover the event, SABC-TV did the bare minimum. The rest of the world were treated to extensive background reporting on all aspects of the Mandela story as well as interviews with a range of people on the South African and world stage giving their views on the significance of his release. What we saw was an embarrassed Clarence Keyter standing outside Victor Verster with nothing to say — apart from what a beautiful prison it was. There was no crossing over to the rally at the Grand Parade in Cape Town, no crossing to other parts of the country where people celebrated in the streets nor was there any contextualisation of the event.

To add insult to injury, the *Network* coverage at 8pm could not even offer Mandela's speech live. Instead we saw bumbling and discredited homeland leaders reading their statements on the release, while the rest of the world watched Mandela speak for the first time in 27 years. Presumably the news department wanted to censor the speech before broadcasting it.

I suppose it is too much to expect anything else but this mixture of imcompetence and political selectivity from the SABC. The sooner they are swept away by the tide of history the better! — **Video for Freedom, Johannesburg**

■AFRIKAANSE Demokrate welcome President de Klerk's announcements and would like to congratulate him on his courage, realism, and pioneering spirit, qualities on which Afrikaners like to pride themselves, but seldom display.

We welcome his announcements as necessary steps in the long process towards a democratic, non-racial, united South Africa, but would also like to point out that the statutory structures of apartheid are still largely intact and that there are still serious obstacles impeding the free participation of all in the political process.

We also recognise his announcements as a victory for all those organisations and individuals who, through continuous pressure, striving, and sacrifice, have ensured that the unrealistic, unjust and oppressive aspects of the current dispensation in South Africa are shown up and must be addressed. President de Klerk's concessions are a product of this struggle, and a sign that the struggle of the past has not been in vain, and is still worthwhile. As many Afrikaans-speakers as possible should become part of the Mass Democratic Movement in order to help ensure that the transformation process does not get stuck at this point, but could jointly be taken further.

Government propaganda has left most Afrikaans-speakers totally unprepared for the strange situation that the "demons" of yesterday are now suddenly respectable conversation partners with whom one can work together. But within organisations such as UDF affiliates there already exists a long tradition of non-racial, democratic practice which can offer a glimpse of the future. Those who want to find out about and participate in the building of this process can approach Afrikaanse Demokrate, a non-racial, non-sexist organisation which aims to show Afrikaans-speakers that they have a place and a contribution to make in the Mass Democratic Movement — **Linda Dietrich, Afrikaanse Demokrate, Johannesburg**

■AS President FW de Klerk and his colleagues are lauded daily from all corners of the globe following the earth-shattering speech made at the recent opening of parliament, we would do well to remember those brave and indefatigable South Africans who for so many years have devoted themselves to the pursuance of justice and peace in our country: Philip Kgosana, Helen Joseph, Albert Luthuli, Beyers Naude, Helen Suzman, Steve Biko, Van Zyl Slabbert, David Webster, Molly Blackburn and countless others who persevered in the face of the severest opposition, derision and even persecution, in their quest to promote the very policies which are now being hailed as the brainchild of the National Party.

South Africa salutes those pioneers of democracy — **Julia Smuts, Wynberg, Cape Town.**

■DESPITE events in Eastern Europe the loony left still hammers away trying to flog a dead ideology.

I refer in particular to that buffoon of an economics professor, JK Galbraith. Disregarding how authoritarianism in government has been so soundly rejected, he (like our local loonies at Wits) is still trying to dupe us into coercive arrangements that steal from the rich and give to the greedy. This institutional thieving and parasitism he still persists in calling "welfare", and the society whose government is implicated in such acts of theft and coercion he still persists in calling a "caring" society.

For heaven's sake! When are those supposed intellectuals going to wake up to the fact that, in essence, democracy means protecting everyone's property, not ripping it off in the name of the law. The game's up, academics. After Stalin and Mao's genocide of 80-million of their own people and Marxist imperialism that subjugated a quarter of the world by bayonets and lies, the world has rejected your crop. Awake now from your Marxist slumbers, forget about dominating and controlling people, and instead learn to love and respect your neighbour and his justly-acquired property. — **Frank Dube, Johannesburg**

■THE Black Sash is outraged by the government's targeting of the Wilgespruit Fellowship Centre as a "reporting organisation" in terms of the Disclosure of Foreign Funding Act. We are aware that many organisations have already been visited by inspectors, had their books examined and seen their work disrupted by this kind of interference, and we ourselves have not been immune to it.

However, this is the first declaration of a "reporting organisation" and it should alert the public once again to the sweeping powers given to the Registrar by this legislation. It is not only the legislation itself, but the long history of the government's use of control over funding to hamper and curb the work of its opponents.

We offer our support and encouragement to the Wilgespruit Fellowship Centre for the continuation of its work and its right to pursue it. — **Mary Burton, Black Sash, Cape Town.**

■NOW that Nelson Mandela has been released, national and international attention must focus on our most famous remaining prisoner — politician, poet, existentialist philosopher, raconteur and, above all, man of action — Dmitri Tsafendas.

Tsafendas is a specialist in non-verbal communication and terminal conflict resolution. His continued incarceration casts doubt on the legitimacy of the negotiations process. Provided he is disarmed of any sharp instruments, he has a vital role to play in any discussions.

He has by now passed retirement age and is an unlikely to obtain further employment in parliament. It is virtually impossible for him to repeat the crime for which he was originally imprisoned. — **Robin Edwards, Cape Town**

Address letters to Letters Page, The Weekly Mail, Box 260425, Excom 2023. Shorter letters will be given preference. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for clarity or space.

creating the climate necessary for the commencement of negotiations which would lead to the dismantling of apartheid and the creation of a democratic South Africa.

These measures are set forth in the United Nations Declaration, reproduced here, which was adopted by consensus on 14 December, 1989 by the General Assembly Special Session on Apartheid.

DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A conjuncture of circumstances exists, which, if there is a demonstrable readiness on the part of the South African regime to engage in negotiations genuinely and seriously, given the repeated expression of the majority of the people of South Africa of their long-standing preference to arrive at a political settlement, could create the possibility to end apartheid through negotiations.
2. We would therefore encourage the people of South Africa, as part of their legitimate struggle, to join together to negotiate an end to the apartheid system and agree on all the measures that are necessary to transform their country into a non-racial democracy. We support the position held by the majority of the people of South Africa that these objectives, and not the amendment or reform of the apartheid system, should be the goals of the negotiations.
3. We are at one with the people of South Africa that the outcome of such a process should be a new constitutional order determined by them and based on the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We hold therefore the following fundamental principles to be of importance:

(a) South Africa shall become a united, non-racial and democratic State;
(b) All its people shall enjoy common and equal citizenship and nationality, regardless of race, colour, sex or creed;
(c) All its people shall have the right to participate in the government and administration of the country on the basis of universal, equal suffrage, under a non-racial voters role, and by secret ballot, in a united and non-fragmented South Africa;
(d) All shall have the right to form and join any political party of their choice, provided this is not a furtherance of racism;
(e) All shall enjoy universally recognised human rights, freedoms and civil liberties, protected under an entrenched bill of rights;
(f) South Africa shall have a legal system that will guarantee equality of all before the law;
(g) South Africa shall have an independent and non-racial judiciary;
(h) There shall be created an economic order that will promote and advance the well-being of all South Africans;
(i) A democratic South Africa shall respect the rights, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries and pursue a policy of peace, friendship, and mutually beneficial co-operation with all peoples.

4. We believe that acceptance of these fundamental principles could constitute the basis for an internationally acceptable solution that will enable South Africa to take its rightful place as an equal partner among the world community of nations.

A.Climate for negotiations

5. We believe that it is essential that the necessary climate be created for negotiations. There is an urgent need to respond positively to this universally acclaimed demand and thus create this climate.

6. Accordingly, the present South African regime should, at the least:

(a) Release all political prisoners and detainees unconditionall y and refrain from imposing any restrictions on them;
(b) Lift all bans and restricition on all proscribed and restricted organizations and persons;
(c) Remove all troops from the townships;
(d) End the state of emergency and repeal all legislation, such as the Internal Security Act, designed to circumscribe political activity;
(e) Cease all political trials and political executions.

7. These measures would help create the necessary climate in which free political discussion can take place - an essential condition to ensure that the people themselves participate in the process of remaking their country.

B.Guidelines to the process of negotiations

8. We are of the view that the parties concerned should, in the context of the necessary climate, negotiate the future of their country and its people in good faith and in an atmosphere which, by mutual agreement between the liberation movements and the South African regime, would be free of violence. The process could commence along the following guidelines:

(a) Agreement on the mechanism for the drawing up of a new constitution, based on amongst others, the principles enunciated above, and the basis for its adoption;
(b) Agreement on the role to be played by the international community in ensuring a successful transition to a democratic order;
(c) Agreed transitional arrangements and modalities on the process of the drawing up and adoption of a new constitution, and of the transition to a democratic order, including the holding of elections;

C. Programme of action

9. In pursuance of the objectives stated in this Declaration, we hereby decide:

(a) To remain seized of the issue of a political resolution of the South African question;
(b) To step up all-round support for the opponents of apartheid and to campaign internationally in pursuance of this objective;
(c) To use concerted and effective measures, including the full observance by all countries of the mandatory arms embargo, aimed at applying pressure to ensure a speedy end to apartheid;
(d) To ensure that the international community does not relax existing measures aimed at encouraging the South African regime to eradicate apartheid, until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes, bearing in mind the objectives of the declaration;
(e) To render all possible assistance to the front-line and neighbouring States to enable them: to rebuild their economies, which have been adversely affected by South Africa's acts of aggression and destabilization; to withstand any further such acts; and to continue to support the peoples of Namibia and South Africa;
(f) To extend such assistance to the Governments of Angola and Mozambique as they may request in order to secure peace for their peoples, and to encourage and support peace initiatives undertaken by the Governments of Angola and Mozambique aimed at bringing about peace and normalization of life in their countries;
(g) The new South Africa shall, upon adoption of the new constitution, participate fully in relevant organs and specialised agencies of the United Nations;

10. We request the Secretary-General to transmit copies of the present Declaration to the South African Government and the representatives of the oppressed people of South Africa and also request the Secretary-General to prepare a report and submit it to the General Assembly by 1 July 1990 on the progress made in the implementation of the present Declaration.

activity; the removal of all troops from the townships; and the release of all political prisoners and detainees.
We expect that the international community, recognising the importance of the decisions announced by Mr De Klerk, will, nonetheless, remain fully aware that the system of apartheid, which cannot be reformed, remains intact.
So long as the principles and objectives for negotiations as set out in the United Nations Declaration on South Africa are not met, the Special Committee Against Apartheid deems entirely premature any change of policy by the international community towards the apartheid regime.

**** Inserted by the Human Rights Commission, P O Box 32723, Braamfontein, 2017.***

UN battles 300m debt

THE cash-strapped UN needs R300-million to pay for its peacekeeping force in Namibia.

The sum is part of what the UN is owed in payments by 81 members, a report said yesterday.

The organisation's budget is used to pay for operating UN headquarters in New York, Vienna and Geneva, and for operations in smaller offices in more than 70 countries. Member contributions for 1990 became overdue on February 1.

UN spokesman Matthew Nerzig said the world body faces an ominous financial situation. ST Times 18/2/90

"In the light of all that the organisation is being asked to do at the moment, I think it is high time that the UN be in a position to leave its financial worries behind," he said.

The financial report showed that as of February 1, the United States owed 772-million dollars — 173,2-million dollars of that for peacekeeping operations and 598,8-million dollars for the regular budget.

SUNDAY TIMES FOREIGN DESK

Of the money the United States owes the regular budget, 233,7-million dollars is for the 1990 budget and 365,1-million dollars is owed for past-due contributions from previous years. (336)

According to the report, the Soviet Union was overdue 134,1-million dollars for peacekeeping and 95-million dollars for the regular budget — 91,5-million dollars of that for the 1990 regular budget and 3,5-million dollars for previous years.

Minister slams white vigilantes

ST Times 18/2/90

ZIMBABWEAN whites have been warned against forming vigilante squads in the climate of hysteria whipped by rumours that witchdoctors told AIDS victims they could cure themselves by raping young white girls.

After the gang-rape of a teenager in Harare's Avondale suburb just before Christmas, young whites have reportedly been patrolling in bakkies, with girls driving and men armed with sjamboks hiding in the back under sacks.

"I do not want to see vigilante groups which are not controlled by and accountable to the police," Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi last week warned the House of Assembly.

By DON JACOBS
Harare

He described a question set down by former Rhodesian Front Cabinet Minister Andrew Holland, referring to alleged incitement to rape by witchdoctors, as "rumour-mongering at its worst".

But the Speaker, Didymus Mutasa, a top member of President Robert Mugabe's politburo, leapt unexpectedly to the defence of Mr Holland, now a branch chairman for Mr Mugabe's Marxist-oriented Zanu (PF) party.

"I have heard the same rumour," he said.

Mr Mahachi protested: "It is a pity that the question had some racial connotation to it."

Mr Mahachi said official statistics showed only three rapes involving whites and three involving coloureds among the 103 reported country-wide to police since October. Backbench MP Henry Elsworth referred to rumours that 70 whites had been raped, of whom two had died.

Epidemic

Mr Elsworth urged the government to end an alleged information clampdown on the extent of the AIDS epidemic, which some doctors say has already infected 2-million Zimbabweans. Official statistics confirm only 1 623 cases.

"The day of reckoning when we can no longer conceal the facts will soon be upon us," warned Mr Elsworth.

Mr Holland last month called for the public hanging of rapists, claiming that their victims were subjected to a virtual death sentence in view of the AIDS epidemic.

Plea to free SA man

By DON JACOBS: Harare

ZIMBABWE'S Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi has so far ignored appeals for the urgent release of alleged South African commando Guy Bawden, 34, who could die of bladder cancer unless he has an immediate operation.

Lawyers are now considering an approach to Zimbabwe's High Court. ST Times 18/2/90

The former Rhodesian Army soldier claims he developed the cancer after he was beaten up in Harare's Highlands suburban police station after his detention in January 1988 when he refused to confirm to a magistrate an alleged "confession" produced by police.

Zimbabwe's only practising urologist, Ghanaian specialist Dr Alex Danso, has personally pleaded with President Robert Mugabe for Mr Bawden's release from Chikurubi Maximum Security Prison, where he is being held under the state of emergency.

Mr Bawden's brother, alleged South African commando Christopher "Kit" Bawden, is Zimbabwe's most wanted man.

SA could be back in UN soon - envoy

NEW YORK - South Africa's return to full participation in the work of the United Nations must be a step-by-step process that will require concessions on both sides, but it could still go very quickly, Mr Jeremy Shearer, South Africa's chief representative at the UN, believes.

In an interview shortly before his return to South Africa for this week's conference in Cape Town to which all mission heads serving abroad have been summoned, he added the caveat that as long as even a few hardliners opposed South Africa's return to the General Assembly hostility might prove difficult to overcome. South Africa was expelled from the General Assembly in 1974.

Shearer, who has been at the UN for 18 months, having previously served at the UN's Geneva office, said he was surprised at the number of people "who expect us to come back".

Shearer said there were "considerable reasons" why he might have sought to resume the seat behind the South African nameplate at the special session on apartheid held last December.

But private soundings determined that there would have been an immediate negative reaction, although Assembly president Major-General Joseph Garba of Nigeria had spoken of extending the hand of friendship.

"You can't do that through a closed door." Shearer observed.

Garba will soon fly to Lusaka to attend meetings planned by the ANC at which Mr Nelson Mandela is to be present.

"I see my role here as looking in the direction of reclaiming our seat," Shearer said.

The ambassador said the UN was important to "middle powers" like South Africa who should be able to use the organisation to their own and everyone else's advantage.

Events had prepared South Africa for what should be a "much more healthy relationship" with the UN and other members in the years ahead, he said.

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UN votes for wider curbs on S Africa

GENEVA — The 43-nation UN Human Rights Commission yesterday voted 35-2 to issue a new call for widened international sanctions against South Africa in support of the struggle against apartheid policies.

While welcoming the release of African National Congress leader Mr Nelson Mandela and the lifting of some restrictions on anti-apartheid groups, the text said sanctions already adopted by "certain countries are commended to the wider international community for urgent adoption and implementation".

EVIDENCE

Britain and the United States were the only commission members to vote against the resolution.

The resolution urged that existing measures against South Africa not be relaxed "until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible change".

Five West European countries and Japan abstained while Sweden and Spain were among the 35 nations supporting the resolution co-sponsored by 29 Third World delegations.

Another draft, condemning assistance rendered "by major Western countries and Israel" to South Africa as a "hostile action" against its people, was approved by a vote of 31-8. — Sapa-AP.

(336)

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The Human Rights Commission welcomes the release of Nelson Mandela and urges the South African Government to implement all the measures considered essential for

Declaration on apartheid and its destructive consequences in Southern Africa

(A/RES/S-16/1)

PREAMBLE

We, the States Members of the United Nations, assembled at the sixteenth special session of the General Assembly, a special session apartheid and its destructive consequences in southern Africa, guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in the context of our efforts to establish peace throughout the world by ending all conflicts through negotiations, and desirous of making serious efforts to bring an end to the unacceptable situation prevailing in southern Africa, which is the result of the policies and practices of apartheid, through negotiations based on the principle of justice and peace for all:

Reaffirming our conviction, which history confirms, that where colonial and racial domination or apartheid exist, there can be neither peace nor justice;

Reiterating accordingly, that while the apartheid system in South Africa persists, the peoples of Africa as a whole cannot achieve the fundamental objectives of justice, human dignity and peace which are both crucial in themselves and fundamental to the stability and development of the continent;

Recognising that, with regard to southern Africa , the entire world is vitally interested that the processes in which that region is involved, leading to the genuine national independence of Namibia and peace in Angola and Mozambique, should succeed in the shortest possible time, and equally recognising that the world is deeply concerned that destabilization by South Africa of the countries of the region, whether through direct aggression, sponsorship of surrogates, economic subversion or other means, is unacceptable in all its forms and must not occur;

Also recognising the reality that permanent peace and stability in southern Africa can only be achieved when the system of apartheid has been eradicated and South Africa has been transformed into a united, democratic and non-racial country, and therefore reiterating that all the necessary measures should be adopted now to bring a speedy end to the apartheid system in the interest of all the people of southern Africa, the continent and the world at large;

Believing that, as a result of the legitimate struggle of the South African people for the elimination of apartheid and of international pressure against that system, as well as global efforts to resolve regional conflicts, possibilities exist for further movement towards the resolution of the problems facing the people of South Africa;

Reaffirming the right of all peoples, including the people of South Africa, to determine their own destiny and to work out for themselves the institutions and the system of government under which they will, by general consent, live and work together to build a harmonious society, and remaining committed to doing everything possible and necessary to assist the people of South Africa, in such ways as they may, through their genuine representatives, determine to achieve this objective;

Making these commitments because we believe that all people are equal and have equal rights to human dignity and respect, regardless of colour, race, sex or creed, that all men and women have the right and duty to participate in their own government, as equal members of society, and that no individual or group of individuals has any right to govern others without their democratic consent, and reiterating that the apartheid system violates all these fundamental and universal principles;

Affirming that apartheid, characterized as a crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind, is responsible for the death of countless numbers of people in South Africa, has sought to dehumanize entire peoples, and has imposed a brutal war on the region of southern Africa, which has resulted in untold loss of life, destruction of property and massive displacement of innocent men, women and children and which is a scourge and affront to humanity that must be fought and eradicated in its totality;

Therefore we support and continue to support all those in South Africa who pursue this noble objective. We believe this to be our duty, carried out in the interest of all humanity;

While extending this support to those who strive for a non-racial and democratic society in South Africa, a point on which no compromise is possible, we have repeatedly expressed our objective of a solution arrived at by peaceful means; we note that the people of South Africa, and their liberation movements who felt compelled to take up arms, have also upheld their preference for this position for many decades and continue to do so;

Welcoming the Declaration of the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Organisation of African Unity on Southern Africa on the Question of South Africa, adopted at Harare on 21 August 1989, and subsequently endorsed by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its Ninth Summit Conference held in Belgrade in September 1989, as a re-affirmation of readiness to resolve the problems of South Africa through negotiations. The Declaration is consistent with the positions contained in the Lusaka Manifesto of two decades ago, in particular regarding the preference of the African people for peaceful change, and takes into account the changes that have taken place in southern Africa since then. This Declaration constitutes a new challenge to the Pretoria regime to join in the noble efforts to end the apartheid system, an objective to which the United Nations has always been committed;

Noting with appreciation that the Commonwealth Heads of Government, at their meeting in Kuala Lumpur in October 1989, noted with satisfaction the strong prefer ence for the path of negotiated and peaceful settlement inherent in the Harare Declaration and considered what further steps they might take to advance the prospects for negotiations;

Also noting with appreciation that the Francophone Summit in Dakar in May 1989 likewise called for negotiations between Pretoria and representatives of the majority of people with a view to the establishment of a democratic and egalitarian system in South Africa;

Consequently, we shall continue to do everything in our power to increase support for the legitimate struggle of the South African people, including maintaining international pressure against the system of apartheid until that system is ended and South Africa is transformed into a united, democratic and non-racial country, with justice and security for all its citizens;

In keeping with this solemn resolve, and responding directly to the wishes of the majority of the people of South Africa, we publicly pledge ourselves to the positions contained hereunder, convinced that their implementation will lead to a speedy end of the apartheid system and heralding the dawn of a new era of peace for the peoples of Africa, in a continent finally free from racism, white minority rule and colonial domination;

UNITED NATIONS PRESS RELEASE OF 2nd FEBRUARY 1990

The Special Committee against Apartheid welcomes the significant measures announced today in parliament by F W De Klerk: the lifting of the ban on the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) and other anti-apartheid organisations, the release of certain political prisoners, the suspension of the imposition of the death penalty and the relaxation of media restrictions, as well as the announcement of the imminent release of Nelson Mandela.

Nevertheless, the appropriate climate for negotiations can only be created when the following measures are also implemented, as set forth in the United Nations General Assembly Declaration on South Africa adopted by consensus on 14 December 1989: the end of the state of emergency; the repeal of all legislation, such as the Internal Security Act, designed to circumscribe political

creating the climate necessary for the commencement of negotiations which would lead to the dismantling of apartheid and the creation of a democratic South Africa.

These measures are set forth in the United Nations Declaration, reproduced here, which was adopted by consensus on 14 December, 1989 by the General Assembly Special Session on Apartheid.

DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A conjuncture of circumstances exists, which, if there is a demonstrable readiness on the part of the South African regime to engage in negotiations genuinely and seriously, given the repeated expression of the majority of the people of South Africa of their long-standing preference to arrive at a political settlement, could create the possibility to end apartheid through negotiations.
2. We would therefore encourage the people of South Africa, as part of their legitimate struggle, to join together to negotiate an end to the apartheid system and agree on all the measures that are necessary to transform their country into a non-racial democracy. We support the position held by the majority of the people of South Africa that these objectives, and not the amendment or reform of the apartheid system, should be the goals of the negotiations.
3. We are at one with the people of South Africa that the outcome of such a process should be a new constitutional order determined by them and based on the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We hold therefore the following fundamental principles to be of importance:
(a) South Africa shall become a united, non-racial and democratic State;
(b) All its people shall enjoy common and equal citizenship and nationality, regardless of race, colour, sex or creed;
(c) All its people shall have the right to participate in the government and administration of the country on the basis of universal, equal suffrage, under a non-racial voters role, and by secret ballot, in a united and non-fragmented South Africa;
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(f) South Africa shall have a legal system that will guarantee equality of all before the law;
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(h) There shall be created an economic order that will promote and advance the well-being of all South Africans;
(i) A democratic South Africa shall respect the rights, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries and pursue a policy of peace, friendship, and mutually beneficial co-operation with all peoples.
4. We believe that acceptance of these fundamental principles could constitute the basis for an internationally acceptable solution that will enable South Africa to take its rightful place as an equal partner among the world community of nations.

A.Climate for negotiations

5. We believe that it is essential that the necessary climate be created for negotiations. There is an urgent need to respond positively to this universally acclaimed demand and thus create this climate.
6. Accordingly, the present South African regime should, at the least:
(a) Release all political prisoners and detainees unconditionall y and refrain from imposing any restrictions on them;
(b) Lift all bans and restriction on all proscribed and restricted organizations and persons;
(c) Remove all troops from the townships;
(d) End the state of emergency and repeal all legislation, such as the Internal Security Act, designed to circumscribe political activity;
(e) Cease all political trials and political executions.
7. These measures would help create the necessary climate in which free political discussion can take place - an essential condition to ensure that the people themselves participate in the process of remaking their country.

B.Guidelines to the process of negotiations

8. We are of the view that the parties concerned should, in the context of the necessary climate, negotiate the future of their country and its people in good faith and in an atmosphere which, by mutual agreement between the liberation movements and the South African regime, would be free of violence. The process could commence along the following guidelines:
(a) Agreement on the mechanism for the drawing up of a new constitution, based on amongst others, the principles enunciated above, and the basis for its adoption;
(b) Agreement on the role to be played by the international community in ensuring a successful transition to a democratic order;
(c) Agreed transitional arrangements and modalities on the process of the drawing up and adoption of a new constitution, and of the transition to a democratic order, including the holding of elections;

C. Programme of action

9. In pursuance of the objectives stated in this Declaration, we hereby decide:
(a) To remain seized of the issue of a political resolution of the South African question;
(b) To step up all-round support for the opponents of apartheid and to campaign internationally in pursuance of this objective;
(c) To use concerted and effective measures, including the full observance by all countries of the mandatory arms embargo, aimed at applying pressure to ensure a speedy end to apartheid;
(d) To ensure that the international community does not relax existing measures aimed at encouraging the South African regime to eradicate apartheid, until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes, bearing in mind the objectives of the declaration;
(e) To render all possible assistance to the front-line and neighbouring States to enable them: to rebuild their economies, which have been adversely affected by South Africa's acts of aggression and destabilization; to withstand any further such acts; and to continue to support the peoples of Namibia and South Africa;
(f) To extend such assistance to the Governments of Angola and Mozambique as they may request in order to secure peace for their peoples, and to encourage and support peace initiatives undertaken by the Governments of Angola and Mozambique aimed at bringing about peace and normalization of life in their countries;
(g) The new South Africa shall, upon adoption of the new constitution, participate fully in relevant organs and specialised agencies of the United Nations;
10. We request the Secretary-General to transmit copies of the present Declaration to the South African Government and the representatives of the oppressed people of South Africa and also request the Secretary-General to prepare a report and submit it to the General Assembly by 1 July 1990 on the progress made in the implementation of the present Declaration.

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activity; the removal of all troops from the townships; and the release of all political prisoners and detainees.
We expect that the international community, recognising the importance of the decisions announced by Mr De Klerk, will, nonetheless, remain fully aware that the system of apartheid, which cannot be reformed, remains intact.
So long as the principles and objectives for negotiations as set out in the United Nations Declaration on South Africa are not met, the Special Committee Against Apartheid deems entirely premature any change of policy by the international community towards the apartheid regime.

** Inserted by the Human Rights Commission, P O Box 32723, Braamfontein, 2017.*

Star 15/3/90 336

'Namibia was financial burden on SA'

Pik: UN must give aid

The time had come for tangible assistance to be provided for an independent Namibia by the international community and the United Nations, the **Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha,** said in Parliament yesterday.

Introducing the Recognition of the Independence of Namibia Bill, Mr Botha said Namibia had been an onerous financial burden on the taxpayer of South Africa.

Well-being

The country's contribution to the budget of the territory, which in recent years exceeded R4 billion, demonstrated the interest and commitment of South Africa in the well-being of the territory and its people.

The solution to the Namibia question only came about when the United Nations Charter instruction requiring a peaceful settling of disputes was heeded.

Sobering

"Peace could not be achieved through the barrel of a gun which is the central theme running through the network of agreements comprising the settlement in south-western Africa. It is a sobering lesson.

"It is the earnest hope of the South African Government that this fundamental concept, the commitment to peaceful negotiation, would form the basis for resolving other conflicts in Southern Africa and beyond. — Sapa.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, there are no rules of this Parliament which compel me, when the CP put a silly CP question, to give them a silly answer. [Interjections.] I have just explained clearly the policy of the SA Defence Force in respect of the handling of housing for all its personnel. Hansard 20/3/90

†Mr S C JACOBS: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, can he tell the House whether it is the policy that members of the ANC or members of the SA Communist Party may live in residential units of the SA Defence Force?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I suggest that this question bears no relation whatsoever to the question under discussion and that the hon member place that question on the Question Paper.

†Mr J H VAN DER MERWE: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the reply of the hon the Deputy Minister, does he now already know that there exists such a thing as the CCB?

*4. Mr M A Tarr—Justice. [Withdrawn.]

The State v W H Rabe

*5. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Justice:

Whether, with reference to the case of *The State v W H Rabe*, he will furnish particulars of the prosecutor involved; if not, why not; if so, (a) what is the name of the prosecutor and (b) what are his qualifications?

Hansard 20/3/90 B438E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE.:

Yes.

(a) E G H JONKER.

(b) He obtained the degrees B.Juris (1983) LLB (1985). He was admitted as an advocate of the Supreme Court of South Africa on 8 November 1988.

International agreement/convention/instrument: SA signatory 336

*6. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs: Hansard 20/3/90

(1) Whether South Africa is a signatory to any international agreement, convention or instrument initiated under the auspices of the United Nations (UN) or the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); if so, to which agreements, conventions or instruments;

(2) whether there are any such international agreements, conventions or instruments initiated under the auspices of the UN or UNESCO which South Africa has not signed; if so, (a) which agreements, conventions or instruments and (b) for what reasons in each case; 336

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

Hansard 20/3/90 B447E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House).

(1) It is assumed that the Honourable Member uses the expression "signatory" in the wide sense of the word to include adherence to a multilateral treaty by one of the internationally accepted means: signature, ratification, acceptance or accession. South Africa has adhered to a number of international undertakings, agreements, conventions, protocols and amendments to conventions (hereafter for the sake of convenience called "treaties") initiated under the banner of the United Nations.

On 31 December 1988, there were in all 277 multilateral treaties (including optional protocols and amendments) deposited with the Secretary General of the United Nations. Of these South Africa had signed, ratified, accepted or acceded to the following:

(i) Charter of the United Nations: 1 of 8

(ii) Pacific Settlement of Disputes: Nil of 1

(iii) Privileges and Immunities, Diplomatic and Consular Relations etc: 2 of 13

(iv) Human Rights: Nill of 10

(v) Refugees and Stateless Persons: Nil of 5

(vi) Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: 13 of 22

(vii) Traffic in Persons: 12 of 12

(viii) Obscene Publications: 6 of 6

(ix) Health: 2 of 9

(x) International Trade and Development: 1 of 19

(xi) Transport and Communications:

(a) Customs Matters 1 of 17

(b) Road Traffic 3 of 35

(c) Transport by Rail Nil of 3

(d) Water Transport Nil of 3

(e) Multimodal Transport Nil of 1

(xii) Navigation: Nil of 7

(xiii) Economic Statistics: 4 of 4

(xiv) Educational and Cultural Matters: Nil of 8

(xv) Declaration of Death of Missing Persons: Nil of 3

(xvi) Status of Women: Nil of 3

(xvii) Freedom of Information: Nil of 1

(xviii) Miscellaneous Penal Matters: 3 of 5

(xix) Commodities: 12 of 47

(xx) Maintenance Obligations: Nil of 1

(xxi) Law of the Sea: 5 of 6

(xxii) Commercial Arbitration: 1 of 2

(xxiii) Law of Treaties: Nil of 3

(xxiv) Outer Space: Nil of 2

(xxv) Telecommunications: Nil of 4

(xxvi) Disarmament: Nil of 2

(xxvii) Environment: 2 of 6

(xxviii) Fiscal Matters: Nil of 2

A list of all the United Nations Treaties indicating those treaties which have been adhered to by South Africa is available at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

(2) (a) and (b)

In view of the number of treaties involved, it is not feasible to furnish a reason why South Africa has not adhered to any particular treaty. In general national interest is the benchmark for adherence to any particular treaty. In certain cases Government policy, domestic legislation or regulations may have conflicted with certain provisions of the treaties. In other instances a number of treaties have been purely regional in nature, thus not involving South Africa for geographical reasons. In still other instances South Africa has adhered to the main treaty but not to certain of the numerous optional protocols or amendments to the main treaty—for example, in the cases of the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic and Consular Relations, the Constitution of the World Health Organization and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The South African Permanent Missions to the United Nations are kept fully informed by the United Nations of international treaties deposited with the Secretary General. All relevant information is sent to the South African Government Departments concerned to consider whether it is in the Republic's interest to adhere to any particular treaty.

To determine to what degree the Government can meet the stipulations of treaties in the field of human rights and the environment is a continuing process.

(3) No, not at the present time.

Education Laws Amendment Act

*7. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education:† Hansard 20/3/90

(1) Whether all the provisions of the Education Laws Amendment Act (Edcuation and Training), Act No 31 of 1988, have been put into operation by proclamation in the *Gazette*; if not, (a) which provisions have been put into operation and (b)(i) which provisions have not been put into operation, and (ii) why not, in each case;

(2) whether any persons and/or bodies have made representations to the Government to the effect that the provisions concerned should not be put into operation; if so, what persons or bodies;

(3) whether he has made any recommendations to the State President about the commencement of these provisions; if not, why not; if so, with what result?

B452E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) No.

Many Untag staff would like to stay in Namibia

Yes, of course there is a heavy responsibility on our shoulders – we have to look after the entire population, the sick and the hungry.

These remarks by Namibia's President Sam Nujoma at a media briefing echo down the corridor of an almost-deserted Troski House – for a year the nerve centre in Windhoek of the United Nations operation to bring Namibia to independence.

Almost all the staff in the once-bustling building have left or are in the process of going home. The lone staffer transcribing the new president's words was one of the few there on Tuesday afternoon.

The 6 700 Untag personnel from 109 countries are returning home, some most reluctantly. Evidence of the success of the UN's mandate is hard to miss.

For Swapo, the front page picture on the majority party's newspaper *Namibia Today* – a beaming President Nujoma being embraced by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar surrounded by VIP's from the international community – says it all.

■ ■ ■ ■

While the Windhoek Athletics Stadium was the focus of world attention during the independence formalities last week, the adjacent South West Rugby Stadium last Saturday presented Namibians with a picture few would have thought possible a year ago; the country's newly-elected president cheering the Namibian side to victory in an celebration match against Zimbabwe.

Before the eventful week politicians from seven parties in the National Assembly wrote what has been described as the most democratic constitution in Africa in a record 80 days, after UN-supervised elections in November in which 97,04 percent of registered voters took part.

Observers have constantly expressed surprise and pleasure at the smooth transition to independence. Through the repeal of discriminatory legislation, schools in the country – once ethnically divided – have been opened to all races with the minimum of fuss, political prisoners freed and 43 332 Namibian exiles repatriated from 40 countries.

With the winding down of the 23-year war between Swapo and South African-led security forces, former foes are training side by side in a new Namibian police force and army with the assistance of Canada, Britain and Kenya.

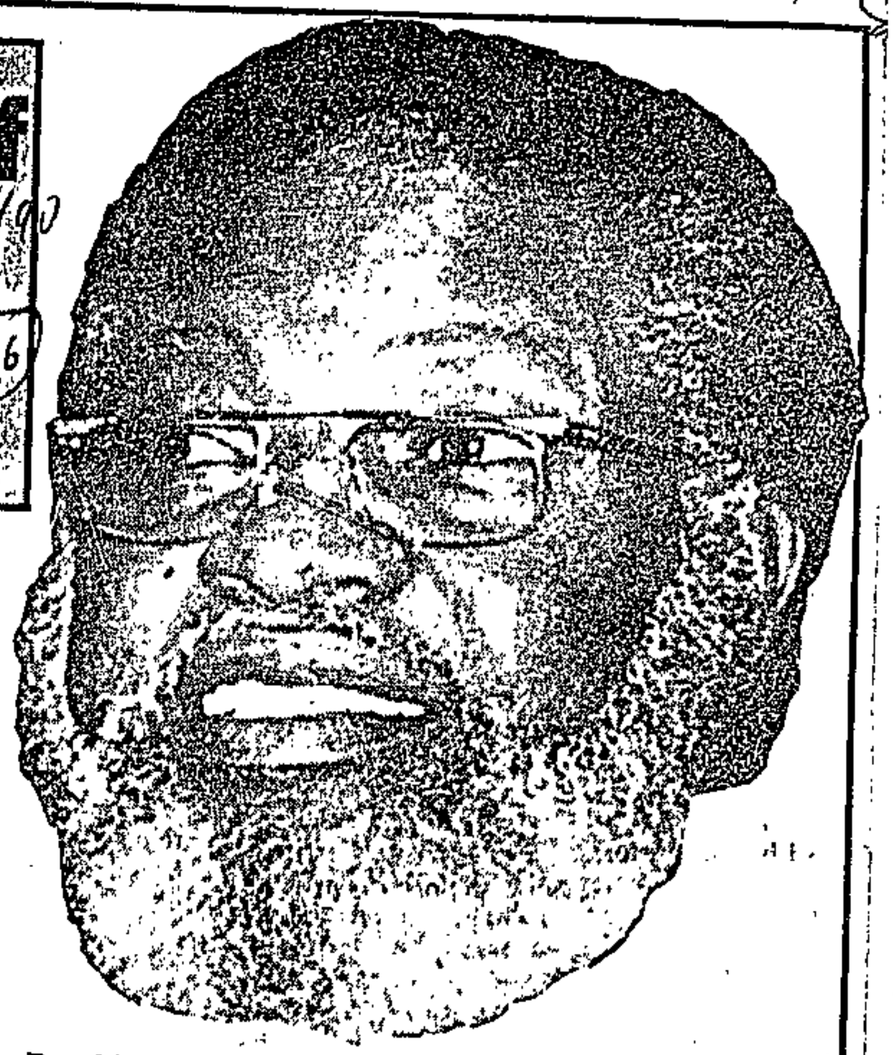
Familiar flags of some of the largest nations already flutter outside embassies that opened officially on March 21, Independence Day.

■ ■ ■ ■

While offers of aid from a number of countries have already been reported, international assistance to the new nation is expected to be announced following a donors' conference organised by the UN Development Programme in Windhoek in June.

Although special representative Martti Ahtisaari flies out of Windhoek finally on Wednesday night, the world body will continue to be represented in Namibia by several of its agencies. Many Untag staffers are reported to have applied for transfers to these organisations.

One senior staff member said this week that while she was sad in many ways to be leaving, "we have done the job and it's time to go home". Another quipped: "Why don't they just reopen the Dobra reception centre (near Windhoek used to accommodate repatriated exiles) for Untag refugees who want to stay." – Sapa.



President Sam Nujoma ... a keen sports fan.

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BDay 5/4/90

UN resented by whites, poll shows

NEW YORK — Most white South Africans resented the UN during its Namibian operation, while the majority of blacks had never heard of it, according to a poll released yesterday.

The survey was commissioned by the BBC on behalf of the UN and carried out in July and August by Markinor of SA, a Gallup affiliate.

Some 2 300 people living in major metropolitan areas were polled.

Of the whites, 90% were familiar with the UN compared with 26% of blacks, except for university graduates, who scored 63%.

One reason, according to the survey, was that only 10% of blacks were taught about the UN in school while 32% of the whites recalled schooling on the world body.

Most whites said the UN was doing a poor job while blacks had no opinion.

Among the main criticisms were that the UN was inefficient, anti-South African and too pro-Third World.

However, opinions were divided over Namibia.

About 34% of the whites interviewed felt the world body had performed badly while 28% approved.

The rest had no opinion.

Only 1% of the blacks polled had any criticism of the UN in Namibia.

Neither blacks nor whites showed detailed knowledge of UN institutions, regardless of their geographic position. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN group publishes FW speech

Star 18/4/90 (336)

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — In what South African representatives termed a development of unusual significance, the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid has issued in an official document from President de Klerk's speech at the opening of Parliament on February 2.

The excerpts run to more than six pages, under the title "F W de Klerk announces changes in his Government's policy".

South African UN Mission spokesman, Mr Aubrey Dwyer, said the committee's action came as a complete surprise. He said it was significant that the State President's address should be given such attention when there were still many hardline anti-SA elements within the UN.

"This is one of the most significant things to come out of this organisation for a long time," Mr Dwyer said. "I have never seen anything like it."

Mr de Klerk's remarks in his inaugural address last year were greeted with considerable scepticism in the UN, but it is now becoming evident to many of his former critics that he is sincere in his reform efforts.

Western delegates said that the decision to publish his remarks indicated that those UN members were beginning to accept that what many had dismissed as "cosmetic" proposals were really serious, and could spell an ultimate end to apartheid.

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THE WORLD

Top UN Aids expert resigns in a huff

The American Aids expert leading the UN's global fight against the killer disease has left his job because of differences with his boss, reports **DEBORA MACKENZIE**

THE surprise resignation of Jonathan Mann, head of the Aids programme at the UN World Health Organisation in Geneva, gives rise to fears that the effectiveness of the WHO in controlling Aids could now be severely reduced.

Mann cited as his reason for leaving a "great variance" between his position and that of WHO Director-General Hiroshi Nakajima. He says Nakajima is not convinced of the seriousness of the Aids epidemic, which Mann says is getting worse. He charges Nakajima with dragging his feet on important issues, and taking a "business as usual" attitude to a growing threat.

Mann, an American doctor, turned the Global Programme on Aids into the main co-ordinating centre for world efforts to track and control Aids over the past four years. He says Nakajima may have disliked the fact that Aids is "by a factor of three, the largest of any WHO programme".

Mann had some $100-million (R250-million) per year to spend on Aids. The money was donated by industrialised countries. None was taken from the regular WHO budget of $340-million per year.

Mann says Nakajima systematically blocked efforts to take decisive action on Aids: "There have been unconscionable delays, of months and months, in actions I consider important. I could no longer head a programme of words rather than actions."

For example, Mann says he "pleaded" with Nakajima to bring together pharmaceutical companies, governments and researchers, to discuss ways to ensure that Aids drugs, and any eventual vaccine, "can be made available to the whole world, and not just to the rich". Nakajima, says Mann, did nothing.

Many drugs and vaccines are not available in poor countries where they are most needed because the large companies that make them charge too high prices. Several years ago, under its previous director, the WHO started a programme on Essential Drugs designed to promote cheap, generic drugs and prevent the sale of unnecessary, expensive medicines in developing countries.

Pharmaceutical companies opposed the programme, which they said cut into profits they needed to finance research.

Under Nakajima, the budget for the Essential Drugs programme has been underspent by a third, and the programme's Danish director has resigned. Nakajima is praised by some at WHO for easing relations with pharmaceutical companies. He was the head of the Japanese research laboratories of the Swiss firm Hoffmann-Le Roche from 1967 to 1973.

Nakajima is the first Japanese director of a UN agency. His election in 1987 was clouded by the reported opposition of Japanese diplomats in Geneva, who felt he was unsuitable for the post. Nakajima was backed, however, by Ryoichi Saskawa, a Japanese billionaire who has donated much to the WHO.

Morale at WHO headquarters in Geneva has been worsening for two years. Nakajima is said by senior staff to have a secretive, peremptory style of management.

Directors of divisions found out that their divisions had been abolished, and they themselves sacked, in staff circulars or when removers arrived for their office furniture. Soon after he arrived, Nakajima let it be known that he did not think that women working at WHO headquarters should wear trousers (the ruling was ignored).

Uncertainty has been increased by rumours that Nakajima has stomach cancer. He will not say how serious his condition is. His post as director-general runs for another three years.

Mann, meanwhile, is uncertain about his future. Aids experts around the world have been quick to voice their fears for the continued effectiveness of the WHO Global Programme on Aids.

Worldwide co-ordination of activities ranging from the reporting of epidemiological statistics to results of experimental therapy is needed if the epidemic is to be controlled. Only the WHO, says experts, can mount the required effort. — Gemini

Namibia cleared as UN member

NEW YORK — The United Nations Security Council has cleared Namibia for admission as its 160th member state.

It will join next Monday during a special session of the General Assembly. Ironically, South Africa, without whose co-operation Namibian independence would have been unattainable, will not be represented at the General Assembly session. SA has been unable to send delegates to the assembly since its credentials were rejected in 1974. — Special Correspondent.

UN to get account of Natal conflict

DURBAN — A key member of the Congress of SA Trade Unions joint working committee (JWC) on the Natal violence, Willis Mchunu, is to address a sitting of the United Nations in New York this week as part of Cosatu's campaign to focus international attention on the provincial conflict.

Mr Mchunu, who is also projects officer for the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa, is one of a group of people sent overseas by Cosatu to address various organisations and sectors.

A Cosatu spokesman said yesterday that a group of five people, including Durban attorney Linda Zama, were due back in Durban yesterday after addressing the Organisation of African Unity in Gaborone at the weekend.

A Cosatu attorney from Maritzburg, John Jeffreys, is currently in Hamburg, West Germany, and JWC member Jeffrey Vilane is scheduled to address the European Community and various international business groupings this week. — Own Correspondent.



"Tell them the season of violence is over" . . . Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha, briefs six children who will represent South Africa at the UN. ● Picture by Karen Fletcher.

Star 20/4/90 (336)

Pik urges children to tell world of 'new SA'

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

Eight children of all races, ranging in ages from nine to 12, will represent South Africa at the United Nations' World Children's Day festivities in New York on May 6.

The children — six of whom leave the country next week — will join over 1 500 children from more than 100 countries in the day-long festivities whose theme is: "We will shape the future by making a difference now".

The United Nations' World Children's Day was first scheduled for April 22, but has had to be postponed because of a special meeting of the General Assembly on international co-operation which took place on the same day. It was the first meeting of the UN to be attended by an independent Namibia.

The six children will spend five days sight-seeing in London, and will proceed to New York on April 30, according to a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs, Ms Elsa Dry.

Two other children, whose parents work in South African diplomatic missions abroad, will join the six children in New York, according to Ms Dry.

Although South Africa has been represented at the UN's World Children's Day activities in the past, it was by children from South African missions abroad. This is the first time that representative children have been selected from within the country.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha met the six children at the Government Guest House in Pretoria on Monday April 16, and urged them to travel to New York and tell the world they were proud to be South Africans.

"Tell them you are looking forward to the future. Tell them that the season of apartheid and violence is over," Mr Botha said to the black, coloured and Indian children.

Mr Botha briefly told the children about the UN's General Assembly and the fact that South Africa's six seats in the Assembly had been unoccupied for the past 16 years when he was still South African ambassador to the UN.

The eight children are Funeka Radebe (10) and Nkululeko Hamilton (12) of Montessori Primary School, Elsje Fourie (9) and Abrie van Zyl (12) of Lennox School, Nebraska Vonkwyn (11) of Loretta Convent, Ettiene le Roux (12) of P S Fourie Primary School, Sudhir Kunver and Zaheera Laher, both of Springs. Funeka Radebe will make a 150-word statement on behalf of the group in the UN General Assembly.

The children, according to Ms Dry, were chosen from non-racial schools where pupils who were proficient in English could be found. They will be accompanied by Montessori Primary School principal Mrs Janice Lister and a parent, Mrs Gloria Radebe.

Poorer countries wanting more than open markets

NEW YORK — Have-nots will try this week to convince wealthier countries that developing open markets will not turn debt-ridden economies around — they need international help.

The UN General Assembly's five-day special session on economic co-operation that opened yesterday will hear nearly every nation in the world attempt to steer future development programmes in their direction.

UN development research assistant secretary-general Enrique ter Horst says: "Developed countries are trying to convince the developing countries that if they put their houses in order everything will fall into place."

Symptoms

"But those developing nations who have seen commodities prices fall for 10 years and have a high debt feel no internal policies will do the trick.

"Actually both sides are right ... but it is no coincidence that for the past 10 years more than 70 countries have been suffering from the same symptoms," he says.

Arguments on a final declaration, which is non-binding, are nevertheless being taken seriously by the UN Assembly.

They are also being considered by the US, which reluctantly agreed to take part and whose assent is considered important.

As the largest single foreign aid contributor, the US is not entirely happy with any of the three draft declarations, from Bolivia for the non-aligned countries, from Canada and from Ireland for the EC.

US Ambassador Thomas Pickering believes: "There is always a tendency to believe that the developing world needs to have too much delivered too rapidly without enough concern about domestic policy."

Keeping to one side in discussions so far are Eastern European nations, which have recently announced radical economic changes and, according to UN studies, are expected to divert some resources from Latin America in the short term.

UN Assistant Secretary-General Goran Ohlin says: "They are not insisting that their policies be endorsed or that the financing be necessarily promoted by the UN."

And East Germany, whose ambassador Siegfried Zachmann in the past has been a vocal spokesman in UN debates, is staying close to West Germany this week.

East Berlin's new right-wing Economic Co-operation Minister Hans-Wilhelm Ebeling is flying to New York with West German counterpart Juergen Warnke aboard a Bonn government aircraft in the first such joint international mission.

The two ministers will co-ordinate speeches and appear at a joint Press conference.

However, Ter Horst believes the "main challenge" of the special session is to integrate into the world economy nations in Africa and Latin America which have benefited the least from world-wide revival of economic growth and trade.

Resources

"Most of these countries today have moved from having unviable economies to being unviable societies," and are selling everything at any price to service the debt, he said.

"They are unable to think in long-term concepts and address their immediate survival — or their people, like their resources, will continue walking from south to north."

Among the proposals from non-aligned countries are measures to expand trade for commodities at higher prices, develop "new mechanisms" to lessen their huge foreign debts and review what they call unsuccessful "structural adjustment" plans. — Sapa-Reuter.

CITY PRESS, May 20, 1990

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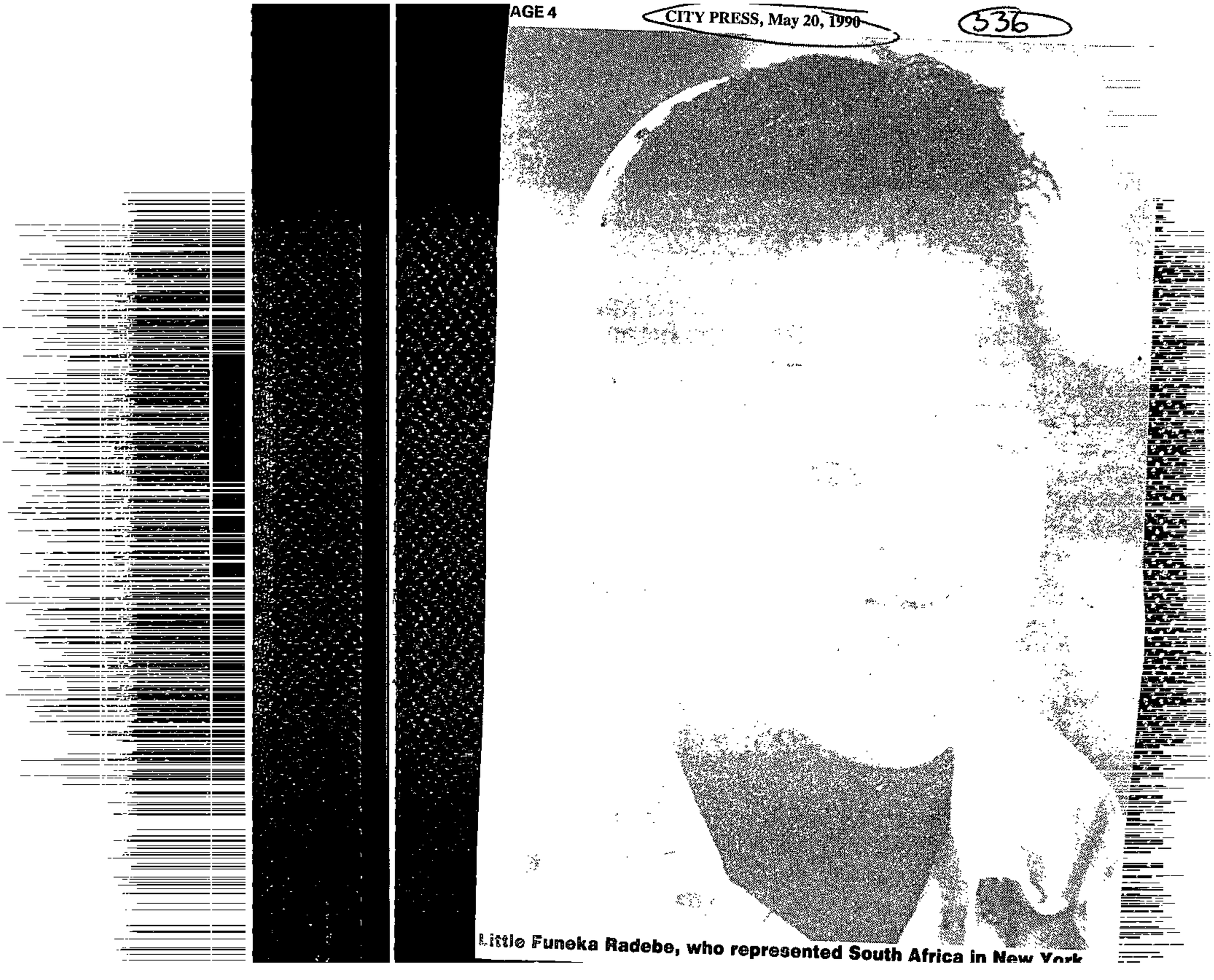

Little Funeka Radebe, who represented South Africa in New York

Funeka's message of hope

c/Press 20/5/90 (336)

How a Soweto schoolgirl charmed the whole world

By LULAMA LUTI

WHEN a 10-year-old Soweto schoolgirl broadcast from the United Nations recently, she charmed an enthusiastic audience – and millions of television viewers around the world.

When Funeka Radebe said: "We need each other; let's love one another," the applause was thunderous.

Funeka was one of six children chosen to represent South Africa on World Children's day at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. It was the first time in 16 years South Africans had been invited.

More than 4 000 children from 135 countries have taken part in the celebrations.

After her impressive speech in front of children from other countries, she received a special invitation to take part in an environment programme discussion forum.

Among other things, the forum promotes relations among youth and encourages them to be aware of environmental issues.

Conservation is a subject close to her heart.

She told the children at the United Nations that before leaving for forum, she and other children planted trees at an informal settlement in Midrand.

In her moving two-minute speech, Funeka said: "Each of the six trees represents a continent. They were planted in a circle so that when they grow they will make a place for birds to nest and provide shade for people.

"People are cutting down trees and destroying the earth.

"It's important that they should know that if we kill the earth we won't be able to breathe because trees and plants clean the air.

"God took so much time in planning and creating the earth. He had a special reason for that, and he thought he would take care of the world, but that hasn't happened because we are constantly destroying it."

She said she would like every child to be aware of the environment and to spread the gospel of saving the earth.

Asked how it felt having the spotlight on her when she addressed the world gathering, Funeka said although she was nervous at first, her teacher's presence gave her support and courage.

She said she felt proud and honoured to represent her country in New York and added that she would not hesitate to go again if invited.

A Std 3 pupil at Montessori Primary School outside Johannesburg, Funeka comes from Rockville in Soweto. She is the second-eldest in a family of five.

Her ambition is to become a lawyer.

"I like defending people. Often, most of the people who go to court are accused of sinning, although they have not done so," she said.

She is in her fourth year at Montessori and enjoys going to school with children from different communities, because they "do not think themselves better because they are white or Indian or otherwise. We are all equal".

Asked who her favourite person was, she was quick to say: "Everybody around me is my favourite."

Third World literacy is a matter of life and death

The UN is bringing literacy to the Third World in a programme so vital that it saves lives, reports **KLAUS KEIL**

SALAAN, a 24-year-old Kampuchean woman, lovingly cradles her small daughter, Naloy, in her arms.

Just a month earlier, the nine-month-old infant had diarrhoea which might have killed her — as happens to so many children in the Third World — had not her mother been able to read.

At a health station in Amper Phnom, Salaan had been given a small piece of paper with the instructions written on it to mix one spoonful of salt with four spoonfuls of sugar in boiled water and give it to her daughter to drink.

After two days, Naloy's diarrhoea was over. "Reading can save a life," Salaan says. She first learned to read two years ago in a programme supported by the United Nations Childrens Emergency Fund (Unicef), aimed at promoting literacy among women in rural regions.

After the reading course came instructions in health care and hygiene, nutrition for infants and recognising children's illnesses. Like the one in Kampuchea, such efforts in other developing nations are increasingly targeted for women.

Education for women is now regarded as a key factor in development in the Third World. This was not always the case, however. By Unicef's calculations, there are 900-million illiterates around the world, two-thirds of them being women.

In many Third World nations, the educational gap between men and women has grown. In India, 60 percent of the men receive an education, to only 29 percent of the women.

Neglect for women's education is taking its revenge, in such forms as ignorance about hygiene and in proper health precautions for the family. Malnutrition and infant mortality are problems which in the last 10 years have increased dramatically.

Developing nations cannot solve these problems by themselves. Ecuador's President Rodrigo Borja Cevallos points out: "The Third World can either repay its debts or invest in education. Both can't be done simultaneously." He says "unconventional measures" are necessary to solve the education problem.

But such measures are nowhere in sight. Amid rigorous spending cuts in order to repay debts and restore their creditworthiness, the world's 37 poorest nations have cut their per-capita outlays for schools by 25 percent over the past decade.

Virtually unnoticed, an educational emergency has been created, one for which industrial nations must shoulder some of the blame for. At a recent world conference: "Education for All" in Jomtien, Thailand, measures were outlined to tackle the problem.

Unicef, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, 165 governments and hundreds of independent groups declared a "grand alliance" to prevent a collapse of education in the Third World.

From industrial nations, the main contribution is expected to be financial support, without which education for women or elementary schooling for everyone can be achieved.

The main goal was simply stated: by the year 2000, all children of elementary school age should receive schooling. Today, some 130-million children have never been inside a school, and a further 130-million must leave school within the first four years because they have to go to work to help support their families.

The World Food Programme of the UN is already supporting the efforts to educate women, children and men in the area of nutrition.

Mozambique is pointed to as an example of a developing country where major educational efforts have been launched. When it got its independence from Portugal in June 1975, more then 90 percent of the population was illiterate and school attendance was the privilege of a handful of white children. In just 10 years, the illiteracy rate was cut by a third.

Zimbabwe is another example. After its independence in 1980, elementary education for everyone was given priority. Today, all of Zimbabwe's children have the opportunity to go to school. — Deutsche Presse Agentur

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A paradox: to grow

The human race could be hurtling towards an ecological catastrophe. **TOM ASTON** *reports*

THE world's population is growing faster than ever before. It is now increasing by three people a second — about a quarter of a million people each day. During this decade an extra 90 to 100-million people will be born — roughly equal to the current population of Central America or Eastern Europe — will be added each year.

Over 90 percent of this growth will come in developing countries which are already unable to meet the most basic needs of many of their people. One billion of the world's 5,3-billion people are now living in poverty and this number is expected to rise dramatically in the next decade.

The wasteful affluence of the "top billion" combined with the short-term actions of the "bottom billion" simply to survive has already caused massive environmental destruction. As the global population looks set to double, perhaps even treble, during the next century the human race could be heading for an ecological catastrophe, says the State of World Population Report just released by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The rich are largely responsible for acid rain and damage to the ozone layer, as well as around two-thirds of the greenhouse gases causing global warming. The poor have carried out large-scale deforestation and land degradation which are forecast to become worse due to increasing shortages of land.

Unless there is a worldwide switch to cleaner technologies, energy efficiency and resource conservation, especially by the richer countries, population growth will lead to more pollution and depletion of non-renewable resources.

UNFPA executive director Dr Nafis Sadik says: "The next 10 years will decide the shape of the 21st century. They may decide the future of the earth as a habitation for humans." She is calling for an all-out attack on poverty itself and reduced rates of population growth, especially in the regions with the highest growth rates.

The report argues that investment in human resources such as education and training is not only a firm basis for alleviating poverty, but is also the surest way to rein in population growth. The means to a long-term decline in fertility include improving the status of women and their education, raising health-care standards for both mothers and children, and making family planning widely available.

Though this kind of investment has often commanded a lower priority than industry, agriculture or military spending, "It is time for a new scale of priorities," says Sadik. "There is no other sphere of development where investment can make such a large contribution to the options and quality of life."

High rates of world population growth have been forecast for many years, but recent predictions that population would stabilise at around 10,2-billion now seem too low — 11-billion seems more likely. If the use of family planning does not increase as expected, the world could be heading for a total of 14-billion.

To achieve the 10,2-billion target, women in developing countries will have to reduce the number of children they bear from an average of 4,2, the figure between 1980 and 1985, to 3,2 for the period 2000 to 2005, and to just 2,3 for 2020 to 2025.

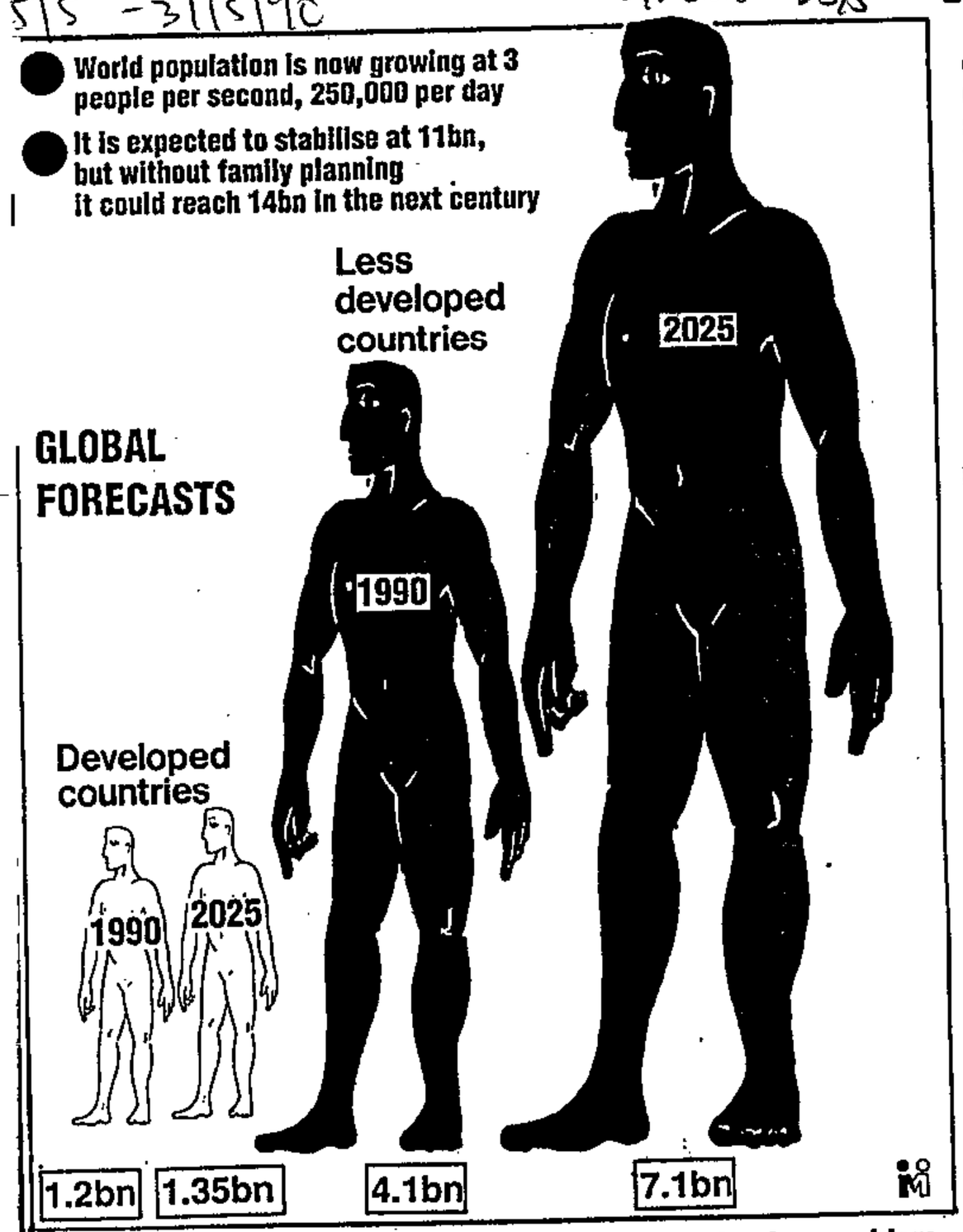
The more pessimistic forecasts are based on the experience of the 1980s during which birthrates have risen compared to the levels in the 1960s in 15 countries, 13 of them in Africa.

Men have been one of the major obstacles to achieving greater use of

more we have to grow less

5/5 - 31/5/90 W/Mail 25/5 - 31/5/90

- World population is now growing at 3 people per second, 250,000 per day
- It is expected to stabilise at 11bn, but without family planning it could reach 14bn in the next century



Population exposion ... Male hostility to contraception is a problem

family planning. A recent survey in Kenya showed that though more men knew about family planning than women, 35 percent of them never discussed it with their wives. Women were often afraid that their husbands would beat them if they were found to be using contraception.

Men are often neglected as a target-group by family planning policy-makers, even in countries with strong campaigns. In Thailand, for instance, after a 15-year campaign that has more than halved birth rates, 67 percent of women use contraception compared to just seven percent of men.

Sterilisation is the most common method of contraception in the world and the operation is far safer, simpler and cheaper for men than women. Even so, more than twice as many women as men are sterilised. In developing countries the situation is worse: only one quarter of sterilisations are performed on men.

The next most popular forms of contraception, intra-uterine devices (IVDs) and the pill are both exclusively for use by women. Men, on the other hand, are often reluctant to use condoms.

To keep world population within the 11-billion forecast there will have to be new demand for family planning which will depend on much greater male involvement.

The report predicts that by the year 2025 the rise of "mega-cities" will lead to acute housing shortages, especially in developing countries. By then the world's urban population will have risen threefold from under 1,4-billion today to over 4-billion.

The current shortage of jobs will become more severe. Thirty-eight million new jobs will have to be created every year as the workforce in developing countries grows from less than 1,8-billion today to more than 3,1-billion by 2025.

Land will also be in short supply. Thirty-six developing countries with a total population of nearly 500-million may not be able to feed their people from their own lands by the year 2000. Food production a head fell in over half the countries of Latin America and Africa in 1987-88.

These kind of forecasts are the basis for the report's urgent calls for concerted international action during the 1990s, the UN's Fourth Development Decade. Proposed measures include:

- Universal female enrolment in primary schools by the year 2000.
- Spending in developing countries on education and health, including family planning, raised to at least five percent of gross national product.
- Aid and economic adjustment policies tailored to support this goal.
- Reduced infant mortality in developing countries from 71 deaths per 1 000 now to 50 or less by 2000.
- Spending on family planning in developing countries doubled by the year 2000.
- The number of women family planning users increased from 326 million now to 535-million in the year 2000.
- Greater choice of family planning methods.
- Governments launching integrated development and family planning policies with strong community input.
- New family planning campaigns aimed at men.

Sadik says: "At the start of the 1990s the choice must be to act decisively to slow population growth, attack poverty and protect the environment. The alternative is to hand on to our children a poisoned inheritance."
— Gemini News

Broke Third World nations splash out on arms

W\Mail 1\6~7\6\90

By MARTIN NAVIAS

THERE are eight soldiers for every one doctor in the Third World, according to the recently-released United Nations Development Programme Human Development Report for 1990.

Over the past three decades, defence spending in developing countries has increased three times as much as that of the industrialised states. Approximately $200-billion is spent on weapons each year by these financially strapped nations.

On average this represents 5,5 percent of the combined GNPs of the Third World countries.

While the report does not predict future military spending trends in the Third World, defence analysts are pessimistic.

Whether a so-called "peace dividend" — the shift of resources from military to non-military projects — will occur in the developing world as it will in Europe and the United States in the next few years is doubtful, given continuing instability in the regions.

In the 1990s, not only will demand for weapons be strong, but there will also be increasing pressures from suppliers. Already, as arms markets in the West are beginning to shrink, weapons salesmen are turning their attention more fully to the developing states.

The United Nations report maintains that 75 percent of the global arms trade is directed towards the Third World.

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A development that defence analysts are watching is how the industrialised states will rid themselves of their excess stocks of weapons now that tensions are being reduced in central Europe.

Selling the arms to the Third World may make good economic sense as well as providing the seller with political influence amongst the developing states. Unfortunately, selling many of the larger weapons systems — such as tanks — at cost price may be cheaper than physically destroying them.

The United Nations document urges the International Monetary Fund to impose limits on arms credits and it demands the establishment of an international arms control regime to restrain arms supplies to the Third World.

PAC meets UN group

THE United Nations fact-finding mission to South Africa held discussions with a delegation from the Pan Africanist Congress in Cape Town yesterday.

The PAC delegation was led by Mr Barney Desai, the PAC's Western Cape co-ordinator, Mrs Patricia de Lille, its foreign affairs secretary, and a PAC prisoner released this weekend from Robben Island, Mr Tyson Sillah. Dweles 1/6/9

Political

The UN team was led by Mr Abdulrahim Farah, the UN's under-secretary general for special political questions. 336

De Lille said last night: "We had a wide-ranging discussion with them on current political issues and we also informed them of the view of the PAC on the current situation." - Sapa.

CAPE TIMES 5/6/90 336

UN team coming to SA

NEW YORK. — UN Secretary-General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar will send a team of senior UN officials to South Africa on Saturday for 10 days to discuss ending the apartheid system.

The team would meet members of the government and representatives of political parties and other organisations on the latest developments concerning apartheid.

It would seek factual information on measures taken and proposals for a speedy end to the apartheid system, an announcement said.

The team will be headed by Under Secretary-General Mr Abdulrahim Farah and include Assistant Secretary-General Mr Sotirios Mousouris and other officials.

It will begin meetings on June 11 in Cape Town and will also visit Durban, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

A UN declaration last December asked the secretary-general to prepare a report by July 1 on apartheid "and its destructive consequences in Southern Africa".

The government has announced it intends to dismantle apartheid and institute a democratic system, but its opponents say progress is too slow. — Sapa-AP.

cise breakdown of repossession statistics, but there was grave concern about the scale of the problem.

"We are now seeing the tragic aftermath of the house-buying spree in the mid-1980s when thousands of families were tempted by low interest rates to buy houses far beyond their means," he said.

"The casualties are home-buyers who made the mistake of thinking that interest rates were going to stay down at 12,5 percent for the duration of their mortgages. The climb in rates to around 21 percent has crippled many budgets.

"Yet even when a sale in execution goes out, it may still not be too late to mount a rescue operation. Battling homeowners should explain their plight to their bank or building society. It may still be possible to avert catastrophe with a package of compromises," said Mr Tucker.

Gold's slump puts industry in crisis

Star 5/16/90

By Magnus Heyster and Peter Fabricius

The crisis in the gold mining industry is deepening as the gold price continues its weak performance on international markets.

Gold shares took a hammering on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange yesterday, with the all-gold index dropping by more than 5,7 percent (93 points) to 1 517.

Uncertainty over Soviet gold sales pushed the price down to an eight-month low of $356,05 yesterday afternoon in London, down from Friday's close of $363,45.

It recovered slightly in New York to close at $358 and opened at $359,75 in Hong Kong today.

The slide in gold share prices pulled down the overall index by 42 points to 3 126, but the industrial sector held firm as selected buying of blue chip shares pushed the index up 18 points to 2 978.

Gold's slide is placing the gold mining industry in severe jeopardy. Already the Cabinet has to make a decision on whether to increase its aid to the troubled ERPM mine on the East Rand.

An announcement expected last night has been postponed for at least a week while additional contingency plans are considered.

ERPM has made a last-ditch effort to raise capital, including selling its slimes dumps and several Boksburg properties.

Money raised by this effort will, however, not reduce the mine's R300 million debt, but will supply operating capital for another year.

Without continued State aid, ERPM is faced with almost certain closure, with about 11 000 job losses. Once closed, the mine cannot be reopened as the shafts will rapidly fill with water.

Between 11 and 16 other mines also face uncertainty with the gold price at current levels. Together, they earned about R7,2 billion in foreign exchange last year.

ANC leader takes hard line

Star 5/16/90

By Esmaré van der Merwe, Political Reporter

GABORONE — ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela has warned the world that lifting sanctions would be tantamount to stabbing the liberation struggle in the back.

At the start of a 13-nation tour, Mr Mandela took a hard line against Western countries that believe punitive measures should be eased as a reward for President de Klerk's bold reforms.

Speaking at a mass rally in the Botswana capital, Mr Mandela said he wanted to make the ANC's position clear at the start of "the long journey of thanksgiving and re-dedication".

The ANC stood by its policy of sanctions, nationalisation and the armed struggle. He told a crowd of about 15 000 that to denounce the armed struggle now would be an act of immaturity, since the preconditions for negotiations had not been met, and political reform was not yet irreversible.

He said the external pressure of sanctions and the armed struggle had helped create the climate for discussions with Pretoria.

Govt approves UN visit to SA

Star 5/16/90

Political Staff

The South African Government has given conditional approval to a team of senior United Nations officials visiting South Africa from Saturday on a 10-day fact-finding mission.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha issued a statement in Cape Town last night, however, dissociating the Government again from the UN resolution that has prompted the visit.

He said such a visit was construed as a genuine desire on the part of UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to obtain correct information on the internal situation of South Africa, and not that the Government acquiesced in the uncalled-for interference by the General Assembly in the internal affairs of the country.

The UN official announcement made it clear, however, that the information gained would help prepare a report on progress in implementing a General Assembly declaration on apartheid adopted last December.

It requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report by July 1.

PARLIAMENT

UN team on way 'to probe reform'

ARGUS 5/6/90 (336)

From RAMSAY MILNE
The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — A high-level United Nations team left New York last night for South Africa on what is described as a "significant mission", the first such undertaken by UN representatives to look into what has previously been considered to be South Africa's "internal domestic affairs".

The team is headed by UN Under-Secretary-General Mr Abdul Rahim Fahran, who is Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar's senior adviser on African affairs, and Mr Christopher Mousouris, an assistant secretary-general who heads the UN Centre for Apartheid — an anti-apartheid committee whose members have until now been persona non grata in South Africa.

South Africa's official acceptance of the mission – and especially of Mr Mousouris — is regarded as an important development, if not a major breakthrough, in its relationship with the world body.

Seeing wide range of people

The team will see Cabinet ministers, government representatives and a wide range of other political groups, including members of opposition parties, the African National Congress, Inkatha and many prominent figures in the private sector.

Its purpose will be to measure the steps that have already been taken, and will be taken in future, to end apartheid.

The mission is a result of a declaration adopted at a special UN General Assembly session late last year, which called on the secretary-general to prepare a report by July 1 on progress made in the release of political prisoners, the removal of troops from the townships and an end to the state of emergency.

South African diplomats in New York emphasised, however, that the visit, from June 9 to 19, in no way indicated approval or acceptance of the December declaration.

● The visit of the United Nation officials to South Africa was not an indication the government agreed to "uncalled-for inteference" in the country, Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said in Cape Town, reports Sapa.



Mr Botha ... no objection to correct information.



Dr Perez de Cuellar ... sending "significant mission" to SA.

It should also not be seen as co-operation in the implementation of the General Assembly resolution last December on South Africa, "which the South African government rejects", said Mr Botha.

The information gathered during the 10-day visit will help the secretary-general prepare a report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the December declaration on apartheid "and its destructive consequences in Southern Africa".

Mr Botha's statement said the visit followed a request Dr Perez de Cuellar made to President De Klerk in Windhoek during Namibia's independence celebrations in March.

SA rejects resolution

Mr Botha said the government "has no objection to correct information on South Africa being made available to the secretary-general".

However, "on condition that the secretary-general clearly undertakes that this is not to be construed as co-operation in the implementation of the General Assembly's resolution which the South African government rejects as ultra vires to the Charter of the UN".

The UN team will begin with meetings in Cape Town the day after their arrival on June 11 and will also visit Durban, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

UN visit 'not meddling'

CAPE TOWN — The Government has stressed that a United Nations fact-finding mission to South Africa this weekend should not be seen as UN "meddling" in South Africa's internal affairs. (336) STAR 6/6/90

Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said today that the UN team, expected on Saturday, would represent UN Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar personally and not the General Assembly. The visit had been arranged in March. — Political Staff.

Pik blasts UN



Mr Pik Botha ... rejects interference in the country's internal affairs.

AXGUS 8/6/90 336

FOREIGN Minister Pik Botha has told the United Nations to keep out of South Africa's affairs.

In a letter yesterday to UN Secretary-General, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mr Botha said the government unequivocally rejected interference in the country's internal affairs.

He wrote the letter in the light of the imminent UN visit to South Africa to gauge recent and future reforms.

He said it was the sole and inalienable right of South Africans to negotiate a a new constitution.

"The government will under no circumstances agree to any attempt on the part of outside agencies to usurp this responsibility," he said.

Mr Botha enclosed parts of President De Klerk's speech in parliament yesterday in which he announced the lifiting of the state of emergency except in Natal.

"Further interference by the General Assembly can only be counter-productive. it would be most unhelpful given our strenuous efforts to get negotiations underway," Mr Botha said.

"Positive development"

In his reaction to Mr De Klerk's announcement, Dr Perez de Cuellar said it was a "positive development".

Several UN delegates also welcomed the decision.

The UN officials, due in Cape Town tomorrow, will brief Dr Perez de Cuellar on their return to New York and make a substantial contribution to the report he must make to the General Assembly on July 1 on progress towards dismantling apartheid.

In reaction from Washington, US government and congressional spokesmen expressed approval, but warned that the step still fell short of what was required to lift sanctions.

US President Bush said Mr de Klerk's announcement was a positive step forward for democracy.

A statement by the White House said: "This is another significant step towards creating a climate conducive to negotiation that will lead to a democratic, nonracial South Africa.

"Much work remains to be done by all sides.

"However, we are encouraged by the remarkable progress that has been made in recent months. With this latest move, the government has moved to meet almost all of the opposition's requirements to enter into negotiations. We look forward to the early beginning of a negotiating process."

Britain has also welcomed Mr De Klerk's decision.

Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said that it vindicated Britain's policy towards South Africa and it was clear that Mr De Klerk's reforms were irreversible.

"The old debate about sanctions is now happily in the past," he said.

"It contributes to our belief that Mr De Klerk is serious, that he has launched South Africa down a road to genuine negotiation," Mr Waldegrave said.

Mr De Klerk's announcement was a leading item on British television and radio news bulletins last night.

Britain's Anti-Apartheid Movement welcomed the news, but was "deeply disappointed" that the move did not extend to Natal.

Grenade attacks policemen shot dead

AXGUS 8/6/90

The Argus Correspondent

TWO policemen have been killed, one shot and wounded and hand-grenades hurled at a police barracks in attacks on police in townships.

The attacks yesterday were the latest incidents in an apparently co-ordinated campaign against the police, their families and homes.

Yesterday's killings took place in Ntuzuma near Durban and Kagiso near Krugersdorp.

In Ntuzuma a sergeant on his way to work was shot in the back of the head at 4.14am, a police spokesman said.

In Kagiso gunmen with AK47s opened fire on a municipal police patrol last night.

One policeman died, his body riddled with bullets, and a second, a Constable Dladla, was wounded in the foot.

The killers fired from a vehicle and sped off.

Hand-grenades were thrown at a police barracks in Bongweni, near Kokstad in Natal. No one was injured.

The names of the dead have not been disclosed.

Mother, kids gassed

JOHANNESBURG. — A 30-year-old mother and her three children, aged seven, four and five, have been admitted to hospital after being found unconscious in a gas-filled car in Ridgeway Extension here. — Sapa.

Argus 8/6/90

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Mr De Klerk's announcement was a leading item on British television and radio news bulletins last night.

Britain's Anti-Apartheid Movement welcomed the news, but was "deeply disappointed" that the move did not extend to Natal.

It added: "There is still an urgent need to ensure the repeal of the Internal Security Act and the battery of repressive security legislation, as powers of detention and the ability to impose mini-states of emergency remain on the statute books."

South African business leaders and economists were jubilant over the potential new boost to investment confidence.

Faster flows of foreign as well as local investment are considered crucial to accelerate the pace of economic growth needed to tackle chronic unemployment and widen the scope for a redistribution of wealth.

The SA Chamber of Business said signs of stability were a vital pre-requisite for business and investor confidence.

"Sacob sees the government's decision as an important step towards reconciliation

Economy

Dr Azar Jammine, director of the Econometrix think tank, said: "Moves to enhance political negotiation are essential for the economic outlook.

"While some people might be apprehensive, from an economic viewpoint the blunt reality is that Mr De Klerk needs to do all he can to ease the country's foreign debt problems."

● About 80 detainees held in terms of the lapsing state of emergency are being freed today.

The release of the detainees is in addition to the freeing of 48 political prisoners announced by Mr De Klerk yesterday. — The Argus Foreign Service, Political Staff and Sapa.

● See page 9.



KEY PERSON: Winner of the ni
leen Fouche. The other finalists
Wientroub, Mr Freder

Gifts and ch

MAUREEN PITHEY
Argus Woman Editor

WITH hundreds of gifts pouring in t the ARGUS WOMAN cancer unit ap peal, more than R102 000 has no been raised.

But there is a long, long way t go. The appeal, launched to hel Groote Schuur's cancer unit fin R1,5 million by the end of the mont to buy urgently needed equipment has touched the hearts of readers and generous folk making gifts hav started challenging others ...

● **Leftovers Book Club** from Ban try Bay gave R200 and challenged other book clubs to better or equa that.

POPULATION GROWTH FIM 8/6/90 336

Pay-offs

Ever since economist Thomas Malthus's 1798 essay on population growth, many dire predictions on the topic have been proved false. Whether one is an optimist or pessimist, however, the current rate of growth will have enormous economic and industrial consequences.

A billion people will be added to the world population by the year 2001 and, by 2025, it will have increased by 3,17bn. This is equal to the world population in 1960. The UN predicts the total will eventually stabilise at 11bn but, at present fertility rates, 14bn looks more likely.

How will all these people be fed?

FINANCIAL MAIL JUNE 8 1990

FIM 8/6/90 336

It is easy to overestimate effects of the green revolution. The UN says that developing countries had more falls than rises in per capita cereal production between 1979-1981 and 1986-1987. World cereal production per capita peaked in 1985; the 1988 figure was lower than in any year since 1977. In part, this may be a function of price. Wheat prices rose by under 8% during the Eighties; higher prices might bring further land into production or cause switching from other crops. In theory, there is plenty of land available, though much of it is in sparsely populated tropical areas.

Whether the investment to improve that land comes from the West, or from changes in the political and economic structure of developing countries, will no doubt be the subject of continued debate.

From the economic point of view, however, what is clear is that to bring Third-World food production closer to Western levels will need an immense increase in the use of fertilisers and pesticides. That may more than compensate agricultural chemicals companies for any environmentally induced fall in demand from the West.

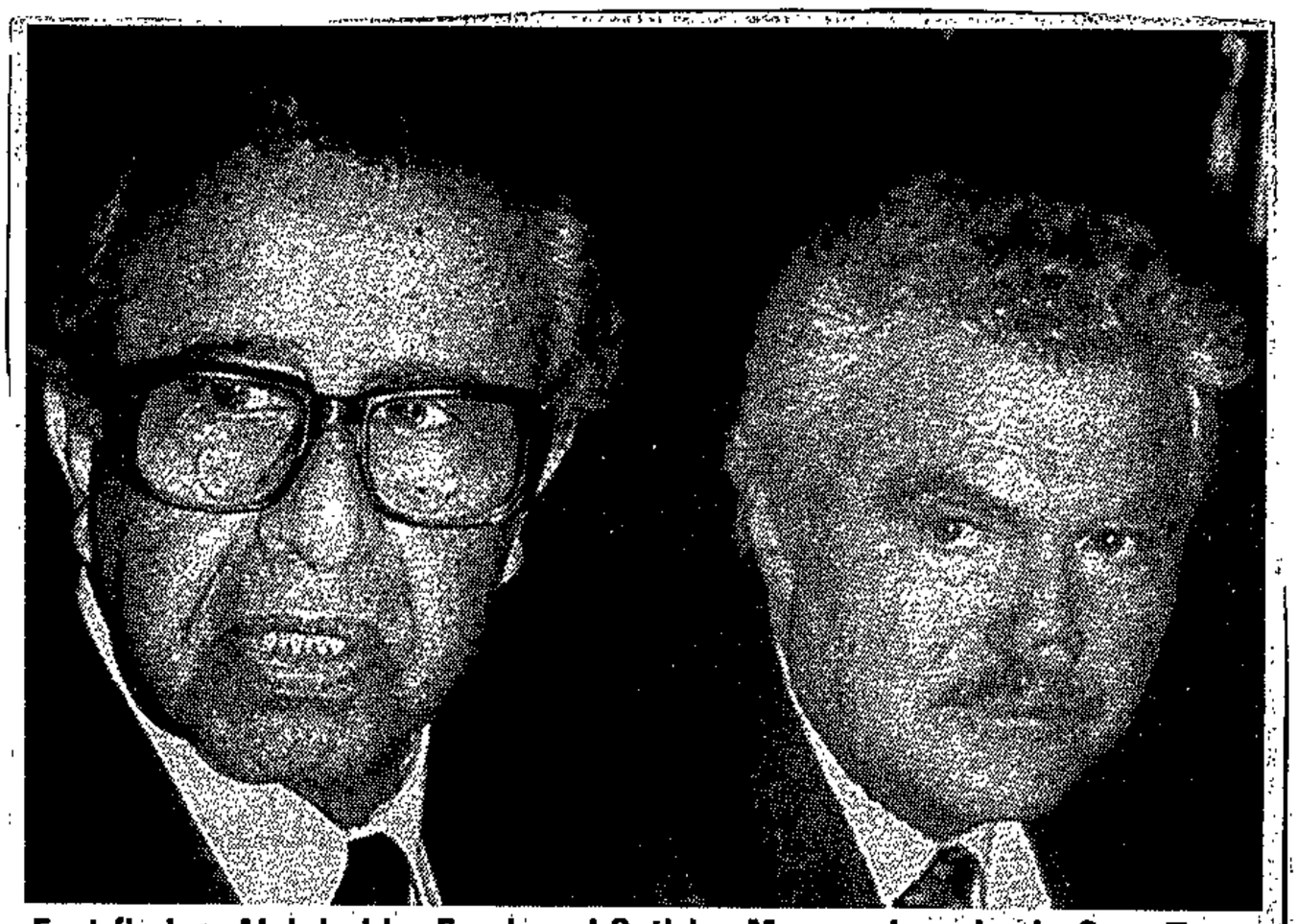
It is also clear that health care expenditure will rise at least in line with population. Developing countries in particular spend far less of their GNP on health than on defence.

Any attempt to reduce population growth, for example, would increase expenditure on contraception and, if developing countries shift from sterilisation towards methods more commonly used in the West, drug companies would be beneficiaries.

The motor industry also looks set to benefit, on UN predictions. The world's 400m vehicles now are expected to reach 700m by 2025. Environmental considerations are likely to be overridden by the desire for car ownership.

Whether West European and US motor companies build the bulk of those cars, or they are made by the Japanese and southeast Asians, is another question. Indeed, Western companies will have to be quick on their feet to exploit the opportunities.

By the year 2025, 57% of the world's population will live in Asia, including 25%, or 2,17bn, in south Asia. The developed countries' share will be down to 15,8%, less than half that in 1950. ■



Fact finders Abdulrahim Farah and Sotirios Mousouris arrive in Cape Town

UN team flies in to Pik warning

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S/Times 19/6/90

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

A UNITED NATIONS team arrived in South Africa yesterday on an apartheid fact-finding mission.

They jetted in to Cape Town's D F Malan airport just hours after a stern warning by Foreign Minister Pik Botha that their presence could be seen as unwarranted interference in SA's affairs.

The six-member UN team, accompanied by a four-member support group, is led by Somalia's Abdulrahim Farah, under secretary-general for special political questions.

Second-in-command is Mr Sotirios Mousouris of Greece, the assistant secretary-general for the UN Centre Against Apartheid.

Mr Farah side-stepped questions about Mr Botha's letter to UN chief Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar calling for a hands-off approach.

He claimed he was "unaware" of Mr Botha's statement.

Mr Farah said the team would meet government officials and also hoped to have talks with President F W de Klerk and Mr Botha.

They also plan to meet representatives of political parties and movements as well as other organisations.

The purpose of the mission, Mr Farah said, was to gather information on action already taken to end apartheid and future Government moves.

He said this would help the UN Secretary-General prepare a report to the General Assembly on progress made to implement the UN Declaration on Apartheid.

The declaration, adopted by consensus during a special session of the General Assembly on December 14 last year, calls for an end to apartheid through negotiation.

The team, which plans to remain in South Africa until June 20, will start its meetings in Cape Town tomorrow.

These will be followed by meetings in Durban, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The UN officials did not disclose the identities of personalities or organisations they planned to consult.

Other members of the team are:

- Canadian James Simpson, legal consultant and former deputy director of the UN General Legal Division;
- Dr Herschelle Channelor of the US, UN director and co-ordinator for the World Decade for Cultural Development;
- Mr Leonard T Kapungu of Zimbabwe, assistant director of the Office for Research and the Collection of Information;
- Thomas McCarthy of the US who is chief of the UN Centre for Human Rights.

UN team plans report in July

PRETORIA — The UN fact-finding team that concluded its 10-day visit to SA last night and flew to New York expects to issue a report early next month. BBM 20161910

Yesterday the UN delegation met Foreign Minister Pik Botha at Guest House in Pretoria. Afterwards, delegation head Abdulrahim Farah said changes had begun to take place in SA and the UN team saw a need for "a series of confidence-building measures" to reduce violence and increase trust.

Farah said although the UN supported the view that apartheid should be dismantled through negotiations, "the mechanisms for and the substance of the new constitutional dispensation are matters to be decided by the people of SA." (336)

The mission was, however, "greatly concerned about the alarming degree of violence occurring in many parts of SA, in particular the Natal province".

Botha said he had made it clear earlier what SA's attitude had been to the UN visit.

"But Mr Farah is not a politician and the UN is not a politician. We reject the General Assembly's resolution, but it is in the interests of SA to ensure our view of events must be transmitted to the world," he said.

He said, however, he was "glad we had these discussions" and that at last SA's case would not be reported "by default". — Sapa.

UN team in talks with PAC, ANC

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11/6/90

By Peter Fabricius, Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The United Nations fact-finding mission — which arrived in Cape Town on Saturday — met the Black Sash, the Cape PAC and two members of the ANC's constitutional committee yesterday.

It is not clear whether the mission, sent to South Africa to monitor the Government's progress in dismantling apartheid, will meet President de Klerk.

The head of the mission, Abeldulrahim a Farah — UN Under Secretary-General for special political questions — said last night that a meeting with Mr de Klerk would be "helpful".

He would not say whether he would ask for a meeting. It is understood Mr de Klerk has not yet received a request.

No comment

But Mr Farah is scheduled to meet Foreign Minister Pik Botha tomorrow as well as a wide spectrum of politicians of all parties before he leaves South Africa on about June 20.

Mr Farah said he had no comment on yesterday's meetings.

The decision to send the eight-man mission to South Africa followed discussions which Mr de Klerk held with UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the Namibian independence celebrations in March.

An official UN announcement last week said the mission had been sent to monitor the steps taken to dismantle apartheid — as set out in the UN General Assembly "Declaration on Apartheid", passed in December. The declaration sets much the same sort of conditions for taking part in negotiations as are contained in the ANC's Harare Declaration.

This led the Conservative Party to brand the mission as "blatant interference in South Africa's internal affairs".

Pik to meet UN mission tomorrow

CAPE TOWN — The United Nations fact-finding mission which arrived in Cape Town on Saturday met the Black Sash, the Cape PAC and two members of the ANC's constitutional committee yesterday.

It is not clear whether the mission, in South Africa to monitor the Government's progress in dismantling apartheid, will meet President de Klerk.

However, the mission is due to meet Foreign Minister Pik Botha tomorrow as well as a wide spectrum of politicians. — Political Correspondent.

UN team gets down to facts in city

Political Correspondent

THE first UN fact-finding mission on apartheid to visit South Africa in almost three decades gets down to business in the city today.

The six-member team, backed up by a four-person support group, will spend the next 10 days speaking to a wide cross-section of civil rights and political leaders.

By late yesterday, no meeting had been scheduled between President F W de Klerk and the UN group, which is led by Somalia's Mr Abdulrahim Farah, the under secretary-general for special political questions.

On their return to New York on June 20, the UN fact-finders will assist UN secretary-general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, prepare a report to the General Assembly on progess made on the implementation of the UN Declaration on Apartheid.

Other members of the fact-finding team are:

- Mr Sotirios Mousouris of Greece, the UN team's deputy leader and assistant secretary-general for the UN Centre Against Apartheid.
- Mr James Simpson of Canada, a legal consultant and former deputy director of the UN's general legal division.
- Dr Herschelle Channelor of the US, UN director and co-ordinator for the World Decade for Cultural Development.
- Mr Leonard Kapungu of Zimbabwe, assistant director of the UN office for research and collection of information.
- Mr Thomas McCarthy of the US, the head of the UN Centre for Human Rights.

UN 'encouraged' by steps to end apartheid

CAPE TOWN — Developments in SA had been followed closely by the UN and Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar was "encouraged by recent steps aimed at dismantling the apartheid system".

This was said by the UN under-secretary-general for special political questions, Abdulrahim Farah, at a Press conference on the arrival of a six-man UN team in Cape Town at the weekend.

Ostensibly in SA on a fact-finding mission "to obtain first-hand information on latest developments in the country", the larger implication of the team's presence is being seen as a tentative first step towards possible readmittance of SA to the UN.

On the eve of the team's arrival, SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha issued a strong warning in a letter to Perez for the UN to stay out of SA's affairs.

Farah, repeatedly asked for comment on this point at the Press conference, refused to be drawn, saying merely that he was unaware of Botha's statements. (336)

The team's mission was to collect factual information on progress, proposals and measures taken in an anti-apartheid context.

Due to meet members of government, representatives of political parties and concerned organisations in a spate of about 40 appointments spread over a 10-day period, the team's mission is the result of meetings between President F W de Klerk and Perez at the Namibia independence celebrations in March this year. Bloem 11/6/90

The information it gathers will go back to Perez where it will form part of a report to the UN General Assembly on progress made in the UN Declaration on Apartheid.

The declaration, adopted by consensus during a special session of the General Assembly on December 14 1988, calls for negotiations as the means of ending apartheid.

Farah stressed that the team was a senior one. It includes assistant secretary-general Sotirios Mousouris of Greece, legal consultant James Simpson of Canada, Herschelle Challenor of the US, Leonard Kapungu of Zimbabwe and Thomas McCarthy of the Centre for Human Rights.

They will meet Botha tomorrow and Farah has expressed the hope they will also meet De Klerk.

A spokesman for the group said the team intended keeping a "low profile" throughout the tour, which takes them from Cape Town on Wednesday to Durban (for a day and a half) and on to Johannesburg for the remainder of their visit, with a visit to Pretoria on the final day. They are scheduled to return to New York on June 20. — Sapa.

Long line-up for UN party

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — A number of political parties including the ANC, the DP and the NP welcomed the UN fact-finding mission's visit to SA yesterday.

However, the CP, which has refused to meet the six-member UN team, blasted the visit as blatant interference in SA's domestic affairs.

The group has already met a number of non-government parties since arriving in Cape Town at the weekend, including the PAC, the ANC, the UDF, Solidarity and academics.

The UN delegation will meet a number of government ministers and senior government officials today and tomorrow. They will also meet Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha, who was originally stated to meet the UN group today, will now be seeing them in Pretoria on June 19.

Sapa reports that a Foreign Affairs spokesman said a meeting with President F W de Klerk would not be possible.

It also reports that Idasa executive director Alex Boraine issued a statement to the UN delegation saying sanctions ought to be maintained until De Klerk and ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela could make a joint appeal for them to be lifted.

● Comment: Page 6

UN delegates to meet officials

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Sowetan 12/6/90

THE United Nations fact-finding team in South Africa has met with members of the ANC, the UDF, the PAC and the Black Sash since Sunday, a spokesman for the group said in Cape Town yesterday.

They are scheduled to meet Government ministers today, but a meeting with Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha - loosely scheduled today as well - has been held over "until later in our tour.

They will see Mr Botha in Pretoria later.

ANC, govt welcome UN visit; CP doesn't

CAPE Times 12/6/90 336

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

A NUMBER of political parties — including the ANC, the Democratic Party and the National Party — welcomed the UN fact-finding mission's visit to South Africa yesterday.

However, the Conservative Party has refused to meet the six-member UN team, saying the visit was blatant interference in the country's domestic affairs.

The group has already met with a number of parties since arriving at the weekend, including the PAC, the UDF, the Black Sash, Solidarity and academics.

The UN delegation will meet a number of government ministers and senior government officials today and tomorrow. However, there is no appointment to see President F W de Klerk.

Ministers due to meet the UN delegation include the Minister of Constitutional Development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, the Minister of Manpower, Mr Eli Louw, the Minister of Health, Dr Rina Venter, and the director-general of foreign affairs, Mr Neil van Heerden.

Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha, will meet the delegation in Pretoria on June 19, the day before they leave.

Sapa reports that the ANC yesterday welcomed the initiative taken by the UN in sending a delegation to South Africa, adding that its meeting with the UN team had been a positive one.

ANC executive member for the Western Cape Mr Trevor Manuel said no final conclusions had been drawn, but it was a good opportunity to give the delegation ANC perspectives on South African issues.

In Parliament yesterday, CP spokesman on foreign affairs Mr Tom Langley said the UN delegation had made it clear that it supported the Harare Declaration. The CP could not accept this.

The UN team is led by the under secretary-general for special political questions, Mr Abdulrahim Farah, and the assistant secretary-general of the centre against apartheid, Mr Sotirios Mousouris.

UN group sees ANC, PAC

Star 12/6/90 (336)

By Peter Fabricius,
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The United Nations' fact-finding mission, which arrived in Cape Town on Saturday, met the Black Sash, the Cape PAC and two members of the ANC's constitutional committee yesterday.

It is not clear whether the mission, sent to South Africa to monitor the Government's progress in dismantling apartheid, will meet President de Klerk.

The decision to send the eight-man mission to South Africa followed discussions which Mr de Klerk held with UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the Namibian independence celebrations in March.

An official UN announcement last week said the mission had been sent to monitor the steps taken to dismantle apartheid, as set out in the UN General Assembly "Declaration on Apartheid" last year. The declaration sets out the same sort of conditions for negotiations as the ANC's Harare Declaration.

De Klerk 'too busy' for talks with UN mission

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By MICHAEL MORRIS Argus 12/6/90
Political Correspondent

UNITED Nations diplomats visiting South Africa on a fact-finding mission have been told President De Klerk will probably be too busy to meet them.

But they were to meet several senior Ministers today.

A Tuynhuys spokesman confirmed an appointment with Mr De Klerk would probably not be possible.

A spokesman for the UN team said: "We were told that due to his heavy schedule, the President would probably not be able to meet us."

Asked if the diplomats considered this a snub, he said: "No. We take it at face value. If he is too busy, we accept that."

He confirmed that Mr De Klerk was among a number of key figures the UN team had identified ahead of their trip as being people "we would wish to see".

However, he said the team would be seeing senior Ministers and was confident "the government's point of view will be adequately covered".

The delegation was to have meetings today with Minister of Constitutional Development Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Finance Mr Barend du Plessis, Minister of Education and Training Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, and Minister of Health Dr Rina Venter.

They were also to meet prominent government critic Dr Allan Boesak, members of the Democratic Party and newspaper editors.

Tomorrow they are to see Minister of Manpower Mr Eli Louw, a range of academics, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and the director general of Foreign Affairs, Mr Neil van Heerden.

In wide-ranging talks yesterday, the diplomats met a second delegation from the ANC, representatives of the UDF, Idasa, Solidarity Party and Azapo, as well as the three university rectors from the Western Cape — Dr Stuart Saunders of the University of Cape Town, Mr H Rossouw of Stellenbosch University, and Dr Jakes Gerwel of the University of the Western Cape — and rector of the Peninsula Technikon, Dr Franklin Sonn.

The UN delegation, led by Somalian Mr Abdulrahim Farah, leaves for Durban tomorow evening. Mr Farah is accompanied by the UN assistant secretary-general Mr Sotirios Mousouris of Greece, Mr James Simpson of Canada, Dr Herschelle Challenor of the United States, Mr Leonard Kapungu of Zimbabwe and Mr Thomas McCarthy from the US Centre for Human Rights.

Mandela may speak at UN assembly

ARGUS 12/6/90

The Argus Foreign Service

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NEW YORK. — African National Congress deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela may yet achieve the rare distinction for a private citizen of addressing a session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Arab members want the world body to hold an emergency session on the problem of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and the event coincides with Mr Mandela's visit on June 22.

Some delegates said a move might be made to have him address the world body, rather than its special committee against apartheid, as is planned at present.

● A fund which it is hoped will eventually raise millions of rands for the African National Congress is to be launched in Canada next week when Mr Mandela arrives for a five-day visit.

It is the Canadian government's answer to a request for international aid from Mr Mandela earlier this year.

Canadian government policy is not to fund directly any political organisations in foreign countries.

● The US Congress is considering commemorating the week of Mr Mandela's visit as "South African Freedom Week".

● See pages 3 and 9.

Money does not buy happiness for Third World—UN

(336)

W/Mail 8/6 - 14/6/90

AFTER 40 years of work and spending billions of dollars trying to achieve Third World development, the United Nations has come to an unassailable conclusion: money cannot always buy happiness.

For instance, on an average income of R1 000 a person a year, Sri Lanka achieves a life expectancy of 71 years and an adult literacy rate of 87 percent. But in Saudi Arabia, with an income a person of R15 000, life expectancy is a mere 64 years, and the adult literacy rate is only about 55 percent.

Or, as a UN study concludes: "Life does not begin at $11 000 (R26 000), the average per capita income in the industrialised world, what matters is how economic growth is managed and distributed for the benefit of the people."

That is the key conclusion of the first composite survey of development's human dimension in 130 countries. Entitled *Human Development Report 1990*, it was produced by the UN Development Programme.

The report is certain to offend some governments targetted by its almost brutal candour about their failings. Pakistan, despite a respectable growth rate and moderate income distribution, is described as turning in a "dismal performance" in literacy and education, notably among women.

The Nigerian government's public spending is "unambiguously pro-rich". Brazil's poor human development stems in large part from its inequality of income distribution.

On the other hand, Costa Rica has "dramatically" improved living standards by giving social spending a high priority. So has low-income China.

Assuming that "income is not the sum total of human life," the report is based on a "human development index" weighted heavily toward three additional indicators.

Besides life expectancy and literacy, they include the individual's command of sufficient resources to guarantee a decent living standard.

The report points out that people often value achievements that do not not show up at all in gross national product statistics: better nutrition and health services, greater access to knowledge, satisfying leisure hours and a sense of participating in the economic, cultural and political activities of their communities.

While conceding "significant" progress toward human development in the last three decades, the UN report adds that "tremendous human deprivation remains".

It estimates that there are nearly:

- 900-million illiterate adults in the Third World;
- 1.5-billion illiterate adults in the Third World;
- 1.75-billion without safe drinking water;

Though there has been some human development in the Third World, the UN has found tremendous deprivation remains.

By TED MORELLO

- 100-million homeless;
- 800-million chronically hungry;

On a regional basis, sub-Saharan Africa ranked lowest in life expectancy (51 years) and literacy (48 percent) and highest in infant mortality (110 deaths in 1 000 live births).

Nevertheless, some countries with only modest incomes have been successful in reducing their mortality rate for children under five. Mauritius' rate has plunged from 104 in 1 000 births in 1960 to 29 in 1988.

Similarly, Jamaica's child mortality rate is about 22, compared with 85 in Brazil, though Brazil's average income is twice as high.

In literacy, the rate in Latin America — which rose from 72 percent in 1970 to 83 percent in 1985 — remained well ahead of those for all other Third World regions. Asia has achieved the 60 percent developing-country average but is dragged down by the poor performances of Bangladesh (33 percent), Pakistan (30), Nepal (26) and Afghanistan (24).

Unlike ratings based on national income, the human index exposes a country's internal disparities between rural and urban areas, males and females, rich and poor.

In Argentina, the urban-rural gap is wide despite the nation's relatively high income for a person and standards of human development. Eighty percent of its urban population have access to healthcare, as opposed to a mere 21 percent of the rural population. Sixty-three percent of city dwellers have access to clean water compared to only 17 percent in the countryside. For sanitation, the figures are 75 and 35 percent respectively.

By contrast, low-income Tanzania has a fairly good urban-rural distribution of social services: 99/72 for health, 90/42 for water and 93/58 for sanitation.

As for the gender gap, discrimination against females starts early, takes many forms and continues for life. In Bangladesh, malnutrition afflicts 14 percent of girls but only five percent of boys.

The report also says that rising military spending is having a "most alarming" impact on social development, particularly in the Third World.

Total military spending by poor nations has multiplied nearly seven times in 25 years, from R60-billion in 1960 to R400-billion in 1986 rising at about 7,5 percent a year — far faster than in industrial countries. – Gemini News

Money does not buy happiness for Third World—UN

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W/Mail 8/6 - 14/6/90

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Total military spending by poor nations has multiplied nearly seven times in 25 years, from R60-billion in 1960 to R400-billion in 1986 rising at about 7,5 percent a year — far faster than in industrial countries.– Gemini News

ANC expects the UN to keep up pressure

THE ANC expected the United Nations to "recommend keeping pressure on the government for the foreseeable future" as far as sanctions were concerned, ANC executive committee member, Mr Terror Lekota, said in Durban yesterday

Speaking after a meeting the visiting UN fact-finding mission earlier in the day, Lekota said the ANC's main thrust in the meeting had been to stress that pressure should be maintained by sanctions.

If sanctions were removed, the ANC would have no recourse but to fall back on the armed struggle, he said.

The ANC had, however, drawn the UN team's attention to the "disruptive nature of violence in the Natal region", which was complicating the implementation of the UN's Declaration against Apartheid.

"We pointed out that it was imperative that this violence should be arrested," he said.

Leader of the UN team, Mr Abdulrahim Farah, conceded after the meeting that the process of dismantling apartheid had begun.

He would not comment on the sanctions issue, however, saying it was "not the UN's area".

UN team to meet SACC

Star 15/6/90

DURBAN — The United Nations fact-finding mission visiting South Africa will meet members of the SA Council of Churches in Johannesburg this afternoon.

The team flies from Durban to Johannesburg today after talks here with the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, as well as KwaZulu Ministers.

A spokesman for the UN team, Michael Moller, said they would also meet a delegation from the Consultor Business Movement and members of the National African Chamber of Commerce during its five-day visit to Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The team has spent two days in Natal and has had discussions with the African National Congress, Natal Provincial Administration officials and members of Inkatha, among others. — Sapa.

UN mission meeting the ANC, PAC today

The visiting UN fact-finding mission will meet the African National Congress and Pan-Africanist Congress in Johannesburg today.

A UN spokesman said they will also meet representatives of the Urban Foundation, members of the Institute of Race Relations, South African Chamber of Business, as well as the National Council of Trade Uhions (Nactu).

Tomorrow the team travels to Pretoria to see Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha, and later will meet civic leaders.

Yesterday, the UN delegation met representatives of the alternative press, including Vrye Weekblad and Weekly Mail. On Saturday they met editors of The Star, Beeld and Business Day, and representatives of the SABC.

In a separate development at the weekend, team member and head of the United Nations Centre against Apartheid, Sotorios Mousouris, met representatives of the South African Olympics Committee. The team plans to return to New York on Wednesday. — Sapa.

Fact-finding mission

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The UN fact-finding mission visiting South Africa will meet leaders of the Pan Africanist Congress and African National Congress in Johannesburg today, a spokesman for the UN team said yesterday. So what for 18/6/90

The team will also meet members of the Urban Foundation and the Institute of Race Relations, and delegates from the SA Chamber of Business and the National Council of Trade Unions today. 18/6/90

Tomorrow the team travels to Pretoria for a meeting with South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha at the Union Buildings. They will meet civic leaders in the afternoon. - Sapa.

BDay 19/6/90

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ANC hands UN team a list of obstacles to talks

AN ANC delegation led by executive members Walter Sisulu and Alfred Nzo yesterday submitted to the UN mission an expanded list of political and legal obstacles to meaningful constitutional negotiations, including foreign funding curbs, media restrictions and alleged bias by the SABC.

PETER DELMAR

A four-page document listing obstacles to "free political discussion" was submitted to the 10-member UN fact-finding mission on apartheid during a meeting at the ANC's internal head office in Johannesburg yesterday.

The ANC and the UDF jointly listed a number of laws they said were designed to curb freedom of political expression: the Internal Security Act, two foreign funding acts and the Affected Organisations Act which makes it an offence for the UDF, as an affected organisation, to receive monies from abroad.

The memorandum accused the SA government of lacking the courage to act against white paramilitary forces and of being unwilling to deal with lack of police discipline.

It described the Harms Commission of Inquiry into politically motivated crimes as being "toothless".

Watchdog

The maintenance of the state of emergency in Natal, it said, boosted the SAP's morale but did not prevent attacks on UDF communities.

In addition to urging an end to media restrictions, the memorandum noted there was no statutory basis for appeal against unequal radio and television coverage, and proposed an independent and impartial watchdog be set up to monitor and "guide" the SABC.

The memorandum said only when elections for a Constituent Assembly had taken place could it be said that irreversible change had occurred.

Meanwhile, a top-level Sacob team yesterday urged the visiting UN team to give SA recognition for the positive changes which had recently occurred within the country.

Sacob spokesman Ken Warren said last night the UN team was well-informed about SA.

A chamber statement emphasised the need for a strong economy to underpin economic change.

The UN team also met members of the SAIRR, the Urban Foundation, the PAC and Nactu yesterday.

And in a surprise development yesterday, Robert van Tonder's Boerestaat Party requested a meeting with the UN team, becoming the first right-wing group to do so.



The leader of the UN fact-finding mission, under-secretary Abdulrahim Farah of Somalia, left, greets Sacob director-general Raymond Parsons while the UN team's deputy leader, Sotiros Mousouris of Greece, shakes hands with Sacob deputy president Denis Paxton at the start of a two-hour discussion yesterday. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

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3 ideas from UN team

Pretoria Correspondent

The United Nations fact-finding team has suggested a series of confidence building measures which could reduce political violence and increase trust and understanding in the country.

Speaking after discussions with Foreign Minister Pik Botha in Pretoria yesterday, the leader of the UN team, UN Under-Secretary-General Abdul Rahim Fahran, said such measures might involve:

- Broad and frank discussions about the new South Africa.
- The translation into action of new Government policies.
- The institution of programmes of economic and social redress for the most deprived groups in the country.

He said the UN supported the view that apartheid should be ended through negotiations.

The delegation was greatly concerned about the alarming degree of violence.

Changes have begun to take place for the creation of an appropriate climate in which negotiations could take place.

Mr Botha said Mr Fahran had asked the South African Government to supply the delegation with the Conservative Party's viewpoints.

The CP earlier refused to meet the delegation.

Mr Botha said the Department of Foreign Affairs would compile extracts of recent speeches by CP MPs from the official record of Parliament.

He said Mr Fahran was an international public servant and not a politician, and it was in South Africa's interest to ensure that its case and views of future events were correctly conveyed to the Secretary-General.

The six-man UN team met a wide cross-section of the community. Mr Fahran said these discussions took place in "an atmosphere of openness and candour".

The delegation would report all these views to the Secretary-General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, who is to compile a report for the UN General Assembly by July 1.

PAC message on talks for UN

THE Pan Africanist Congress yesterday told the United Nations delegation to convey its stance of non-negotiations for a transitional change if the South African government did not abide by the UN Declaration on the country.

In a meeting held at the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg, the PAC's general secretary, Mr Benny Alexandra, said their contention was that the Government had not met the conditions and the basis for negotiations.

He said: "We told the UN delegation that as long as that situation existed negotiation between the Government and PAC is out.

"The declaration states that the Government must unilaterally take certain steps before the talks begin. Talking should be about the mechanism of bringing about transitional change."

Alexandra said that they spelt out their policy on negotiation as well as mandated the delegation to deliver the message to the general secretary, Perez de Cuellar at the end of their tour of South Africa.

The delegation also met the ANC group, led by Walter Sisulu and Alfred Nzo, who spelt out the obstacles to be considered for the creation of "the necessary climate in which free political discussion can take place."

Meanwhile the PAC has announced that it will be launching a new branch in Soweto at the Modisa Obotse School in Zone Four, Diepkloof on Sunday, starting at noon.

CAPE Times 20/6/90

UN team leaves 'changing' SA

PRETORIA. — The United Nations team left South Africa last night with the view that changes had begun to take place here and that there was a need for "a series of confidence-building measures" to reduce violence and increase trust.

Speaking after talks with Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha in Pretoria, delegation head Mr Abdulrahim Farah said the team had also found uncertainty and fear of change.

Perceptions about the adequacy of change in South Africa varied widely, but changes had begun, with President FW de Klerk's initiatives having been "warmly welcomed by all the organisations we met".

The UN group held over 50 meetings during its 10-day visit.

Mr Farah said the mission was "greatly concerned" at violence in parts of South Africa, particularly in Natal.

On the confidence-building measures, Mr Farah said these could include broad discussions about the new South Africa between all parties, the people and the government, the translating into action of new government policies for ending apartheid, and the institution of "programmes of economic and social redress for the most deprived groups in the country".

The meetings — with the right-wing, left-wing and all shades in-between — were marked by what Mr Farah called "an atmosphere of candour and cordiality". — Sapa

SA pledging cash to UN today

Star 20/6/90 Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — South Africa will, for the first time, pledge funds to the UN Development Programme at a conference today. It was called expressly to finance projects in Namibia.

UN officials hope to raise more than R1 000 million for the projects — more than the cost of the UN operation that brought the territory to independence.

South African officials in New York say they understand the contribution will be substantial.

South Africa's decision to contribute to the UN fund for Namibia is regarded in diplomatic circles as a welcome sign of the country's readiness to help relieve African economic problems at a time when the United States, Japan and the major Europaan donors appear to be more concerned with eastern Europe's difficulties than with those of Africa.

Still, South Africa has not paid any of its assessed share of the cost of the UN operation that brought Namibia to independence — and its total arrears of contributions for the UN regular budget now exceed more than R1 000 million.

Star 20/6/90 (336)

UN to apply 'the tightest' security for Mandela

The Star's Foreign News Service

NEW YORK — Fearful of a violent incident during Nelson Mandela's visit to the United Nations on Friday, officials will apply security restrictions even tighter than those for many a visiting head of state.

The arrangements have caused some grumbling among media representatives, since they are the ones most affected.

Only a specially selected pool of reporters will be permitted to observe Mr Mandela's arrival in the lobby of the Secretariat tower.

Another small group will be allowed on the 38th floor, where the Mr Mandela will confer with the Secretary-General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, before going to the General Assembly hall to address the UN special committee against apartheid.

Off limits

For the first time since Mikhail Gorbachev visited the UN in December 1988, the entire second floor of the General Assembly building, which includes the delegates' entrance to the main hall, will be off limits to reporters.

Journalists not accredited to the UN but issued with passes only for the Mandela visit will have to pass through a metal detector and submit to an equipment search.

Officials would not say why they were so concerned for Mr Mandela's safety or whether the UN had received any indication that an attempt might be made to harm him during his brief visit to the headquarters.

He is scheduled to hold a press conference before departing.

His address and the press conference are both expected to be televised live throughout the US and Canada.

UN team details plan for SA reform

Argus 20/6/90

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The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — The United Nations fact-finding team has suggested a series of confidence-building measures which could reduce political violence and increase trust and understanding in South Africa.

Speaking after discussions with Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha in Pretoria yesterday, the leader of the UN team, Under-Secretary-General Mr Abdul Rahim Fahran, said such measures might involve:

● Broad and frank discussions about the new South Africa;

● Translation into action of new government policies; and

● The institution of programmes of economic and social redress for the most deprived groups in the country.

He said the UN supported the view that apartheid should be ended through negotiations.

"However, the mechanisms for, and the substance of, the new constitutional dispensation are matters to be decided by the people of South Africa," said Mr Fahran.

The delegation was greatly concerned about the alarming degree of violence, particularly in Natal.

"Peacemaking and peacekeeping must go arm in arm with the political process, otherwise South Africa could well become a self-defeating exercise," he said.

CP viewpoint

Changes had begun to take place for the creation of an appropriate climate in which negotiations could take place.

"Naturally, perceptions about the adequacy of these changes vary widely, as one might expect in such a diverse and complex society," said Mr Fahran.

Mr Botha said Mr Fahran had asked the South African government to supply the delegation with the Conservative Party's viewpoints.

The CP earlier refused to meet the delegation.

Mr Botha said the Department of Foreign Affairs would compile extracts of recent speeches by CP MPs from the official record of parliament.

He said Mr Fahran was an international public servant and not a politician and it was in South Africa's interest to ensure that its case and views of future events were correctly conveyed to the UN Secretary-General.

During the past 10 days the six-man UN team met a wide cross-section of the community. Mr Fahran said discussions took place in "an atmosphere of openness and candour" and had been constructive and informative.

The team's visit is a result of a declaration adopted at a special General Assembly session late last year.

SA to give Namibia R26-million

The Star's Foreign News Service

NEW YORK — South Africa announced in the United Nations yesterday that it would provide R26 million in economic aid for Namibia, but left open whether this might be funnelled through the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

In a statement at a conference here called to receive pledges of help for the new nation, the South African representative Mr Frank Land said:

"The mechanisms for channelling our contribution and the involvement of the UNDP trust fund for Namibia will be discussed."

UNDP, which convened the conference, estimates that Namibia needs about R2,6 billion for development.

Making his first UN appearance since independence, Namibian President Sam Nujoma reaffirmed his government's intention to attract private investment and offer a congenial climate for it.

Mr Land's statement was the first pledge of international economic assistance by South Africa in the UN since its delegation was ousted from the General Assembly in 1974. The sum equals what the United States delegate Mr Keith Brown said Washington will give Namibia.

United Nations will honour Mandela today

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — Few kind words about South Africa are likely to be heard when the United Nations special committee against apartheid meets today to honour Mr Nelson Mandela.

In his address, the deputy president of the ANC is considered certain to reiterate a theme of all his foreign tours since he was released from prison in February — that economic sanctions must be maintained.

BUSY SCHEDULE

He is expected to thank the UN for its numerous resolutions recommending a total embargo against South Africa and for its repeated appeals for the release of all "political prisoners". Most of those resolutions expressly named Mr Mandela.

Considering the UN's long-standing preoccupation with South Africa's problems, Mr Mandela and his wife, Winnie, have allocated relatively little time in their busy New York schedule for the UN visit. It is to take up not much more than three hours.

Customarily, the secretary-general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, gives what the UN calls a state lunch for a distinguished visitor, but no such lunch is in Mr Mandela's itinerary. Still, his treatment at the UN, in protocol terms, will be little different from that accorded to a head of state.

Not since Mr Yasser Arafat of the PLO was here in November 1974 has a person with no governmental position been so honoured.

If the General Assembly were in session, Mr Mandela would certainly have been invited to address that body, as Mr Arafat did.

As it is, the anti-apartheid committee will meet in the General Assembly hall for the first time.

● "I am a Yankee" — page 3.

Beware the Right, Not Left

NEW YORK — Mr Nelson Mandela warned the United Nations yesterday against what he termed "rightwing terrorist groups" in South Africa opposed to a negotiated solution of problems, but dismissed reports of a threat to his life.

Addressing a huge audience in the General Assembly hall, he said: "We cannot afford to under-estimate the threat that these defenders of a brutal and continuing reality pose to the whole process of working towards a just political settlement".

Referring to the Cape Town talks, he said a good beginning "should not lead us to conclude that further progress is assured or that we will not have to confront major obstacles".

Mr Mandela said he wanted to reiterate his belief in the integrity of President de Klerk and his colleagues in the leadership of the National Party.

"We are of the view that they will abide by decisions that are arrived at in the course of our discussions and negotiations," he said.

The ANC leader said that it was also true that there were many South Africans still committed to the maintenance of "the evil system of white minority domination".

Affirming the ANC's determination to do everything in its power to speed progress towards the peaceful abolition of apartheid, Mr Mandela said they had to overcome the mistrust on both sides and reinforce the understanding that the only victory they all should seek was the victory of the people as a whole, "and not the victory of one party over another".

At a press conference later, he dismissed reports of a rightwing plot to kill him. "I am too busy doing what I think is constructive to worry about threats to my life," he said.

Be that as it may, some of the tightest security ever seen at the UN surrounded the Mandela visit, with entire

DAVID BRAUN, CORRESPONDENT

streets closed to traffic, staff obliged to pass through metal detectors and a phalanx of uniformed and plain-clothes officers watching his every step.

Welcoming him, the Secretary-General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, called the South African visitor "the most popular man in town".

The ANC leader was accorded a standing ovation when he entered the chamber, at the end of his speech — which was televised live — and as he was escorted out. There were few empty seats in the hall, but South Africa was not represented since its delegation has been barred from the Assembly since 1974.

As he has throughout his overseas tours, Mr Mandela emphasised his belief that sanctions against South Africa must be maintained.

Nothing had happened in South Africa that called for a revision of the UN's positions, he said. "We therefore strongly urge that there should be no relaxation of existing measures. The distance we still have to travel is not long. Let us travel it together."

Infuriated

Addressing himself to the European Community which would be holding a summit meeting within a few days, Mr Mandela appealed to them to remain faithful to the purposes of a UN declaration adopted in the General Assembly last December, which they helped to elaborate and for which they voted.

Mr Mandela's endorsement of Yasser Arafat, Muammar Gaddafi and Fidel Castro has infuriated US Jewish leaders and prompted calls to cool the huge welcoming celebrations.

Mr Mandela described PLO leader Mr Arafat as a comrade in arms on a television interview in New York earlier this week. He also expressed support for Cuba's President Castro and Libya's President Gaddafi, saying these were the people who had supported the ANC's struggle.

New York Jewish leaders reacted angrily afterwards. Brooklyn councilman Noah Dear said shivers ran through his body when Mr Mandela said he supported Gaddafi.

"This a modern-day Hitler and a madman and here we have somebody embracing him ... as Americans we should be angry and insulted," he said.

Asked why he had agreed to cancel the Jewish demonstration against Mr Mandela, Mr Dear said it had been agreed to do so after the Chief Rabbi in Johannesburg had called and said that, although Mr Mandela supported Gaddafi, he was very sympathetic to the South African Jewish community.

● See Page 6.

Human rights delegation to lodge protest against DET

By SOPHIE TEMA Argus 24/6/90

AN appeal to investigate the education crisis in black schools will be made to the United Nations Education, Sport and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) in Geneva next week.

The appeal will be made by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights delegation that visited South Africa on a fact-finding mission last week.

A statement lodging an official protest against the South African government and the Department of Education and Training (DET) for failing to provide pupils in black schools with textbooks was handed to the delegation before it departed from South Africa.

The statement was addressed to the general secretary of the UN Commission on Human Rights and signed by the South African Health Workers' Congress (Sahwco).

The organisation said it believed the demand for textbooks was genuine and expressed dismay at reports that the DET had said 90 percent of black matriculants would fail final examinations.

The statement also complained of maltreatment of parents who staged a sit-in and hunger strike at the DET offices. It said they were not allowed food, legal aid or medical care in violation of the United Nations Charter for Human Rights.

The statement said the attitude of the DET further violated every international health protocol, in particular those of the World Health Organisation, the International Commission of the Red Cross and the Tokyo Declaration of the World Medical Association.

In the statement, Sahwco said: "We condemn the ruthless and unsympathetic action of the DET in dealing with the parents who are legitimately demanding textbooks for their children.

"The parents have been forced to endure total separation from the outside world. They were also refused medical care."

Sahwco commended its national general secretary Dr Rafik Bismilla, who exercised his rights as a health worker and took care of the sit-in parents.

The parents were forced to leave the DET building after they were served with summonses to face prosecution if they resisted an order submitted by the Education Minister to vacate the premises.

Soon after leaving the building, Soweto Education Co-ordinating Council (SECC) spokesman David Maepa said the DET refused to address the issue of books and said the situation was abnormal because inspectors and principals had no access to schools.

"The department says 90 percent of matriculants will fail at the end of the year. That is the sentence they have already pronounced on our children," he added.

Regional chief director for the DET in Johannesburg Peet Struwig said the DET would do all in its power to speed up deliveries of books and other stock ordered at the beginning of the financial year.

He said it was necessary for principals to resume their posts and for inspectors to reach all schools if the DET was to adequately consult with "management councils, interest groups and associations who have the interest and educational welfare of pupils in Soweto at heart".

Commodity sector is crucial to Africa — UN

Bloom 25/6/90

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NEW YORK — African policy-makers must use commodity production and trade as "a motor for expansion", argues a UN report published last week.

The report, Africa's Commodity Problems: Towards a Solution, commissioned by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, says: "The failure in the commodity sector has been central to the economic crisis facing Africa."

Former Australian prime minister Malcolm Fraser chaired the group of experts who compiled the report.

The future performance of the sector will be critical to the success of Africa's economic recovery efforts, the report says.

It points out that commodities account for between 85% and 95% of the continent's total export earnings.

"Real growth opportunities exist in primary commodity production," the group believes. But the report stresses that if this is to be achieved, African governments must introduce further reforms, while industrialised countries should provide additional financial resources, technical assistance, allow more open markets for African exports of primary products and manufactured primary products, and increase efforts to negotiate fair commodity agreements.

The report notes that excluding fuel exports, commodities earned $18bn for Africa in international markets in 1988 — 26% lower in real terms that in 1980, and 35% lower than in 1970.

By 1988 Africa's market shares for cocoa, coffee, cotton and copper had fallen by between 20% and 40% of the 1970 market share, the report calculates.

The report acknowledges that adverse external factors are part of the reason for this poor performance, but adds: "Other developing countries in other regions have had to face similar market problems and they have progressed while Africa has fallen behind."

Other reasons for the poor performance, says the report, include "ill-advised government policies, a serious lack of agricultural scientists, a poor acknowledgement of international markets, a lack of investment in transport and other infrastructure ... and an economic policy framework which offers overseas investors few incentives."

Needs

Describing food prospects for Africa as "appalling", the report calculates that, assuming existing food production and population growth rates are maintained, "consumption could exceed production in the 10 years to the year 2000 by about 50-million tons."

Africa can neither pay for, nor properly distribute, food needs on this scale, warns the report.

It also warns of "major environmental deterioration", noting that the desert is encroaching on agricultural land at a rate of 6-million to 7-million ha (about twice the size of Belgium) each year.

Of the almost 700-million ha of forest, between 3-million and 4-million are being cleared annually because of cultivation practices or fuel demand.

The report accepts that "significant reforms" have been introduced by African governments in recent years.

But it goes on: "We believe that in many African countries the balance remains too far towards centralised decision processes ... especially in the face of increasing competition in the world market place, inefficiencies that make undertaking business in Africa difficult can no longer be afforded."

The report recommends a commodity strategy with the objectives of increasing food security, diversification, increased processing, and greater intra-African trade.

At the international level, the report says that efforts to establish or re-establish international commodity agreements should be increased.

Industrialised countries should move towards eliminating all quantitative limits on commodity imports.

It urges action in the current Uruguay Round of trade talks to enlarge the EC quotas on Common Agricultural Policy terms, and the elimination of tariff escalation clauses affecting African commodity exports.

The Multifibre Arrangement, which restricts textile imports, should be discontinued or phased out after the present arrangement expires next year, says the report. — Financial Times.

Mandela asks UN to put back debate on SA

CAPE TIMES 11/7/90

Own Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Mr Nelson Mandela has asked the United Nations to postpone any further debate on South Africa until Christmas, according to diplomats.

He made the request to both UN Secretary-General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar and General Assembly president Mr Joseph Garba in private meetings before his address to the UN last month.

The move was seen as a vote of confidence in Pretoria's readiness to negotiate and as an attempt to ensure a favourable climate for negotiation between now and the end of the year.

Mr Mandela reportedly explained that the UN had achieved consensus by adopting last December's declaration on apartheid, which effectvely endorsed most of the ANC's negotiating demands, and did not want to see the consensus broken by further debate.

Mr Garba, former chairman of the Special Committee on Apartheid, had earlier set aside July 18 to debate the secretary-general's coming report on South Africa. It is unclear whether he will accede to Mr Mandela's request.

Mandated by the declaration, the report was supposed to have been ready by July 1. Its official release is now scheduled for Friday.

Running to some 50 pages, it is not expected to contain any recommendations. For the most part, it will summarise what government officials and extra-parliamentary leaders told the UN team that visited South Africa last month.

Fifteen governments, including Britain, have submitted for inclusion statements of their own policies and views.

● In London, South Africa will come under the spotlight in November, when members of a House of Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee visit the country as part of an inquiry into "UK policy towards South Africa and the other states of the region".

They will produce a report, probably early next year, to which the British government must respond within two months — about the time the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, is expected to visit South Africa.

Committee assistant Mr Philip Moon said yesterday that it was probable all 11 members of the committee would make the trip, provisionally due to start on October 27.

During the first week they would visit Southern African countries, including Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Lesotho, Botswana and Malawi.

In the second week they would be in South Africa itself, for a series of informal meetings with as wide a cross-section of opinion as possible.

The committee comprises seven members of the Conservative Party and four from Labour.

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UN message urges carrot, not stick

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — There now is a real possibility of a "just solution" of the apartheid question and the negotiating process deserves every possible support, the UN Secretary-General, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, said in a message to African heads of state.

He noted that the Government led by President de Klerk had committed itself nationally and internationally to a policy aimed at dismantling the apartheid system.

The State President's initiatives in recent months "tend to give expression to this commitment", the Secretary-General said in his message.

He had planned to attend the current summit meeting in Addis Ababa of the OAU, but cancelled at the eleventh hour in order to complete his report on progress made towards the eradication of apartheid.

It was the first time since he underwent open-heart surgery in 1986 that he has missed one of these OAU conferences.

While urging African leaders to support negotiations, he did not mention Nelson Mandela's refusal so far to renounce violence while talks continue, or refer to militant right-wing opposition to Mr de Klerk.

The ANC leader's UN visit on June 22 helped to focus attention on issues that were to be resolved before apartheid was eradicated, the Secretary-General said.

He is known to have established a good rapport with the State President, based on mutual esteem, and he reminded the OAU leaders that, "unlike any of his predecessors," Mr de Klerk agreed to his suggestion that a UN team visit South Africa to collect factual information on the situation there.

"I welcomed this opportunity since such information was necessary to enable me to report adequately on the progress made on the implementation of the Declaration on Apartheid adopted by the General Assembly last December.

"The team which went to South Africa last month informed me on its return that no restrictions had been placed on their meeting with persons or organisations they wished to consult."

He said he was confident that the member governments of the OAU would give his report "the most thoughtful consideration".

He also thanked the secretary-general of the OAU, Salim Ahmed Salim, for having passed on to him the report of an OAU monitoring group. "It helped importantly in the preparation of my own report to the General Assembly," he added.

This is expected to be made public within a week. UN observers said that, judging from the Secretary-General's moderate tone in his recent pronouncements, including this latest one to the OAU, a more balanced and fair-minded document than most earlier UN reports on the South African situation seemed likely.

UN praises FW for bold steps taken

Argus 17/7/90 336

From Ramsay Milne
Argus Foreign Service
in New York

SOUTH Africa has reached the threshold of a new era and the current political process in the country holds encouraging prospects for the eventual dismantling of apartheid, a UN fact-finding team has concluded.

POLITICS

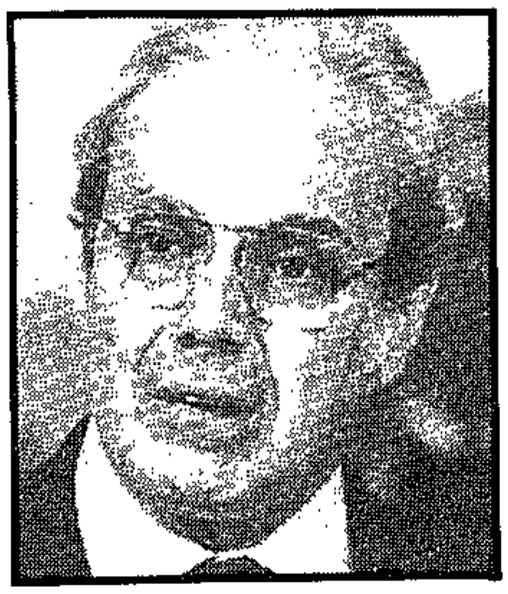
In the most positive and fair-minded UN report on the subject ever issued, the team which visited the republic last month said: "There is a general perception that the path taken by the government offers real promise for constructive political discussion and represents a significant change from the position of its predecessors.'

The assessment by the UN mission, which was led by Under Secretary-General Abdulrahim Abby Farah, wss part of a 113-page report to the UN General Assembly by the Secretary-General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, released yesterday.

In his own observations he said he was greatly encouraged by the positive developments that had taken place in South Africa this year and he praised the "bold and courageous policy" of President De Klerk.

But he also stressed an urgent need to end the violence in the country, which, if allowed to continue unrestrained, he said, might well present serious difficulties for the political process of change.

He appealed to "all parties to do whatever is necessary to end the violence and to work together to build a peaceful South Africa."



Dr Perez de Cuellar

In its findings, the Farah team took a sympathetic view of the hot debate now going on among South Africans of many different persuasions about the republic's future.

"Fundamental change in any society often creates uncertainty, anxiety and even fear,' the group said.

But it said there was a general perception that "the path taken by the government offers real promise for constructive political discussion and represents a significant change from the position of its predecessors."

"Yet," it went on, "there is also a widespread belief that a number of additional steps are required to establish an atmosphere favourable to free political activity.

"Apartheid laws, repressive security regulations and persistent violence, including that prevailing in Natal, continue to adversely affect domestic tranquillity, as well as the sense of security and well being of the people. So long as racial attitudes persist and apartheid structures at the local level remain, the process for change will encounter difficulties.

"These issues need to be addressed as a matter of urgency. They would undoubtedly facilitate the process of broad consultations among all political forces on the mechanisms appropriate for framing a new constitution and for shaping the political, social and economic future of the country.

"Moreover, a series of confidence-building measures designed to reduce politically-related violence and address acute social and economic problems affecting the black population would strengthen this process.'

While the report was silent on the subject of sanctions, Mr Farah said at a UN press conference called to discuss the document there were two measures that would justify "some review of the situation vis a vis sanctions."

These were the Group Areas and Lands Acts, which he said were thought of as "pillars of apartheid" and which Mr De Klerk has promised will be examined at the next parliamentary session.

At another point, Mr Farah said it was for each UN member state to draw its own conclusions whether sanctions should or should not be lifted.

Asked about South Africa's return to full participation in UN affairs, he said, "I think there is a genuine desire among many South Africans to see the restoration of South Africa's seat in the General Assembly. All with whom I met seemed to give that message."

The republic's delegation was ejected in 1974 in a decision by the then president of the General Assembly, Mr Abdellatif Bouteflika of Algeria, that many members said was patently illegal.

UN praises FW

Cape Times 17/7/90 336

NEW YORK. — United Nations Secretary-General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday praised President F W de Klerk for "bold and courageous" policies but said the government urgently needed to tackle right-wing and other violence.

Introducing a report prepared by a UN team, Mr Perez de Cuellar also complimented black leaders for "vision and forbearance" and said South Africa had reached "the threshold of a new era".

"The political process on which he (Mr De Klerk) has embarked holds encouraging prospect of leading to the dismantlement of apartheid," the report said.

He fell far short, however, of finding that "profound and irrevocable changes" had occurred — the requirement set by the declaration for the easing of international pressure.

Last December the General Assembly met in a special session against apartheid, calling for the people of South Africa to negotiate an end to the system and transform their country into a non-racial democracy. It also called on the secretary-general to make a report on progress toward ending apartheid.

Mr Perez de Cuellar sent a team to South Africa from June 9 to 19, led by Mr Abdulrahim Farah, undersecretary-general for special political questions.

The report indirectly rebuked government leaders for failing to handle right-wing violence and violence between blacks in Natal, saying these needed to be "addressed at the highest level".

More dangerous

Citing an interview with the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, the report said Mr Vlok had indicated that the extreme right "could be even more dangerous than the left" and said he was considering prohibiting members of the police force from joining any political parties.

But in contrast to some previous UN reports condemning South Africa, the latest, authorised by the General Assembly, strikes a balance between the government's reforms and existing discriminatory measures.

However, despite the mild tone of the report's conclusions, Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha in a statement released in New York immediately condemned it, saying the General Assembly had no right to interfere in South African affairs and should refrain from further action.

But he added: "It is probably the first time since the inception of the United Nations that a report on South Africa has been submitted to the UN containing the views of all parties and acknowledging the intense complexity of the South African situation."

"South Africa has reached the threshold of a new era," Mr Farah said, in his conclusion, to the secretary-general. "The political process on which it has embarked holds encouraging prospsects of leading to the dismantlement of apartheid."

But he added: "So long as racial attitudes persist and apartheid structures at the local level remain, the process for change will encounter difficulties."

The report did not address the issue of economic sanctions, which are in force until South Africa meets certain conditions in dismantling apartheid.

In his comments, Mr Perez de Cuellar said that "apartheid laws, repressive security regulations and persistent violence, including that prevailing in Natal, continue to adversely affect domestic tranquility as well as a sense of security and well-being of the people".

"So long as racial attitudes persist and apartheid structures at the local level remain, the process for change will encounter difficulties," the report concluded. "These issues need to be addressed as a matter of urgency," it said.

Early stage

The report also spelled out views of human rights and anti-apartheid groups detailing censorship and security legislation that hindered free political activity, despite the release of leading political figures and the unbanning of such groups as the ANC.

The secretary-general added, however, that the process of dismantling apartheid "is still at an early stage" and emphasized that the system had inflicted grave social injustice on blacks.

Mr Perez de Cuellar said he had reached "an understanding" with Mr De Klerk that the mission's visit was "without prejudice" to the government's opposition to UN interference in the country's affairs. — Sapa-Reuter

Cape Times 17/7/90

SA plans human rights charter

336
Star 17/7/90

An interim human rights charter could contribute to greater confidence in the political process in South Africa, according to the Government.

This is one of the views contained in an Extraordinary UN report on South Africa just released in New York.

The report is a sequel to a UN fact-finding mission in June. The Minister of Constitutional Development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, is quoted extensively.

According to the report, Dr Viljoen stated clearly that the Government could not allow the abuse of freedom and peaceful protest to be used as a springboard for violence and intimidation.

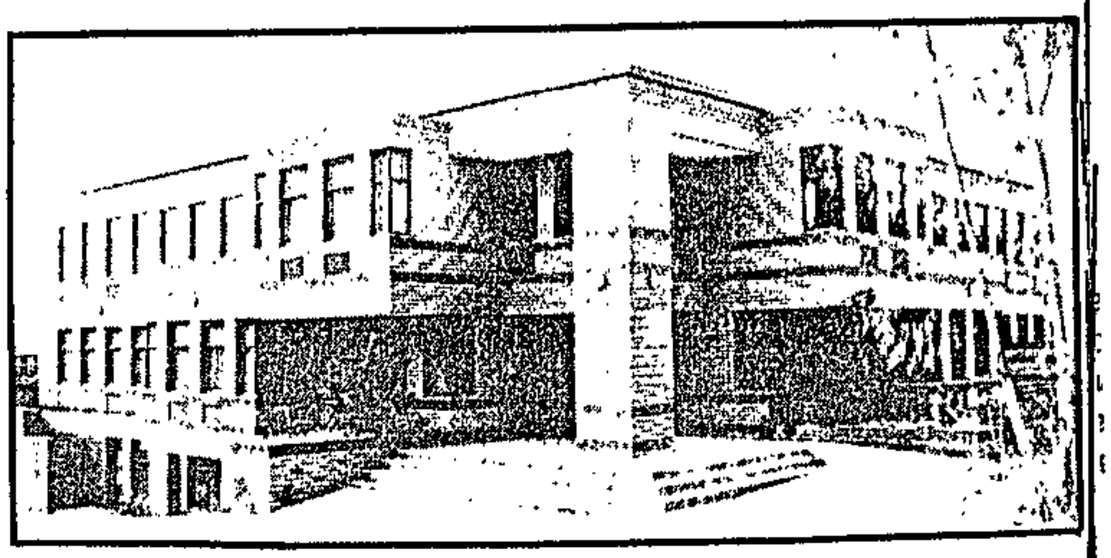
The report quoted Dr Viljoen as having said that as soon as provisional talks had been concluded with the ANC, comprehensive negotiations would begin with all groups. Negotiations were hoped to be completed within two to three years.

Members of the mission reported the Government was prepared to amend the Internal Security Act during the next session of parliament. This was in response to criticism by the ANC that several acts were interfering with free political activities.

The mission also reported that the Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, had said there had been an increase in violence since the Government's new in itiatives were announced on February 2.

In his reaction to the report, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said it had been the first time since the founding of the UN that a report, in which the views of so many parties and the complicated composition of the country, had been submitted to the organisation.

He trusted the General Assembly would take cogniscance of the facts contained in the report and assume its responsibility not to take steps that would harden attitudes. — Sapa.



Kreditinform's headquarters in Randburg

Bidvy 2774190

(191)

Strategic alliances to meet future need

A NEW joint venture company has been formed between Ezee-Dex Buyer's Catalogue publisher, Ezee-Dex Publications, and KreditInform.

The new company, Ezee-Dex Online Information (Pty) Ltd is the latest move in a rapid series of strategic alliances between leading South African business information organisations to create the most advanced "third wave" networking system in the country.

During 1989, Times Media Ltd acquired Thomson Publications, including Trade Information Services (TIS), Tirandata, the Daily Tender Bulletin and the Commercial Exchange of SA and Entrac (Electronic Network for Tendering Referencing and Communication), the latter being an existing joint venture between ICL (SA) and Times Media.

Combined

Last month, KreditInform and TIS, specialising in providing tendering information, agreed to place their specialist services at the disposal of one another.

The result is a combined online network of more than 900 customers.

The reciprocal agreement will allow the thousands of users to access the databases of the two companies and draw on business information and the range of services available.

In recent weeks, two more alliances have been formed to allow available databases of stored information and available services to broaden.

In one, McGregors Online Information — SA's leading source of information on quoted companies — and KreditInform decided to merge their information databases.

This means McGregors' information on listed companies will be augmented by KreditInform's unlisted company information on the online network.

In the second, Introye CC, specialists in database management, corporate research and the provision of PC-driven marketing support services, and KreditInform agreed to pool their research resources. This will enhance both companies' databases.

Now, KreditInform and Ezee-Dex have agreed to combine their information database. While KreditInform has SA's largest corporate database, Ezee-Dex is recognised as the principal source of procurement information for mines, government and parastatals and buyers of the complete spectrum of industrial goods and services from manufacturing companies.

KreditInform MD Ivor Jones says: "Basically, SA's leading information organisations are preparing for the 'business information revolution'.

"Ultimately, the overall system — combining the expertise and resources of participating organisations and their many subsidiaries — will provide online/offline computer network communications and information related services linking major corporations and supply companies in almost every sector of the corporate, industrial and manufacturing communities."

Over its eight years of existence, he says, KreditInform has built a large database of information on products, services, lines of business, brand names and other details valuable to buyers.

The Ezee-Dex Buyers Catalogue, established in 1951, is the recognised buyer's tool covering more than 70% of the buyer's market for government, parastatal, municipal, mining and other industrial sectors.

Circulated

"More than 15 000 copies are circulated to buyers and engineers each year, complemented by a supplement update. The catalogue contains detailed information on more than 600 suppliers of equipment and services and includes a cross-reference to give more comprehensive details and specifications on products supplied," Jones says.

Ezee-Dex Publications MD Desmond Heath, says: "Most of our biggest users have computer networking systems in some form, and we knew it was only a matter of time before we placed our information database online.

"Having investigated various other networked business information systems, it became more feasible to form an alliance than to reinvent the wheel and develop our own online network."

Pik Botha pleased by UN report

Star 17/7/90 (336)

By Peter Fabricius,
Political Correspondent

Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha has reacted favourably to the United Nations Secretary-General's report on South Africa, released in New York yesterday.

Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar said he was greatly encouraged by the positive developments that had taken place in South Africa this year.

He praised President de Klerk's "bold and courageous policy", which he said opened distinct possibilities for the dismantling of apartheid.

But he stressed an urgent need to end the violence in South Africa. If allowed to continue, it could present serious difficulties for the political process of change.

"I am gratified to see that the report by and large reflects the views of the various parties," Mr Botha said in a statement last night.

"It is probably the first time since the inception of the UN that a report on South Africa has been submitted to the UN containing the views of all parties and acknowledging the intense complexity of the South African situation — underlining the fact that there are no simplistic solutions."

The secretary-general's report was drawn up largely on the basis of the recent fact-finding mission to South Africa by a delegation of the UN Secretariat.

Diplomatic sources regard Mr Botha's favourable response to the report as significant, because the UN Declaration on Apartheid was generally sympathetic to the ANC.

inflation rate by 1991

153 ANDREW GILL 58

SOUTH Africans can expect a real GDP growth of below 1% and a 12,5% inflation rate — currently at a static 14,9% — by the end of the year, TrustBank's latest issue of Econovision forecasts.

In its March/April issue, the bank said the GDP estimate would be a result of tight monetary policy; the lowest rise in consumer spending and the first fall in fixed investment in four years; a marked reduction in commercial and industrial inventories; lower agriculture production volumes; and slower export growth.

Inflation was expected to fall to 13,5% by July and 12,5% by year-end. This would be a major factor affecting interest rates, which Econovision expected to fall gradually over 1991. Bloem 27/4/90

The lag was expected because the authorities would not act immediately on the lower inflation rate but would wait until a clear declining trend had emerged. Other factors, such as monetary growth and foreign reserves, would also have to reach satisfactory levels.

High interest rates and limited credit creation this year would result in restricted spending into 1991, especially on fixed investment, which only reacted after a long time lag, the publication said.

TrustBank's econometric models have suggested corporate profits would be hard-pressed over 1990/91, thus having a further downward effect on fixed investment and job creation.

Growth next year was expected to be retarded by further declines in fixed investment and a world slowdown in exports, resulting in a real GDP growth below 2%, the report said.

However, tax relief announced for this year and next — supported by lower inflation and interest rates — should result in consumer spending rising during the course of next year.

336 Star 17/7/90

Apartheid crumbling – UN chief

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — The United Nations secretary—general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, said yesterday he was greatly encouraged by the positive developments that had taken place in South Africa since the beginning of this year.

He praised President de Klerk's "bold and courageous policy", which, he said, opened distinct possibilities for the dismantling of apartheid.

Process

But he stressed an urgent need to end the violence in South Africa, which if allowed to continue, could well present serious difficulties for the political process of change.

He made his remarks in a 113—page written report to the UN General Assembly, which, at a special session last December, called for his assessment on progress made towards the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa.

The assembly is expected to meet again within the next few weeks to review his report and consider whether further measures may be necessary to speed the dismantling process.

This latest document, perhaps the most careful and balanced on this hotly debated subject since the UN first became preoccupied with apartheid in its earliest days, made no reference to the vexed question of whether sanctions should be retained, moderated or withdrawn.

He also appealed to "all parties" in the republic to do whatever was necessary to end the strife and work together to build a peaceful South Africa.

A seven-paragraph section headed "Observations", summarised the UN chief's conclusions about the current situation. These were based, in part, on the visit by a UN team under secretary-general Abdulrahim Abby Farah and assistant secretary—general Sotirios Mosouris to SA last month.

Dr Perez de Cuellar said he was "greatly encouraged by the positive developments that have taken place in South Africa since the beginning of this year."

He continued; "The bold and courageous policy opens up distinct possibilities for the dismantling of the apartheid system.

Climate

"Equally encouraging and statesmanlike has been the vision and forebearance displayed by the black leadership which, despite long years of injustice and oppression, has renewed its commitment to a peaceful process for ending apartheid and building a non-racial and democratic society."

Referring to the Farah mission, the secretary-general said the fact that this team was able to meet with whom they wished, travel where they wished, and receive freely the views of all on political issues arising from the policy of apartheid, demonstrated by itself "a significant change in the political climate".

The seven most industrialised nations are overshadowed by the world's 15 poorest countries Graphic: GEMINI NEWS SERVICE

W/E Mail 27/7 - 29/7/90 336

Economic recovery in the Third World impossible without stable export prices

Changed policies are not enough to stimulate the economies of poorer countries, says the United Nations in its 1990 World Economic Survey. **ALAN HIRSCH** examines how the advanced industrial democracies will have to adapt to help the Third World

EARLIER this year the United Nations General Assembly adopted a special declaration on "international economic co-operation and development" for the 1990s. Not surprisingly the UN reflected the predominance of less developed countries in its make up by calling for more economic aid, especially for "marginalised countries", and for stability of international commodity prices.

Similar policy prescriptions have been put forward on behalf of Third World countries for decades. But even a few years ago a Third World economist would have been surprised to see the UN also calling for countries "to adapt their national policies to

and more subtle economic roles for government does not only come from the recognition that these policies have

jections to American proposals to eliminate all agricultural subsidies over 10 years; and the resistance of industrialised countries to eliminating duties on "tropical products" and textiles, which fall under a separate Multifibre Agreement.

But the major threat to Gatt seems to come from developments outside the negotiations. Bilateral trade agreements between the United States and Canada, Mexico, and Israel, and the strengthening of economic links within the European Community, are seen by many Third World countries as potential threats to freer world trade. The UN report notes that there is some dispute as to whether bilateral trade

assumptions, the UN makes predictions for the world economy in 1990 and 1991. Among the advanced capitalist economies restrictive monetary policies are expected to slow economic development in the United States, Canada and Japan.

At the other end of the spectrum, Germany is likely to grow at an annual rate of about 4 percent over the next two years. The German economy is being stimulated by a pre-1992 (when the European single market comes into being) investment boom in Europe, as Germany is Europe's major producer of investment goods. The German boom is expected to be extended by additional demand for both

responses to the changing world economy".

The acceptance of free market international relations and anti-statist domestic reform in the statement, and in the UN's 1990 World Economic Survey reflects major changes in the world economy in the 1980s, and changes in perceptions of development economists.

When the World Bank's 1981 Berg Report on accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa called for the opening of African economies to the free market it was widely met with scepticism, and the suspicion that it only reflected the interests of the capitalist economies.

Each time the International Monetary Fund (IMF) imposed a "structural adjustment programme" on recipients of emergency loans, many economists suspected the conditions on cutting the role of the state in the economy, and loosening exchange and trade controls, were designed to serve the interests of the economies that control the IMF.

Many thought freer trade and money flows, and weaker state intervention would simply benefit the West's transnational banks and corporations The economic power of rich countries and big corporations was being strengthened at the expense of the poor country that went to the IMF for assistance, it seemed.

But the wider acceptance today of freer international economic relations

economies. It also comes from consideration of developments in the advanced capitalist economies and in the socialist economies of Europe and Asia.

Ironically, the greatest threat to free international exchange in the 1990s would seem to come, not from Third World protectionism, but from the advanced capitalist economies. The UN report reflects this in terms of the debate between "multilateralism" and "bilateralism" in world trade.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) is the organ of multilateral trade agreements. Gatt was formed at the end of World War II in recognition of the role played by the collapse of world trade in the Great Depression of the 1930s. At first it was a relatively small club of industrialised counties backing freer world trade, but it now has scores of Third World and socialist country members. The Soviet Union has observer status in Gatt.

Gatt is currently reaching the end of the four-year Uruguay Round of negotiations, the seventh series, and the most ambitious. Previously, agricultural trade and trade in services and intellectual property were not covered by Gatt agreements.

Points of contention in Gatt negotiations include: American proposals to target anti-dumping measures(dumping is selling off exports at uneconomically low prices) against particular countries, opposed by the newly industrialised countries; European obagreements complement or substitute multilateral agreements under Gatt.

Another factor underwriting the UN's support for economic restructuring and freer trade is the admission of the socialist countries that their policies have failed. The report sets aside a special chapter on "Inflation, stabilisation and reform" in the socialist countries, which concludes that the inflation currently experienced there reflects economic imbalances in their economies that derive from years of resisting the use of price mechanisms. It warns, however, that moving too far and too fast could "undermine key features of stability in socialist economies".

While the UN's Economic Survey recognises the recovery made by the advanced capitalist economies in the 1980s, it indicates concern that, in their desire to hold on to what they have achieved, industrialised countries might not pull the weaker Third World economies along with them.

The desire of the industrialised countries to avert a new round of inflation edges them towards a policy of relatively slow growth, rather than the rapid growth that would raise the receipts of Third World commodity-exporting countries.

Also, declining aid donations from the United States and the reluctance of private banks to extend loans compound the flow of finance out of many debtor countries.

Based on a series of wide-ranging

consumption and investment goods from East Germany, especially after unification.

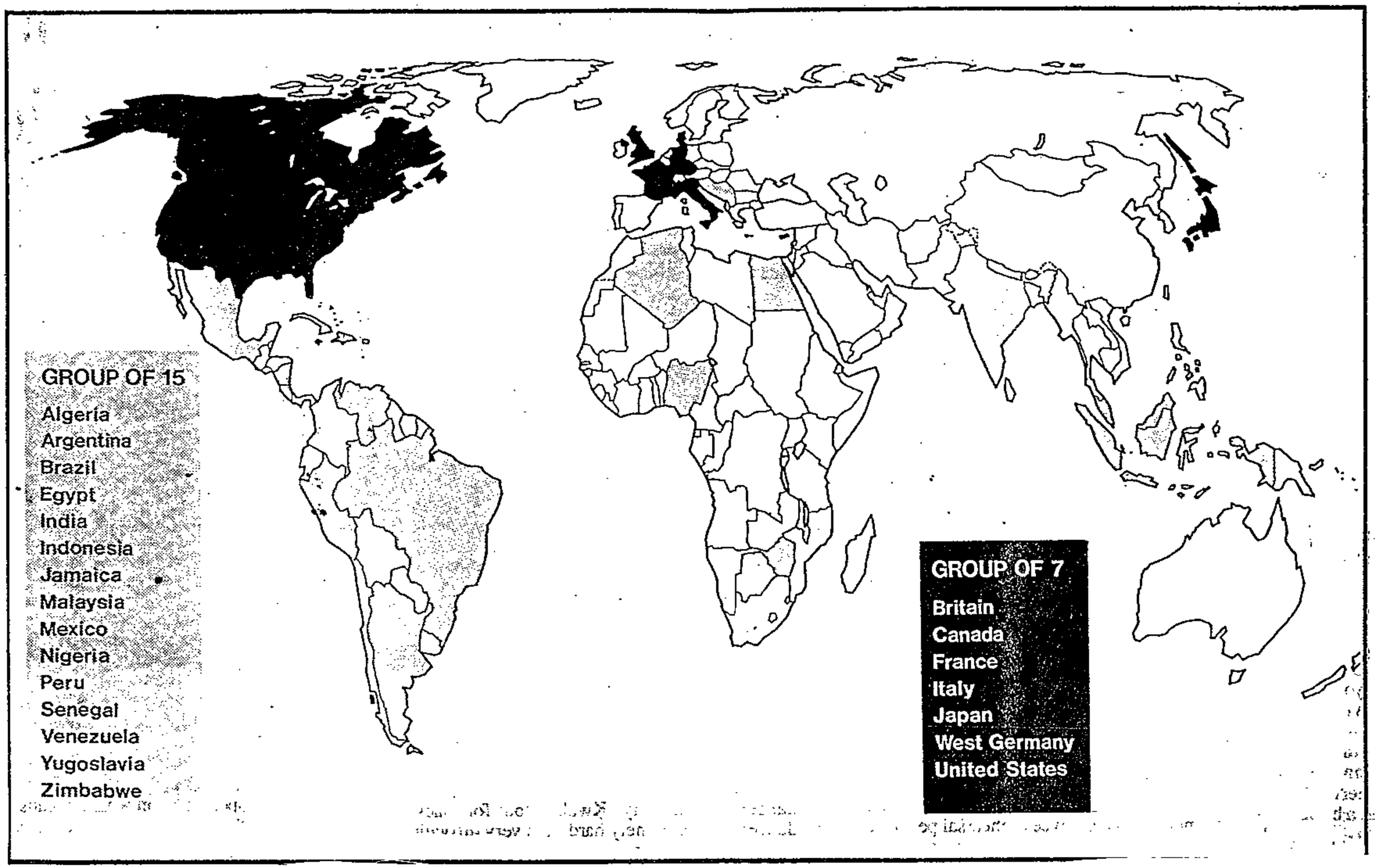
The outlook for Eastern Europe is much more gloomy, as the current recession is expected to continue for a while before a new phase of growth begins. For the Soviet Union, "averting a contraction, while at the same time coming to grips with the worst of the economic difficulties would be a good performance", says the UN report.

For Africa and Latin America, increases in financial transfers — aid, loans, and investment — are not expected to compensate for the high interest rates that deepen debt obligations, and the outlook is not bright. On the other hand, economic restructuring in several African and Latin American countries could place them on a new growth path.

In booming South and East Asia overall growth rates are expected to decline to 5,5 percent in 1990, and improve slightly in 1991, a fate that most countries elsewhere in the world would be glad to suffer.

In conclusion, the UN's Economic Survey stresses that even with restructuring in many Third World economies, real recovery and growth are unlikely unless exports are supported by stable commodity prices and unless financial transfers from the advanced countries compensate for overarching debt burdens in much of Africa and Latin America.

W/E Mail 27/7 - 29/7/90 (336)



NEW 7/8/90 (336)

Courting disaster on the Tugela

Disasters are on the increase in this, the UN Decade of Disaster Reduction, reports JAMES CLARKE.

As the memory fades of Natal's two great flood disasters — in 1986 and 1987 — so the Zulus are moving back to the dangerous river edges.

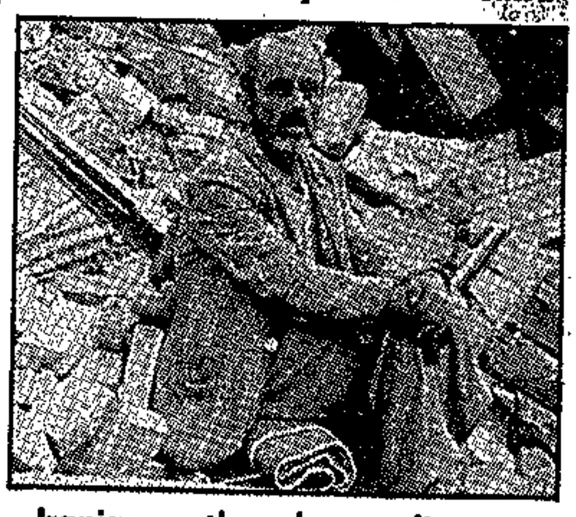
Where 360 people were washed away to their deaths in the October floods of '87, huts are once again going up. The fatalism of the builders underscores the reason for the United Nations declaring the 1990s International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

The Tugela's story is typical of many Third World areas.

The river's catchment area has largely been stripped of tree cover by people seeking fuel, half its wet-land sponges have been drained by farmers and, in some parts, overgrazing has caused devastating erosion.

Annually many of our rivers are becoming more vulnerable to flash floods. In the old days trees and other vegetation absorbed the shock of heavy spring rains.

But whether they are floods, droughts, earthquakes or landslides, disasters are killing more and more people.



Iranian earthquake . . . disasters are killing more people.

The World Bank, in its last financial year, gave out R5 000 million — equal to 4 percent of its loans — for emergency operations.

Disasters, according to the United Nations, now kill an average of 250 000 people a year. They cost almost R100 000 million in physical damage.

The UN has just held a meeting in Nairobi to discuss ways to increase "resilience in the developing countries".

Why are deaths increasing? Oddly enough, it is because of increased poverty: people have little choice but to live in high-risk zones.

Currently the World Bank is funding reconstruction and relief for earthquake reconstruction in China, Mexico and Nepal; for floods in Bangladesh, Brazil and Sudan; droughts in India; hurriane reconstruction in Western Samoa and Jamaica and locust plagues in Algeria and Bhutan.

Kenneth Piddington, director of the World Bank's environmental department, says in this week's newsletter: "Even if we omit global climate change, experts predict that the incidence and severity of natural disasters will increase.



Drought . . . deaths are increasing because of greater poverty.

"Population growth and demographic shifts will cause more people to live in high-risk areas, and the vulnerability of these areas will be rapidly affected by human actions."

He listed land mismanagement, deforestation and interference with water runoff as major contributors to "extreme events".

The solution? Identifying and preserving those features which ensure resistance against disasters — for example, coral reefs which protect shorelines, and forests which restrain downpours and landslides. And avoiding putting housing where floods can pluck them away.

World leaders to focus on poverty

NEW YORK — The world's most powerful people will give their attention to the weakest at the World Summit for Children next month.

Heads of State of 60 countries have agreed to meet at UN headquarters on September 29-30 to discuss ways of improving the lot of millions of children whose lives are threatened by poverty, disease or malnutrition.

Officials of UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, is organising the summit.

James Grant, executive director of UNICEF, said he hoped it would produce global acceptance of the idea that children have a "first call" on society's resources.

He urged the national leaders to establish such goals for the 1990s as immunising 80 percent of all children; reducing the number of children who die before age five by one-third, to 70 deaths per 1 000 live births; and providing safe drinking water for every child.

Sapa-Reuter

Filling UN's top post not an easy task

Montreal 1778 - 19/8/90

336

By DON SHANNON

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Help Wanted: Lrg Intl Org seeking high-lvl executive. Skilled adminstr, dplmt, soldier, economist. Fluent 5 languages. 3d Wrld bkgrnd must. African or Latino prefrd. 38th-flr ofc, river vu. Salary: US $183,000. Apply UN Secretariat.

THAT tongue-in-cheek advert isn't likely to appear in the help-wanted sections of the world's major newspaper, but it does serve to illustrate a point. The United Nations is looking for a new secretary-general to replace Peruvian diplomat Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose term expires in December 1991. And by all indications, filling the top UN post will not be easy.

To begin with, not just any bureaucrat will do. Although technically the secretary-general is responsible for managing the UN's 14 000-person staff and for administering its one billion annual budget, his primary role is as an international statesman. There is also the delicate problem of just who would be acceptable from a diplomatic standpoint.

Under the UN Charter, the five permanent members of the Security Council hold veto power over the appointment and arrangement that critics contend has excluded activists and insured a succession of safe, neutral bureaucrats.

Here's a rundown on the competition: Delegates from the 51 African countries holding UN membership are demanding that — after 45 years' tenure by three Europeans, an Asian and a Latin American — the post finally go to one of their number. Two Nigerians are in the running — Major General Joseph Garba, the popular president of the 1989-90 UN General Assembly, and former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo.

Another contender is former Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim Salim. The United States vetoed Salim's candidacy against Waldheim, partly because the Tanzanian took part in a Third World "victory dance" in the General Assembly hall to celebrate China's return to the UN in 1971.

A fourth African candidate, Olara Otunnu of Uganda, holds good credentials as president of the International Peace Academy, a New York foundation associated with the United Nations.

Other delegates say the new secretary-general should, for the first time, be a woman.

Norway's multi-talented premier, Gro Harlem Brundtland, a physician and a mother of four, leads the list of women candidates.

Also finding backing among major Western industrialised countries is another Scandinavian — this time a Finn named Martti Ahtassari, who headed the Namibia peace-keeping operation. The industrialised countries regard him as competent and incorruptible, but he's not likely to win much support among Third World governments, even though he won the respect of African diplomats during the long Namibian independence process. — Los Angeles Times

UN appeal on world forests

B1004 17/8/90

NAIROBI — The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) yesterday said it was time to stop destroying the world's forests, not only for their own sake.

"I am alarmed at the unprecedented speed at which many of the poor countries are losing their natural wealth," FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma said in a speech read for him at a meeting on the environment in Nairobi.

He appealed for an international convention on conservation and management of forests. (336)

He said poverty, food and debt problems and an unfair global economic system made some countries sacrifice their heritage.

"We have to face the grim truth that the rate of tropical deforestation has been severely underestimated," he said.

"The rate has doubled since 1980 to 1,2% or almost 17-million hectares." — Sapa-Reuter.

SA invited to send squadron to Gulf

Star 31/8/90

By Norman Chandler,
Pretoria Bureau

336

South Africa may fight on the side of the United Nations — from which it was suspended more than 20 years ago because of apartheid — if Iraq invades Saudi Arabia or other Middle East countries.

It is understood that the UN, through an unnamed member state, has asked that a squadron of SAAF jets join the international peacekeeping force in the Gulf.

The request has come as a result of international pressure on South Africa being relaxed as a result of the country's reform policies.

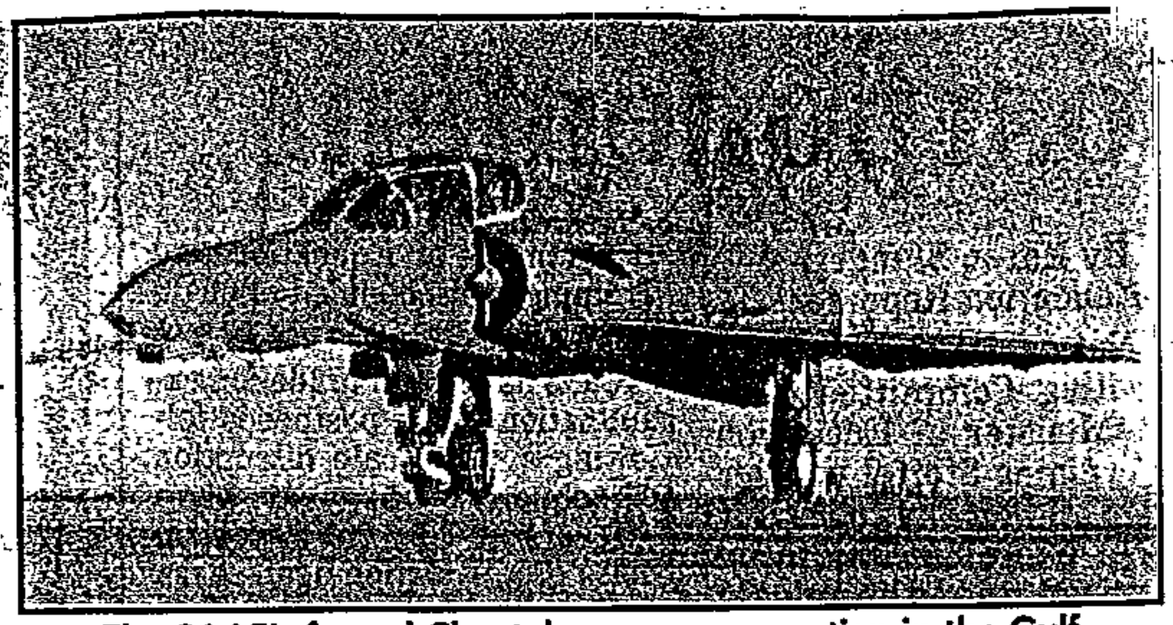
Government officials yesterday gave what was described by sources as "a rather hesitant 'no' answer" to an inquiry by The Star about the projected participation.

The Star was told that a "maybe" would be the correct answer to the question, but the country's participation was not ruled out.

Last night Foreign Minister Pik Botha told The Star that the question of participation had not been considered at all.

The peacekeeping force is spearheaded by the United States. Among countries taking part, in keeping with a Security Council resolution adopted after the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, are Britain, France, Egypt, Italy, Canada and Australia.

● Red tape ties up hostages — Page 4.



The SAAF's famed Cheetah . . . may see action in the Gulf.

Poor response to UN quiz on SA oil embargo

Star 3/9/90 (336)

The Star's Foreign News Service

NEW YORK — Only 65 states have responded formally to a United Nations request for information about the observance of the embargo on the sale of oil and petroleum products to South Africa.

Some responses were only cursory replies, a UN monitoring panel was told recently.

There were substantially fewer than the total number of responses to the embargo ordered against Iraq.

The inter-governmental monitoring group was meeting to consider a draft model law for adoption by states wishing to impose sanctions on oil shipments to South Africa, which were recommended by the General Assembly.

To become binding in international law, the embargo would have to be imposed by the Security Council under the enforcement provisions of chapter 7 of the UN Charter, which was invoked against the then Rhodesia in 1966 and most recently against Iraq.

Hearing evidence from legal authorities, the group learnt that at least one-third of the respondents had acknowledged that they had taken no action and had no intention of acting to enforce an oil embargo against South Africa.

Another one-third said no specific measures had been enacted to stop oil shipments because those states had general sanctions provisions. This was considered an inadequate response.

Those countries that did respond made virtually no mention of any penalties for violations of sanctions statutes, the committee was told.

Several participants in the discussion expressed concern that multinational corporations found ways around the embargo even when their headquarters countries supported it.

The case of Rhodesia was cited, when British companies contravened a Security Council order that the British government initiated after Ian Smith declared unilateral independence.

UN 'aid' for black sports considered

Star 6/9/90 (336)

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The wall of sports sanctions against South Africa could soon have a few bricks removed — to assist the development of black sport.

This would be the first relaxation of the United Nations boycott and could open the way for coaches and administrators to visit South Africa.

Large amounts of money could also be poured into "under-privileged" sports bodies.

Tomorrow, the 4th International Conference Against Apartheid in Sport in London is expected to adopt a declaration embracing this move.

Yesterday Mluleki George, president of the National Olympic and Sports Congress of South Africa, said he felt it was important to start developing sports which had suffered under apartheid.

Settlement

Sotirios Mousouris of the United Nations Centre Against Apartheid told the conference that the UN would be prepared, in consultation with non-racial sports organisations, to allow coaches and trainers to go to South Africa to assist underprivileged sport.

Mr Sam Ramsamy, executive chairman of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, said experience from Zimbabwe and Namibia had shown that once a political settlement was reached, the international community stopped funding. It was essential to aid underprivileged sportsmen now.

Mr Emmanuel Gasana of the Organisation of African Unity said any move to ease the boycott should be done cautiously, and not be a signal that the international community is moving back into South Africa.

Some African delegates felt that South Africa should not be treated as a separate case, but should be given a proportion of those funds allocated to southern Africa.

Bring Inkatha, ANC together - Pik urges UN

336

So meteen 13/9/90

FOREIGN Affairs Minister Pik Botha has suggested to the UN that the international community appeal to ANC leader Nelson Mandela and KwaZulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi to join forces to end the bloodshed in South Africa.

In a letter handed to secretary general Javier Perez de Cuellar on Tuesday, Botha said his government had been pressing for such meeting, because ending the violence between the ANC and Inkatha had become a major Government priority.

"Mandela claims that the ANC will not allow him to participate in such a meeting," said Botha.

He added, "I have appealed to governments through local diplomatic representatives to use their influence to bring about such a meeting but I believe it would be useful if the international community could issue a public appeal to the two leaders to join forces in putting an end to the bloodshed."

The letter was handed to De Cuellar in response to a UN debate on a UN document titled "Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in South Africa".

Botha also objected to the UN's intervention in South Africa's internal affairs, saying it was the sole right of South Africa's leaders and people to negotiate a new constitution for the country.

He warned the hardships flowing from a continuation of sanctions would cause "an explosive situation which will have serious consequences for the negotiation process and for the Southern African region, if not for Africa as a whole".

Botha said attempts by any one political party or alliance or parties to become, through intimidation and threats of violence, the sole and dominant political force in South Africa would be met by reaction including violence reaction.

Discussing allegations of police bias, Botha said: "There are no angels in the South African Police, just as there are no angels in any of the political parties of this country."

He told De Cuellar that Constitutional Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen had stated the South African Government was prepared to consider an interim arrangement which would allow organisations such as the ANC and other parties an opportunity to influence decisions in Parliament while negotiations were underway.

Viljoen had said the Government would be prepared to negotiate the creation of "informal channels" to allow extra-parliamentary groups to influence decision-making in the executive and in Parliament.

"This does not amount to an interim government.

Botha said the removal of the Group Areas Act and the Land Act would be addressed during the next session of Parliament. - *Sapa*

Pik calls for UN intervention in quest for peace

MIKE ROBERTSON

FOREIGN Minister Pik Botha, in a letter to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, has called on the international community to issue a public appeal to ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi to join forces in ending bloodshed in SA.

The letter was handed to Perez by SA's permanent UN representative Jeremy Shearer.

A Foreign Affairs spokesman said Botha had written the letter to bring Perez up to date with developments in SA. The General Assembly yesterday discussed the report of the recent UN fact-finding mission to SA.

Both said in the letter that strenuous efforts were being made to control the wave of violence on the Witwatersrand. While there were no angels in the SAP, it was unfair to blame police for the violence.

SA needed more tolerance of differing view points and a willingness on the part of all acknowledged leaders to participate in a reconciliation process.

"Attempts by any one political party or alliance of parties to become, through intimidation and threats of violence, the sole and dominant political force in SA will be met by reaction, including violent reaction," he said.

Ending violence between the ANC and Inkatha was a major government priority.

This included pressing for a meeting between Mandela and Buthelezi. However, Mandela had claimed the ANC would not allow him to participate in such a meeting.

There were now suggestions of a meeting at a lower level between the two groups.

"This is a positive development but we continue to believe that a meeting at the level of Mandela and Buthelezi is essential if we are to succeed in curbing violence," he said.

Final

Botha added: "I believe it would be useful if the international community could issue a public appeal to the two leaders to join forces in putting an end to bloodshed."

The Foreign Minister said the international community should recognise that government's commitment to removing the last pillars of apartheid was final and irreversible.

The political dye in SA had been cast and there was no turning back.

Botha concluded his letter by saying that the debate offered the General Assembly an historic opportunity to recognise that changes had taken place in SA and to reaffirm that it was for South Africans alone to determine their future.

Any attempt to interfere would be counter-productive and would risk upsetting serious efforts being made to get negotiations under way.

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TH BULBRING

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nidentified caller to Radio 702 for the blast.

he was speaking on behalf of Piet "Skiet" Rudolph, and warned explosions in future, a Radio 702

(336) Star 07/4/90

Threat to progress, UN warns

Special Correspondent

UNITED NATIONS — UN Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar warned today that if the wave of violence in South Africa continued it could critically impair the process towards political change.

He repeated an earlier appeal that violence "not least in Natal, needs to be addressed urgently and at the highest level".

He also expressed special concern about allegations made against the South African security forces, whose effective discharge of their responsibilities, he said, required that they carry with them public trust and confidence.

The Secretary-General was addressing the General Assembly on the opening day of a scheduled three-day debate on steps taken to dismantle apartheid.

He said the Pretoria Declaration by President FW de Klerk and Nelson Mandela reflected determination and clarity of vision particularly as it was concluded at a time of great turmoil.

UN chief speaks on SA violence

336

Sowetan 14/9/90

NEW YORK – The UN Secretary-General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, warned yesterday that if the wave of violence in South Africa continued it could critically impair the process towards political change.

He repeated an appeal made in an earlier report on the situation in the Republic that violence, "not least in Natal, needs to be addressed urgently and at the highest level."

He also expressed special concern about allegations made against the South African security forces, whose effective discharge of their responsibilities, he said, required that they carry with them public trust and confidence.

The Secretary-General, who was addressing the UN General Assembly on the opening day of a scheduled three-day debate on steps taken to dismantle apartheid, seemed hardly less optimistic about the ultimate prospects for the Republic than he was in his July 1 written report to the world body.

African members harshly criticised his findings then, calling them distorted and one-sided. The report was based largely on information gathered by a UN

FOCUS

SOWETAN Correspondent

team led by Under-Secretary General Abdulrahim Abby Farah which toured South Africa.

Explaining the document yesterday, Perez de Cuellar said it was his own intention and that of the Farah mission to be factually objective and to reflect as wide a range of views as possible.

His African critics said that there was insufficient input from anti-apartheid activists, but the Secretary-General insisted that the mission members met "virtually all political organisations and movements."

Process

He said he had made the point that a process had started towards the dismantling of apartheid through negotiations, "although it was still at an early stage".

Almost two months after the release of his report, all of the measures called for by the UN had not been implemented but some further steps had been taken in that direction, he said.

"What I stressed at the time remains valid today," he said, "that continuing resistance to change on the part of the entrenched apartheid structures of the system, as well as existing security legislation, continue to inhibit free political activity."

Referring to the Joint Declaration of Pretoria issued on August 6 by President FW de Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela, he said this reflected determination and clarity of vision, particularly as it was concluded at a time of great national turmoil.

Anguish

The Government and the ANC did not allow the rising tide of violence to sway them from their course, he said.

"In this regard," he continued, "I am sure that the Assembly shares my profound sense of anguish and deep concern at the continually spiralling cycle of violence in South Africa. Indeed, it can tear the fragile fabric of understanding that has begun to be woven."

While not intending to apportion blame or responsibility, he said, the maintenance of law and order was a primary duty of the Government, but it was incumbent upon all parties concerned to contribute to the creation of an atmosphere where negotiations could take place unhindered by fear.

He urged the Government to consider lifting emergency regulations recently imposed in the Transvaal, as well as those applied in Natal.

"It is also my hope that there will be an early repeal of the basic legislative structures of apartheid, two of which the Government announced it is planning to repeal early next year," he said.

The Secretary-General again praised De Klerk and Mandela, saying the political process had been enhanced by the President's commitment to dismantle apartheid and by the constructive initiatives of the ANC and its deputy president's statesmanship.

Measurement

"I believe confidence-building measures at all levels can reduce violence and allow unimpeded progress towards a united, non-racial society," he said.

"To that objective I am sure the overwhelming majority of South Africans and the international community stand committed."

Soviets welcome positive change in South Africa

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — The Soviet Union has welcomed what it termed the positive changes in South Africa but stressed that it was still too early to relax international pressure.

In an address to the United Nations General Assembly that was remarkably free of the rhetoric of the cold war period, the Soviet delegate Dimitry Bykov today acknowledged that dismantling apartheid was unlikely to be quick or easy.

"A great number of obstacles have to be overcome," he said. "Both sides must show political restraint and realism and the capacity to make sensible compromises."

In the past, Soviet delegates, like many African members, have referred to the South African government as "the white racist minority regime", but this time Mr Bykov employed no such pejorative language.

In other remarks on the second day of the scheduled three-day UN debate on South Africa, Egypt paid tribute to President F W de Klerk's courage and New Zealand said sanctions must remain in place and, if necessary, be strengthened.

Canada's delegate, Walter MacLean, said the time might not be far off when sanctions could be lifted.

Australia's Peter Wilenski said only when the actions of the South African Government led to clear and irreversible change could the international community contemplate a revision of its own approach.

There was again a large number of empty seats in the vast hall, reflecting a diminished UN interest in South Africa in the face of the Gulf crisis.

EC leads UN fight to give credit to SA

336

SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON — The EC, largely unsupported by the US, was leading the fight yesterday for a UN General Assembly resolution that would "welcome" steps taken by Pretoria and leave open the door for the easing of sanctions.

This followed a statement on the EC's behalf by Italian representative Vieri Traxler that "rapid and important developments" in SA "clearly indicate that the end of apartheid is in sight".

In negotiations that lasted until 1.30am yesterday, the EC held firm against a draft prepared by the ANC's African supporters effectively stating that little had changed since last December's UN declaration and attempting to bind members states even more strongly to the maintenance of "existing sanctions".

Among the EC's demands was the substitution of the word "pressures" for "sanctions" and removal of a clause declaring that "a climate conducive to negotiations and an atmosphere of free political discussion have yet to be created".

It also called for the dropping of the term "regime" to describe the SA government. Blom 14/9/90

The US draft showed that, despite President F W de Klerk's forthcoming Washington visit, the US was not prepared to back the Europeans on most of these positions, including abandoning the word "regime".

It proposed declaring that "continued efforts are needed to produce a climate conducive to negotiations". This is significant, because the absence of such a climate is a major roadblock to the lifting of sanctions.

Negotiations were continuing last night in the hope of producing a document that could be adopted by consensus today.

Americans sit in the stands as the EC goes in to bat for SA

SIMON BARBER in Washington

THE UN General Assembly reached agreement last Friday on yet another resolution on SA. It was due to be adopted by consensus yesterday. The public debate which preceded it was, with certain exceptions, pretty fatuous. Rather more interesting were the behind-the-scenes negotiations in which it was crafted.

With carnage mounting on the Reef, battles over the precise wording and punctuation of a UN product may seem pathetically irrelevant. To a large extent, they are. They do, however, offer SA some small insight on who can be trusted to be helpful, and who cannot.

The EC behaved splendidly. The African bloc was dismally predictable. By letting the Africans act in this way, the ANC cast serious doubt on its own consistency and reliability. The US performance, on the eve of President F W de Klerk's visit, can only be described as abject.

The formal purpose of the debate was twofold: first, to acknowledge the report Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar submitted to the General Assembly last July in accordance with December's Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa; then to decide the extent to which Pretoria had complied with the declaration's various demands.

The secretary-general's report, based on interviews with a refreshingly broad array of SA opinion, was a model of even-handness. It concluded that developments since February 2 "hold the promise of profound and beneficial change". Perez personally hailed De Klerk's "bold and courageous leadership".

This undercut the ANC's insistence that it alone is responsible for anything worthwhile that happens in SA. Accordingly, the OAU's ad hoc monitoring group on southern Africa felt obliged to set the record straight with a counter-report based largely on submissions from the ANC and its related organs.

One of the African bloc's objectives last week was to have its report accorded equal status with the secretary-general's in the final resolution.

A comparison of the various drafts put forward in the back-room negotiating sessions shows the Americans were prepared to accept this. The Europeans were not. They wanted any reference to the OAU report deleted and the secretary-general's effort "welcomed" rather than merely "noted". Unbacked by the US, the EC was forced to concede. The OAU got its specious text "noted". As for the real thing, it was granted "careful note" instead of a "welcome".

De Klerk will no doubt be thrilled to know that his hosts next week still regard him as the head of a "regime" rather than of a government. The Europeans went to bat to strike the tiresome "r" word from the resolution. Once again, the Americans declined to support them, even though the secretary-general used "government" throughout his report. A small matter, perhaps, but indicative of a craven habit of mind. "Regime", needless to say, stuck.

While the original African draft was clearly unpalatable to both the US and the EC, and only slightly less to the Commonwealth's Canada and Australia, there appeared to be no issue on which US was prepared to stand up and be counted. By and large, the Americans sought minor changes that the Africans were likely to accept, thus putting the onus on the EC in the event consensus could not be reached. The Europeans opted for serious editing and were genuinely stunned by the wetness of the US.

Paragraph seven of the Africans' draft preamble was as follows: "Noting that while a number of measures in the right direction have been undertaken by the SA regime, such as the unbanning of the ANC, PAC and other political organisations and the release of some political prisoners, including Nelson Mandela, a climate conducive to negotiations and an atmosphere of free political discussion have yet to be created...."

Boldly, the US suggested: "Noting that while significant measures in the right direction have been undertaken by the SA regime such as the unbanning of the ANC etc., continued efforts are needed to nurture a climate conducive to negotiations and to contribute to free political discussion...."

Even the Canadians proposed a fuller rewrite. They wished to note "that a number of significant measures towards a climate conducive to negotiations have been undertaken by the SA regime...."

The EC wanted to throw out the entire paragraph, replacing it with: "Welcoming the significant changes that have taken place in SA since the adoption of the declaration, such as the release of Nelson Mandela and of other political prisoners, the unbanning of political organisations, the substantial lifting of the state of emergency and the commitment by the government to abolish the apartheid system and to create a democratic nonracial SA...."

In the end, the US version prevailed, except that now only "*some* significant measures" were to be noted. The EC was given a clause including in these measures the "regime's declared commitment to abolish the apartheid system". A pabular concession, thanks to the insertion of the word "declared".

It was on the question of the Pretoria Minute that Washington's appeasing tendencies were at their most naked. The Africans, for whom read the ANC, were clearly unwilling to acknowledge the minute's existence since it would clearly undermine their contention that the "regime" would still be its old recalcitrant self but for the statesmanship and magnanimity of the ANC. Their plan was merely to "further note" the "ongoing talks between the ANC and the SA regime, aimed at eliminating obstacles to a negotiated settlement in SA".

The EC dismissed this out of hand. In its view, it was essential that the resolution not only refer to the minute but contain language from its key final paragraph. It therefore proposed "further welcoming the ongoing talks between the ANC and the SA government, and the results achieved, whereby the parties agreed that the way is now open to proceed towards negotiations on a new constitution, which represent a further significant step along the road to reconciliation in the country and to the establishment of a united, nonracial and democratic SA".

Contrast this with the American offering: "Further noting the successful conclusion of talks between the ANC and the SA regime, aimed at eliminating obstacles to beginning negotiation towards a peaceful settlement in SA...." Where the Europeans sought specifically to bind the ANC to what it had agreed to in the minute, the US preferred merely to acknowledge that the talks leading to the minute had been "successful". There is a difference.

Unfortunately, while the final resolution does mention the Pretoria Minute by name, it avoids affirming, and thus holding the parties to, its contents. This is a significant lapse given that the ANC representative at last week's session, one Anthony Mongalo, contended that to read the minute's last paragraph as meaning that the "way is now open to proceed towards negotiations on a new constitution" — which is what it actually says — was to take the agreement "out of context".

On Friday, the Americans put it about that they intended to make up for their flaccidity in a statement to be delivered by their representative yesterday. Like the EC, the US was to accompany its vote for the resolution with an "explanation".

Surely it would have been better to seek a resolution than needed no explaining or, failing that, simply to admit that consensus was impossible, let the Africans have their way and then either abstain or vote against. Had the US been willing to join them, that was certainly the European inclination.

De Klerk may like to ask President George Bush why it was not America's also. He will likely be told, as were the Europeans, of a breakdown in communication between the State Department and its UN mission. It's a nice story, but hardly the basis for renewed trust.

US hails changes, hints at modifying measures

NEW YORK - The United States, hailing "dramatic progress" towards change in South Africa, hinted yesterday that UN members might consider modifying measures against the republic as political developments warranted.

After the UN General Assembly approved by consensus a resolution calling on governments to maintain anti-apartheid measures pending "profound and irreversible changes," the American delegate Mr Jonathan Moore said it was important to encourage internal negotiations.

"South African political leaders on all sides deserve to have an unambiguous signal of international support for the noble effort they are beginning," he said as the General Assembly completed action on the apartheid question at its 44th session.



SOWETAN Correspondent

The issue will be revived during the new session which opened yesterday.

The resolution adopted on Monday called for continuing existing measures - which include sanctions - and Moore interpreted this as a plus.

He said, "It is a sign of global recognition of the dramatic progress being made in South Africa that international resolutions no longer speak explicitly of economic sanctions, much less call for heightened pressure..."

Responding to the resolution, South Africa's Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha said in a statement circulated by the UN mission, "To those who still persist in refusing to admit the evidence of 'profound and irreversible changes' I invite them them to describe how the Government can reverse the actions it has already taken and those to which it is irrevocably committed."

At the same time, Botha expressed appreciation that the international community as a whole publicly recognised the changes being implemented by Pretoria.

UN diplomats said it was the mildest reaction they could remember by the outspoken minister.

(12)

le for a sophisticated planning tool

ccess in the U.S.

ing to PIMS

As to the international applicability of the system, Dr. Neubauer reports that there has already been considerable experience with the European subsidiaries of U.S. corporations. For the UK in particular, he says that tests conducted at Manchester have proved the validity of the U.S. findings. Continental tests are being mounted as membership grows from this part of Europe.

Gordon Mandry, lecturer in marketing at Manchester, admits that while many of the PIMS variables are related to market share factors, many European companies will be just as interested in factors such as exchange rates and job security legislation. But he stresses that the PIMS team is always looking for additional determinants of profitability.

The PIMS system works basically as follows. Every year member companies submit up-to-date information on about 100 items relating to their business, describing the changing characteristics of the market environment, the state of competition, the strategy pursued by the business, and the operating results obtained.

The forms on which the data is submitted are designed to break it into simple elements which can readily be assembled from financial or marketing records, or can be estimated by someone familiar with the specific business.

This approach enables companies with uniform, well-established accounting systems to take only about two man-days to complete the data forms, the PIMS staff claim.

The information is then added to the database, which PIMS researchers analyse to determine what strategy, and under which conditions, produces which results. PIMS staff claim that the 30 distinct factors which have been identified together account for over three-quarters of the observed variation in profitability.

Member companies receive three kinds of feedback, as well as access to the database to conduct their own research:

- Reports on the general principles of business strategy as disclosed by analysis of the data base.
- Specific reports on each business the company has contributed to the data base.
- The computer models in which the general strategic principles are incorporated.

For most companies, it is the second category of report which is of most importance. Here again, there are several different types, including assessments of various possible strategic moves.

The cost of PIMS membership varies according to the size of the parent company's sales, though regardless of the number of businesses each company decides to include. Charges are composed of a once-only "entry fee," plus an annual membership charge.

For companies with sales of over $100m, the Continental fees consist of SwFr 10,000 "entry," with annual fees of SwFr 35,000. For businesses of between $20m and $100m sales, the cost is SwFr 5,000 and SwFr 29,000 respectively, and for under $20m, the cost is SwFr 3,000 and SwFr 21,000 respectively.

The UK fees are slightly different, in line with U.S. charges: over $100m sales, $4,300 and $18,300 p.a.; between $20m and $100m sales, $2,700 and $15,000 p.a.; and for less than $20m sales, $1,600 and $10,700 p.a. Subsidiaries or associates of existing members can take associate membership for half the appropriate fee.

THE PIMS KEY VARIABLES

- Investment intensity
- Productivity
- Market position
- Growth of the served market
- Product/service quality
- Innovation / differentation from competitors
- Vertical integration

Dr. Friedrich Neubauer and Mr. Gordon Mandry, Strategic Planning Center, Centre d'Etudes Industrielles, 4 chemin des Conches, 1231 Conches-Geneva, Switzerland. Tel. (022) 471133. Telex 27452.

** Previous articles in this series appeared on June 27 and 29, and July 3.*

Suppress violence, UN urges SA

(336)

Sowetan 19/9/90

NEW YORK - The 44th General Assembly closed its final meeting on Monday with a unanimous appeal to South African authorities to suppress the violence that has killed nearly 800 blacks in the last six weeks.

The General Assembly "calls for an immediate end to violence and urges the South African authorities to take urgent action to end it, specifically by dismantling the apartheid structures as well as ensuring effective and impartial action by the security forces," said the resolution, adopted by acclamation.

The assembly "calls on all parties concerned to contribute to the establishment of a climate free of violence," the resolution said.

ANC leader Nelson Mandela said last week after meeting with President FW de Klerk that the Government thinks there is a "hidden hand" behind the clashes in black townships.

The ANC has accused the white security authorities of arming the conservative Zulu movement Inkatha, which has been battling pro-ANC youths in the black townships.

De Klerk has promised to announce a comprehensive programme in the next few days that would halt the clashes, which some people believe are being provoked by black provocateurs recruited by white extremists.

The assembly noted South Africa's progress in the last year, such as the freeing of political prisoners including Mandela, and lifting the ban on the ANC and other organisations, but said more efforts are needed toward racial harmony.

South Africa's voting rights in the 159-member General Assembly have been suspended since 1974 for its refusal to end apartheid.

SA 'STANDBY' CALL TO UN

(336) By BILL KRIGE

TRANSKEI'S military leader, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, has suggested that the United Nations be on "standby" in case political negotiations flounder in South Africa.

Addressing public servants in Umtata, he said liberation movements should have contingency plans for international intervention.

Organisations such as the UN "must be on standby in case negotiations flounder on the rock of the lack of genuineness on the part of the white oligarchy," he said.

President F W de Klerk had to do something "extraordinarily positive" to balance rising black expectations, otherwise SA would continue to drift towards anarchy.

He claimed that, as a result of Transkei's insistence on holding a referendum on rejoining SA, his government sensed that Pretoria had "embarked on a strategy of imposing undeclared sanctions on Transkei".

Sitn Times 23/7/90

Slabbert pleads for an SA Untag

Star 26/9/90 (336)

How can one expect past agents of violence to become non-partisan peacekeepers? Idasa executive director Dr Van Zyl Slabbert (right) proposes a domestic equivalent of Untag.

Idasa executive director Dr Van Zyl Slabbert has made an urgent plea for a South African equivalent of Untag, the United Nations Transition Assistance Group, to maintain law and order while political organisations negotiate a new constitution.

In an interview in Johannesburg, he said none of the country's existing "agents of violence" — including the SA Defence Force, the SA Police and the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe — had the legitimacy to maintain stability during the difficult process that lay ahead.

Stability

The current crisis of violence had the very real potential of derailing the peace process.

"You cannot negotiate effectively — you cannot even try to normalise the situation — if you don't seriously address the problem of stability.

"One cannot just ignore the past. You can't pretend that you're negotiating in an entirely fresh situation. You have a history which comes into this process of negotiation."

The process itself, Dr Slabbert said, was an attempt to negotiate away white minority domination and find an acceptable constitutional alternative.

"In these circumstances, who is going to maintain stability while the parties negotiate?"

"We haven't got an Untag that can say to the different sectors: 'We will provide the stability. You sort out the politics'," he said.

"In the South African context you have to develop a domestic equivalent of Untag because we certainly haven't got international agents that can provide us with that."

The overriding question now, however, was "how do you develop a domestic equivalent of Untag in a situation where we've come out of polarised confrontation between the different groups that are opposing each other?

"What, of course, has happened, was that at the end of the 1980s we'd reached a state of deadlock — the country was coming to a standstill and we couldn't move," he said.

"Now, with this movement to a negotiated transition, you suddenly have a situation where the regime or the Government has opened up political space and said to people that they want to negotiate.

"But you can't just ignore the past," Dr Slabbert stressed.

"I draw a very clear distinction between what I call constitutional and unconstitutional agents of violence.

"Constitutional agents of violence in any country will be the defence force, the police force. They're constitutionally legalised to be instruments of violence. In the South African sense we have a crisis of constitutional legitimacy. And that crisis relates also to the agents of violence — the SADF and SAP."

But they were faced with the impossible task of coming from a past that had been polarised politically, and now had to present themselves as non-partisan agents of violence. It was precisely that dilemma which had to be resolved.

"In exactly the same way you can't say that MK, vigilantes, "witdoeke", Apla (the PAC military wing) have no past. They also bring their past into this process of change. They



are unconstitutional agents of violence — they haven't got the legality of the system."

The biggest dilemma facing South Africa in the immediate future was how to marginalise what Dr Slabbert called "rogue violence" and reach a new situation of stability where all parties readily accepted that those who were responsible for stability could maintain law and order.

While the ANC had accused elements within the SAP and SADF of destabilising the peace process, senior members of the Government — last week it was Minister of Constitutional Development Dr Gerrit Viljoen and Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok — maintained there were elements in the ANC intent on destabilisation.

"Against the already very volatile situation, these different agents of violence — whether constitutional or unconstitutional — do not trust one another, and that aggravates the situation."

What was immediately necessary was for the different parties to first agree on how they were to create a situation of non-partisan stability.

"In other words, how do you sort out those people who are responsible for maintaining law and order?" Dr Slabbert said.

"It doesn't help to blame one another. It doesn't help to blame one another. It doesn't help to question one another's motives or intentions, because the more you do that, the more you simply highlight the inability to agree on what kind of stability there must be.

"And if you can't agree on that, then it's just self-delusion to think you can seriously begin to discuss how to develop a new constitution or a new civil service, or how to negotiate anything in the economy, or housing, or education.

"If the major players avoid coming to terms with this crisis, it has the potential for derailing the discussions.

"Let me put it to you quite bluntly: Last year this time a young constable in the SAP could more or less be quite sure of promotion if he killed (MK chief of staff) Chris Hani on sight. Now it is expected of him to protect Hani when he comes for talks at the Pretoria Union Buildings or Tuynhuis in Cape Town.

Suspicion

"Last year this time a young cadre within the ANC's resistance movement (MK) would be expected to kill agents of the SAP and the SADF. It was deliberate policy.

"Now it's expected of him to calm down and wait for people to negotiate transition.

"So, you have a history of suspicion. You have a history of mistrust. You have a history of deliberate hostile action towards one another. You can't pretend that that has suddenly evaporated, because you've suddenly discovered the word 'negotiation'," he said.

The problem had to be addressed immediately: "You have to say: Let us first talk about the fact that we've had these hostile attitudes to one another. Let us agree how to solve that, and then move ahead." — Sapa.

Scorn for peace force

336

Sowetan 27/9/90

Sowetan Correspondent

THE Government has poured scorn on suggestions that a United Nations-style peacekeeping force should be sent to South Africa to quell the violence.

Constitutional Development Minister Gerrit Viljoen was reacting in an interview to a proposal by Idasa co-director Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert that only a neutral force - like the Untag unit which kept the peace during the transition to Namibian independence - could guarantee stability in South Africa during negotiations.

Viljoen said the idea of an Untag-style peacekeeping force here was "ridiculous".

"We are a sovereign state and therefore we can't accept the idea of a constituent assembly.

Peacekeeping

"And for the same reason we can't have an interim government or a military peacekeeping force."

Asked about the merits of an independent domestic peacekeeping force, Viljoen said that at the Groote Schuur and Pretoria talks the Government had indicated that it was in favour of communication channels "to enable the Government and other elements to work together to allay violence."

Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok had appointed 96 police officers to fulfil this task, but the ANC had appointed fewer than 30 people from its side to match them.

"This dragging of feet - or perhaps it was an organisational fault - led to the under-utilisation of these channels," he added.

Sorry, UN, our laager mentality is still at work

South Africans on both sides of the negotiating table are reluctant to accept help from the United Nations with the repatriation of exiles. **MARK GEVISSER** *reports*

IN refugee circles they call Thorvald Stoltenberg "the High Priest". You simply do not move large groups of people from one country to another without his assistance and protection as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

His agency has moved Ethiopians and Estonians; it has protected Cambodians and Chadians. It repatriated Zimbabweans in 1980 and Namibians in 1990.

The way things are going though, he won't be assisting South Africa. Despite the willingness of the UNHCR to supervise the repatriation of South Africa's 100 000 exiles, and despite the advice of countries which have had similar experiences, both the African National Congress and the government are showing a marked reluctance to involve an outside organisation that functions as a supra-state.

Namibian leaders have urged their South African counterparts, in no uncertain terms, to involve the UN. But, says the ANC, the UN was needed in Namibia because the Namibian people were not involved at all in the process. In South Africa, on the other hand, the liberation movement is in direct negotiation with the government: there is no need for a mediator.

The government is still prickly about the role the UN played in easing South Africa out of its only colony. Officials are worried that involving the UN will lose FW de Klerk vital support on his right flank: it will seem too much like he is relinquishing sovereignty over South Africa, just as Botha relinquished sovereignty over Namibia.

There's a major difference between South Africa and Namibia, though. The Swapo returnees came back to vote in an election and assume their rightful positions as self-determining Namibians. The South Africans are coming back to fight in a struggle that has yet to be won. Rather than the result of negotiations, they are part of its process.

Although the UNHCR was involved in bringing exiles back to Namibia, the UN agency that supervised independence was Untag, the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group, and it did just what its name says: assisted in the transition from one system to another.

But the UNHCR is a humanitarian organisation with no political affiliation — it acts independently of the UN General Assembly — and one sole mandate: to look after the world's displaced people. In the South African context, this would mean transporting the exiles here on UN travel documents and guaranteeing their well-being once they arrived. Regardless of who they are or what they believe.

The UNHCR's primary function is that of protection: setting the terms of indemnity and policing indemnity once the exiles return. Both sides are correct in saying that this function is not needed in South Africa: the working group arising from the Pretoria Minute is taking care of it. But already glitches in the arrangement of travel documents are delaying the return of the first 3 000 exiles.

South Africa doesn't have missions in Tanzania and Zambia; the ANC doesn't have money to fly exiles home. The UN, on the other hand, has the mechanism to document exiles in their home countries and the resources to bring them back. It could handle everything, from background and medical checks to plane tickets.

But a UN source sympathetic to South Africa says that "the UNHCR's involvement with the Southern African liberation movements has reflected more and more the politics of the General Assembly". He says documentation has proved that funds raised by the High Commission were channelled directly to Swapo and the ANC, and the movements were not held accountable for this money, even though it is in the UNHCR's constitution to supervise all projects.

And so the problem, on the government's side, is the perception that the UN is far from impartial. This, after all, is the international body that isolated South Africa in the first place.

At the height of the township violence last month, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha was asked whether he thought a United Nations Peacekeeping Force should come in to quell things. "The government will certainly not allow any foreign forces to undertake operations within the borders of the country," he said. "That is just not on!" One could hear, lurking beneath the surface of his bluster, the government's indignation at calling upon an age-old enemy for any help.

When discussions were happening over whether or not to involve the UNHCR in Namibia, the South Africans were initially sceptical because of the Commission's obvious bias towards Swapo. They stated, at the

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time, that this would create animosity towards the returnees by non-Swapo Namibians. "They eventually realised, though," says the UN source, "that the UN was best placed to contact people and to facilitate travel."

There are many in the government who believe that having an organisation with the UNHCR's experience is so critical that it warrants reconciliation with the UN.

There is also general concern, on both sides, about the UNHCR costs. "The amount of money they would spend here just running their operation," said one church official involved in repatriation, "could be put to much better use actually providing returnees with food and shelter. They bring expertise, for sure, but we already have a lot of that here."

But if the UNHCR burns a lot of cash, it generates much more and, as we know from the calls of poverty emanating from the ANC, it is money, more than anything, that is needed: the World Council of Churches has estimated that R3 500 will be needed to resettle each returning exile; the ANC says R5 000.

The UN's resources — both financial and technical — are needed not only because of the magnitude of this operation, but because of its complexity. "We've got a hundred thousand people scattered all over the globe, and they're coming back not in one batch but staggered over time, perhaps over years. There's been nothing like it. You need an organisation with the manpower and the experience of UNHCR," said one seasoned expert in the "migration assistance" business.

There's something of that age-old laager mentality at work in South Africa at present: we'll draw our ox-wagons close and keep our problems to ourselves.

It is true that South African control would be relinquished to a large extent if the UNHCR came in: the UNHCR, and not the government or the ANC or some combination thereof, would supervise the process. But given how much other work both sides have to do, perhaps a little delegation of responsibility to highly qualified professionals is in order.

Insecurity in UN 'Cabinet'

336 Star 11/10/90

FREDERICK CLEARY, The Star's Foreign Editor, discusses the thorny issue of which countries should have permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council.

Probably not since Mussolini's day has the world taken much notice of what Italy has had to say about international affairs. But European governments sat up last week when Rome, from its platform as the current six-month holder of the presidency of the European Community, suggested that Britain and France no longer justified their places as two of the five permanent members of the 15-member United Nations Security Council.

Italy believes they should be replaced by the EC and Japan, while the Soviets say Germany should take a sixth seat.

At the end of World War 2, the major victorious Allied powers — the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and Nationalist China — were rightly voted as permanent members of the "inner Cabinet" of the world body, with the right of veto.

Then, realistically, in October 1971 the People's Republic of China, superceded the Republic of China (Taiwan) regime at the UN. The world's most populous nation could not be overlooked.

Rationality won then, so why not now, it will be argued. As Damon Runyon would put it, since 1945 things have changed more than somewhat. Britain and France today are only medium-sized powers in terms of military and economic strength, while Germany and Japan are financial giants, world players second only to the US, and thus are entitled to be at the very heart of UN decisions.

Does it matter which nations comprise the Security Council of an organisation which cynics for years called "the theatre of the absurd"?

Influence

For decades this term was applicable, but the UN today is regaining respectability and influence.

The tide turned when the Untag force was so successful during the Namibian independence transitional period last year, and the Security Council's stature was enhanced even further recently when it reached unanimity in agreeing with President Bush that Iraq could not be allowed to annex Kuwait, and it formally endorsed the move to apply sanctions and send US forces to the Gulf.

Constructive and not destructive debates and proposals are now the vogue in the debating chamber on the bank of New York's East River. Even President Mugabe of Zimbabwe recently found favourable words to say about South Africa's move to a new political dispensation.

But back to the Security Council, one cannot see Mrs Thatcher or President Mitterrand tamely forfeiting their places. Indeed, they will no doubt resist most forcibly when the matter is debated at the EC leaders' meeting in December.

They will almost certainly slap Rome down with the argument that financial power is not everything, and that their vast political and diplomatic experience and respective roles in recent history fully justify their continued permanent presence at the inner council, rather than being downgraded alongside such less influential powers as say Brazil and Iceland.

However, the case for "promoting" Japan and Germany at least is too strong to brush aside. Both Bonn and Tokyo have been severely, and rightly, criticised for their pusillanimous financial support for the Gulf operation. As permanent members, they may take their international responsibilities more seriously, especially as their economic might is already an increasingly important factor in world affairs.

As the world's most powerful economic bloc, and again, as the cradle of modern civilisation, Europe is fully entitled to strong and lasting representation on the Security Council. If a realignment of permanent seats is agreed to, Britain, France and Germany might be induced to share on a roster basis the two seats Europe currently has, with Japan alternating with China as the main Asian power.

However, an obviously more simple solution would be to enlarge the Security Council permanent seat membership to seven, to include Germany and Japan.

Mazwai for UN seminar

Sowetan 16/10/90

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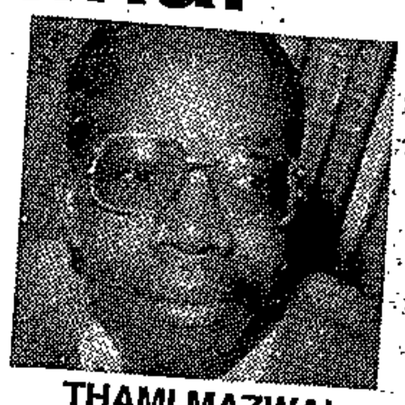
SOWETAN senior assistant editor Mr Thami Mazwai leaves tonight for a special hearing of the United Nations in Geneva where he will be one of the participants in hearings on progress made towards change in South Africa.

The African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress will be sending full delegations.

Mazwai is one of three participants whose contribution to the debate will not be linked to any political organisation.



THAMI MAZWAI

This is the second time Mazwai will address a UN-sponsored hearing. His first appearance before the world body was in 1985 at its UN headquarters in New York.

UN relief for Angolan war, famine regions

336

B Daily 19/10/90

LUANDA — UN relief aid would start rolling on November 1 into four of Angola's nine provinces suffering from war and famine, a top UN official said.

The relief will reach — for the first time — areas under Unita control.

UN under-secretary Gen Abdulrahim Farah told a news conference on Wednesday that 25 000 tonnes of food were already available for distribution at a rate of 8 000-10 000 tons a month, with a target of 16 000 tons a month.

"This is not an easy operation. Some of the routes are reported to be heavily mined, key bridges have been destroyed, and both the primary and secondary road networks are in poor condition," Farah said.

He said the government would help clear roads and he hoped Unita would do the same in areas it controlled.

UN experts would also precede the aid convoys to make sure roads are safe.

Despite the problems, the UN plans to move about 118 000 tons of humanitarian supplies over six months at a cost of between $70m and $80m.

The world body estimates 1,9-million people have been affected by war or drought-induced famine in nine provinces in the centre and south of Angola.

Farah said UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was satisfied with arrangements for the relief.

The government and Unita are due to hold a fifth round of direct peace talks at the end of this month.

Farah said the Angolan government had the right to inspect relief cargoes entering the country from Zambia and Namibia.

He said about $22m had been earmarked for non-food essentials such as medicines, seeds and clothing.

Perez de Cuellar will launch a new international appeal for aid at the end of this month or in early November, he said.

The previous appeal had received a disappointing response, Farah said, but it was hoped donor governments would be encouraged by the fact that the United Nations was taking responsibility for logistics, transport and need assessment. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN body could help return 20 000 exiles

(336) (458)

TIM COHEN

THE UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) is conditionally prepared to repatriate SA's 20 000 political exiles — and its price tag is substantially less than the ANC's R270m. B\Day 23\10\90

UNHCR spokesman Raymond Hall said yesterday the organisation had held talks with the ANC and overnment and could well be involved in the repatriation of exiles, under the right conditions.

Speaking from Geneva, Hall said the UNHCR was not yet involved in large-scale repatriation because no general amnesty had been granted, institutional discrimination still existed and the organisation did not have a presence in SA.

Figures supplied by ANC treasury department head Vusi Khanyile show that the repatriation of exiles could cost up to R270m, working on a figure of about R13 500 to resettle each person.

The UNHCR said yesterday the expensive repatriation of Namibian refugees had cost the organistion about $600 per person. If the repatriation of SA exiles costs the same, the UNHCR's bill will come to about R30,4m.

One possible reason for the large discrepancy is that the ANC hopes to provide exiles with permanent accommodation, while the UNHCR will provide only tented accomodation as an interim measure if the Namibian model is followed.

Hall said the UNHCR had already been involved in the repatriation of small numbers of refugees with the assistance of the

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Exiles

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International Committee of the Red Cross.

If the UNHCR were to become involved, it would only do so if it could ensure the safety and welfare of the refugees on their return.

The organisation would have to be sure that the safety and welfare of the returned refugees was guaranteed before it became involved, he said.

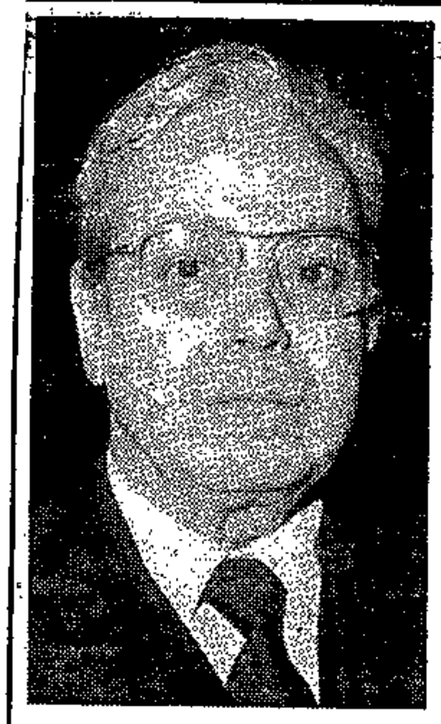
If it did, it would be necessary for the organisation to open an office in SA.

Hall said the repatriation of Namibian refugees was expensive compared with other repatriation efforts because an air bridge had had to be undertaken over southern Angola and because the repatriation had had to happen quickly for the refugees to be able to register as voters in time.

SA exiles could be repatriated by road, which would make the project much cheaper, but monitoring the progress of returned exiles could increase the cost.

Meanwhile the ANC NEC yesterday welcomed the report that progress has been made in resolving the differences between the ANC and government on the return of exiles and said it looked forward to the speedy implementation of the relevant provisions of the Groote Schuur and Pretoria Minutes.

The NEC also received an interim financial report and agreed the organisation was faced with a serious shortage of resources relative to the challenges it faced.



JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLER

Let's visit SA, UN urged

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Sowetan 26/10/90

NEW YORK - The group of African states at the United Nations proposed in a resolution circulated on Wednesday that South Africa receive a special mission to study, among other matters, the protection of minorities.

South Africa's white population is apparently not the primary concern, but such a mission, if it ever got under way, could hardly fail to look into all aspects of the country's society.

The resolution, being debated in the General Assembly's social committee, would instruct UN Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar to request Pretoria to allow a visit by the special rapporteur of the sub-commission on the prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities.

The intention is that the official, Mr Ahmed Khalifa, would update his report to the General Assembly.

However, the sponsors do not appear to believe that such a mission is on the cards or that they would have insulted the South African Government by referring to "the racist and colonialist regime" - for most of the membership an outdated term under the favourable impact of State President FW de Klerk's reforms.

The resolution calls on all governments and organisations to maintain sanctions "until the total dismantlement of the apartheid system has been achieved".

It will probably command a big vote in the 159-nation committee, but is hardly likely to impress Pretoria or those countries now encouraging reform. - *Sowetan Correspondent.*

Britain rejects asylum-seekers

LONDON — Amnesty International said yesterday that Britain has refused entry to asylum-seekers who risk being returned to countries where they could face imprisonment, torture and death.

A report by the London-based human rights group said Britain's refugee-determination system fails to uphold its obligations under the UN Convention on Refugees.

"As many as 100, and possibly many more, persons seeking asylum in the United Kingdom have been summarily and unlawfully expelled without a proper examination of their asylum claim," the 42-page report said without giving a specific number or time frame.

"In addition, a number of asylum seekers have been prevented from gaining access to the United Kingdom's refugee-determination process," it added.

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STOV 8/11/90

(336)

SA reform on track, envoy tells De Cuellar

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — Reforms in the apartheid system continue on track, regardless of recent violence and other problems in South Africa, according to SA's UN Ambassador Jeremy Shearar.

This was his message for the UN Secretary-General, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, at a private meeting requested by Mr Shearar.

Their talk was also understood to have been a preparation for the General Assembly debate on the situation in South Africa, scheduled to begin later this month.

Officials said the meeting with Mr Shearar continued Pretoria's policy of keeping the Secretary-General informed in detail about developments within and around South Africa.

They had a previous talk about three weeks ago.

Nelson Mandela's largely unproductive six-day visit to Japan may also have been touched upon, since the Japanese financial response was in such sharp contrast to the results of the ANC leader's tour of the United States earlier this year, when he also addressed a UN meeting.

The UN General Assembly is scheduled to begin debating the South African situation at plenary meetings towards the end of November.

In the meantime, there has been evidence that President de Klerk's reforms may be beginning to influence the UN membership.

In the General Assembly's social and humanitarian committee last week, no fewer than 53 members dissented, abstained or were absent when a proposal to maintain sanctions was approved.

Apart from Japan, Canada and Sweden, which abstained, all the major industrialised nations opposed the resolution.

Relations with SA set to change

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UN is poised to bring the exiles home

B Day 16/11/90

THE UN High Commission for Refugees is set to be given the job of co-ordinating the return of SA exiles — a development which would transform relations between the world body and SA.

Discussions between the UNHCR and the ANC and government on the former's role in the repatriation programme are far advanced, it was disclosed yesterday.

ANC finance department head Vusi Khanyile told Business Day an announcement on the issue could be expected as soon as "political considerations" had been addressed.

The UNHCR's Raymond Hall said from Geneva there had been an intensive process of contact between the UNHCR and the SA parties — the ANC and the Department of Foreign Affairs — in the past few weeks in Geneva and New York.

"Our participation is contingent on our two normal requirements being fulfilled — acceptable guarantees on the safety of returnees, and assurances we will be permitted to monitor the returnees to ensure these guarantees are being fulfilled," said Hall.

"These requirements are still being discussed," he added.

A Foreign Affairs spokesman confirmed the matter was under discussion, but said she was not in a position to comment further at this stage.

If the commission did set up offices in SA it would mark the UN's first major involvement in the country.

Khanyile said there were valid reasons for the large differential between ANC estimates on the per capita cost of repatriating exiles and the cost to the UNHCR of the exercise in Namibia last year.

ALAN FINE

Khanyile said recently the ANC was working on a figure of R13 500 a person — a total of R270m assuming 20 000 potential returnees — while Hall said the cost of the UNHCR's Namibian operation was $600 a person (R1 500 at today's rate).

Khanyile said the first difference was the distance to be travelled. Most Namibians returned from Angola and Zambia which were closer to Namibia than SA.

Also, many exiles were in more distant African countries, such as Nigeria. Others would have to come from places like India, Cuba and the Soviet Union.

A second major consideration was the extra services that would have to be provided to those returning by their political organisations, Khanyile said.

Namibian exiles were brought home to participate in the election. "A democratic government was on the verge of being born, and it was reasonably expected that government would take care of returnees' welfare and social needs.

"We need a full programme for integrating not only exiles, but also prisoners, into society. We are still nowhere near being able to meet those needs," he said.

Khanyile added the ANC continued to believe strongly that part of the financial burden of these programmes should be borne by government and it planned to discuss this with government.

☐ To Page 2

Exiles

B Day 16/11/90

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☐ From Page 1

"People who left did so because of government policies. Healing the old wounds and starting afresh means assisting these people to reintegrate into SA society," he said.

This included tracing their families, providing them with skills and assisting them with jobs. Those who return could be dependent on aid for six months.

Khanyile said the ANC was sensitive to the fact that there may be resentment in communities over huge resources being earmarked for exiles while many in SA were desperate for jobs.

It was planned, therefore, that where any project, such as a training project, was set up, its facilities would be made available to all members of the community.

It's the first time, says UN

Sowetan 16/11/90 (336)

THE United Nations High Commission for Refugees said yesterday that this was the first time it had heard of refugees being enticed into slavery.

"The UNHCR does not have reports of allegations contained in your inquiry nor of similiar situations in the world where refugees have been enticed to flee their country of origin into slavery, which will be a flagrant violation of international law and basic humanitarian principles," Mr Nicola Bwakira of the UNHCR in Geneva said.

'Global aid' needed for resettlement of exiles

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B Day 19/11/90

ALAN FINE

AN APPEAL to the international community for donations would be the first step taken by the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) if and when it decided to participate in the resettlement of SA exiles, an official said at the weekend.

Spokesman Raymond Hall said the extent of the service the UNHCR would provide would depend on the funds raised and also on the outcome of further negotiations with the SA government and other key groups.

The UNHCR previously confirmed it had had discussions with both government and the ANC. Hall repeated that prerequisites for UNHCR participation in the resettlement process were guarantees on returnees' safety and the organisation's ability to monitor them.

Participation in SA would be categorised as a special programme and this would require international aid. Hall said the type of assistance made available by the UNHCR towards reintegrating exiles into society in such a programme was variable.

It would depend on what requests were received from government and from other interested parties, and what activities were being provided inside the country by either government or others.

Beneficiary

In the case of Namibia, the UNHCR had provided transport to returnees' place of origin, household supplies, an initial food supply, agricultural tools, materials for housing construction, and some infrastructural requirements.

The UNHCR programme was limited because Namibia was the beneficiary of an entire, extended general UN programme.

In Vietnam, where the UNHCR is co-ordinating a major project, assistance extends to, for example, training schemes.

Hall said the timing of any programme following a positive decision would depend on how quickly donors responded to appeals.

The next step would be registering potential returnees, budgeting and "getting people into place".

South newspaper reported last week that most of the first group of ANC exiles ready to return were now based in Tanzania (2 277) and Zambia (1 692). The remainder were in such countries as Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Hungary, Norway, Sweden, the UK, the Soviet Union and New Zealand.

Dallas actress lashes out at UN hypocrisy

S/Times 25/11/90



FIGHTING ... Susan Howard, who was blacklisted for being a supporter of apartheid

DALLAS actress Susan Howard wants a public apology from the the United Nations for branding her a racist.

The star, who played Donna Krebs in the TV series, was blacklisted by the UN after visiting South Africa on a Christian missionary tour in 1985.

Susan has not worked in Hollywood since being cited as a supporter of apartheid.

Last month, she charged UN secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar with grievous assault on her rights.

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Fight

Copies of her letter have gone to President George Bush, the American Screen Actors' Guild, former presidential candidate and evangelist Dr Pat Robertson and a list of US senators and churchmen.

Susan was notified of the blacklisting last year — and so was Hollywood's Actors' Guild.

Recently, when again told of the UN action, she decided to fight for her own rights under the American constitution.

Describing the blacklisting as "reprehensible", Susan demanded an apology to herself, her family and to the acting industry — in which she has not worked for nearly four years.

By DOUGLAS GORDON
TV correspondent

"Yes, I went to South Africa in 1985," she said. "I did not work or receive any funds for being there and I did not entertain."

She said she was invited by Johannesburg's Rhema Church to speak in their churches to people of all races.

Several names on the UN list had been "forgiven and pardoned" after renouncing their visits to South Africa, in writing, she said.

"If it's my faith I am being condemned for, let's get it out into the open."

She asked De Cuellar to let her address the UN. "I would be happy to appear and to offer records of my time spent in South Africa," she said.

Ruthless

She claimed the UN drew up the blacklist without knowing that a Hollywood celebrity had gone to South Africa without pay.

"So they figured, what the devil, let's just convict, condemn and destroy them all," Susan said.

"You are ruthless and without care and without mercy. How you can hold yourselves up as some sort of body that is the voice of truth and honour in our world when you perpetuate the greatest hypocrisy in the world today?

"You owe me and my family a public apology — and I demand it."

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Optimism over UN aid for exiles

SA Council of Churches (SACC) general-secretary Frank Chikane said yesterday he was confident that obstacles to UN involvement in the repatriation of some 40 000 South African exiles would soon be removed.

Chikane was speaking from Geneva, where he met officials of the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) to discuss "possible scenarios for UNHCR involvement".

A UNHCR spokesman agreed yesterday that obstacles to UN participation could be overcome within weeks.

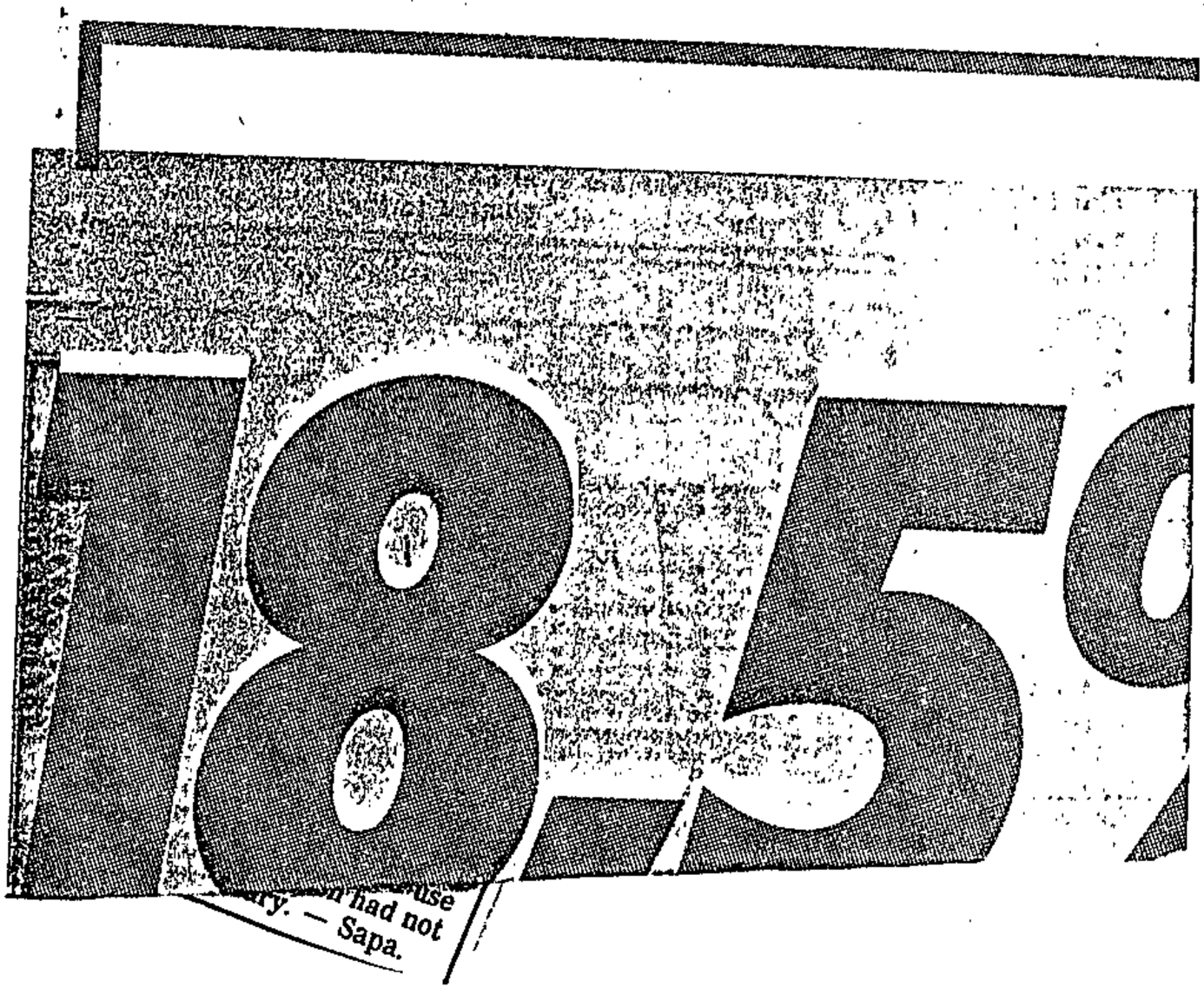
The SA government is expected to decide by December 12 under what circumstances and to what extent the UN would be allowed to operate inside SA.

PETER DELMAR

The UN is insisting that the safety of returning exiles be guaranteed and that it be allowed to fully monitor the repatriation process.

Chikane said yesterday settling the UN's role in the process had become a matter of urgency as foreign donor countries needed to know what work would be done by the UN and what by the multiparty national co-ordinating committee (NCC).

He said what had to be established was the extent of UN involvement. The UN did not want to merely "act as a travel agent", by bringing exiles to the SA border, but hoped to become involved in welfare and other functions.



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Starvation

336

THE United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has called for nearly $22.7 million for emergency relief in Angola, reports SABC's Africa Desk.SOwetan 30/11/90

UNICEF predicts a widespread starvation. - *Sapa*

SA's UN envoy hopeful about apartheid debate

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — South Africa's chief UN delegate, Jeremy Shearar, has had discussions with a top US State Department official about strategy for this week's annual General Assembly debate on the apartheid question, the ambassador said on Friday.

The meeting with Assistant Secretary of State Herman Cohen took place at the US mission to the UN. Mr Cohen accompanied Secretary of State James Baker to New York for the Security Council meeting on the Gulf crisis.

Mr Shearar said they discussed the US approach to resolutions likely to be submitted, which both men hoped might be "less strident" this year than in the past.

"The time has come to start taking note of realities and not to take down last year's resolutions, dust them off, change a few words and then pass them," the ambassador said in an interview.

Lavish

A number of member states, including some African countries, were looking for a shift in emphasis that would take account of the changes under way in South Africa. This was particularly evident from recent statements by European Community members, the Nordic nations and Japan, as well as the US.

"We have seen more calls for a greater realism and we hope this will come out in the Assembly," Mr Shearar said.

Demonstrating the new cordiality in relations between Washington and Pretoria, the chief US delegate, Thomas Pickering, and Mrs Pickering were among the guests who attended a lavish dinner given by the Shearars and the South African mission in the UN restaurant on Thursday evening.

"They stayed late and obviously enjoyed themselves," one of the hosts remarked.

The guests drank South African wine which, because of the voluntary embargo, is not normally available at the UN.

Perez admits UN move on sanctions has fallen flat

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WASHINGTON — A UN call for the tightening of financial sanctions by restricting SA's access to trade credits has fallen flat, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has reported to the General Assembly. B/D 4/12/90

He says the main problem is that none of SA's major trading partners in Europe and the Far East has taken any notice of the resolution the assembly adopted last December calling on member states to reduce maximum trade loan terms to 90 days and to deny official insurance cover to lenders.

From September last year the German export-import bank Hermes had over $3bn in outstanding commitments to SA, the majority of them medium to long term. The figure for Britain's Export Credit Guarantee Department was $2,2bn similarly mixed, for the French Compagnie Francaise d'Assurance Exterieur, $1,4bn.

SIMON BARBER

Countries that did take heed had already "rather low" trade levels with SA.

In the case of the US, which restricts access to its official Export-Import Bank for the purposes of most SA trade, traders have simply looked offshore and sought refuge in "the anonymity of international financial markets".

The structure of the SA economy is such as to make it "relatively impervious" to trade credit restrictions.

Disinvestment has enabled SA corporations to acquire financial institutions with "well-developed correspondent banking connections abroad". Also, many former subsidiaries have retained the access to trade credit facilities they previously enjoyed through their former parents.

Theoretically, Perez reports, trade credit restrictions should force SA exporters to cut prices.

UN split looms on sanctions

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WASHINGTON — As the UN General Assembly debates a follow-up to last December's consensus Declaration on Apartheid, the US, EC and Japan are making it clear they will not support any resolution binding members to the continuation of sanctions, diplomats say.

The major Western powers find the two draft resolutions submitted so far by the African bloc and the UN Special Committee on Apartheid intolerable and say they are ready to break the consensus reached in last year's vote and on a subsequent resolution last September.

The ANC is anxious consensus should survive. Its foreign affairs director, Thabo Mbeki, has hurried to New York where he met African representatives yesterday to discuss ways of breaking the looming deadlock. He is expected to address the Assembly today.

Business Day 5/11/90

SIMON BARBER

Current drafts call for the maintenance of all sanctions, including sports and cultural boycotts, while blaming government for the continuing violence and for blocking the return of exiles.

US officials said that, to be acceptable, a resolution would have to leave it up to individual governments to make their own decisions on the lifting of sanctions.

The sources said the US was bound by President George Bush's own determination that change in SA was now "irreversible" and could not support any wording that contradicted this.

State President F W de Klerk's visit to Washington in September also made it impossible for the administration to accept language that referred to De Klerk's government as a "regime".

Trade, sport barriers first to go

ANC takes a hard look at sanctions

B/Day 6/12/90

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A DRAFT ANC document has proposed gradually reducing sanctions, including a substantial easing of trade and sports barriers, from next year.

The still-secret document, "Managing the process of transition", calls for a thorough re-evaluation of the ANC's sanctions stance. It notes local and international developments have reduced the effectiveness of diplomatic and trade sanctions.

Trade sanctions, it recommends, should be eased and tied to exporters addressing discrimination within their own ranks.

Sport and cultural embargoes on particular codes should be lifted once they have a united, nonracial governing body.

The other outstanding precondition for SA's readmission to international sport would be the repeal of the Group Areas Act, on the cards for next year.

Financial sanctions, including investment by the IMF, should be opposed "on the grounds that the country is still governed by a white, minority regime". Oil and military sanctions should also remain.

Meanwhile, diplomats at the UN yesterday interpreted draft resolutions proposed by the ANC's African supporters in the UN debate on apartheid as attempting to ensure that the ANC appeared to remain in charge of any dismantling of sanctions.

Developments at the UN indicate the ANC accepts that Western nations will soon begin to ease sanctions.

Diplomats believe this underlies the hardline draft resolutions offered by the ANC's African supporters which seek to bind members to maintaining existing measures and endorsing the ANC's official analysis of the situation on the ground.

Briefing Western envoys at the UN on Tuesday, ANC foreign affairs director

PETER DELMAR and SIMON BARBER

Thabo Mbeki is understood to have urged European governments to delay their decision to ease sanctions "for a few months" until political prisoners were free and Pretoria had fulfilled its undertakings to repeal the Group Areas Act and Land Act, and "review" security legislation in the next parliamentary session.

EC heads of governments are currently believed to be ready to start rolling back sanctions when they meet on December 15.

Participants at the meeting with Mbeki construed his remarks to mean that the ANC was softening its conditions for the lifting of sanctions and was now primarily concerned about the timing.

But strong Western opposition to the two draft resolutions thus far offered by the African bloc and the UN Special Committee against Apartheid has not diminished.

The latest version, entitled "International efforts to eradicate apartheid", implicitly criticises countries that have begun to relax sanctions.

It also appears to define the "profound and irreversible changes" which must occur before sanctions can be lifted as "the eradication of apartheid and the establishment of a united nonracial SA".

It specifically calls on all governments, international bodies and financial institutions to maintain sanctions on "trade, investment, technology, oil and petroleum products, finance and transport".

US and other Western diplomats say that while they would like to achieve consensus they will only vote for a resolution reflecting their government's policies.

□ To Page 2

Sanctions

B/Day 6/12/90

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□ From Page 1

A US official said he did not believe consensus was likely, in part because the debate had turned into an internal tug of war between Pretoria and the ANC and "our position is that outsiders should not get involved in a hardball game over post-apartheid policies".

The ANC document argues sanctions could be eased because the "strong adverse reaction to any regression" on government's part would ensure their reimposition.

An exact timetable for the easing of sanctions is not spelt out, but a speedy move in this direction is implicit.

ANC sources said the report had been discussed and endorsed by a large section of the ANC's "top and middle leadership" and it would be debated with a view to adoption at the ANC's national consultative conference which starts next week.

Next week a conference of ANC diplomats from around the world will consider concrete mechanisms and procedures for the lifting of sanctions.

KIN BENTLEY reports from London that Britain's Foreign Office said last night it would be studying reports on the document. Officials would comment today.

Pik labels UN's SA debate 'inappropriate'

Star 6/12/90

Foreign Minister Pik Botha has criticised severely this year's United Nations "Report of the Special Committee against Apartheid" in New York for reflecting outdated prejudices of past decades.

In a letter addressed to UN president Guido de Marco, Mr Botha maintained the UN General Assembly "has no jurisdiction in terms of the UN Charter to discuss this subject".

The debate has been marked by criticism of mainly Western countries for reportedly not adhering strictly to existing UN resolutions on sanctions.

During the debate President de Klerk's reforms received acknowledgement, but delegates said he still had not done enough to justify the lifting of sanctions.

Indian Foreign Minister Vidya Charan Shukla said talks between the South African Government and the ANC had produced "some good results", but he endorsed the assessment of Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar that the process of change was at an early stage and there was a long way to go.

Professor Ibrahim Gambari of Nigeria, chairman of the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid, said: "There is no doubt that the South African authorities have indeed taken a number of positive steps.

"Nonetheless, they fall far short of the minimum measures necessary to create a climate for negotiation."

Unreasonable

It was premature and unreasonable to rush to relax the existing measures against the Republic or establish relations with it, he said.

Mr Botha said in his letter: "I say in all earnestness that this debate is inappropriate, uncalled for and counter-productive. Things have changed in South Africa.

"Is the Assembly incapable of adjusting to change as we in South Africa have done in recent months?" Mr Botha asked in his letter, which he requested be circulated as an official document of the Assembly.

He claimed this year's debate, which is still continuing, "echoes the ANC". The letter carries a detailed review of the course of developments in South Africa since September last year when Mr de Klerk assumed the presidency.

This is followed by an outline of what "President de Klerk has made abundantly clear" and what the Government is striving for in a new South Africa.

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Poland and Bulgaria follow Hungary's lead in defending SA at the UN

B Day 7/12/90

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SIMON BARBER

EW YORK — Hungary has issued a thin-veiled attack on what it views as the N's biased treatment of SA and is joining .e EC in opposing the hardline sanctions :solutions being debated in the General ssembly.

While less outspoken, other Eastern uropean nations, including Poland and ulgaria, appear to be leaning in the same :rection.

On Wednesday Hungarian representa-ve Andre Erdos called on assembly mem-ers to "support only those resolutions re-flecting changing realities and promoting the political process in SA".

He said the the US Centre against Apart-heid "ought to make more efforts to verify information" it disseminated about SA. "Otherwise, the reputation of the UN and the credibility of its organs will be undermined."

Poland's Stanislaw Pawlak said that while his country supported "existing international pressure" on SA, the time had come to "consider a more positive approach . . . and to decrease the risk of international destabilisation".

He looked forward to the growing normalisation of relations with SA, which would "widen the possibilities for SA's inhabitants and overcome the international isolation felt also by Polish immigrants living there".

Bulgaria's Dimitar Kostov said more attention should be paid to "the pace and substance of reforms" in SA and urged that the ANC not be seen as the sole voice of opposition to the government.

Zambia's Peter Zuze accused Pretoria of "absorbing Eastern European security personnel" to create a post-apartheid security structure designed to "compete" with a new civilian government.

The US special committee against apartheid noted with distaste the expansion of SA commercial ties with Eastern Europe. It cited the opening of an SA interests section in Budapest, the planned exchange of such offices by Poland and SA and the trade agreement signed between SA and Romania in October.

It also observed that an SA trade mission had visited the Soviet Union, ostensibly to discuss the Chernobyl disaster, and that Poland was expected to purchase 200 000 tons of SA iron ore.

Sapa reports from Pretoria that the SA government yesterday expressed its satisfaction with Hungary's positive attitude towards SA in the UN debate. SABC radio news quoted a Foreign Affairs spokesman as saying the department was happy with Hungary's pragmatic approach.

Inkatha Party wants observer status at UN

LONDON - The Inkatha Freedom Party has appealed in London to the British Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, to use his government's influence at the United Nations to get KwaZulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's organisation observer status at the United Nations.

This would be on a similar basis to that held by the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress.

In a letter this week to Hurd, Inkatha's London representative Mr Ben Skosana said the impending all-party constitutional negotiations in South Africa made it necessary for the IFP to be recognised and accorded relevant status on the permanent international marketplace.

Skosana specified the UN, but also referred to the Commonwealth, and the Organisation of African Unity, "where South African affairs are often discussed".

'Dangerous'

"At this point, there is virtually no permanent international medium of discussion where the IFP is invited to sit continually so as to present its views on the future of South Africa.

"The appearance of the IFP on this international forum will not only dispel the simplistic and dangerous notion that the problems facing South Africa can and will be resolved between the ANC and the SA Government.

"It will also help reconcile the different viewpoints held by Inkatha, the ANC and the PAC . . .

"It is for this reason that the IFP entreats the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office to use its good offices and position in the UN to explore the possibility of inviting the IFP to take its place among the other South African contingents at the UN."- *Sapa*

New UN bid to squeeze SA

Sowetan 7/12/90

336

NEW YORK - South Africa's ability to meet its energy needs despite the voluntary embargo on oil shipments has sparked a new bid to make UN sanctions mandatory through a Security Council decision.

Among UN bodies, the Council alone has the power to order member states to comply with its decisions.

The General Assembly, which recommended a ban on the export of oil and petroleum products to the republic, soon will take up a resolution to urge the Security Council to ensure that the embargo becomes effective as part of an international effort to speed an end to apartheid.

If the resolution is adopted, the Council is not obliged to comply and is unlikely to, several diplomats said, because the United States, Britain and France retain the power of veto.

However, with Council-imposed sanctions in place against Iraq the clamour to follow a similar course against South Africa might well have become more persuasive if President F W de Klerk's reform policies were not so widely recognised.

Yesterday, on the second day of debate, Israel's Mr Ephraim Tari rebutted repeated Arab charges of collusion between his country and South Africa.

In fact, Arab states were helping the republic he said, citing a Shipping Research Bureau report that 309 of the 441 tankers that carried crude oil to South Africa up to last April sailed from the Middle East and nearly 300 of them from the Persian Gulf.

He quoted a further estimate, made in the Norwegian parliament, that as much as 95 per cent of oil going to South Africa went from Gulf states.

Opening day

As on the opening day, delegates addressed a sea of empty seats. Low attendance has been observed throughout the Assembly session, caused in part by the preoccupation of all members with the Gulf crisis, which is being dealt with by the Security Council.

Among those who spoke today, Mr Terence O'Brien, representing the new conservative government of New Zealand, said that unless profound and irreversible changes took place in South Africa a possibility remained that apartheid could survive in disguise. - *UN Correspondent.*

US calls on UN to halt swipes at SA

Star 7/12/90

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Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — The United States pledged today to refuse to join in any UN resolution on the apartheid question that was not constructive and it called on the General Assembly to "encourage, not instigate".

Addressing the world body on the third day of the apartheid debate, John Moore said the US wanted a consensus resolution which reflected the current political reality of hope and not one which sought to castigate South Africa.

"The United States remains committed to seeking all appropriate means to hasten the end of apartheid," Mr Moore said.

Change should occur peacefully and all groups had to take responsibility to end violence and work together.

South Africa had not yet met the requirements set by the United States for the lifting of economic restrictions, but there was hope that these would be met as change continued.

In the meantime, he said, the UN should be prepared to modify its stance.

"It is not our purpose to persist with measures that have ceased to be productive and would lead to the birth of a new South Africa in severe economic distress," he said.

Peter Wilenski of Australia said it was time for the international community to look forward to South Africa's needs after the end of apartheid.

Australia did not want to maintain sanctions for longer than was necessary.

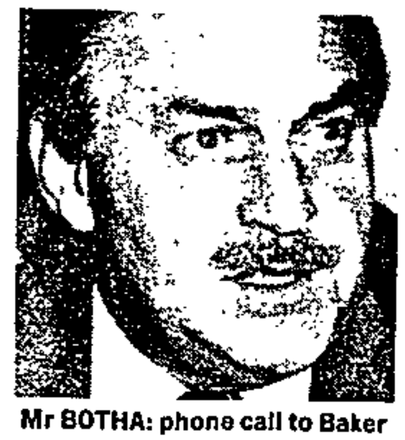
Vieri Traxler of Italy, speaking for the other 11 members of the European Community, said the new post-apartheid South Africa should be able to avail itself of all economic resources, including access to external financing to ensure its future prosperity.

The European Community states were not inclined to easy optimism and did not underestimate the scale of the difficulties lying ahead, he said.

Hungary also opposed the tough sanctions resolution being debated by the General Assembly. Throughout the debate, scores of seats were unoccupied.

Pik and Mbeki vie for support as curbs start to crumble

SANCTIONS: THE LAST GASP



Mr BOTHA: phone call to Baker

S|Times 9|12|90

Sunday Times Reporters

THE ANC — backed by two minor European countries — is fighting a last-ditch battle this week to shore up fast crumbling sanctions around the world.

Intense behind-the-scenes negotiations took place this week as the ANC's Thabo Mbeki, director of external affairs, tried to force the United Nations and EC members into holding the sanctions line — for at least a little longer.

The South African government responded with its own lobbying campaign which included a private telephone call from Foreign Minister Pik Botha to US Secretary of State James Baker and a briefing for Western ambassadors in Pretoria on Wednesday.

Little movement is expected at the UN or the EC Council meeting next week — but the political debates are being rapidly overtaken by a series of breaches in the sanctions dyke as businessmen and consumers leave the politicians behind.

Among the indicators of change:

- An ANC discussion document in circulation calls on the organisation to consider a phased roll back of sanctions;
- Business organisations of 12 sub-Saharan African countries have invited South Africa to send an observer to the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference and the Southern and East African Preferential Trade Area meetings;
- General secretary of the National Olympic and Sports Congress, Mthobi Tyamazashe, said this week that "selective lifting" of the sports boycott had now become a strategy that should be "seriously considered";

Cheers! Europe is catching the spirit of new SA

THE SUNDAY MORNING ASSESSMENT
by Jeremy Brooks and Isabel Conway

THE "new South Africa" is the toast of Europe as specialist imports of Cape wines, fresh fish and South African beers probe the



Exiled group held up at Jan Smuts

By DRIES van HEERDEN

A GROUP of senior ANC officials were allowed into South Africa late last night after being holed up in the international transit lounge of Jan Smuts Airport for most of the day.

The group of 25 include some of the movement's top diplomats due to attend this week's consultative conference of the ANC in Johannesburg. Some of them have been waiting in the lounge since Friday.

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela personally intervened after he was told that the group were not allowed to clear customs. Mr Mandela visited the airport, but could find "no one in authority" to deal with. He then left for Pretoria to raise the matter with senior government officials.

Home Affairs Minister Gene Louw and his direc-

R66 666,66 up



NINE LUCKY READERS shared the R600 000 Sunday Times Charity Crossword prize. Yesterday Marja Hardonk celebrated

catching the spirit of new SA

THE SUNDAY MORNING ASSESSMENT

by Jeremy Brooks and Isabel Conway

THE "new South Africa" is the toast of Europe as specialist imports of Cape wines, fresh fish and South African beers probe the market.

Retailers, sensing an end to a decade when SA fruit, for instance, had to be labelled to disguise its origin, are emerging openly with promotions of new ranges.

In London, one company has already applied for a government licence to supply beers — mainly Castle — to at least six pubs in the city centre.

"There are many problems still ahead of us," said Castle promotions director Allan McCallum, who organised a live satellite broadcast of the Currie Cup final to a West London sports centre.

"Most pubs are owned by national breweries and getting them to supply South African brands will take some arm twisting. We hope to get the go-ahead by the end of the month."

Mr McCallum said his company had first identified bars in London frequented by South Africans, but eventually hoped to expand into the areas around those points.

In Holland, wine importer Hans Schuchard said the eight prosperous years he enjoyed before the boycott are about to return. He has bought himself a new luxury car.

S1 Times 9/12/90

Imports

"The tide is changing. Soon Dutch wine stores will be openly displaying my South African products again," he said.

Some outlets, he added, were already openly advertising in the media and circulating special offer promotions to customers.

The Dutch drank 400 000 litres of SA wine last year, a tiny part of the total 217-million litre consumption, dominated by French imports.

The South African share of the market — 0,28 percent — is still greater than that of California, Chile or Australia.

Mr Schuchard, who is hoping for a 50 percent increase in imports within the next 12 months, said he hated having to mix politics with business.

"Now that there are changes taking place and the debate is more open, I am reluctant about approaching new business with references to Mr De Klerk and his reforms.

"I feel my saying 'He's doing OK, isn't he?' might prompt disagreement and raise matters which have nothing to do with my wines and whether people want them."

Some bottlestores that openly displayed SA wines at the height of the boycott in 1985 were subjected to protests ranging from peaceful visits from anti-apartheid sym-

□ To Page 2

calls on the organisation to consider a phased roll back of sanctions;

● Business organisations of 12 sub-Saharan African countries have invited South Africa to send an observer to the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference and the Southern and East African Preferential Trade Area meetings;

● General secretary of the National Olympic and Sports Congress, Mthobi Tyamazashe, said this week that "selective lifting" of the sports boycott had now become a strategy that should be "seriously considered";

Inflow

● South African agricultural products are back on the shelves in British and European shops;

● A UN Special Committee on Apartheid report revealed a wholesale contravention of that organisation's boycott measures by many countries;

● A greatly improved net capital inflow of R1,5-billion in the third quarter of this year — the first inflow in three years and the biggest since the last quarter of 1982.

Despite the fraying of sanctions world-wide, Ireland and Denmark took a tough line at the European Community's foreign ministers' meeting on Tuesday, forcing a consensual decision that sanctions be left in place — and some form of "statement of encouragment" on reform moves be issued.

The foreign ministers' meeting had three options before it: lift sanctions immediately, give credit for change already taken place and begin a selective process of lifting sanctions or undertake to lift sanctions when specified changes be made in SA.

Calls

Denmark and Ireland flatly refused to consider the first. France and Germany apparently failed to support the second option. The officials opted for the third option.

The decision now goes to the EC's highest body, the European Council, in Rome on Friday.

A Western diplomat predicted this would lead to the council coming out with "just another statement" on sanctions — one that would leave the present situation unaltered.

Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha called in European and some other Western ambassadors on Wednesday to tell them of SA's deep disappointment at the EC foreign minister's decision to stick to its sanctions policy — particularly when most of those countries acknowledge that sanctions are a

□ To Page 2

Sanctions crumble

S1 Times 9/12/90

□ From Page 1

dead letter.

The EC has obligatory sanctions on SA iron and steel and the importation of Kruger rands. The member states also subscribed to voluntary sanctions.

It is particularly in the voluntary category that the disintegration of sanctions has been most rapid.

Some Western diplomats said they saw the present dying phase of international sanctions as a period in which all parties — particularly the ANC — were struggling to have control of the lifting of the measures.

In the United Nations, meanwhile, debate on the Special Committee Against Apartheid's annual report, centres on whether the body should offer a relaxation of sanctions or take a hard line.

Mr Mbeki urged member states to adopt a consensus decision calling for the retention of sanctions.

Mr Botha, apparently concerned that the US would also support a hard line, called Secretary of State James Baker to complain. Sources in Washington said the call had angered the administration.

This weekend members of the UN General Assembly were still trying to reach consensus.

UN to keep up pressure on sanctions

336 Sowetan 10/12/90

NEW YORK - The General Assembly concluded two days of debate on apartheid on Thursday with most states condemning South Africa but acknowledging "modest" reforms, including the release of black detainees.

UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said a formal vote of condemnation will be taken this week. Overwhelming approval is expected.

Many speakers called for speeding up reforms to end apartheid. They also condemned black faction-fighting in South Africa that has left nearly 1 000 dead since August and threatens negotiations between black opposition groups and the South African Government.

They also called for continuing sanctions against South Africa until "irreversible" changes have taken place, noting that the Government's release of political prisoners, repeal of several discriminatory laws and an end to a longstanding State of Emergency.

"The international community must not let down its guard in response to the limited progress which has occurred in South Africa," Venezuelan envoy Roy Chaderton Matos told the 159-member assembly.

"It must keep up the pressure until apartheid is replaced by a democratic system based on equal rights and opportunities for all citizens," Chaderton Matos added.

Pakistan's envoy, Abdul Razak Thahim declared that as long as there was no "clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes," there was no justification for relaxing the existing sanctions and international pressure.

South Africa's voting rights in the assembly have been suspended since 1974. But Foreign Minister Pik Botha wrote to the UN president as debate opened on Wednesday, declaring "as far as we are concerned, apartheid is something of the past."

"Things have changed in South Africa. Is the Assembly incapable of adjusting to change as we in South Africa have done over recent months?" he wrote.

He cited the repeal of more than 100 discriminatory laws and regulations, the opening of the ruling National Party to South Africans of all races and the legalisation of the ANC.

Japanese delegate Shinya Nagai, while noting the "dramatic changes ... clearly under way," warned that the black violence should not be allowed to "jeopardise the progress."

He cautioned that the political process of dismantling apartheid was still in its initial stages and that while "positive changes" have taken place, much remained to be done. - *Sapa-AP*

Pik Botha sh have staye aloof of UN d

P1Day 14/12/90

SIMON BARBER in New

IF A tottering drunk tries to pick a fight, the wiser course is not to humour him but to shut up and get out of the way. In reacting to the UN General Assembly's annual rant about apartheid last week, Foreign Minister Pik Botha chose the less wise course.

Instead of treating the exercise with the aloofness it properly deserved, Botha fired off a lengthy missive to the assembly's president complaining that the "debate" was "inappropriate, uncalled for and counterproductive". Of course it was, but what could possibly be gained from saying so?

The only party with a real stake in the outcome was the ANC, whose foreign affairs director Thabo Mbeki was on hand throughout the week trying to coax just one more worthless bit of paper out of the assembly to maintain the illusion of the congress's international standing.

That the movement feels obliged to place so much reliance on the Assembly scarcely reflects well upon its relative potency. The forum is, in essence, a losers' club, one of the few places where the failed get to play on equal footing with the successful, and no questions are asked about the reasons for their failure.

The Foreign Minister's first mistake was to take the proceedings seriously. His second was to panic. Somehow, he got it into his head that the US and the Europeans were going to betray him and, as they had done in December last year and again in September, support yet another "consensus" resolution based on the views of the ANC.

He telephoned US Secretary of State James Baker to complain. Baker and his team were not amused by the imputation. They thought they had been clear on the subject. Their president had called the process of change in SA "irreversible"; therefore they were not about to vote for any UN text which contradicted that. Did the Minister doubt their word? Next time he wished to take up the secretary's time, he had better have a solid reason.

Now, to be fair, government has domestic grounds for fearing another one-sided UN "consensus". It is clearly anxious to show its more jittery constituents that its policies are earning the international rewards they merit and that the outside world does not intend to stack the deck permanently in favour of the "liberation movements".

The problem lies in government's selection of benchmarks to demonstrate the progress it is making abroad and in its desire for symbolic victories — nicer words from the UN, for example — when practical ones are not only more abundant, but altogether more significant as well.

Frankly, it matters not one whit what rhetorical formulae the General Assembly finally adopts this week or even whether or not there is consensus on them. Nor is there any point in worrying about what the EC heads of government may decide in Rome on Thursday.

They may agree to lift sanctions. They may offer nothing more than a pat on the back. Perhaps they will listen to ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and choose to maintain "existing measures" for a few more months.

The point is that the ANC can have all the pretty verbiage it wants. What counts is reality, and the reality is that UN resolutions on SA are worthless and the "existing measures" of the EC are becoming increasingly non-existent. Italy, in fact, has ended virtually all sanctions and reportedly intends to say so if the other 11 don't agree to follow suit at this week's meeting.

Little noticed amid the hot air swirling around the General Assembly last week were the sheaves of supporting documentation dumped into the hopper by the UN's vast anti-apartheid bureaucracy. Unconsciously or not, all told but one story: the sanctions edifice is crumbling and there is nothing anyone can do about it.

The UN special committee against apartheid's annual report contains a litany of countries in all corners of the globe that are violating or ignoring every sanctions resolution — from the arms and oil embargoes on down the list — the UN has ever advocated or sought to impose.

The committee is particularly pained to observe the burgeoning of



The SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union accounted for half-a-million lost man-days this year as a result of strike action

Labour unrest emerges as one of the great destroyers of SA's economy

By DREW FORREST

FOUR MILLION man-days were lost this year as a consequence of strike action — a massive 25 percent increase over 1989.

This emerges from the annual labour relations survey of consultants Andrew Levy and Associates, which quotes Stellenbosch University's Bureau for Economic Reasearch as warning that "labour unrest could surpass sanctions as the greatest destroyer of the South African economy".

The survey singles out as reasons for the strike surge political instability, economic pressure and union growth. In the last three years, it shows, production lost through strikes has more than doubled.

Wages remain the key trigger, accounting for 66 percent of man-days lost this year. No less than 64 percent of all wage negotiations entailed some form of industrial action.

Also highlighted is a dramatic shift in strike incidence to the public sector. State sector strikes, mainly in hospitals, schools and municipalities, accounted for 24,8 percent of man-days lost, as against 1,8 percent last year.

The survey traces this to a major union recruiting drive in the sector, raising worker expectations, against the background of government pay restraint.

A further highly significant feature is intensified strike activity in small businesses, reflecting a new focus of the unions, which have wrapped up most major firms. Forty percent of strikes this year have been in businesses with 200 or fewer workers.

Accounting for the most lost man-days — half-a-million — was the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union, involved in an unprecedented strike wave in major retail and wholesale chains. It is followed by Cosatu's metal and paper affiliates.

Of the strikes, only 11 percent lasted 10 days or more — but of these, 40 percent extended beyond 30 days. This, the survey says, can be traced to the determination of some employers — notably OK Bazaars, Southern Sun and Nampak — to ride out the strike "with little or no attempt to negotiate a settlement".

D/Day 14/2/90

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SA's diplomatic and economic ties with Eastern Europe and Africa. Madagascar, the Ivory Coast and Zaire are singled out, the latter two as "springboards" for "the establishment of depots to handle the flow of SA exports to surrounding countries".

"There is a perceived contradiction," the report notes mournfully, "between, on the one hand, the vigorous condemnation of apartheid by these countries, and on the other hand, their practical conduct."

When the committee has sought to remonstrate with individual sinners, the responses are increasingly of the you-know-where-you-can-put it variety. Mauritius, for example, was asked whether it intended to let its citizens take advantage of relaxed SA visa requirements for trade and tourism purposes. The reply came back: "Mauritius is a democratic country and Mauritians are free to travel anywhere."

The Soviet Union was queried on its agreement to provide five years' diamond production to De Beers in return for a $1bn loan. The Soviet permanent representative insouciantly replied: "There is no question of a transaction with a South African company. The fact that the company's name is associated with the name 'De Beers' cannot be the basis for regarding that transaction as contravening UN decisions."

The reactions of oil producers accused of breaking the oil embargo are particularly sublime. In the course of last week's debate, the Israeli representative quoted Norway's minister of foreign affairs as telling his parliament that "95% of the oil supplied to SA comes from Arab states in the Persian Gulf, one half of this in direct shipments".

Kuwait's envoy rose to challenge this assertion as "unfair and insincere". On what grounds? Well, the Norwegian official who had made the statement in question was not the foreign minister and therefore could not have said such a terrible thing in parliament.

That being the level at which the General Assembly operates, what reasonable person can place much store by its deliberations?

The ANC is desperate for a consensus document calling for the maintenance of "existing" pressures. The only logical explanation is that it soon intends to face facts and ask for the suspension of sanctions while there are still some left to be suspended and for whose removal it might be able to demand something in return.

It also wishes to argue that the international community supports its view that government is foot-dragging on such issues at the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles.

More generally, it yearns to be able to say that the world takes its side in negotiations on a new constitution. In short, it is looking to the UN for certification as the true and only master of SA's fate.

The irony is that by relying on the General Assembly to achieve this, it actually succeeds in demonstrating quite the opposite of what it intends. Whatever resolution is finally adopted this week, and regardless of who supports it, the ANC will have betrayed not its strength, but its weakness. The General Assembly and its resolutions are the last refuge of the hapless.

SA was right to have its say

Tuesday 12/12/90 336

PIK BOTHA
Foreign Affairs Minister

I DO not want to quarrel with Simon Barber about his article "Pik Botha should have stayed aloof of UN debate" published yesterday. After all, he will always have the last word. And there is a lot I can agree with, particularly as regards the UN's vast anti-apartheid bureaucracy which could now be called the "pro-apartheid" bureaucracy because of its vested interest in prolonging apartheid. In any event, I find his style captivating and his contributions thought provoking.

But Mr Barber has missed the point in suggesting we should have ignored the debate on SA in the General Assembly.

The fact is that we have a positive and persuasive message to convey to the world, and we believe we should use every available opportunity to do so. Since we are barred from participating in proceedings of the General Assembly, the only way we could get that message across was by means of a letter to the President of the General Assembly. In normal circumstances, our representative would have participated in the debate and Mr Barber would have thought nothing of it.

Many countries, and particularly their representatives at the UN, have great difficulty in coming to terms with the changes which have taken place here, and persist in repeating the assertions and accusations which characterised their public statements of past years. This was again evident in the debate in the General Assembly last week. We learned that some of them were propagating the inclusion of provisions in a working draft of a resolution on SA which were reminiscent of resolutions adopted during the darker days of apartheid. The Western nations were resisting these attempts in behind-the-secenes discussions and trying to insert in the working draft some acknowlegement of the changes which had taken place in SA.

We also detected a greater readiness on the part of some of our past adversaries to be more flexible and forthcoming in passing judgment on us. This was a new phenomenon.

Should we have sat back and ignored all these circumstances, relying on others gratuitously to do our lobbying for us? For once SA had a few significant protagonists at the UN trying to ensure that the proceedings reflected an honest assessment of SA. In our opinion, the least we could do was to support their efforts with a reaffirmation of government policies, undertakings and commitments. However worthless Mr Barber might consider the General Assembly and its proceedings to be, the governments and representatives of many notable countries thought the proceedings sufficiently important for them actively to oppose the attempts of some to portray an SA which no longer exists.

Whatever may or may not have been achieved by our initiative, we could not possibly have damaged our case at the UN by writing the letter. Our impression is that it served a useful purpose. And, inasmuch as it represents an accurate and detailed presentation of government policy and objectives, as well as the progress achieved on the way to realising those objectives, it now forms a part of the record of the proceedings of the General Assembly in all six official languages of the UN and is available in virtually every capital city of the world to students and historians researching SA history.

We could not allow our case to go by default. When one has a good product one markets it. Why should we allow the proceedings to turn out negatively for us when we are in a positon to influence the course of events to our advantage, as I believe we have done, not only by writing the letter in question to the President, but also by the action we took earlier in the year of fully informing governments of developments here?

Perhaps it did not occur to Mr Barber that my Department and I had received advice from a number of responsible governments to ensure that the UN was properly informed of the latest developments in SA in order to enable their representatives to counter harmful allegations which had been presented to delegates at closed meetings.

It is wrong to say that I telephoned Secretary (of State James) Baker to complain. I telephoned him in the first instance to convey certain sentiments of President (F W) de Klerk to President (George) Bush on the situation in the Middle East. Mr Baker appreciated this message. We then discussed the debate in the General Assembly.

I did not for one moment have any doubt about the US's position. I wished to alert him to certain activities behind the scenes in New York, and also supplied information on events in Africa which I knew he would find useful and interesting. The conversation was brief, friendly and mutually rewarding. He thanked me for the call and followed it up with a letter which I received three days after our telephone conversation.

apartheid's excesses by claiming un- out in the corporate funding cold.

SA was right to have its say

Today 12/12/90 336

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LETTERS

Unita threat

(B) (336) Sowetan 12/12/90

BENGUELA - The future of a R200 million United Nations food aid programme in central and southern Angola is being threatened by intensified Unita activity in the area according to a UN offical.

Joao Ulica, a representative of the UN Childrens Fund here said food convoys were unable to reach destinations in the affected area because bridges were being blown up by Unita.

Joe Gumede coming back

Sowetan 13/12/90

336

NEW YORK - Two leading members of UN Radio's controversial anti-apartheid unit are returning to South Africa for Christmas following a successful last-minute appeal for permission to enter the country.

Mr Joe Gumede, a bylined writer for *Drum* magazine until he quit and went abroad in the 60s, got the OK only hours before he left New York for London first to spend a week with his son, who lives there.

The UN lists him as a South African citizen and he is expected to collect a passport when he goes back.

At present he has only a UN-issued travel document, recognised by most governments.

Mr Thami Mhlambiso, also South African-born but now a US citizen, was an ANC representative in New York before he joined the Secretariat.

He received his visa less than a week before he planned to travel.

As he will be visiting other southern African states on UN business, his visa authorises multiple entry into South Africa.

Both officials applied weeks ago to visit South Africa and it was only after the republic's UN mission intervened on their behalf that the the Ministry for Home Affairs relented and decided to let them in.

Mr Gumede has an aged mother in South Africa whom he has not seen since he went overseas many years ago.

Another South African with pressing family reasons for wanting to return, Mr Rhodes Gxoyiya, received a curt letter from an anonymous consular officer denying his application on the instructions of Home Affairs.

The mission has taken up his case and is hopeful that he too may get home for Christmas.

No reason

Gxoyiya ranks above his two colleagues in the anti-apartheid programmes section of UN Radio. No reason was given for the rejection.

Officials had become increasingly frustrated by Home Affairs' tardiness, feeling that this harmed South African interests when the mission was trying to convince UN sceptics that reform in South Africa is real.

ANC WINS ITS WAR OF WORDS IN THE UN —

AFTER weeks of backroom haggling, the UN General Assembly finally has before it a new South Africa resolution on which none of its members can any longer be bothered to disagree. Everyone will vote for it some time next week.

For Pretoria, the document represents progress — progress of the World War 1 variety. A metre or two has been gained to little overall effect. There can be no question that the ANC and its allies — principally now the Frontline states and the UN's anti-apartheid bureaucracy — continued to dictate the terms of battle. They, after all, drafted the original document and none dared offer an outright alternative.

Their one vulnerability was their desire to achieve consensus, without which any resolution is nothing more than waste paper. This enabled the US and the EC, whose desire for consensus was slightly less palpable, to drive them from a couple of their most egregious positions.

The word "regime" for example, took a serious beating for the first time ever, being neutralised to "authorities" in all but three instances before the Western counter-attack ran out of steam. ST Times 16/12/90

Early drafts contained a number of blatant diversions, inserted to consume the West's energies before they could be concentrated on the ANC's bottom lines.

These included paragraphs accusing Pretoria of continuing to "destabilise" Mozambique and Angola through Renamo and Unita, and specifically demanding the maintenance of the sports boycott — a position from which the ANC was signalling retreat at the very moment the "debate" got under way. Both fell away after token resistance.

Things then bogged down in epistemological mud. (68) 336

ALTHOUGH it took them a little time, the Americans finally recalled that their President had described the process of change in South Africa as "irreversible". Whereupon their principal objective became to ensure that the final document did not contradict this.

Since the absence of irreversibility is the the sanctioneers' last redoubt, they were not about to let it fall. Washington had to make do with a clause declaring that "further substantive progress needs to be made to promote" irreversible change.

US officials argued, with the conviction of an Allied after-action report on the battle of the Somme, that the word "promote" was a victory. Did it not imply that the desired condition already existed?

Unfortunately, this interpretation was not supported by the rest of the text, least of all by operative clause number 10, which called for the use of "concerted ... economic and financial" measures "aimed at applying pressure" on Pretoria.

The Europeans were scarcely more successful in their chief endeavour, which was to knock out language critical of those (ie. themselves) who were not applying sanctions with quite the same vigour as they had been when they joined the consensus UN Declaration on Apartheid last December.

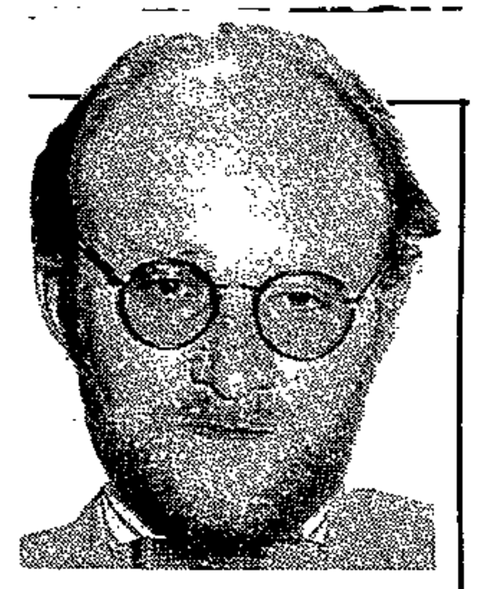
THE final text expressed "concern over departures that have occurred" from the declaration. Since most European Community members do not share that concern in the slightest, they have agreed to language that makes them liars.

The West was slightly more successful in obliging the other side to acknowledge that President F W de Klerk had made at least some "progress" (as opposed to mere "efforts") over the past year.

Its most signal success in this regard was the insertion of a clause "taking note of Pretoria's declared commitment to abolish the apartheid system".

Language calling for the removal of troops from the townships and for the "unconditional" return of all exiles was also excised, while the Groote Schuur and Pretoria talks were upgraded from mere "meetings" — as the ANC and its allies initially wanted — to "agreements".

So some ground was gained. However, from the ANC's point of view, the object of the exercise was to ensure that, in terms of rhetoric at least, the world still stood on its side of the argument. On the whole, it got its way.



SIMON BARBER's Washington Diary

UN praises SA, but sanctions must stay

Cape Times 20/12/90 336

NEW YORK. — The UN General Assembly, shedding years of strident rhetoric, on Tuesday cautiously welcomed political reform in South Africa but insisted that current economic sanctions be maintained.

After the annual anti-apartheid resolution was introduced with speeches, adoption was abruptly postponed until tomorrow, when more speakers can be heard.

The omnibus political resolution against apartheid will be the first-ever sweeping anti-apartheid document in the annual session to be adopted by consensus and without a divisive vote in the 159-nation body. Narrow resolutions have been adopted by consensus in the past.

The measure was the result of arduous negotiations and compromise between Western countries and African states. The annual package of other anti-apartheid resolutions, ranging from military collaboration to an oil and sports embargo, are expected to be adopted overwhelmingly tomorrow.

The SA Foreign Ministry said "it is clear the UN accepts a new South Africa is on the way". — Sapa-AP

Uncertainties delay exiles' return

W/Mail 20/12/90 - 10/1/90 336

REPATRIATION

BY GAYE DAVIS

A HOLD-UP in funds is hindering preparations for the return of thousands of South African exiles.

Imam Hassan Solomons, of the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation (NCCR), said this week the organisation had not yet received any of the large sums it had been promised by foreign governments willing to help with the repatriation effort.

Solomons said funders were holding back until they were certain national and regional structures were properly in place to handle repatriation efficiently.

Formed as a result of a South African Council of Churches initiative, the NCCR has brought together representatives of the African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress and the Azanian People's Organisation — which is acting for the exiled Black Consciousness Movement of Azania — as well as religious groups.

The NCCR operates at national and regional level and has established task forces focusing on areas such as education, housing and health and welfare, Solomons said.

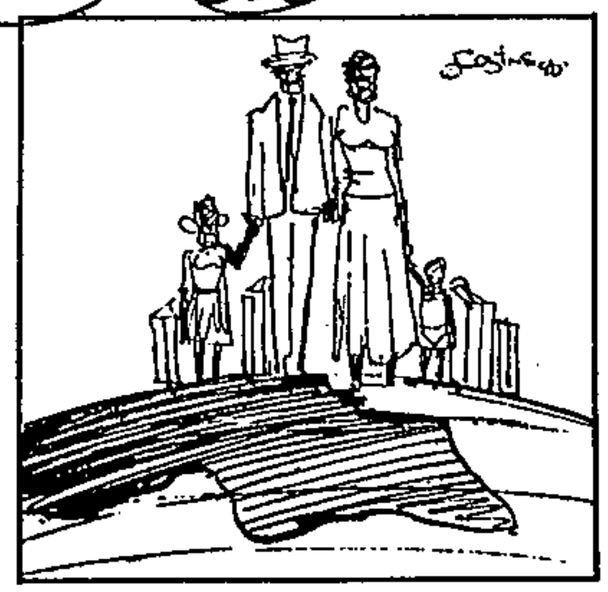
"We have done as much as we can under the circumstances," he said. "Hopefully the money will start coming in soon, probably in the new year. Without funds, we can't move from the organisational level we are at now.

"We have to rent or buy primary reception centres in all the regions. We need equipment and we need to appoint staff."

Solomons said the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), with which an NCCR delegation has held talks in Geneva, was ready and willing to be involved.

"However, being a UN agency, it is bound by decisions of that body — such as the resolution to isolate South Africa's apartheid regime. To get fully involved all of this would have to be undone," Solomons said.

Another major problem is that the NCCR is operating almost entirely in the dark about the number of exiles expected to return and their needs.



"The only figures we have are those supplied by the ANC in terms of people who have applied for indemnity," Solomons said. "The number was originally 3 000 but is now about 6 000. The real number of returnees we can expect though is open to speculation. Some estimates put it as high as 40 000."

Nor has the NCCR any timescale: "Just when people will start arriving is also a matter for speculation," Solomons said. "We're hoping people will be able to start returning by April, but nobody knows."

Solomons stressed that the NCCR was not "an ANC programme" but the co-ordinator of a "broad humanitarian project intiated by religious groups and the major liberation movements".

As such it held talks in November with a government delegation led by Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee, in a bid for government help in dealing with issues such as housing, education and other requirements.

The government expressed willingness to assist, Solomons said — but the NCCR's request that a general amnesty be accorded to all exiles and political prisoners was not granted. It was pointed out to the delegation that the ANC had already agreed to guidelines for indemnity.

Solomons foresees problems with this: "Inasmuch as indemnity can be granted, it can also be refused. We do not believe that insisting on tying indemnity to agreeing to have talks about talks is acting within the spirit of repatriation, which is a humanitarian endeavour."

In terms of providing shelter, employment and education for returnees and their children in a country where the housing shortfall is acute, unemployment rife and education in crisis, NCCR workers are having to tread a fine line to avoid giving the impression of favouritism.

In some regions, NCCR task forces have already approached "open" schools with a view to registering children of exiles — particularly those who may have grown up speaking English only, for whom township schools would present problems.

School placements and skills-training for adults whose schooling was interrupted were the major concerns at present, Schultz said. The "biggest worry" was the "uncertainty of time and numbers".

Rashieda Abdulla, of the NCCR's housing task force in the Western Cape, said: "It's an enormous task and everyone needs to help. But the message we have received from some individuals who've come is that the people outside know what conditions here are like and that they don't expect special privileges. That gives us hope."

UN cautiously accepts reforms

336 Sowetan 20/12/90

UNITED NATIONS - The UN General Assembly, shedding years of strident rhetoric, yesterday cautiously welcomed political reform in South Africa but insisted that current economic sanctions be maintained.

SA PRESS ASSOCIATION

After the annual anti-apartheid resolution was introduced with speeches, adoption abruptly was postponed until tomorrow when more speakers could be heard.

The omnibus political resolution against apartheid will be the first-ever sweeping anti-apartheid document in the annual session to be adopted by consensus and without a divisive vote in the 159-nation body. Narrow resolutions have been adopted by consensus in the past.

The measure was the result of arduous negotiations and compromise between Western countries and African states. The annual package of other anti-apartheid resolutions, ranging from military collaboration to an oil and sports embargo, were expected to be adopted tomorrow by overwhelming votes.

Statement

The South African Foreign Ministry issued a statement saying that the United Nations has no jurisdiction over internal affairs, but saying it was "nevertheless encouraged by the strong stand of a positive nature taken by a number of member states ...

"It is clear that the U.N. General Assembly accepts that a new South Africa is on the way.

UN takes less hostile line on SA

Star 20/12/90

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations General Assembly yesterday adopted a consensus resolution against apartheid in South Africa that showed an unprecedented degree of unity on a subject bitterly debated for decades.

The omnibus resolution, the result of long negotiations between Western nations and African states, insists that current economic measures be maintained against Pretoria but does not call for new sanctions.

Contrary to many past measures, the resolution avoids words like "regime" and instead talks about the South African authorities.

Dropped

Phrases such as "condemn" and "demand" are also dropped in recognition of President de Klerk's efforts to scrap apartheid.

The resolution is not the first consensus document on apartheid, but UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said it incorporated a number of items that had eluded full support for decades.

South Africa was expelled from the General Assembly in 1974. It said at the time that the Assembly had no jusrisdiction to interfere in its affairs.

General Assembly resolutions are not binding although they reflect international opinion. However, an arms embargo imposed by the Security Council against South Africa is considered mandatory while economic and financial sanctions adopted by the Assembly are voluntary.

Last weekend the European Community voted to drop its ban on new investments in South Africa in recognition of President de Klerk's reforms for social change.

On economic sanctions, the omnibus resolution, supported by all Assembly members, called on governments to use "concerned and effective measures, particularly in the areas of economic and financial relations", aimed at applying pressure to ensure a speedy end to apartheid.

The resolution calls Mr de Klerk's reforms "significant measures in the right direction" but says that efforts are needed to "facilitate free political activity and foster a climate fully conducive to negotiations.

The document also calls on South Africa to repeal all repressive legislation, end detentions without trial, permit the return of political exiles without restrictions and fully implement all agreements reached with the ANC.

On the continuing violence in the country, the resolution urges South Africa to ensure action is taken against all those responsible, "including vigilante groups" and calls on all parties to contribute to an atmosphere "free of violence".

The resolution also notes the contining effects of "acts of aggression and destabilisation" committed by South Africa against neighbouring states, particularly Mozambique.

In addition to the main resolution, the Assembly adopted five other substantive resolutions on South Africa, with the United States casting the only negative vote against all.

Abstained

The Soviet Union voted in support and most European nations abstained or voted against some of them.

Britain, which has lifted most sanctions against SA, joined the United States in casting the second negative vote against the oil embargo and military col laboration with Pretoria.

Australia was singled out by Nigerian ambassador Ibrahim Gambari, head of the Special Committee Against Apartheid, for supporting three resolutions and abstaining on a fourth. — Sapa-Reuter.

Red-tape is holding up exiles return

336

Sowetan 21/12/90

As long as the Government did not "clear-up" and simplify its stance on returning exiles, constraints would be placed on details of programmes to receive and accommodate an estimated 40 000 exiles, SA Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said yesterday.

Chikane, who heads the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of SA exiles (NCCR), said the organisation expected about 250 exiles to return shortly - 34 from Kenya by the weekend - and was experiencing difficulty preparing for them.

This was because the government had not yet completed negotiations with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), a body dealing with refugees and repatriations throughout the world.

"The UNHCR's involvement is vital in the repatriation process because of the wealth of experience they have," said Chikane.

"Presently we have to receive those returning on an ad-hoc basis. It is not easy for us to plan for their return if the UNHCR does not get involved as they will be responsible for taking people from their host country to their homes," Chikane explained.

If the UNHCR were allowed to assist they would also negotiate the financial aspect of the operation with the government, he added.

The NCCR had met a government delegation - led by Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee - twice in the past four weeks but had not received concrete responses to all the questions and requests around the returnees issue, Chikane said.

"One of the requests was the suspension of apartheid legislation such as the Land Act and the Group Areas Act."

Relief ban angers Unita

Star 24/12/90

LUANDA — United States-backed Unita rebels expressed dismay yesterday at the Angolan government's partial suspension of United Nations relief operations.

A broadcast by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) on its radio said the government's reasons for the partial ban were "fallacious and based on lies".

Angola said on Friday it was temporarily suspending a UN famine relief operation for up to 1,8 million people in "peace corridors" because of rebel attacks on convoys.

Unita, which has fought a 15-year-old bush war to overthrow the government, said President Jose Eduardo dos Santos was trying to exploit the existence of "peace corridors", where starving people have massed, to obtain a temporary truce.

The six-month programme, which began seven weeks ago and is expected to cost R200 million, is aimed at delivering emergency food to peasants living in areas controlled by both the government and Unita.

(8) (336)

Since November 2, the UN has managed to send only three convoys with between 1 200 and 1 500 tons of food. The government says other trips have been stopped because of rebel attacks on bridges and convoys.

— Sapa-Reuter.

United Nations calls for end to mass deaths of young people

(336) (298)

Sowetan 24/12/90

NEW YORK - The UN Children's Fund believes that the lives and well-being of millions of young people hinge on the political will of world leaders to invest in the next generation.

In its annual State of the World's Children report released last week, Unicef called for a worldwide effort to end mass child deaths and malnutrition by the year 2000.

"The mental and physical growth of a child cannot be asked to wait until interest rates fall or until commodity prices recover or until debt repayments have been rescheduled or until the economy returns to growth or until after a general election or until a war is over," Unicef said.

Asia, the report said, had both the worst and the best record in caring for children.

Industrial nations showed an increase in children living below the poverty level while Latin American and African countries failed to spare children from budget cuts provoked by the debt crisis.

The report said that 250 000 children die each week from common diseases, one child in three is stunted by malnutrition and Aids threatens to wipe out hard-won child health gains, particularly in Africa.

Evoking the Gulf crisis, Unicef asked whether "the international community was prepared to act on the important as well as on the immediate, and in the interests of the powerless as well as those of the powerful".

The report focuses on the 20 goals for the year 2000 adopted at September's World Summit for Children, including a one-third reduction in child deaths and a primary school education for at least 80 percent of poor children.

Promises

"Will these promises be kept?" asked Unicef's executive director, James Grant.

"Will they translate into practical action to end the shame of 40 000 children dying each day?"

Despite the bleak future portrayed in the report, Grant announced that the United Nations had succeeded in achieving its 10-year goal of immunising 80 percent of the developing world's children, thereby saving 2,5 million young lives each year through vaccines.

But Unicef rebuked both developing and industrial nations for still spending more on arms than child care and even neglecting basic monitoring of child welfare.

"In most countries it is easier to find out how many video recorders have been imported in the last 12 months than it is to find out how many children have died," the report said.

Unicef estimated that 5,2 billion rands a year would meet the goals set in the summit by reordering priorities, such as less support for the well-off at the poor's expense.

Developing nations, it said, should cut down their military spending.

In turn, industrial countries should increase debt relief and restructure official aid programmes, which devote only 25 percent to health and education.

Asia was singled out as a combination of the best and the worst.

Japan, the world leader in child care, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia were cited as nations whose investment in health, nutrition and education contributed to economic growth.

Ranked

China ranked high in infant care and education but the report said the prevalence there of malnutrition among children under five was only slightly lower than in Africa.

But despite rising incomes, the report said "poverty still found its centre of gravity" in Asia with 30 percent of the world's child deaths found in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union showed ominous signs of sacrificing their children during a period of transition and turbulence.

Hungary and Poland, for example, showed declines in milk and meat consumption.

Despite few available statistics, the report said "the warning signs are there".

Western nations showed an increase in the number of children living below official poverty lines since 1980, including the United States, Canada, Germany and Ireland.

In Britain, poverty increased from 12 percent to 26 percent since 1979 while the United States still ranked lower than West European countries and Canada in infant mortality rates, the report said. - *Sapa-Reuter*

It's desperate: UN pleads for food for Africa

336

Star 29/12/90

NAIROBI — The United Nations issued an urgent appeal yesterday for food aid to avert a massive famine brought on by wars and drought across Africa.

A report by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) warned that food aid needs for 1991 were expected to increase sharply.

Deteriorating

The report said two successive years of drought had caused crop failures in countries bordering the Sahel, from Mauritania in the west to Ethiopia in the east.

"Of most concern is the rapidly deteriorating situation in Sudan and northern Ethiopia," it said.

It warned that widespread loss of life would be inevitable unless nearly two million tons of food aid arrived next year.

Starvation caused by drought and civil wars in Ethiopia and Sudan killed an estimated 1,7 million people in the 1980s.

The report urged support for speedy deliveries of food to populations starving as a result of displacement by wars in several countries, particularly Angola, Liberia and Mozambique.

The 10-month-old civil war in Liberia has caused the displacement of 850 000 people who now rely on food aid.

An estimated 110 000 tons of food are required for a UN programme in Angola.

Worries

Almost two million refugees returning home to Mozambique face serious food shortages, but only about 50 percent of the 60 0000 tons of food pledged by donors for 1990/91 has arrived.

The shortfall reflects what the report argues may be a sign that worries over food shortages in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe will divert assistance away from African countries.

— Sapa-Reuter.

Govt stands firm on rejecting UN role in repatriation and care of exiles

GOVERNMENT did not see the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) playing a role in the repatriation of SA exiles although discussions were continuing, a Home Affairs Department spokesman said at the weekend.

And National Health and Population Development Minister Dr Rina Venter declined to say whether government would make funds available specifically for the returning exiles.

This came after Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee announced government had appointed two senior officials to co-ordinate and expedite the return of exiles, and that programmes to accommodate them would be implemented on the ground by the National Health and Population Development Department.

In view of the existing infrastructure in SA and the arrangements already agreed to, the Home Affairs spokesman said, government found it difficult to visualise any role for the UNHCR within SA.

The UNHCR could not be contacted for comment, but it has previously insisted on being allowed to act as a monitor to assure itself of returnees' safety, and as a condition for involvement including the raising of funds internationally.

TANIA LEVY

The Home Affairs spokesman said government would prefer the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation of Exiles (NCCR) to play the major role on the ground.

On Friday Venter said the NCCR had agreed government would assist exiles through existing state relief programmes, and maintenance and pension allowances available to all South Africans in need.

She did not specifically identify these programmes.

Medical facilities available all over SA could be used by returning exiles as necessary on the same basis applied to all SA citizens, Venter said.

This meant exiles who could not afford to pay for medical services would be treated for free.

Venter's department was still waiting for the NCCR's application for a fundraising number to allow it to collect funds locally and abroad to finance the other needs of exiles.

EDYTH BULBRING reports that ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said yesterday the organisation felt strongly that the UNHCR should be involved in the repatriation of exiles. She said it would continue to push for such involvement.

Government's opposition to a role by the UNHCR was based on an argument that SA was a sovereign state and that such involvement could undermine this status.

This was not a valid argument, and the ANC's contention that the best should be done for exiles was an argument with far more weight, Marcus said.

The UNHCR's expertise in the field of repatriation could not be underestimated.

UNITED NATIONS — 1991

Exiles: UN refuses to play limited role

THE UN would refuse to become involved in the repatriation of 40 000 exiles if it could operate only outside SA's borders as proposed by the SA government.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Jeff Cris said in an interview from Brussels yesterday the organisation's mandate would not allow it to operate in such a limited manner.

The SA government said recently it did not envisage a role for the UNHCR inside SA. It is believed to be concerned that its sovereignty might be compromised.

Meanwhile, Britain and Australia have already earmarked approximately R7m between them in assistance.

TIM COHEN

Other foreign missions in SA are waiting for government to decide finally on UNHCR participation before they decide on how much to contribute.

Cris said although common sense would seem to dictate that the UNHCR should become involved in projects outside SA, the body's mandate would not allow that sort of partial involvement.

☐ To Page 2

Exiles

Home Affairs chief director of migration Mike Bester said in an interview this week that although government had not given the UNHCR permission to establish itself in SA, it was welcome to play a role outside the country's borders.

Cris said negotiations between government and the UNHCR were continuing, and he declined to comment further.

An Australian embassy spokesman said his government had decided to contribute A$2m (R4m) to an Australian non-government body which would assist with the repatriation and rehabilitation of exiles.

☐ From Page 1

The spokesman said his government, and others, had urged the SA government to allow the participation of the UNHCR.

A British embassy spokesman said it had earmarked between R2m and R3m, and added that Britain could contribute more if the UNHCR became involved.

An Italian embassy spokesman said his government intended assisting but had not yet decided on an allocation, partly because of a scarcity of reliable data on which to assess requirements.

The Italian government was also keen to see the involvement of the UNHCR.

Talks on SA's 40 000 exiles continue

Ster 12/11/91

THE United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) was in contact with the South African mission in Switzerland, the ANC and PAC regarding the repatriation of more than 40 000 SA exiles.

In an interview with Africa News Organisation from Geneva, the public information officer of the UNHCR, Jeff Crisp, said the UN body was a non-political organisation and could therefore not get involved in South Africa's political situation.

He was reacting to a Pretoria statement in which Home Affairs department chief director of immigration, Mike Bester, said South Africa could not compromise its sovereignty by allowing the UN a repatriation role inside South Africa.

According to Mr Bester, the UNHCR was, however, welcome to play a role outside South Africa.

Functions

In reaction, Mr Crisp stressed the UNHCR was strictly a humanitarian and a non-governmental organisation and the Government had nothing to fear it.

The UNHCR had two main functions: to protect refugees and to seek durable solutions to their problems.

"In order to protect refugees, the UNHCR must safeguard their life, security and freedom. It means preventing refugees from being returned to a country where they may be in danger of persecution, and promoting their rights in such vital fields as accommodation, education, employment and freedom of movement," said Mr Crisp.

UNHCR successfully helped with the repatriation of the 45 000 Namibian exiles to Namibia in 1989. About R107 million was pledged by the UNHCR for this purpose.

The UNHCR currently cares for almost 14 million refugees worldwide.

UN body wants talks in SA on exiles

THE UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) hopes to send a high-level delegation to SA for discussions with government on the commission's possible role in the repatriation of exiles.

The mission would be the first official visit to SA by a UN agency that would be concerned with purely SA issues.

Government is coming under heavy pressure locally and abroad to allow the UNHCR to oversee the repatriation of an estimated 40 000 exiles before April 30.

The Chief of Mission of the liaison office of the International Organisation for Migration in Germany, Karl Beck, said from Cologne last night the UNHCR wanted to send a mission several months ago but

PATRICK BULGER

government would not give the go-ahead. It was trying to set up a visit soon, he said.

Beck conducted negotiations with government, the ANC and the National Co-Ordinating Committee for Repatriation of South African exiles (NCCR) during a visit to SA late last year.

He added the UNHCR was hoping it would be a planning mission for the repatriation exercise and that the visit would enable it to draw up a detailed plan of action and a budget.

Government is resisting pressure for UN involvement in the programme, arguing it

☐ To Page 2

UN body

would compromise SA's sovereignty. It is understood the Cabinet is split on the issue.

Home Affairs Chief of Migration Mike Bester said discussions with the UN were continuing through diplomatic channels. He said government was likely to give its final answer on UN involvement after African and world church bodies met in Harare next month.

Bester last night declined to confirm or deny that the UNHCR had approached government about a possible visit.

Beck poured cold water on government attempts to go it alone in the repatriation exercise.

☐ From Page 1

He said his organisation for one would not become involved in a repatriation exercise not overseen by the UNHCR.

Neither would donor governments make money available for a repatriation exercise that did not involve the UNHCR.

He said Scandinavian governments — traditionally major donors in refugee situations — would not contribute to a plan in which people went back to SA only to face levels of political violence that the UN was not able to monitor.

UNHCR spokesmen were unavailable for comment yesterday.

● Comment: Page 10

UN hopes for talks on SA refugees

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) hopes to send a high-level delegation to South Africa for discussions with the government on the commission's possible role in the repatriation of exiles.

The government is coming under heavy pressure locally and abroad to allow the UNHCR to oversee the repatriation of an estimated 40 000 exiles before April 30.

Mr Karl Beck, chief of mission of the International Organisation for Migration in Germany, said from Cologne last night the UNHCR was trying to set up a visit soon.

Mr Beck negotiated with the government, the ANC and the National Co-Ordinating Committee for Repatriation of South African exiles during a visit to South Africa late last year.

The government is resisting pressure for UN involvement, arguing it would compromise South Africa's sovereignty.

Mr Beck said his organisation for one would not become involved in an exercise not overseen by the UNHCR, and donor governments would not make money available if the UNHCR was not involved.

UNHCR spokesmen were not available for comment yesterday.

Mike Littlejohn reports from New York on candidates for the top UN job

Odds against African Secretary-General

Star 28/11/91

336

WHAT could turn out to be a drawn-out contest for the high office of UN Secretary-General has begun, after Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar's definitive statement that this is his last year in the job.

No secretary-general has served more than two five-year terms and the Peruvian diplomat, who is 71 and had a quadruple coronary by-pass in 1986, is not about to break the mould.

Who will succeed him? In the years ahead the UN is certain to be called upon to exercise enlarged responsibilities, not only in the aftermath of the Gulf war but the complex post-cold-war problems, as well as the changes in southern Africa.

Just as events in the Baltic states have been overshadowed in the American and European media by the Gulf war, so have recent events in South Africa.

But UN delegates are not myopic and the situation in southern Africa is certain to influence their choice of the next Secretary-General.

Zimbabwe, a new member of the Security Council — which must recommend a nominee for election by the General Assembly — is said to have begun a campaign on behalf of Bernard Chidzero, its Finance Minister.

Major-General Joseph Garba, a flamboyant Nigerian who until recently was president of the General Assembly, has made no secret of his own ambitions.

Another Nigerian, former President Olusegun Obasanjo, has similar ideas.

Olar Otunnu, who was Nigeria's UN Ambassador and president of the Security Council when a deadlock was broken in 1981 to permit Dr Perez de Cuellar's appointment, is another hopeful.

Africa has never had one of its own in the top UN spot. If key delegates are to be believed, that is not likely to change soon.

The political and economic mess in Africa, plus the need for a steady hand and an unemotional approach towards southern Africa, make it unlikely that any African diplomat will find acceptance, Western delegates say.

However, they acknowledge that China could make difficulties if it were to fix on a particular African aspirant and block other candidates with its veto.

In 1981, the Chinese proved they can be stubborn. They cast repeated vetoes to prevent the re-nomination of Dr Kurt Waldheim, insisting that it was time for a third-world UN Chief. Dr Perez de Cuellar was their final choice.

After Dr Waldheim's bitter animosity towards South Africa, Dr Perez de Cuellar's objectivity came like a breath of fresh air.

South Africa must be among many states that are saddened by the prospect of his departure.

Martti Ahtisaari, who supervised the Namibia independence operation, is believed to be a potential candidate to succeed him.

Given President Robert Mugabe's harsh criticism of his decision to permit South African troops to engage Swapo forces in the first days of the operation, the possibility that Mr Ahtisaari may run against Mr Chidzero makes for an interesting scenario.

According to reports, there are as many as 17 hopefuls, including Oscar Arias, a former president of Costa Rica and a Nobel Peace Prize winner; Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, who tried and failed in 1981; and Carlos Ortiz de Rosas, a seasoned Argentine diplomat who beat Dr Waldheim in total votes cast in 1971 but was vetoed by the Soviet Union.

Since the argument against a Nato or Warsaw Pact national may not be relevant any more, Maurice Strong of Canada is given a slim chance.

A high school dropout, he began his career as a UN security guard, went on to make a fortune in oil and performed brilliantly as organiser of the first UN conference on the environment, later becoming secretary-general of the Nairobi-based UN Environment Programme.

Margaret Thatcher and Eduard Shevardnadze have been mentioned in some quarters, but only by those unaware of a rule that bars any national from a permanent member state of the Security Council from serving as Secretary-General.

Who succeeds Dr Perez de Cuellar may well turn out to be someone not even mentioned in the current speculation. □

UN chief hails F W's courage

Sowetan 6/2/91

336

NEW YORK - The United Nations' secretary-general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, yesterday hailed the historic announcements made by South African State President F W de Klerk when he opened Parliament on Friday.

Describing the announcements as "constructive initiatives", Perez de Cuellar expressed the hope that there would be a negotiated settlement in South Africa.

The UN chief, who had been too preoccupied by the Gulf crisis to pay much attention to recent events in South Africa, was upbeat in his response to the State President's address.

In a statement issued by his spokesman, he said, De Klerk's address "advances further the process of removing statutory apartheid from the country's institutional framework."

Perez de Cuellar hoped that "these constructive initiatives will be accompanied by measures giving substantive effect to the removal of the main pillars of apartheid and by the resolution of a number of outstanding issues required for the commencement of negotiations."

He said he was heartened to see that these and other initiatives by South African leaders - an allusion to black leaders, including African National Congress deputy president, Mr Nelson Mandela - were providing impetus for the process of eradicating apartheid and "the establishment of a non-racial and democratic society in the country, as envisaged by the United Nations."



PEREZ DE CUELLAR

South Africa's severest critics in the UN, including leading black African delegates, seemed to need more time to digest the president's remarks before reacting. At least, they resisted past inclinations to dismiss such statements almost immediately as "merely cosmetic."

Response

Perez de Cuellar's favourable response could make it difficult for others to find fault with De Klerk's initiative, Western delegates said.

Despite Mandela's assertion that sanctions must still remain in place, several Western delegates said privately that the time was approaching when these could no longer be justified.

UN delegation arrives tomorrow for talks on repatriation of exiles

A UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) delegation is due to arrive in Johannesburg tomorrow for talks with SA government officials.

The four-man delegation will hold talks on the organisation's role in the repatriation of an estimated 40 000 exiles.

The visit, described yesterday as a "fact-finding" tour is believed to be the first official UN mission to SA concerned solely with SA affairs.

The mission will spend a week in the country and will be headed by the Burundian director of the regional bureau for Africa, Nicholas Bwakira.

Other members of the delegation include the head of the UNHCR's southern Africa desk, A O Akiwumi from Ghana; the legal adviser of the international protection division of the UNHCR, K Kalumiya; and the chief of the emergency preparedness section, Robert White, who comes from the US.

Although the meeting was being kept under wraps, a reliable government source said the delegation would meet the directors-general of a number of SA government departments — among them Constitutional Affairs, Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs, National Health and Population Development and Justice.

PATRICK BULGER

The source said that an SA delegation headed by Constitutional Affairs director-general S S van der Merwe will meet the UNHCR delegation in Cape Town on Monday.

Speaking from Geneva, the UNHCR's Bwakira confirmed the visit was going ahead.

However, he would not comment on specifics. "In the interests of the work we want to perform we would not like to go public on the negotiations," Bwakira said.

He said he hoped to meet a wide range of SA leaders who had an interest in the repatriation exercise.

This would include government as well as opposition figures in the ANC and PAC.

The visit is the clearest indication to date that the UNHCR may yet play a role in the repatriation exercise.

Government has previously rejected a role for the UNHCR — especially inside the country — as it felt this would undermine SA's sovereignty.

The National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation (NCCR) of SA exiles has pushed for UNHCR involvement, arguing that foreign donors would withhold funds unless a body of the stature of the UNHCR became involved.

Government has been coming under intense pressure to announce finally whether or not the UNHCR will be involved.

The delegation's meetings are expected to resolve the issue finally.

An NCCR spokesman said yesterday the visit was "sensitive" and refused to comment further.

The spokesman, however, welcomed the fact that it was taking place.

The exiles' return to the country by April 31 has been set as a pre-condition for the start of negotiations for a new constitution.

'Abuses' in the way of UN's exile aid

PATRICK BULGER

HUMAN rights abuses in ANC and Swapo camps have emerged as an obstacle to UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) involvement in SA's exile repatriation programme.

A UN team is due to meet senior government officials in Cape Town today for talks on the world body's involvement in the repatriation of an estimated 40 000 South African exiles.

Notorious

But members of the security establishment have raised the UNHCR's funding of ANC and Swapo camps in southern Africa, a well-placed government source said.

"The security apparatus is concerned about the UNHCR's involvement in ANC refugee camps," the source said.

Security officials allege that the ANC's notorious Quatro detention camp in Angola was financed by the UNHCR which, if it was aware of the incarceration and torture of dissidents and spies, did nothing to stop them.

The officials claim that while the world body as a whole was not responsible for the human rights abuses, regional officials in southern Africa were simply not doing their job properly.

"This is well known in security circles," the source said.

The security officials are concerned that returning exiles in concentrated numbers in camps in SA will not be allowed to take independent decisions.

They argue such exiles could be coerced into taking certain political and military stances and that, given the record of regional UNHCR officials in southern Africa, they might be unable to prevent such coercion.

Resources

The visiting UN delegation, headed by its director for Africa Nicholas Bwakira, will attempt to argue against these concerns at its meeting today.

Certain elements within government are keen on UNHCR involvement, however, and will argue that the resources the UNHCR is able to command must count in its favour.

The UN team could not be contacted for comment yesterday.

him with them with the greatest pleasure. [Interjections.]

†Mr S C JACOBS: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, I understand that he cannot now tell us how it happens that regarding realized investments there is a loss above a return, but will the hon the Deputy Minister release a public statement on the matter some time, and I refer him to page 306 of the Report of the Auditor-General.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the hon member may ask a specific question on the matter and then we can give him a specific reply to it.

Prison services: apartheid abolished

*6. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

Whether he recently made a statement to the effect that apartheid in the prision services was being abolished; if so, what specific steps have been taken to give effect to this statement in relation to the (a) accommodation and treatment of prisioners, (b) housing of prison officials, (c) recreational facilities available to such officials and (d) employment and promotion policy and practice within his department? B9E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

(a) I announced on 27 April 1990 during the debate on the Prisons Vote that legislation would be tabled to remove mandatory segregation in prisons based on race. Section 23 of the Prisons Act, 1959 (Act 8 of 1959), was consequently amended to the extent that segregation in prisons is no longer applied on racial grounds. All references in the Act to race and colour have also been removed. These amendments were published in the Government Gazette on 11 July 1990.

The meaning of this amendment of section 23 of the Prisons Act is that decisions on the allocation of prisoners to different prisons, sections and cells, would henceforth be taken without having to consider race as a madatory criterium but with due consideration of factors such as the classification of prisioners in terms of maximum, medium or minimum security detention that may be required; their privilege classification based on behaviour and adaptation in prison; the desirability of the separation of hardened criminals from first offenders, unsentenced prisoners from sentenced prisoners, juveniles from adults; their work allocation or involvement in particular treatment programmes; the maintenance of an orderly dispensation; the prevention of conflict, etc.

The policy concerning the treatment of prisoners is a uniform one applicable to all prisoners and differences in application that may still exist are based on economic realities that cannot be eliminated overnight.

(b) The Government-supported housing loan and subsidy scheme is accessible to all staff attached to the Department of Correctional Services.

Where new housing for staff is being erected on departmental property, it is being done according to uniform building norms and standards. Accommodation erected prior to the implementation of those uniform norms and standards is placed on programme for suitable additions where justified.

The allocation of official quarters to personnel is done in accordance with functional considerations, also taking cognizance of applicable statutory provisions.

(c) The policy provides that recreational facilities and sport facilities provided for staff by the Government on departmental property will be accessible to all personnel.

(d) The separate establishments which previously existed in the department were rationalized to one establishment during 1985 and since then the recruitment, allocation, development and promotion of staff takes place solely in accordance with the principles of merit and efficiency.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

Old Crossroads/Khayelitsha: MPs refused entrance

*7. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(1) Whether the Commissioner of Police in the Western Cape recently refused that permission be granted to certain members of Parliament to enter the Black townships of Old Crossroads and Khayelitsha; if so, (a) who are the members of Parliament and (b) for what reasons was permission refused, in each case;

(2) whether any of these members were arrested in the residential areas concerned; if so, (a) who are these members and (b) for what reasons, in each case? B13E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes.

(a) Mr J van Eck.

(b) In the period immediately preceding the declaraton of the relevant areas as unrest areas in terms of section 5A of the Public Safety Act of 1953, Act 3 of 1953, the atmosphere was extremely tense, especially in Khayelitsha. Several people were killed in the preceding period and much damage was done to property. These circustances in particular gave rise to the Unrest Regulations being declared for the areas, including Old Crossroads and Khayelitsha. It was under these circumstances that the South African Police were doing their utmost to keep the sensitive situation under control.

The tension and unrest were due mainly to the persistent efforts of certain organizations to dissolve the existing, legally elected local committees and for its members to resign. It is common knowledge that Mr Van Eck is opposed to the present system of local authorities and supports the attempts of these organizations. The residents of the relevant areas who support the system are antagonistic towards him. On 15 October 1990 he was also attacked in Crossroads by a group of women who wanted to display their objection to his presence. This makes his presence in these areas not only undesirable, but also creates the potential for unrest incidents, disturbances and public violence.

On 25 October 1990 Mr van Eck was also in the presence of certain groups in Khayelitsha who immediately after his departure, threw stones at members of the South African Police.

It is for these reasons that Mr Van Eck was prohibited in terms of Unrest Regulation 7(b)(vi) from entering those areas where the Unrest Regulations were in force.

(2) Yes.

(a) Mr J van Eck.

(b) Mr Van Eck was arrested in terms of the provisions of Unrest Regulation 2 and in accordance with this provision removed from the unrest area. The officer who arrested and removed Mr Van Eck from the area was of the opinion that Mr Van Eck's presence there could contribute to public disturbance, disorderliness or public violence.

UNHCR: monitoring of refugees

*8. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(1) Whether the United Nations High Commission for Refugees will be allowed to monitor, from within South Africa, the return of refugees; if not, why not; if so, from what date;

(2) whether there will be any restrictions governing its activities; if so, (a) what restrictions and (b) why? B14E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) and (2) The extent of possible involvement by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees within the Republic of South Africa, if any, has not been finally resolved and discussions in this regard are being continued.

Rift in govt developing over the return of exiles

A RIFT is developing in government circles over the possible involvement of the UN's High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in repatriating an estimated 40 000 South African exiles.

While the UNHCR delegation was meeting a South African government delegation in Cape Town yesterday, a senior Home Affairs Department official issued a statement endorsing his department's primary role in the process.

The Bureau for Information statement, in the name of the chief migration director Mike Bester, did not mention a possible UNHCR role.

It said: "This directorate is undertaking the repatriation of approximately 40 000 South African expatriates in co-operation with other state departments and non-governmental bodies such as the ANC and the National Co-ordinating Committee (NCCR)."

PATRICK BULGER

The statement was interpreted by sources close to the meeting in Cape Town as an attempt by certain sectors to gain currency for the notion that the repatriation exercise could be completed without the UNHCR.

Bester said the interpretation was incorrect, however, as he was only providing background on what had already taken place.

The controversy compounded earlier problems regarding UNHCR involvement, especially concerns voiced by security force members that the UNHCR had not been impartial in its monitoring of ANC refugee camps in southern Africa in the past.

Yesterday's meeting, according to a well-placed government source, provided a useful exchange of views.

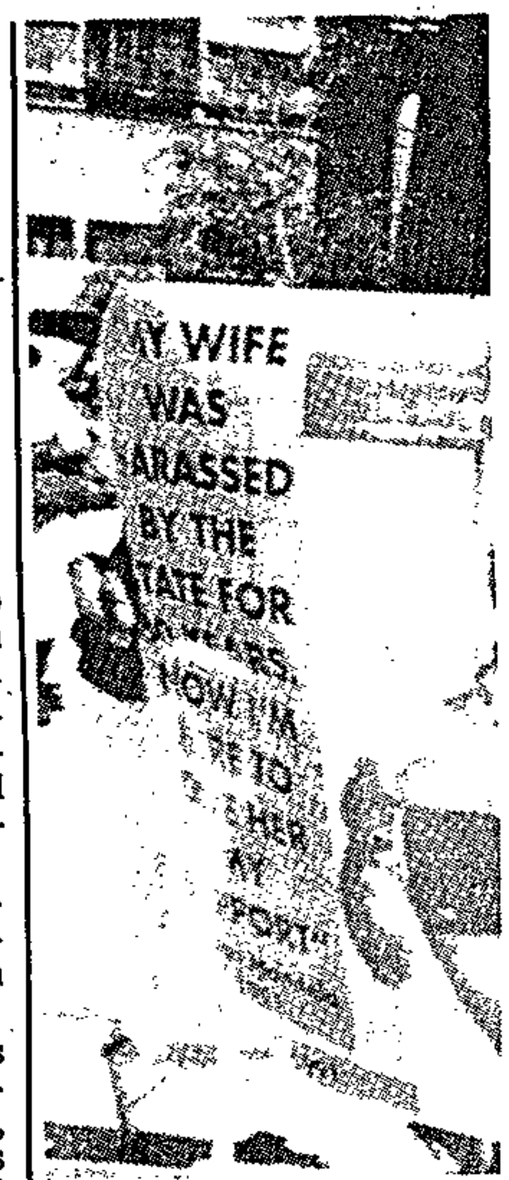
The UNHCR delegation headed by its Africa director Nicholas Bwakira met a delegation headed by Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha and included Home Affairs Minister Gene Louw, Health Minister Rina Venter and Deputy Justice Minister Danie Schutte.

The matter will now be referred to the Cabinet. No decision was taken on whether the UNHCR will be involved.

Meanwhile it is understood government has begun compiling an inventory of buildings that could be hired to the NCCR as primary and secondary reception areas for exiles.

The move has prompted allegations by NCCR sources that government is attempting to "profit" from the exercise.

The NCCR's sources said Bester's statement that the NCCR could register a fund to collect funds for housing, schools and clinics was being seen as an attempt to make infrastructural gains from the repatriation exercise.



A man holds up a poster sup
yesterday. Mandela is being

Talks speed up as 500 exiles get set to return

M&G 15/2-21/2/91 336

THE first large group of indemnified exiles will possibly return to South Africa on March 8, say African National Congress officials.

The government has already issued 500 travel documents, and the movement is planning to charter a flight that will bring in about 200 people from Lusaka to Jan Smuts Airport.

Both Foreign Minister Pik Botha and the leader of a United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) delegation to South Africa, Nicolas Bwakira, indicated that this week's talks between the government and the UNHCR have been promising.

Meanwhile, the cabinet met in Cape Town on Wednesday to consider the details agreed on Tuesday at the top-secret meeting between delegations led by President FW de Klerk and ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela. The ANC National Executive is to meet on Friday to add its stamp of approval to the agreement. Details will be revealed in a joint statement.

The Tuesday talks at Westbrooke in Cape Town were followed by a joint statement that said the two sides had resolved the stalemate caused by their different interpretations of last August's Pretoria Minute. In that agreement — the second summit meeting between Mandela and De Klerk — the ANC had agreed to suspend the armed struggle and related acts while the government undertook to release political prisoners and facilitate the return of thousands of exiles.

Repatriation is only one deadlock that has been addressed this week. The fact that the ANC and the government reached agreement on Wednesday signifies that two other critical deadlocks have also been broken: the definition of political prisoners and the dispute over "mass action".

The government has insisted, up to now, that mass action by the ANC was related to the armed struggle and the "related activities" it had suspended under the Pretoria Minute. The joint working group that was to have worked out such delicate details reached a dead end, but sources say the ANC convinced the government that mass action is not armed struggle, and the organisation is thus not breaking the terms of the Pretoria Minute.

While the delegations met in secret, deputy Justice Minister Danie Schutte told parliament there would soon be a comprehensive statement on the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles.

And, he said, amendments to the Internal Security Act would be tabled. The ANC wants the Act scrapped, but the government insists on retaining sections of it such as the clause that provides for detention without trial that is now being used against right-wingers.

The agreement made this week by the government and the ANC, coupled with the apparent success of the UNHCR talks, promises to break the deadlock that has prevented South Africa's estimated 40 000 exiles from returning according to the schedule of the Pretoria Minute.

This week the government appeared less hostile towards UN involvement in repatriation, and a date was set for the possible return of the first large group of indemnified exiles, report MARK GEVISSER and ARTHUR MAIMANE

One ANC official said: "Even though we still have some disagreements with the government, they have made a concerted effort in the past couple of days to speed up the process, and we can only assume this is because of the talks held between Mandela and De Klerk earlier this week."

The government seems to have relented on its hostility to the UN being involved in the return of exiles. Botha, who said only last week that there was no need for outside involvement, had "very pleasant" talks in Cape Town on Tuesday with a delegation from the UNHCR.

Bwakira said: "I believe we have answered the government's reservations sufficiently." These reservations are that a UNHCR presence would challenge South Africa's sovereignty, and that it is partisan to the liberation movements.

Bwakira stressed that the UNHCR will not be here to give approval or disapproval, but to facilitate the return of exiles "in a non-partisan and humanitarian manner".

The ANC is in the process of determining where the exiles will go upon return. "Our plan is to take all 200 or so to a reception centre, from which place the National Committee for the Co-ordination of Repatriation will arrange land transport to their regions."

The government's repatriation co-ordinator, Mike Bester, said: "We are going all the way to assist the ANC with this homecoming. We are working together on the whole deal."

To date, people have been coming home on an individual basis, either independently, or to work for the ANC. Even though the March 8 group are members of the ANC, they are not necessarily returning to work for the organisation.

Their return will clear the way for the large-scale return of the ANC's estimated 20 000 members-in-exile. If a significant number of these have returned by April 30, the organisation will be able to continue its negotiations with the government.

If the two sides have now finally resolved all their differences — which will only become clear after the ANC Executive's meeting and the issuing of a detailed joint statement — they should be able to move from talks about removing obstacles to actual negotiations of a new constitution.



UNHCR Africa Bureau director and delegation leader Nicolas Bwakira, left, with delegation member Kallu Kalumiya at Friday's news conference. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

World 'wants to help exiles'

336

THEO RAWANA

THE diplomatic corps which met the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in Cape Town showed a great willingness to back the $40m needed for the repatriation of SA refugees, journalists were told at the weekend.

UNHCR Africa Bureau director Nicolas Bwakira told a Press conference on Friday the UNHCR met representatives from 15 countries. BIDAM 18/2/91

The delegates, among whom were nine ambassadors, gave a strong indication that the international community was willing to give financial support to the estimated 40 000 exiles.

Bwakira said the SA government had still to determine what role the commission was to play in the programme. "Government promised to look into the matter and make a decision soon," he said.

The four-man UNHCR delegation led by Bwakira held talks with government, political organisations, churchmen, trade unionists and the diplomats.

"We were here to decide matters of policy, who should get involved and who should be doing what," Bwakira said.

"The delegation detected an overall desire for the safe and expeditious return of all refugees, with UNCHR playing the role of a facilitator," he added.

Bwakira said the delegation hoped that all the remaining obstacles to the commencement of repatriation would be removed soon, and the ANC's April 30 deadline could be met.

The process of repatriation was "mammoth and highly complex, and time is of the essence. When such repatriation will start is a matter for the government to decide."

The process would require registration in the various countries of refuge of those wishing to return home, arrangements for international transport and for housing and employment, said Bwakira.

Verwoerd memorial

UN shows spirit of cooperation

Sowetan 18/2/91 336

NEW YORK - After years of mutual hostility, the South African government and the United Nations Centre against Apartheid now find themselves more or less on the same side.

Officials on both sides said that a degree of understanding and cooperation that was virtually unthinkable as recently as a year ago was now developing.

Mr Sotirios Mousouris, the assistant secretary-general in charge of the centre, appeared positive about the changes instituted by President FW de Klerk in a recent UN television program. 3000

Fault

South African officials who have scrutinised the videotape said there was little with which they could find fault.

When a reporter on the interviewing panel observed that Mousouris might soon be out of a job, the assistant secretary-general agreed, adding that it could not be too soon.

Meanwhile, several South African nationals working for the UN have returned home for visits, in some cases after absences of several years. - *Sowetan Correspondent*

A big NYET to Gorbachev

Star 21/2/91

Young Soviets are unhappy about the way the Soviet Union is being run, according to a recently released Western-sponsored survey.

YOUNG adult Soviets retain few Marxist-Leninist values, and are equally disillusioned with the current political leadership, according to what is claimed to be the first Western-sponsored opinion poll of 18 to 25-year-olds in the Soviet Union, released this week.

Few think President Mikhail Gorbachev is helping to bring about political change in the country, more than half (51 percent) say he is an obstacle, and a further one in five are not sure.

Almost 85 percent think there should be private ownership of land, and 70 percent want industry and commerce to be privately owned.

Undermined

A representative sample of 1 050 18 to 25-year-olds, in six regions of the Russian Republic, was polled by the Soviet Institute of Sociology over a fortnight in November, just before the resignation of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze further undermined confidence in the government.

The poll was carried out for Reader's Digest magazine, and appeared yesterday in the United States edition, ahead of publication in the British edition next month.

Asked to choose their favourite leader from a list of 10, only six in a 100 chose Mr Gorbachev, 39 percent chose Boris Yeltsin, the Russian President, 8 percent said they liked nobody, and 27 percent



By popular acclaim . . . Russian premier Boris Yeltsin.

indicated what was probably disdain by declining to answer the question.

The poll was taken before the use of force in Lithuania, but there is remarkably little support for compelling non-Russian Soviet republics to toe the line politically and militarily.

Asked whether republics should be allowed to secede if they so desire, seven out of 10 young Russians said they should. Fewer than one in five said not, and 11 percent were undecided.

The chief concerns of those questioned are overwhelmingly domestic rather than international. Fifty-two percent said they were most worried about economic collapse, 38 percent by civil strife, and fewer than 3 percent by "external threats".

Only 16 percent felt the Soviet Union's world role should take precedence over improvements at home.

Protest

Asked if they would protest publicly against government policies, if asked, almost four in 10 said they would do so, and only one in four said they would not, with the largest group unsure.

But only 31 percent favour unlimited political activity, and only 58 percent favour freedom of the press.

Possibly the most telling illustration of the inability of a government to modify deeply held views is the young people's attitude to religion.

Although most of those questioned are the second generation to have lived their entire lives in an atheist state, only 40 percent said they were not believers in God, while 35 percent said they did believe and another 25 percent were agnostic. — The Independent News Service. □

Africa vies for top UN post

Star 21/2/91

336

The search is on for the next secretary-general of the United Nations, a post Africa hopes one of its sons will fill. The Star's UN CORRESPONDENT reports from New York.

THE AFRICAN states have been advised to prepare a short list of candidates for the post of United Nations secretary-general to back their contention that it is their turn to hold the prestige office, say reliable sources.

Some African officials reacted indignantly to the suggestion, saying that no other regional group had ever been asked to adopt such a nominating procedure.

But Western diplomats rejected a contention that the post of secretary-general was subject to the kind of equitable geographic representation that applies to lesser UN jobs, and that, therefore, because there has never been an African in the post, someone from Africa must have a prior claim.

"The five permanent members are agreed that the main criterion is competence, regardless of nationality," one said.

Although the votes of the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union and China — each of which has veto power — are decisive in the selection, most of the 10 rotating members of the Security Council must also agree before a name can go to the General Assembly for approval.

Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar has made it clear that he wants to relinquish the post when his second five-year term expires at the end of this year. But some still cling to a hope that he can be persuaded to soldier on for a year or two.

However, growing antagonism between him and Iraq has led to a realisation that he may not be the ideal person to lead the negotations with Baghdad that the UN is considered certain to arrange after the Gulf war.

Half a dozen African contenders are known to be waiting in the wings, including Olara Otunnu of Uganda.

Mr Otunnu, no longer a delegate, is now president of the New York-based International Peace Aacademy. He is highly regarded in UN circles for his pragmatism and intelligence.

Nonetheless, many UN observers believe the odds are against an African. As far as there is any favourite today, Ali Alatas, the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, is a name most often mentioned. □

total cost to his Department and (d) how many citizens were involved?

B227E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

An amount of R10 000 was paid to the Municipality of Zeerust by the Department of National Health and Population Development as a special assistance measure on account of the greater pressure on the rendering of health services by that Municipality.

Middle East: return of SA citizens

*17. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Whether his Department recently assisted South African citizens to return to South Africa from the Middle East; if so, (a) why was this assistance given, (b) what form did the assistance take, (c) what was the total cost to his Department and (d) how many citizens were involved?

B228E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

Yes.

(a) The assistance was provided in response to appeals from representatives of a large group of South African citizens stranded in Saudi Arabia as a result of the war in the Gulf and from many of their relatives in South Africa. Normal commercial air traffic into and out of the region had been virtually suspended and there were increasing concerns about the welfare of large numbers of the stranded persons. Many of them were elderly people and small children; others were affected by the failure of repeated efforts to evacuate them via the few remaining commercial flights, by the declining prospects of bringing them home via commercially available means or by their growing financial plight or being forced to stay in hotels or rented accommodation.

(b) The assistance provided took the form of two special charter return flights from Jeddah to Nairobi. Initial efforts to utilise the few remaining commercially operated flights out of Jeddah to evacuate the group were thwarted partly because of the call of a South African Muslim organisation in the Eastern Cape to recruit Muslims to fight for Iraq. Following this, efforts were made to arrange special commercial flights by either Kenya Airways or Saudi Airways to bring the South Africans home. Security, technical or operational difficulties arising from the use of civilian aircraft in a war zone coupled with security considerations raised by some governments en route to and from Saudi Arabia, led to the failure of these efforts. It was finally decided in the circumstances to mount special charter evacuation flights from Jeddah to Nairobi. The South Africans were able to return to Johannesburg from Nairobi on a South African Airways flight.

(c) It has not yet been possible to determine the cost involved. In accordance with standard consular practice, fees are levied for certain consular services provided to distressed South Africans abroad. In normal circumstances the standard commercial cost of transporting persons from abroad to South Africa would be charged. The evacuation from Saudi Arabia was, however, abnormal in the sense that the circumstances brought about huge increases in, for example, the insurance costs of operating civilian aircraft in a war zone. The Government feels that the South Africans in question should not be required to meet the additional, abnormal costs of evacuating them from Saudi Arabia. The circumstances which led to their plight were beyond their control. The consular fee to be submitted to them will thus be computed on the basis of the approximate costs of a normal commercial flight from Jeddah to Nairobi under normal conditions. This figure is presently being calculated with the assistance of South African Airways. The State will bear the additional abnormal charges. Many other governments incurred considerable expenses in evacuating their citizens from the war zone and from Iraq. In a situation such as that which prevailed in the Middle East, costs were not a factor in determining what needed to be done in the interests of ensuring the safety of their citizens.

(d) 304 South African citizens were involved.

Certain person: criminal record

*18. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(1) Whether his Department has received any information on the alleged criminal record of a certain person, particulars of whom have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, what (a) is the name of this person and (b) are the details of his criminal record;

(2) whether this person holds a South African passport under the name of Chris Alexander; if so,

(3) whether this is his real name; if not, what steps has his Department taken in this regard; if so,

(4) whether this person recently changed his name; if so, what are the relevant details?

B236E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes

(a) Alexander Kavouras

(b) The Department was informed of previous convictions between 1976 and 1983, which include convictions in respect of a traffic offence, Sabbathbreaking, illegal dealing in liquor, an infringement of the Gambling Act, 1965, and common assault.

Kavouras's file is available in the Parliamentary Office of the Department for the honourable member's confidential perusal.

(2) No South African passport has been issued to a Chris Alexander.

(3) Falls away.

(4) No

Certain person: deportation

*19. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether his Department has received any requests from the South African Police for the deportation of a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (a) what is the name of this person, (b) on what dates were these requests received, (c) why were the requests made and (d) what (i) was his Department's reaction to each of these requests and (ii) were his Department's reasons for its reaction in each case?

B237E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

On 2 September 1980 the Commissioner of the South African Police submitted to my Department a provisional report, a memorandum and a list of previous convictions, in respect of one Alexander Kavouras, together with a recommendation that he be deported.

The Minister of Law and Order requested in a letter dated 20 January 1988 to my predecessor that one Alexandros Kavouras be deported, should my predecessor agree that Kavouras was an undesirable person and not an asset to the Republic.

According to Departmental records Alexander Kavouras and Alexandros Kavouras is one and the same person. The latter name is the name under which the person concerned is officially known in Departmental records.

On 23 December 1980 the Department informed the Commissioner of Police that no steps were contemplated against Kavouras. According to Departmental records this decision was made by an official of the Department on 17 December 1980, due to the fact that none of the previous convictions were deportable offences in terms of the Admission of Persons to the Republic Regulation Act, 1972 (Act 59 of 1972), and also because of insufficient grounds to recommend to the Minister that Kavouras be removed in the public interest.

In consequence of the Minister of Law and Order's letter the Department recommended to my predecessor on 18 February 1988 that no steps be taken against Kavouras by reason of the fact that he had permanent residence and vested interests in the Republic from 1966, and that deportation in the public interest was not justified on the available evidence. My predecessor accepted the recommendation and the Minister of Law and Order was informed accordingly.

UNHCR: meeting

*20. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

(1) Whether there has been any meeting between the Government and representatives of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees; if so, (a) when did the meeting take place, (b) by whom was it attended and (c) what was the (i) purpose and (ii) outcome of the meeting;

(2) whether any further meetings are due to take place; if so, what are the relevant details? B242E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes

(a) The meeting took place in Cape Town on 12 February 1991.

(b) It was attended by a delegation of four UNHCR officials under the leadership of Mr N Bwakira, Director of the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Africa and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, National Health and Population Development and Home Affairs, the Deputy Minister of Justice and senior South African officials.

(c) (i) The purpose of the meeting was to explore with the delegation of the UNHCR the basis on which that organisation might assist in facilitating the return of exiles to South Africa should it be decided to extend an invitation to it to play a role.

(ii) The meeting was purely exploratory.

(2) None are scheduled as of now.

Pretoria Minute: work completed

*21. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

(1) Whether it is anticipated that the work in connection with the release of prisoners and the granting of amnesty referred to in the Pretoria Minute will be completed by 30 April 1991;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B243E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

(1) and (2) The target date as set is attainable provided that the applicants for release and indemnity give their full co-operation.

Fuel price: criteria

*22. Adv C H PIENAAR asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises:†

(a) What criteria are applied in fixing the price of fuel on a differentiated basis in the various fuel zones and (b) how many fuel zones are there in the Republic at present? B252E

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES:

(a) Fuel prices differ only in respect of transport costs. The different price zones reflect the costs of transport to a particular area and for this purpose magisterial districts are used. All magisterial districts with the same transport cost element are combined in a price zone. The transport cost also represents the most economic mode of transport which can be used in an area, for example pipeline, rail or road, or a combination of these modes as applicable. The Pretoria-Vereeniging-Witwatersrand is price zone 14C and is based on pipeline tariffs. The increased transport cost that became effective on 1 January 1991 has thus far not been passed on to consumers and is still separately financed by the Equalisation Fund.

(b) 60

*23. Dr F Hartzenberg—Justice.† [Withdrawn.]

White schools: pupil/teacher ratio

*24. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of National Education:†

(1) Whether his Department is considering adjusting the pupil/teacher ratio in White schools; if so, what ratio is envisaged by his Department in this regard;

(2) whether it is foreseen that some White teachers are going to lose their posts in White schools as a result of this adjustment; if so, what steps are contemplated in respect of such teachers? B258E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) Strictly speaking, the issue of the pupil/teacher ratio in schools is not a line function of the Department of National Education and it does not fall within the Department's jurisdiction to determine the day-to-day ratio.

The Department is, however, closely concerned with the determination of overall general policy and planning and will probably, as a result of reports related to the Education Renewal Strategy, attend to this matter, and to the implications, if any, that it may have for teaching staff, in consultation with relevant interested parties in the near future.

It would not be appropriate to anticipate those representations and consultations at this stage.

(2) Lapses.

Acacia Park: domestic servants

*25. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Public Works and Land Affairs:†

Whether his Department places any restriction on domestic servants of colour living in flats and/or houses in Acacia Park; if so, why; if not, why not? B261E

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS:

Yes, but in the rules and conditions of occupation, drawn up in consultation with the Acacia Park Control Board, no reference is made to race or colour. The applicable rule only states that *servants* may not be allowed to stay overnight in houses, flats or store-rooms.

In Acacia Park there are various types of dwellings ranging from three-bedroom houses to single flats. To ensure that dwellings are allocated in a fair and just manner, a points system is used. The number of people in the particular household who have to be accommodated is an important element of the points system. Tenants with larger families who have to be in Cape Town for the duration of the Session of Parliament receive preference in the allocation of the larger homes. There are not enough two- or three-bedroom dwellings available to provide accommodation for servants of tenants as well. Store-rooms at dwellings are also not considered to be suitable accommodation for continuous human occupation. For these reasons specific provision were made for servants' quarters in Acacia Park.

P160-1 road (N4)

*26. Dr W J BOTHA asked the Minister of Transport:†

(1) Whether the detail planning of the two uncompleted sections of the P160-1 road (the N4) has been completed;

(2) when is it expected that the construction work on these two sections will be (a) commenced and (b) completed? B272E

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1) Yes.

(2) (a) and (b) Due to the fact that restricted funds have to be used for other priorities the requested information is not determinable at this stage.

P160-2 road

*27. Dr W J BOTHA asked the Minister of Transport:†

Whether the construction work on the P160-2 road has been discontinued; if so, (a) when, (b) why, (c) when is it expected that the construction work will be (i) resumed and (ii) completed and (d) what amount had been spent on compacting the shoulders of and other construction work on this road when the construction work on it was discontinued? B273E

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

Yes.

(a) During May 1986;

(b) Due to a lack of funds;

(c) (i) and (ii) The requested information is not determinable at this stage; and

(d) R15,65 million.

'DOUBLE STANDARDS' WILL NOT SILENCE BCM

Cl Pres 3/3/91

Cl Pres 3/3/91

GOMOLEMO MOKAE of Azapo's education secretariat takes a look at what he calls "apartheid among anti-apartheiders" – international organisations like the United Nations and Non-Aligned Movement.

IN their arrogance towards natives of Africa, the East and West been presumptuous enough to tell us which liberation movement to support even while supporting our cause.

Organisations like the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement have also determined which African liberation movements are "authentic".

This shows gross disregard for African nations' right to determine their liberators.

Swapo in Namibia, Frelimo in Mozambique, Fapla in Angola, the ANC in occupied Azania and Zapu in Zimbabwe have been annointed the "five authenics" with the UN rubber-stamping the decision.

It came as no surprise that the supposedly independent Organisation for African Unity followed suit.

As the concept of a multi-party state gains ground in Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya thanks to the frantic efforts of the UN, OAU and the Western media, the concept of a one-party state is being supported by the same forces in occupied Azania.

Whether this is being done unwittingly or not, this article aims to highlight these double standards.

These international organisations have chosen the ANC as their own "blue-eyed boy" from the liberation movements of Azania.

The PAC, on the other hand, has reluctantly been recognised as "authentic".

Unfortunately the same cannot be said about the movement I belong to – the Black Consciousness Movement.

Though the BCM literally "carried" the struggle for a decade after the banning of the ANC and PAC, its immortal contribution to the Azanian cause is being ignored.

Though sanctions, sporting and cultural isolation campaigns and the impetus for the historic student rebellion of 1976 are largely attributable to the BCM inside the country, it remains "the black sheep" of liberation movements.

Even the glory due to the BCM's founding father, Bantu Steve Biko, has been eclipsed.

Other leaders receive praise for their contribution. They may have been jailed, but were spared the fate of BCM leaders like Biko, Onkgopotse Tiro, Mapetla Mohapi and Mthuli ka Shezi.

It would appear that those who advocate a multi-party state in other African countries and a one-party state in Azania are afflicted with "selective amnesia".

In their eyes the internal flag-bearer of BCM – the Azanian People's Organisation – and its structures like Imbeleko, the Azanian Students' Convention and the Community Health Awareness Project, do not exist.

But the external Black Consciousness Movement of Azania has suffered the most at the hands of those with "selective amnesia".

Its armed wing, the Azanian National Liberation Army, has had to become self-reliant as the UN and OAU have refused them aid because they do not recognise the organisation as authentic.

They refuse to accept that the BCM has as much right to exist as the ANC and PAC.

One would think they'd leave it to us to determine who is authentic.

This "apartheid" practised by the UN, OAU and the western media has led to the internecine violence of the late 80s.

Believing that theirs is the only authentic organisation, some groups have tried to liquidate their rivals, notably the BCM.

Despite not receiving military aid from either the West or East, the BCM has survived.

A former editor of the *Rand Daily Mail* – who is now a foreign correspondent and holds brief for the ANC – told an American audience at the height of violence between Azapo and the UDF that Azapo was dead.

"If Azapo is dead," asked an impassioned black American journalist, "why are there reports of battles between Azapo and the UDF in the Eastern Cape, Soweto, Natal and Northern Transvaal?"

The propagandist was dumbfounded.

A noted activist with ANC leanings once addressed a London audience also claiming Azapo was dead.

As he left the hall, he met Azanian exiles selling Azapo's publication *Frank Talk*.

"Oh that looks like a good mag. How do I subscribe?" he asked.

"It will be easy for you, the magazine is from back home!" retorted the exile.

Many have yet to learn that BC burns in the hearts of many Azanians.

It will not be stilled by neo-apartheid or "selective amnesia".

Mike Littlejohn in New York reports on the race for the top UN post

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Star 7/3/91.

Who will follow Perez de Cuellar?

A SHORT list of acceptable candidates for the post of UN secretary-general could emerge by the end of April, diplomats say.

The US and Britain are said to be keen to have the issue nearly wrapped up by then, hoping to avoid last-minute problems like those that marked the transition from Kurt Waldheim to Javier Perez de Cuellar 10 years ago.

Mr Waldheim, now president of Austria, has been revealed as a former officer in Hitler's army and to have been on a Yugoslav list of most-wanted war criminals.

Who takes over as UN chief on January 1 is of some concern to South Africa, since the problems of the subcontinent seem likely to rank second only to those of the Middle East on the world body's agenda for the rest of the century.

South Africa may have to negotiate with him terms for its return to full UN membership, including how much must be paid of the more than $40 million (R100 million) of arrears contributions since South Africa was ejected from the General Assembly in 1974.

Arguments that it is "Africa's turn" when it comes to the nationality of the next UN chief receive a cool response in Washington and London. This is one post where regional claims do not apply, they say, and the best available person should get the job.

Kenneth Dadzie of Ghana, secretary-general of the UN Conference on Trade and Development, Major-General Joseph Garba of Nigeria, Bernard Chidzero, Zimbabwe's Finance Minister, and Olara Otunnu of Uganda, president of the International Peace Academy, all think they deserve consideration.

However, none of them is a favourite. That enviable position is thought to be occupied by Ali Alatas, Indonesia's Foreign Minister and a prime negotiator with his French counterpart Roland Dumas in efforts towards a Cambodian settlement. Dr Perez de Cuellar himself is said to have told friends there is a good chance he will hand over to him.

However, Indonesia, if not its Foreign Minister, carries some heavy political baggage: there is still the dispute over East Timor, which the Indonesians seized and where "serious human rights violations" have been alleged.

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SA 'should work with UN'

OBJECTIONS to the presence of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in South Africa to help with the repatriation of exiles were old and increasingly irrelevant, the US ambassador to South Africa, Mr William Swing, said yesterday.

Speaking at a Cape Town Press Club lunch, he said it was possible that in a few years' time South Africa would be doing more business at UN offices in New York and Geneva than in many national capitals.

"Whether the UN is yet ready for a grand re-entry of South Africa through the front door remains to be seen. But there are other routes into the UN system which could be explored now.

"One such example is co-operation with the UNHCR on the repatriation of South African exiles. No one disputes that the UNHCR can mount this operation at the least cost to the South African taxpayers. Objection to a UNHCR presence on the grounds that this would somehow infringe South African sovereignty is an old, increasingly irrelevant argument," he said.

South Africa would also reap substantial diplomatic, economic and scientific benefits should it choose to adhere to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Mr Swing said.

"This may well be a landmark year in US-South African relations and in South Africa's ties with the rest of the world."

The confluence of global, regional and domestic trends had never been as favourable as now for a successful transition to democracy in South Africa, Mr Swing said.

Relations between the US and South Africa were influenced and shaped by wider world events and South Africa's isolation was ending due, in part, to geo-political shifts on other continents. One such development was the worldwide demise of communism.

"We believe South Africa can be a success story and that it will vindicate many commonly-held beliefs and views about promoting human rights, prosperity and economic justice. Success stories of this kind are becoming less rare and will invariably find US support.

"We maintain a strong interest in promoting a peaceful, successful transition in South Africa," Mr Swing said.

Referring to South Africa as a regional power, Mr Swing said Southern Africa had the greatest potential for development of any region in Africa. If, however, South Africa was removed from the equation, that promise disappeared.

"Our policy goal has long been to help build a reliable regional framework in Southern Africa. We have recognised for some time the importance of dealing with South Africa in its regional and African context." — Sapa

ANC launches campaign for constituent assembly

By Kaizer Nyatsumba
Political Staff

The African National Congress and its alliance partners yesterday launched a signature campaign to demand a constituent assembly and an interim government.

Leaders of the ANC, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) and the SA Communist Party yesterday told a press conference in Johannesburg that a national door-to-door campaign, during which alliance members would "visit every home in South Africa to collect signatures", would go ahead on March 23 and 24.

The campaign would demonstrate "the major divide" between ANC and Government on a constituent assembly and interim government.

SACP secretary-general Joe Slovo said the alliance was worried that Government leaders said contradictory things when addressing the international community and "when they speak to their tribe".

He referred to President de Klerk's speech before the Maitland by-election that "the NP would block any new constitution which it did not like".

"The purpose is to show that we want a constitution acceptable to the majority of our people, and not to the NP."

Joint rallies "to launch the campaign on the ground" will be staged by the tripartite alliance on March 21.

A statement by the alliance said the Government rejected a constituent assembly because it feared the participation of the masses in deciding the future.

It was afraid the people would elect a constituent assembly which would produce a constitution in conflict with the National Party's vision.

"The people of South Africa have never contributed to the drawing up of a constitution in our country. All South Africans must be active participants," the joint statement said.

The Government should not be in control of the process of transition.

Asked what the envisaged interim government's composition would be, ANC internal leader Walter Sisulu said the ANC wanted the involvement not only of the ANC and the Government but of other parties and organisations as well.

The alliance leadership said the Government's offer of a "super Cabinet" in response to the demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government was inadequate.

UNHCR can help bring back exiles – US ambassador

CAPE TOWN — The view that South African sovereignty would be infringed if the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was present in the country to help with the repatriation of exiles, was yesterday described as irrelevant.

Speaking at a Cape Town Press Club lunch, the US ambassador to South Africa, William Swing, said that in a few years South Africa might be doing more business at UN offices in New York and Geneva than in many national capitals.

"Whether the UN is yet ready for a grand re-entry of South Africa through the front door remains to be seen. But there are other routes into the UN system which could be explored now," said Mr Swing.

"One such example is co-operation with the UNHCR on the repatriation of South African exiles. No one disputes that the UNHCR can mount this operation at the least cost to the South African taxpayers.

"Objection to a UNHCR presence on grounds that this would infringe South African sovereignty is an old, increasingly irrelevant argument."

South Africa would also reap substantial diplomatic, economic and scientific benefits should it choose to adhere to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

POLITICS

Exiles: US envoy shrugs off objections to UN aid

CAPE TOWN — Objections to a UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) presence in SA to help with the repatriation of exiles were old and increasingly irrelevant, US Ambassador to SA William Swing said yesterday.

Speaking at a Cape Town Press Club lunch, he said it was possible that in a few years time SA would be doing more business at UN offices in New York and Geneva than in many national capitals.

"Whether the UN is yet ready for a grand re-entry of SA through the front door remains to be seen. But there are other routes into the UN system which could be explored now.

"One such example is co-operation with the UNHCR on the repatriation of South African exiles. No one disputes that the UNHCR can mount this operation at the least cost to the South African taxpayers.

"Objection to a UNHCR presence on the grounds that this would somehow infringe on South African sovereignty is an old, increasingly irrelevant argument."

SA would also reap major diplomatic, economic and scientific benefits should it choose to adhere to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The confluence of global, regional and domestic trends had never been as favourable as now for a successful transition to democracy in SA.

"This may well be a landmark year in US-South African relations and in SA's ties with the rest of the world," Swing said.

Relations between the US and SA were influenced and shaped by wider world events and SA's isolation was ending due, in part, to geopolitical shifts on other continents such as the demise of communism.

Complexity

"We believe SA can be a success story and that it will vindicate many commonly held beliefs and views about promoting human rights, prosperity and economic justice. Success stories of this kind are becoming less rare and will invariably find US support."

SABC radio news reported Swing said Americans were discovering the true complexity of South African society and the challenges which lay ahead on the road to democracy.

He said there were also renewed possibilities for US involvement in SA. There was no doubt that the US would maintain its interest in SA once apartheid had gone.

Swing said southern Africa had the greatest potential for development of any region in Africa. If, however, SA was removed from the equation, that promise disappeared.

"Today the southern African region is poised for the biggest step of all — that of a newly democratic SA.

"The SADCC will have to rethink whether its original objective of decreasing southern African dependence on SA should not evolve into a policy of increasing the inter-dependence of all southern African states."

The key to SA's relations with the world was in SA.

"Those South Africans determined to build a strong, non-racial, multi-party democracy and a dynamic market economy will always find friends and supporters, chief among these the American people and government." — Sapa.

UN body awaits decision on helping exiles

Star 18/3/91

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By Carina le Grange

Government authorities will meet on Wednesday to decide whether the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will be invited to assist with the return of nearly 40 000 South African refugees, spokesman Venita Meyer of the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation (NCCR) said yesterday.

The development followed a two-day meeting of 100 lawyers to assess the position of exiles and their return.

Two representatives of the Department of Home Affairs were present on Saturday.

The NCCR said representatives of the UNHCR had met the Government four weeks ago, but had not been advised whether they would be invited to assist with the return of the exiles.

The legal task force said that at present the position was such it could not advise exiles "with confidence" to come home as the terms of indemnity did not provide a secure return.

Forms to be filled in by exiles were described as "highly detailed and intimidatory".

Exiles body frustrated by State's tough line

THE Government's "intransigence" on the involvement of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees is one of the major problems facing the committee organising the return of South African exiles. Sowetan 19/3/91

This is according to Mr Mohammed Dangor, an executive committee member of the National Coordinating Committee for the Repatriation of South African Exiles (NCCR).

The Government has yet to say whether the UN body can become involved in the return of an estimated 40 000 exiles, Dangor said in an interview. (336)

Reasons

The UNHCR's involvement is necessary for several reasons, said Dangor. The NCCR says it needs a body to coordinate the programme outside South Africa, and the UNHCR would also be "ideal" as a conduit for funds pledged by overseas donor countries.

The UNHCR has a

SA PRESS ASSOCIATION

"larger role than a travel agent" and Dangor is of the opinion that the involvement of a body with the stature of the UN would help soothe any fears returning exiles may have.

"A credible party will make things easier for exiles," he said, explaining the NCCR would also like the UNHCR to play a monitoring role in the massive operation to bring the emigres home.

Another reason the NCCR thinks it is essential to have the participation of the UNHCR is that the project involves vast sums of money. Dangor estimates more than R40 million will be needed to repatriate exiles, and that figure does not include providing assistance to exiles once they are back at home.



Home sweet home .... the Government's refusal to allow the UN to oversee repatriation will frustrate most exiles.

Pic: PATTY MOENG

Apart from the problem with the government on the issue of the UNHCR, Dangor feels there is a "fair level" of cooperation between the NCCR and the authorities.

There have been three formal meetings between the two groups and there is "ongoing contact on a daily basis".

However, the NCCR feels the administrative process exiles have to go through is "tedious" and they would like to see a general amnesty declared.

Problem

According to the NCCR about 700 exiles have already returned. The government has received more than 6000 indemnity applications from exiles, of which about 2000 have been processed.

Turning to other problems the NCCR is facing is the issue of spouses and children acquired while in exile. This is "very, very complicated".

Another problem requiring attention is the position of exiles who have been stripped of their South African citizenship and those who have had to take out foreign passports, so that they could remain in certain countries.

Military

A considerable number of white exiles fit into this category. These are young men who left the country to avoid military service and Dangor said the NCCR is in contact with the End Conscription Campaign and other bodies in an effort to help these people.

Although the NCCR has still a considerable amount of work to do, Dangor said he was pleased with some of the successes already achieved.

Churches

He said it is "remarkable" that the PAC, Azapo, the ANC and the churches are all working together, through the NCCR, to facilitate the return of exiles.

The cooperation achieved by these often disparate organisations "is a good omen for the future," Dangor said.

Canada increases funding for returnees

Political Staff Star 21/3/91

The Canadian Embassy yesterday announced a contribution of R100 000 to the National Coordinating Committee for the Return of South African Exiles (NCCR), bringing to R300 000 the total amount donated by the embassy so far.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Canadian Embassy in Pretoria said the latest R100 000 donation was for immediate needs associated with the repatriation of exiles.

In terms of an agreement signed with the NCCR, the Canadian funds will cover some of the costs associated with providing relocation grants to returning exiles in various regions of the country.

The R100 000 donation announced yesterday was the second Canadian contribution to the NCCR for repatriation.

In December the Canadian Embassy donated R100 000 for the NCCR to help it to establish its regional support structures.

Another R100 000 was donated to buy a building in Cape Town to be used as a primary reception centre for exiles returning to the western Cape.

Canadian Embassy counsellor for development David Viveash said the embassy's contributions were in partial fulfilment of a commitment made in June last year by Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to donate up to R13 million for costs associated with the repatriation of exiles and the integration of released political prisoners.

Mr Viveash said the decision concerning the allocation of the balance of the funds would be taken once the final operational arrangements for the repatriation programme were known.

● The NCCR was yesterday awaiting a response from the Government regarding the involvement of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in the repatriation process.

The NCCR had earlier postponed a flight scheduled to bring a second batch of 110 ANC exiles from Lusaka, Zambia, to SA, saying it was awaiting the Government's response to the UNHCR's proposed involvement in the process.

Contacted for comment yesterday, a spokesman for the Department of Home Affairs said "the possible role and involvement of the UNHCR" was still under consideration.

Africa's children under threat

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South 21/3 - 27/3/91

IN THE past decade, deaths of children around the world have decreased by half, according to a report by the UN Children's Fund (Unicef).

The report, called "The State of the World's Children 1991", says a successful international campaign to immunise 80 percent of the world's children against preventable diseases has saved 12 million lives.

At the beginning of the campaign, only 15 to 20 percent of children in the developing world were being vaccinated.

The outlook for Africa's children, however, is not as hopeful as that for children in other parts of the world.

Many of the past decade's programmes failed to reach children in Africa, and without massive debt relief and developmental assistance, there will be little improvement in the 1990s, the report says.

Immunisation

Unicef says the past decade's immunisation programmes have prevented



tracting paralytic polio and millions more from contracting measles, whooping cough and neonatal tetanus.

And because disease prevention reduces malnutrition, diarrhoea and pneumonia, immunisation also saved millions of children from chronic illness, poor growth and possible early death.

While a reduction in child mortality might suggest a rise in the population growth rate, Unicef says the opposite is true.

Several developing countries are approaching the threshold where lowered child deaths mean that women can place greater faith in family planning programmes, Unicef says.

Heartened by the progress of the past decade, the Unicef report outlines ambitious new goals for improving child welfare in the next 10 years.

Resolutions

Drawing upon resolutions passed at the World Summit for Children last September, the Children's Fund assigns top priority to cutting child deaths by a further one-third, providing basic education for all children and halving child malnutrition and maternal deaths.

But one of the most urgent needs is to extend the immunisation campaign to areas which the past decade's programmes have failed to reach.

Many of those are in Africa.

UNDER THREAT: Although 2,5m children in Africa were saved by vaccines in 1990, the same number still died from diseases preventable by immunisation PIC: AFRICA NEWS

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James P Grant, executive director of Unicef, says that Africa, with the highest average mortality rate of children under five in the world, is the only continent where child deaths are projected to increase during the 1990s.

Vaccines

Although the global vaccination goal has been achieved, the report explains, not all parts of the world have been equally saturated.

In addition, the report says, 80 percent immunisation "does not mean an 80 percent reduction in deaths, because disease is both more common, and more commonly fatal, among the minority who have not yet been reached".

Although 2,5m children were saved by vaccines in 1990, the same number of children still died from diseases preventable by immunisation.

A special supplement to the "State of the World's Children" report, "Africa's Children, Africa's Future: Implementing the World Summit Declaration", indicates that Africa has the greatest proportion of threatened children of any continent.

Unless downward spirals of debt, war and famine are reversed, the report says: "Africa's share of global and infant deaths will increase by 40 percent by the end of the century".

In 1950, Africa's share of child deaths was 15 percent; in 1986 it was 30 percent.

Though many African countries acted to meet the agenda for economic recovery laid out by the 1986 UN special session on Africa's crisis, international assistance promised by donors arrived slowly, while debt service payments rocketed.

Aids

African governments saw funds for children's programmes erode steadily.

The emergence of the Aids epidemic adds additional daunting layers to the problems of Africa's children.

African women often lack the education to avoid contracting Aids or are bound by tradition not to take measures against it.

In early 1990, WHO estimated that of three million women worldwide — mostly of childbearing age — who tested positive for the Aids antibody HIV, 80 percent were in sub-Saharan Africa.

The virus often passes from mother to foetus.

Still, numerous African initiatives have improved prospects for many children. Some 25 African countries have immunised an estimated 75 percent of their children against six main diseases, although the success rate is substantially lower in countries where wars have made rural children inaccessible.

Unicef also hails the signing by 41 African states of the "Convention on the Rights of the Child" — a document setting out universal standards for the survival, protection and development of children — as an indication that child welfare is now higher on the political agenda in many African countries.

Ethic

Says Unicef: "The child has only one chance to grow normally in mind and body, and protecting that one chance should have first call on our resources — in good times and in bad."

Unicef's officials concede that the "new ethic for children" the organisation wants to implement is revolutionary.

But in Africa, they say, it will take a revolution of world priorities to ensure that the continent's children fare better in the 1990s than they did in the last 10 years.

— AFRICA NEWS

Exiles' return delayed pending move on UN

B/Dam 21/3/91 336

PATRICK BULGER

A COMBINATION of fears for exiles' safety after their return, a shortage of funds and logistical problems resulted in today's second planeload of exiles from Zambia being called off.

Home Affairs chief director of immigration Mike Bester said he had been in contact with the ANC and that the postponement of the flight — scheduled to bring 110 exiles back — was being seen as an "organisational hiccough".

He said 3 000 extraordinary travel documents had already been issued.

The National Co-Ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of SA Exiles (NCCR) cancelled today's flight, saying it wanted a decision from government on whether the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) would be involved.

The NCCR was expecting Cabinet to discuss the issue yesterday.

An NCCR spokesman said the organisation was short of funds and was experiencing logistical problems.

The Africa News Organisation reports from Lusaka that ANC national executive committee member Sindiso Mfenyana yesterday urged government to grant full indemnity and provide exiles with extraordinary travel documents so that they could start returning home.

Government should remove all the obstacles that had hampered the repatriation and release of all political prisoners.

Mfenyana warned that if the agreement on preconditions to negotiations was not met by the end of next month, the ANC would have to review its future course.

The UNHCR should be allowed to participate in the repatriation of exiles and be able to monitor their stay in SA, he said.

He rejected government's insistence that the UNHCR be limited only to the transportation of exiles.

Mechanisms set up by government had made it impossible for further exiles to leave for SA but the next group of returnees would depart next week.

Meanwhile the Canadian Embassy yesterday announced a R100 000 contribution to the NCCR.

The embassy said the donation was in partial fulfilment of Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's undertaking to donate R13m to the repatriation programme.

It said the balance would be allocated once final operational arrangements for the repatriation programme were known.

Government resigns

Govt accepts UN exile role

Cape Times 22/3/91

BYNC

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Political Staff

THE United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will help with the repatriation of South African exiles, the Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, said last night.

Retreating from its initial position that there was no role for the UNHCR, the government acknowledged that the international organisation was neutral and expert in this field, and their help in solving unforeseen problems would facilitate the return of exiles.

British ambassador Sir Robin Renwick welcomed the breakthrough, and said Britain was ready to assist financially with the return of the exiles.

Mr Botha said many exiles were not members of the ANC, and would be reluctant to return within the framework of ANC-government agreements.

The UNHCR could assist the government in meeting agreements made with the ANC.

The UNHCR had previously said it would participate in, and assist financially, the repatriation process, on condition that they were allowed to set up some presence inside South Africa.

New representative to UN named

The Department of Foreign Affairs has announced the appointment of Derek Auret as South Africa's new permanent representative to the United Nations in New York.

Mr Auret (42) began his diplomatic career in New York.

He also served in Bonn, and was more recently involved in the negotiations that led to Namibian independence.

The department also announced the appointment of Gerry Walters as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Uruguay.

Mr Walters was formerly the consul in Sydney. — Sapa.

UN High Commission for Refugees puts cost of repatriation at $40m

THE UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) believes it will cost about $40m to repatriate SA's 40 000 exiles.

A UN spokesman at the weekend welcomed government's decision to allow UNHCR involvement in the repatriation process and added the project was likely to be a "popular" one with donors.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha announced last week that SA's sovereignty would not be threatened by the UNHCR and it could therefore assist with repatriation.

Local co-ordinator, the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of SA Exiles (NCCR), also welcomed government's announcement.

It said in a statement it hoped the pace of repatriation would now quicken.

The NCCR said it had already established links with the UNHCR.

The NCCR also called for a revision of the indemnity process, and suggested a general amnesty rather than the existing complex application procedure.

UNHCR spokesman Jeff Crisp said a formal agreement on the repatriation programme would still have to be negotiated with the SA government.

TIM COHEN

He said the figure of $40m had been mentioned as the amount necessary to return SA exiles; a figure which he thought would be raised without undue difficulty.

The international community would not like to see the repatriation process — and with it the negotiations — fail simply because of an unavailability of these funds, Crisp indicated.

The figure of $40m was drawn mainly from the Namibian experience, which was similar in size and nature, he said.

Foreign embassies and consulates are expected to welcome government's decision, and several have already pledged to support the UNHCR's programme.

The Japanese consulate pledged a "substantial contribution" to the UNHCR's repatriation effort at the weekend.

The Australian and British embassies have already pledged about R8m between them. The Canadian and Swedish embassies have already donated funds to the NCCR.

The Italian embassy has promised support but has been waiting for government response on the UNHCR issue.

The German embassy said in a statement at the weekend its assistance for some aspects of the repatriation effort would be channelled through the EC's "positive measures" programme.

Government has so far resisted setting aside funds for the process, saying exiles would slot into existing support structures.

'New SA' set for high UN profile

Special Correspondent

UNITED NATIONS — South Africa, which has never been elected to the United Nations Security Council, could be a logical candidate for a permanent seat if and when the current system is revised, according to the United States delegate, Thomas Pickering.

But he was referring specifically to a "new South Africa", evidently meaning a potential claim to council membership by a post-apartheid republic democratically constructed.

Mr Pickering and the former US ambassador, Dr Jeane Kirkpatrick, discussed the UN on a television programme produced by the Council on Foreign Relations in New York recently.

Nigeria and Brazil were also mentioned by Mr Pickering as possible candidates for permanent seats in the Security Council.

The idea of expanding the council has been around for some time, with Germany, Japan and India all asserting that current global realities have outdated a system agreed when the UN was formed.

This system involves the US, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China having permanent seats and the power of veto.

Mr Pickering observed that it had become "increasingly less easy" for a permanent member to cast its veto.

If the idea takes hold, additional permanent members probably would be in a new category, without veto power, diplomats say.

A permanent seat for South Africa would enhance the republic's prestige enormously and be in sharp contrast to its current UN status of semi-isolation, which followed the rejection of the SA delegation's General Assembly credentials.

...the Apollo 15 spacecraft to the moon. Picture: REUTER

New UN envoy could make triumphant return

B/Day 27/3/91

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PRETORIA — Derek Auret, SA's UN ambassador-designate, was a member of the diplomatic team there when SA was expelled from the General Assembly in 1974.

He will soon return to New York and is likely to be in office when SA is readmitted.

Auret, 43, said in an interview this week that SA's readmission to the General Assembly would be the outstanding aim of his tenure.

He is currently chief director of Foreign Affairs' American, Middle and Far East and Australasian division.

"We are on the way to breaking out of the international straitjacket," he said.

He said his predecessors had chipped away at the wall of hostility facing SA at the UN for two decades. It would be a basic aim to attempt to demolish that wall, and allow SA to return to the mainstream of world affairs.

Auret said his task was likely to be less stressful than those of previous SA representatives because of the major political advances made in the country in the past 18 months.

SA was confronted by a totally new situation where there was real hope of being accepted again by the international community. However, much would depend on the success of constitutional negotiations.

Auret said suspicion of government's motives and bona fides was diminishing, but it still existed. This could also be eliminated by successful political developments.

"Doors are opening to exciting new possibilities internationally, but just how wide they will go will depend on these developments".

Auret stressed SA was now in a position to project a more positive and acceptable image among most of the 160 UN members.

SA's return to the General Assembly would enable it to participate in the work of the UN's agencies. The fact that the UN High Commission for Refugees now had a role in the return of SA exiles was a hopeful start in this direction.

Auret said SA had an important contribution to make in many UN agencies. Its future role in advancing economic and environmental developments in southern Africa was obvious.

Auret's first foreign posting, in 1973, was to the UN where he served as a third secretary under present Foreign Minister Pik Botha. A number of top assignments soon followed, including appointment as deputy head of mission at the SA embassy in Bonn.

It was as a member of the SA negotiating team on Namibia and Angola from 1988, however, that he achieved prominence. He played a central role in brokering the agreements and overseeing the processes which resulted in Namibian independence and the Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola.

UN hears of hard-up missions

Diplomats not immune to hunger and cold

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Star 28/3/91

CIVIL war brings months of turmoil to some distant land, and its unfortunate United Nations representative sits shivering in his New York home, unable to pay the rent, buy food and fuel or even afford the fare to his office.

This pitiful picture of the less glamorous side of diplomatic life — far from the cocktail circuit — was painted for a UN committee by Shirin Tahir-Kheli, a senior member of the US delegation, whose job includes looking after the day-to-day needs of foreign delegates.

One of the most vexing problems some of them face, she said, is what to do when, for various reasons, funds for payment of rents, salaries and other expenses are not received from their governments.

Addressing the UN committee on relations with the host country, she said: "During the last 12 months a number of governments have been overthrown and changed. It has taken time for new governments to take their place and ... to resume funding for their missions to the United Nations."

Some diplomats had lost all contact with home for long periods and in one case a UN mission had received no funding for almost a year. She mentioned no names, but was believed to be referring to civil war-racked Liberia.

Because of this, the United States delegation had to spend much time and effort trying to persuade creditors to be patient.

In some cases this proved unsuccessful, with the result that "mission telephone service has been discontinued, oil has not been delivered to homes, and diplomats have not been able to travel to their offices because they could not pay the fare," she said.

Ms Tahir-Kheli proposed the establishment of a working group to look into "what is becoming a major issue in host country affairs" and could cause an embarrassment to the diplomatic community.

Bulgaria's Ivan Sotirov said a working group was a good idea that could help solve the long-term problem.

But what about immediate measures to help missions in distress? He was alluding to the possibility of an urgent, one-time subvention from the United Nations' own hard-pressed budget.

"It really gives me a pain to think that colleagues could be sitting in their apartments without heating or without money for transportation to come here," Mr Sotirov said. — Sapa-Reuter. □

Clarity on UN Repatriation: No clash With Govt

From Mono Badela
Johannesburg

THE UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) will arrive in South Africa on Tuesday to hammer out the terms of an agreement with the government regarding the repatriation of 40 000 exiles.

The Department of Foreign Affairs announced last week that the UN special commission would help with the repatriation process.

Mr Mohammed Dangor, an executive member of the National Coordinating Committee for the Repatriation of South African Exiles, told SOUTH the UNHCR had been invited by the government.

"We are still unclear about the terms of agreement set by the government. We do not know exactly what the government wants them to do."

Dangor said the NCCR welcomed the government's announcement and was hoping the pace of repatriation would now quicken. "We hope they will be starting with their work as soon as possible. They will be sending a fact-finding mission within a week."

The African National Congress was still in the dark as to the terms of agreement between the government and the UNHCR, an ANC lawyer, Mr Mathew Phosa, said.

Unhindered

Phosa serves on the working committee with government members.

He said the ANC expected that the UNHCR should be unhindered in its activities.

"It is the most experienced body in handling these sort of matters. The government should not try to inhibit it or to restrict it in its activities."

Phosa said the ANC would continue with the programme of repatriating their estimated 20 000 members in exile. "We will continue with the programme we started without the government having agreed to deal with the UNHCR," he said.

Phosa said there were still hitches in so far indemnity of exiles was concerned, specially in regard to the people who have not been given indemnity for specific operations they had performed inside the country.

He said the government should give indemnity to these people so that they don't feel threatened on their return.

"On the whole, more than 80 percent of the aspect of exiles in terms of indemnities has been resolved," Phosa said.

'Call in the UN'

C/Pres 31/3/91

THE United Nations (UN) should be involved in the transfer of power in South Africa, says the leader of the ANC-aligned chiefs' body, the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa).

Contralesa national president Patekile Holomisa said an interim government constituted by a body which enjoys UN support should take over from the NP government.

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Holomisa – a member of the Transkei ANC regional executive and the younger brother of Transkei military leader Major-General Bantu Holomisa – was addressing the East London branch of the ANC on the transitional period South Africa faces.

He said a Patriotic Front composed of the major liberation movements should be established and then an all-party conference held.

Holomisa dismissed the government's proposal of a "super cabinet" and saw the ANC's signature campaign as a way of pressurising the government into accepting an interim government and constituent assembly.

Contralesa rejected the view "homeland leaders should be on our side of the negotiating table" as such an approach would "help perpetuate tribalism".

He urged popular leaders not to form new parties but to join national organisations.

"As to the political circus that is on show in the Ciskei under the apparent leadership of Brigadier Oupa Gqozo, Contralesa is deeply disturbed," said Holomisa.

"We are also convinced Gqozo is not his own man. No black South African with all his senses would commit the atrocities he has against his own people, including his army colleagues, unless he is acting on somebody's orders.

"(Foreign Minister) Pik Botha would be well-advised to recall Gqozo to South Africa so that the people of this area can decide for themselves who should rule them in the interim period."

Holomisa said he would not be surprised if the Ciskei people decided to support Paramount Chief Maxhobayakhawuleza Sandile, the only paramount chief in the Ciskei. – Elnews

Agreement on SA refugees is a foreign policy breakthroug

UN gets its foot in t

Star 5/4/91

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THE Conservative Party calls it a "cancer" and a "viper in South Africa's bosom". The Government has its doubts about it, but gives the go-ahead anyway. The British Embassy and the ANC applaud its arrival. For better or worse, the United Nations is again to have a presence on South African soil, after a 30-year absence.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha's acceptance that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees should "assist in the process ... Of the return of expatriates" to South Africa is shrouded in technicality and qualification. But it marks, in the view of Professor Peter Vale of the University of the Western Cape's Centre for Southern African Studies, no less than "one of the most important developments in South African foreign policy since the NP came to power in 1948".

It is also the surest sign thus far of this country's gradual re-absorbtion into the international community, contingent upon progress towards a negotiated settlement. The specific agreement on co-operation regarding returnees is therefore of symbolic importance beyond the details of its clauses.

According to Professor Vale: "The formal engagement of the UNHCR, with the dual agreement of the Government and the ANC, is a fundamental change — it is a common foreign policy position for the first time.

"It is a tacit agreement, with the ANC, on the importance of the UN. Here they are together engaging fully, for the first time in three decades, with the major international organisation."

In his statement at the end of last month, Mr Botha grudgingly conceded the Government's acceptance of the importance of the previously detested UN — although he could not bring himself to mention the organisation itself, referring only to the High Commissioner for Refugees.

"The Government," he said, "realises that in spite of all the plan ning that has been done to ensure that the return of expatriates proceeds smoothly, problems may nevertheless arise because the Government does not have representatives in all countries of Africa.

"Unforeseen contingencies may also arise where the co-operation of neutral experts may help to solve possible problems ... Thus, in order to prevent delay in the return of returnees in countries where South Africa has no representation, and also in the light of representations received from various quarters, the Government has decided to invite the High Commissioner for Refugees to assist in the process.

"(An) agreement will be drawn up in such a way as to ensure that South Africa's sovereignty is in no way prejudiced."

Professor Vale argues that this constitutes "an admission by the Government of their own international isolation and their own impotence to deal with it.

"The Government's opponents have also had to think through and concede the UN's importance. Originally, the ANC was quite uncomfortable itself about the idea of formal UN involvement, but it came sooner to the recognition of its necessity."

The agreement — hailed as a breakthrough by British Ambassador Sir Robin Renwick — was exceptionally hard-won, according to diplomatic and Government sources. It is known that embassies pushed the Government hard to concede on the UN issue (even Mr Botha referred to "representations from various quarters"), and that there was fierce disagreement within the Cabinet on the issue.

"The major dilemma for the Government," says Professor Vale, "was that of sovereignty — would UN involvement violate it? And it is good that the Cabinet had to go through the painful process of realising it had to pay to regain access to the international scene."

Diplomats in Cape Town say the agreement was achieved for both political and "technical" reasons. The Government has gained international credit, and also now faces the April 30 deadline for returnees with the help of the UNHCR. It is believed that the success of the agency's operations in Namibia — and the even-handedness there displayed — tipped the scales in favour of the agreement.

The agreement has brought a flood of offers of international financial assistance, which would certainly otherwise not have been forthcoming. The British government offered aid within minutes

Star 5/4/91 (336)

h, writes **Shaun Johnson**

he door

of Mr Botha's announcement, and Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jansen has signalled that his government will consider applications for aid favourably.

According to one diplomatic source: "Foreign governments are now likely to respond positively, whereas they would have been uncomfortable with applications from either the Government or the ANC."

The sources also point out, however, that the presence of a representative of the UNHCR as a specific agency should not be confused with a full-blown UN mission in South Africa. "This doesn't mean we can expect a Martti Ahtisaari and Untag," said one.

Professor Vale agrees that "it is premature to think that South Africa will now be fully re-integrated into the UN, in the sense of getting its seat back.

"But it is a recognition of the importance of the UN as a player.

"And then you have the very significant moves from the Nordic countries, directly after the announcement about the UNHCR. It is a clear signal to the Government that they are responding to real signs of change. In a subtle way they are being even-handed — they are making concessions to the Government, and giving recognition to the ANC's status at the same time."

The details of the agreement with the UNHCR, still in the process of being negotiated, could throw up some stumbling blocks due to the Government's hypersensitivity about sovereignty. This likelihood is heightened by the furious reaction of the Conservative Party, which has pilloried the Government for allowing the UN to get "a foot in the door" in South Africa. (The latest edition of the CP organ Die Patriot argues that "to allow the UN any say in any matter in South Africa is to allow the viper into SA's bosom." But the Government has little choice. Once it conceded to black majority rule, the UN cancer was not far behind.")

But the Government is unlikely to abort the agreement because of right-wing objections. The UN die has been cast in South Africa in 1991. It is a modest first step, but could be recorded by future historians as marking the true beginning of the end of South Africa's pariah status in international organisations. □

An historic foreign policy breakthrough

UN gets involved with SA refugees

THE Conservative Party calls it a "cancer", and a "viper in South Africa's bosom". The National Party Government has its doubts about it, but gives the go-ahead anyway.

The British Embassy and the ANC applaud its arrival. For better or worse, the United Nations is again to have a presence on South African soil, after a 30-year absence.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha's principled acceptance that the UN High Commission for Refugees should "assist in the process ... of the return of expatriates" to South Africa is shrouded in technicality, qualification, and even obfuscation.

But it marks, in the view of Professor Peter Vale of the University of the Western Cape's Centre for Southern African Studies, no less than "one of the most important developments in South African foreign policy since the NP came to power in 1948".

Sure sign

It is also the surest sign thus far of this country's gradual reabsorbtion into the international community, contingent upon progress towards a negotiated settlement.

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FOCUS

In his statement at the end of last month, Pik Botha grudgingly conceded the Government's acceptance of the importance of the previously-detested UN - although, tellingly, he could not bring himself to mention the organisation itself, referring only to "the High Commissioner for Refugees".

"The Government," he said, "realises that in spite of all the planning that has been done to ensure that the return of expatriates proceeds smoothly, problems may nevertheless arise because the Government does not have representatives in all countries of Africa.

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"Thus, in order to prevent delay in the return of returnees in countries where South Africa has no representation and also in the light of representations received from various quarters, the Government has decided to invite the High Commissioner for Refugees to assist in the process.

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Dilemma

"The major dilemma for the Government," says Vale, "was that of sovereignty - would UN involvement violate it? - and it is good that the Cabinet had to go through the painful process of realising it had to pay to regain access to the international scene."

Diplomats in Cape Town say the agreement was achieved for both political and "technical" reasons.

The Government has gained international credit, and also now faces the April 30 "deadline" for returnees with the help of the UNHCR.

It is believed that the success of the agency's operations in Namibia - and the even-handedness there displayed - tipped the scales in favour of Foreign Affairs officials arguing in Government for the agreement.

In addition, the agreement has brought a flood of offers of international financial assistance.

The British Government offered aid within minutes of the Botha announcement, and Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jansen has signalled that his government will consider applications for aid favourably.

According to one diplomatic source: "Foreign governments are now likely to respond positively, whereas they would have been uncomfortable with applications from either the Government or the ANC."

The sources also point out, however, that the presence of a representative of the UNHCR as a specific agency should not be confused with a full-blown UN mission in South Africa.

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But the Government is unlikely to abort the agreement because of rightwing objections. The UN die has been cast in South Africa in 1991. It is a modest first step in the form of the UNHCR, but could be recorded by future historians as marking the true beginning of the end of South Africa's pariah status within international organisations. - *Sowetan Correspondent.*

Political comment in this issue by Aggrey Klaaste and Deon du Plessis. Newsbills by Sydney Matlhaku. Sub-editing and headlines by Ivan Fynn. All of 61 Commando Road, Industria West, Johannesburg.
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UN envoy plans second SA visit

CAT Trip 15/4/91 336 R30

Own Correspondent

LONDON. — The UN High Commissioner for Refugees is to send the head of its Africa bureau, Mr Nicolas Bwakira, to South Africa for a second visit soon.

He hopes to tie up an agreement with government enabling the UN agency to help with the repatriation of up to 40 000 exiles.

Meanwhile 115 returning exiles are expected in Johannesburg on Thursday on a charter flight from Tanzania.

ANC repatriation official Mr Mzwy Booi said the group's composition was still being finalised.

The move heralds a fresh breakthrough in the repatriation of exiles following last week's apparent breakdown in the process.

Mr Booi said the repatriation programme was back on track following talks between government and senior ANC officials.

A spokesman for the UNHCR in Geneva confirmed on Friday that until the commissioner and the government have signed the agreement allowing the commissioner to set up operations in SA, the UN body cannot actively start calling for the R100m needed to repatriate the exiles.

● A Justice Department spokesman said 5 056 applications for indemnity had been received, of which 2 484 had been finalised.

SA indemnity procedures criticised

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The government and representatives of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have disagreed over indemnity procedures for returning South African exiles.

The government is also facing pressure from the European Community to adjust its indemnity procedure to make it compatible with UNHCR norms, a senior UNHCR source said in an interview from Geneva yesterday.

Negotiations are continuing with a view to securing the world body's help in repatriating exiles, but sources involved in the talks said yesterday the UNHCR was unlikely to help under the current indemnity arrangement, which places the onus on individual exiles to seek clearance from the government.

"There is concern about the forms which returnees have to fill in. They are not designed to impart confidence and trust but rather suspicion and fear," the UNHCR negotiator said. "We can't bend principles which are applied to all repatriation situations to make them specific to South Africa."

Senior UNHCR official Mr K Kalumiya was in South Africa recently to negotiate an agreement. Talks with Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha and senior government officials had deadlocked over the amnesty issue, the source said, but added he remained confident agreement would be reached.

● Sapa reports that future flights of returning exiles are in jeopardy, according to ANC official Mr Jackie Selebi.

This followed the brief detention of two ANC officials at Jan Smuts Airport yesterday afternoon and a two-hour delay before 119 ANC returnees appeared in the airport's arrival hall.

ANC officials said they would raise the issue of the arrests of Mr Penuel Maduna and Mr Norman Ngwedzane, with the organisation's leadership.

● Mass action, including action by prisoners, was a certainty if the government failed to release all political prisoners before the April 30 deadline, recently-released ANC member Mr Carl Niehaus claimed yesterday.

Geneva talks on SA exiles

By MIKE ROBERTSON and EDYTH BULBRING

FOREIGN AFFAIRS director general Neil van Heerden is in Geneva for high-level talks with representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to finalise their involvement in the return of South African exiles.

His visit comes on the eve of a summit in Johannesburg between the ANC, SA Communist Party and Cosatu to discuss protest action if the government fails to meet a Tuesday deadline for releasing all political prisoners and indemnifying exiles.

Mr Van Heerden left President De Klerk's party in Britain to fly to Geneva for the talks with the UNHCR.

SA officials said Mr Van Heerden and senior Department of Justice representatives were putting finishing touches to an agreement to allow the UNHCR to oversee the return of exiles.

UN refugee body expected in SA within two weeks

The officials said it was likely that the UNHCR would be active in SA within weeks.

A number of foreign governments which preferred not to deal with the SA authorities have promised to make substantial donations to the UNHCR to help with the exiles' return.

Sure

More than 400 prisoners have been released by the government in the last two weeks and another 200 are likely to go free soon. Human rights groups claim about 761 political prisoners would still remain — although the government disputes this figure.

The ANC's Jackie Selebi, who is handling the return of ANC exiles, said this week that indemnity forms had been submitted to the government on behalf of 6 000 out of 20 000 ANC exiles.

Of these, indemnity had been granted to 4 000 exiles but only 1 000 had returned to the country. Some of those granted indemnity did not want to come home until they were sure the process worked, Mr Selebi said.

He said once the April 30 deadline had expired the ANC would review the reports on whether the government had fulfilled its conditions on releasing political prisoners, scrapping security legislation and removing obstacles to exiles' return.

The full executive committees of the ANC, SACP and Cosatu will meet for the first time on Monday to look at strategies to deal with the deadlines of April 30 and May 9, after which the ANC has threatened to suspend negotiations with the government unless it meets its conditions for ending violence.

Meanwhile, government officials and human rights representatives on an audit committee, established two weeks ago, have exchanged lists of political prisoners.

Human Rights Commission member Max Coleman, who sits on the committee, said he was not optimistic that all those prisoners would be released by April 30.

Will

However, the government had made considerable progress in the past two weeks by releasing 400 political prisoners.

"It shows that where there is the political will, the bureaucratic tape can be cut," Mr Coleman said.

He said there were 961 political prisoners on the Human Rights Commission list still to be released.

BIO am 30/4/91 -

End to UN's blacklisting of coaches hailed

LESLEY LAMBERT

CAPE TOWN — A decision by the UN's Special Committee Against Apartheid to stop blacklisting foreign coaches who coach non-racial sports in SA has been welcomed by National Education Minister Louis Pienaar. (IKA)

Efforts to allow foreign coaches to coach non-racial sport in SA without fear of reprisal began last year when anti-apartheid sporting groups decided to exempt them from the blacklist. (292-336)

Pienaar also welcomed a similar announcement by Ghana's ambassador at the UN and said SA would like to extend its relationships with African countries.

"I believe that the questioning of the continuation of the blacklist is a step in the right direction and will benefit sport, not only in SA, but across the globe," he said.

"These developments give recognition to the SA government's irreversible reform initiatives.

"I trust that other countries will soon follow suit with real steps in support of the constitutional changes in SA and that normal sports contact between SA and the rest of the international community will shortly become a reality," Pienaar said.

SA agrees to UN help with exiles' return

Cape Times 30/4/91 3680 356

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A South African team headed by Foreign Affairs director-general Mr Neil van Heerden concluded a third round of talks with a UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) team in Geneva yesterday.

The talks are intended to secure UNHCR involvement in the repatriation of 30 000 exiles.

UNHCR African regional bureau director Mr Nicholas Bwakira said yesterday that an agreement had been reached and that SA had to sign it before it came into force.

He said the main point of discussions had been the question of indemnity for exiles.

"The ball is now in the court of the SA government," Mr Bwakira said.

He said the UN would make money available — it estimates that the repatriation process will cost R200m — as soon as SA's agreement was obtained.

The government had been reluctant to allow the UNHCR to operate inside SA because of concerns that this would compromise the country's sovereignty, but recently acknowledged that the UNHCR's expertise could make an important contribution to the repatriation.

Envoys leaving laundry behind

SA's representation at the UN moves to a more salubrious area. By MIKE LITTLEJOHN in New York.

SOUTH AFRICA'S UN Mission and New York Consulate-General are moving upscale after years of rubbing elbows with a Chinese laundry and a Hertz car-hire office in a non-descript building that looks a bit like a warehouse on Manhattan's East Side.

Pretoria's official representation in America's principal city is being transferred to new rented quarters in an office tower on 38th Street, 10 blocks south of the present location, which is owned by the government. The move is due to take place by the end of May.

South African officials declined to disclose the monthly rent for the new premises, an entire ninth-floor section of a building opposite an elegant, high-priced block of flats in which several members of the Mission occupy apartments.

Real-estate prices being what they are in New York — although still well under those for comparable space in London and Tokyo, or even New Delhi — tens of thousands of dollars a month must be involved.

Unicef, the UN Children's Fund, overspilling its own headquarters, has space in the same building.

Proximity to UN headquarters and good security arrangements — happily, less of a problem today than before President de Klerk's reforms were begun — were difficulties that had to be overcome before the new lease was signed.

The quarters being vacated, on 48th Street between First and Second avenues in Manhattan just a stone's throw from UN headquarters, are up for sale. The government stands to make a decent profit even if the market is no longer soaring into the stratosphere. In fact, it has taken a dive recently.

Ambassador Jeremy Shearar, the chief UN delegate, will not have long to enjoy his spacious new office. He has been recalled to Pretoria. Mr Shearar is to be succeeded by a former UN diplomat, Derek Auret. □

Eviction bid at hostel

THEO RAWANA

AN ORGANISATION formed in March this year to tackle Alexandra's rent problems, and involving the TPA and the Sandton and Randburg councils, is preparing a court interdict to evict people allegedly brought into a local hostel by Inkatha.

Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) spokesman Mzwanele Mayekiso told a news conference in Alexandra yesterday that since fighting started in the township last year, Inkatha members had been using the 3 000-bed hostel as their base.

"They harassed people who refused to join Inkatha, and used the place as a 'slaughterhouse' where victims were killed.

"Now most people have been chased away and others brought in from other hostels and Alexandra Township itself," Mayekiso said.

A hawker still resident at the hostel said all people who refused to join Inkatha were chased away and other people brought in.

Inkatha could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press.

An armed policeman watches over an injured Zulu who suffered a head wound after being attacked by Xhosa squatters yesterday in ongoing violence in Soweto. Picture: AP

UN wants amnesty for all, says ANC

PATRICK BULGER

THE United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) wanted a general amnesty for all exiles before it became involved in the repatriation of SA exiles, ANC head of repatriation Jackie Selebi said yesterday.

Speaking at Jan Smuts Airport, where 192 exiles arrived from Angola, Selebi said this was one of the points of disagreement between government and the UNHCR.

"The UNHCR needs access to detainees and in the case of SA this involves them being able to go everywhere. If a refugee is designated as a citizen of Bophuthatswana, for example, should anything happen to that person in Bophuthatswana, the UNHCR would not request that government for access."

Selebi said the UNHCR was also unhappy about SA security legislation which would interfere with international norms of legal protection for refugees.

The ANC would continue repatriating people but wanted UNHCR involvement because the world body had the expertise and access to international funding.

He said the ANC was unhappy with government's progress with the indemnity process.

It had 20 000 people who wanted to return but the process was being hampered by a lack of clarity on who was ultimately responsible for police action against returnees. "It seems like we have two governments — one headed by De Klerk and the other being the police. Nobody appears capable of bringing the police to book."

He said those who returned yesterday were mostly Umkhonto we Sizwe members who had been looking after abandoned military camps in Angola.

A small group of family and friends waited at the airport for the returnees. Police kept a low profile.

Sapa reports that the ANC in Lusaka is faced with an acute accommodation crisis and astronomical rents due to an unexpected influx of SA exiles from other parts of the world.

ANC sources said yesterday the exiles were arriving in the hope their travel papers could be processed quickly so they could catch connecting flights to SA.

KIN BENTLEY reports from London that the British government has set aside R2,5m to assist in reintegrating exiles and former political prisoners into SA society.

Details of this aid were made in a policy document presented to parliament this week by foreign secretary Douglas Hurd.

The first allocation, of about R100 000, was made in March to the Western Cape Repatriation Committee to help with the cost of renovating a reception centre in that area, the document said.

The next secretary-general of the world's top body must be tough, says **The Economist**

Wanted: master chef for UN

Star 6/5/91 (3 3/6)

THE Secretary-General of the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar, is a skilled and decent man.

But the limits of his approach to the job have become painfully apparent. He was late joining the effort to talk Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. In the frightful aftermath of the war, he dithered about UN protection for fleeing Kurds and presided over the horrendous first muddle in the UN relief work.

His term ends on December 31 and he does not want another one.

The Perez approach — backstage diplomacy when the big powers permit — did not start with him. Previous UN bosses have had to tiptoe round the twin dangers of Soviet veto and American mistrust. Within the limits set for him, Mr Perez de Cuellar did well.

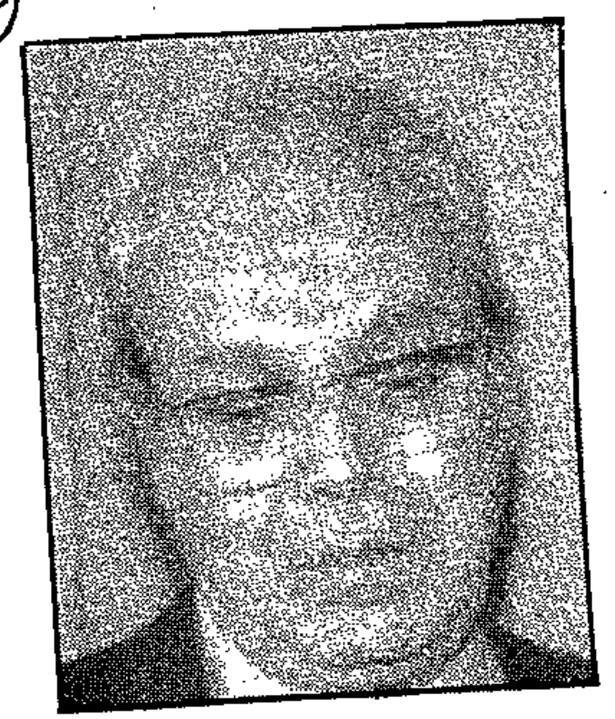
As the freeze between America and the Soviet Union thawed, he helped ease or end a string of bloody little wars between their Third World friends.

That now must seem a distant, simpler time compared with the messy, open-ended tasks facing today's UN. Nowadays it can more or less count on getting asked routinely to sanction, shape or run a new form of global riot-control that none of the big powers, not even America, is ready to do alone.

Iraq is a grim model of what kind of thing the next secretary-general should expect to have thrown at him.

The UN is being asked to police Iraq's border with Kuwait; to decide how much oil Iraq sells abroad and what it can buy in return; to make sure Iraq destroys any nuclear or chemical weapons plants; and to get ready to protect Kurdish enclaves when American, British and French soldiers leave.

Nor do the new orders pouring almost daily into the UN's kitchen end with Iraq. Britain's Prime Minister, John Major, last week suggested that the UN should limit the world traffic in arms.



Tiptoe approach . . . Javier Perez de Cuellar

Many Russians vaguely hope the UN will help to make their dangerous nuclear-power plants safe.

To cope with even part of this (and to send back the more far-fetched requests), the UN needs a master chef, not a harassed waiter.

A new secretary-general must be in place by the end of the year.

The rulebook says the General Assembly elects him. In reality, the choice is up to the five countries with permanent seats on the Security Council — America, Britain, China, France and the Soviet Union.

Usually they do this in a last-minute scramble, giving the new chief no time to prepare.

That method produced Kurt Waldheim, who forgot to put wartime service in the German army on his curriculum vitae. This time the five have agreed to start looking now, and to have a candidate by October.

A last-minute appointment is not the only trap. African delegates are arguing that, as past heads of the UN have come from Asia, Europe and Latin America, it is Africa's turn. The idea of turns is wrong. The secretary-general does not represent a continent. There are indeed good candidates from Africa, but none has a continental right to the inside track.

The new secretary-general must also be firm enough to reform two dozen UN agencies. Many are in a vicious circle of mismanagement and underfunding as governments, fed up with incompetence, squeeze their cash. The once effective High Commissioner for Refugees is a sad example.

Edward Shevardnadze, who resigned as Soviet Foreign Minister last December, might have been the right sort of UN leader. He is a democrat with the skill, nerve and ingenuity to push the limits of the possible. Choosing him would soften the Third World grumble that the UN was becoming an American puppet.

Mr Shevardnadze, with an American as his deputy, would make a formidable team. Alas, Mr Shevardnadze speaks almost no English or French and may not want the job.

All the same, he is the sort of man that is needed.

Recommending a strong secretary-general can sound like touting safe airlines or honest stockbrokers. Nobody wants the other sort. Yet the big powers have tended to pick highgrade but unadventurous diplomats who give them a quiet life.

That suited them when there was little that they could agree the UN should do. Now that they are giving it some serious work, they need a leader who can talk confidently to them and who can behave with authority on the world's television screens.

That sort of secretary-general may at times disagree with one or both of them. But, in policing the world, the big powers, above all America, ought to want someone who will stand firm in tough times: a partner, not a patsy. The Economist. □

OAU on UN post

LAGOS — Organisation of African Unity (OAU) secretary-general Salim Ahmed Salim this week expressed support for an African candidate for the post of UN secretary-general.

Salim said Africa had people with the right credentials to succeed Peruvian Javier Perez de Cuellar, the News Agency of Nigeria reported.

Salim, a Tanzanian who made an unsuccessful bid for the top UN post in the 1980s, said he hoped African countries would rally behind one candidate.

Nigeria's military government is believed to be keen to propose either the country's former military head of state Olusegun Obasanjo or retired General Joseph Garba.

But Nobel literature prize winner Wole Soyinka of Nigeria has urged the government not to select a former soldier. — Reuter.

Govt claims progress in talks on repatriation

Star 9/5/91

Political Staff and Sapa

CAPE TOWN — Significant progress has been made in reaching agreement on UN participation in the repatriation of political exiles, a Government spokesman said yesterday.

The statement came in response to a report from Lusaka that disagreement between Pretoria and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees had stalled the return of exiles.

"This is total nonsense," a Foreign Affairs spokesman said. ANC exiles did not need the UNHCR to secure their return to South Africa.

"There is no foundation for these allegations. It is obvious nobody has been repatriated under the UNHCR because there is no agreement yet.

"Negotiations are continuing but such negotiations take time, and significant progress has been made."

Sapa's Lusaka correspondent reported that talks between the UNHCR and the SA Government had broken down because they differed on the mechanics of repatriation and the provision of binding legal guarantees for the exiles.

The UN agency wanted exiles legally protected upon their return to South Africa, but Pretoria wanted to retain the option to prosecute if the Justice Department found there were reasons to warrant such action, according to Lusaka reports.

This claim was also denied by the Department of Justice, which said any person who applied for and received indemnity enjoyed full protection against civil and criminal proceedings in respect of the acts for which the indemnity was granted.

Senior Government negotiators have pointed out that the dispute really centres on the principle of a blanket amnesty, an ANC demand which was never ratified by the Groote Schuur or Pretoria Minutes.

It is understood from sources on both sides that the UNHCR is championing the cause of a blanket amnesty on an even wider definition than that which applied in Namibia. This has caused some difficulties in the negotiations with the Government, but it is not considered an insurmountable obstacle.

The principle of applying for indemnity in terms of specific acts or "crimes" has been a prickly issue raised by the ANC and particularly by its rank-and-file exiles and prisoners. Many have refused, as all Pan Africanist Congress cadres have done, to apply for indemnity.

Diplomatic sources revealed that at the next round of talks with the UNHCR, possibly in South Africa, this problem might be addressed again. The Government is eager not to be seen as obstructing the return to political normality.

Selective boycott will stay

WK Mail 10/5 - 16/5/91 336

THE fate of the cultural boycott will be decided at a meeting between South African cultural workers and the United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid at a conference in Los Angeles today.

It is likely that the selective boycott will remain in force for at least the next six months, though its guidelines will be more firmly established.

It has been in a state of flux since the return of the liberation movements, and strong motions have been made to end it completely. But it remains in effect, if in somewhat altered form.

Since the replacement of the blanket boycott with a selective one in 1986, there has been a certain amount of confusion as to its role and dissatisfaction with the way it was administered by bodies within South Africa like the Cultural Desk.

The cultural boycott has been in a state of uncertainty since the return of the liberation movements. Today's meeting with the UN will determine its future.

By SHAUN DE WAAL

The unbannings of political organisations in early 1990 led to some speculation that the cultural boycott was on its way out. Fine-tuning of the boycott's guidelines has taken place, but it has not been scrapped, and nor is it likely to be done away with at the LA meeting.

Local cultural activists feel that the scrapping of the boycott would be premature. There are fears that South Africa's fragile cultural infrastructure could be damaged by a flood of big-name overseas visitors. Local structures must be given a chance to develop.

The result of a meeting which took place two weeks ago between the African National Congress' Department of Arts and Culture and representatives of organisations outside the ANC's ambit gave rise to a resolution that the South African delegates to the LA symposium would support the enforcement of the selective boycott in more or less its present form.

In the wake of meetings with non-ANC groups, the notion of a "united front" of cultural organisations that cuts across ideological boundaries has been mooted — but key players say that the ANC has not been sufficiently aware of viewpoints outside its ranks and that the "united front" does not really exist.

The UN asked in February this year that South African cultural bodies unite and that the delegates to the SCAA meeting be representative of a broad spectrum of political groups.

Although there was broad agreement at the conference two weeks ago on the formation of a "cultural patriotic front", some confusion still exists as to the representivity of the group of delegates who will meet the UN today.

Invitations were extended by the UN to the ANC DAC, to the Congress of South African Writers and to the South African Musicians' Alliance, to arts groups like the Thupelo Arts Foundation, and to individuals like playwright and director Maishe Maponya — but no official invitations have been received by the cultural wings of the Azanian People's Organisation and the Pan Africanist Congress.

●To PAGE 21

Cultural boycott stay for now

This, says cultural activists, continues the marginalisation felt by these organisations, and, despite the ANC's consultation of such groups, will mean that the ANC, in effect, will speak for them at the UN meeting. There is also the perception that discipline-based groups like Cosaw and Sama are — though not overtly ANC-aligned — more-or-less within the ANC/Charterist camp, and this has not stilled the concerns felt by cultural activists outside the ANC.

Azapo cultural officer Don Mattera said that "all along there has been a feeling that Azapo and other black consciousness movement (BCM) structures have been marginalised — we were not invited to the meetings at Athens or Gaborone or the 'Culture in Another South Africa' conference in Amsterdam. This despite the fact that we are affected by the same oppression and we have been fighting apartheid culture for as long as we can remember.

"Azapo started the idea of a blacklist (of performers violating the boycott); we picketed the busters of the sports boycott. We have a history of activism in the cultural field."

Yet, said Mattera, Azapo — which originally rejected the selective boycott in favour of a blanket boycott — would support a firmly-outlined selective boycott.

"We feel that we can't further victimise the victims by isolating them from closer interaction with progressive artists from overseas. If an artist has a record of opposition to apartheid, we should welcome such a person. We are redefining what constitutes a friend or a foe.

"We would not object to people coming out to work with state-sponsored organisations like the performing arts councils, whose credibility has always been in question."

Yet there is still concern that the ANC has not taken sufficient notice of views outside its ranks — or has established a kind of hegemony that will seem to absorb these views into its own.

●From PAGE 19

Ironically, the views on the boycott do not seem to differ widely, but there is a continuing resentment at the lack of consultation.

But perhaps the fault lies with non-ANC cultural groups and their somewhat diffuse agendas. Maponya, who was invited to the UN meeting in his personal capacity and not as a representative of any organisation, tried via a series of meetings in recent months to solicit firm views from Azapo, the BCM and the PAC.

But, he says, "Azapo and the PAC haven't taken up the challenge." He says he is concerned about the "flimsy" views of the PAC on the cultural boycott, and is equally concerned that the ANC has not taken cognisance of views outside the organisation.

The marginalisation of Azapo and the PAC may indeed be based in their own tendency to isolate themselves from the mainstream of cultural activism.

Maponya said: "Azapo is sitting in offices and arguing and creating documents and leaving them there, and the PAC is doing the same."

A representative of the ANC DAC commented that "the ANC has absolutely nothing to do with who got invited to the UN. The ANC has taken the initiative to engage the PAC and Azapo in discussion — at no stage did these organisations take the initiative on these issues."

She added that the UN had been notified of the necessity of inviting Azapo as an organisation, and said that "for the purposes of this conference, they agreed the boycott must remain as is, but that our allies overseas must be recognised and firm guidelines must be established."

The UN Security Council is procrastinating on a successor to Javier Perez de Cuellar, writes **Michael Littlejohn**

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Zimbabwe pushes for its man to head world body

ZIMBABWE is mounting a determined effort on behalf of its Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, an economist with an international reputation, to succeed Javier Perez de Cuellar as secretary-general of the United Nations.

However, it is not likely to happen, according to knowledgeable Western diplomats.

They say any African candidate's prospects are poor, even if Mr Chidzero may have a better chance than most.

Britain, which has the power of veto — along with the United States, the Soviet Union, France and China — is being urged to back Mr Chidzero and the Zimbabwe government plans to make an appeal on his behalf at the highest level through a mission to London.

Mr Chidzero, who is married to a French-Canadian and served for some years in Geneva as a UN official, is said to have a good command of French, a language requirement insisted upon by France and the other Francophone members of the UN as a condition for their support for any candidate.

A number of other African contenders, including Major-General Joseph Garba, the Nigerian former president of the UN General Assembly, are given no chance because their French is limited or non-existent.

Along with English, French is a principal "working language" at the UN.

All the signs in the world body's New York headquarters are in both English and French. (Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish are the other languages in regular use at UN meetings and efforts have been made, without success, to introduce German.)

Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet Foreign Minister, who speaks neither working language, therefore has virtually no chance of becoming secretary-general, although his name has been mentioned among the hopefuls.

Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's background is in science rather than linguistics and her lack of proficiency in French is considered also to be a fatal flaw.

Mrs Thatcher, too, has been mentioned in speculation about the succession, but so far mainly in the more sensational London newspapers.

The theory is that the end of the Cold War invalidated a tacit bar against nationals of the major powers who are permanent members of the Security Council from holding the post of secretary-general.

Some Western members had hoped, but in vain, that a serious effort to agree on a nominee for secretary-general would have been well under way by the end of April and that a recommendation to the General Assembly might be made in early October.

It now appears that the Security Council, in line with its customary procrastination, will leave attempts to reach a decision on Dr Perez de Cuellar's successor until the bitter end.

An impasse then could result in an appeal to Dr Perez de Cuellar to continue in office for at least another year or two — not a bad result for South Africa, which has maintained good relations with him and would probably be able to agree on reasonable terms for the Republic's eventual return to full participation in the United Nations.

France would also like to keep Dr Perez de Cuellar. But this would also postpone reforms in the free-spending UN secretariat which the United States, the Soviet Union and Britain say are long overdue.

The incumbent chief is given fair to moderate marks as a diplomat and politician but rated a poor performer in bottom-line management.

The French, strangely, do not seem to place the same high premium on good UN administrative practice as do the Americans, Soviets and British.

French officials say that postponing reforms for a year or two would not be too high a price to pay to keep Dr Perez de Cuellar at the helm.

They also say the idea favoured by the US and Britain that the designated new UN chief should have a month or two to feel his way into the job and consult frequently with Dr Perez de Cuellar before settling in on January 1 is an extension of the American presidential transition system that the world body has no need to adopt.

In short, who will be the next UN secretary-general remains an open question, but don't rule out the incumbent, who would them become the first person in the post to have served more than 10 years.

South Africa's arch-enemy Kurt Waldheim, who tried in vain to break the mould in 1971, would be chagrined. □

Guns over butter in third world

South 16/5-22/5/91 (336)

The United Nations is disillusioned with developing nations who request aid but who spend more on the military than on education and health — and it is now getting tough. THALIF DEEN reports



SUDANESE REBEL SOLDIERS: Money for firepower instead of food PIC: AFRICA REPORT

THE United Nations is taking an openly critical view of developing countries that keep complaining they are far too poor to finance their human development needs.

Given the choice between food and firepower, says the UN, most Third World nations are opting for guns over butter.

At least three New York-based agencies — the UN Development Programme (UNDP), The UN Children's Fund (Unicef) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) — are convinced that most developing nations have the necessary resources to give high priority to human concerns in their national budgets.

Commitment

But what they lack, say the three agencies, is the political commitment to spend more on basic education, primary health care, family planning, child welfare, social security and the environment.

The UNDP, which is taking the leading role in trying to prod developing nations into action, says that one way of resolving the problem is to recast budgetary priorities in favour of human development.

The UNDP's chief of media relations, Peter Gall, said the concept of human development will be woven into practically all of UNDP programming in the 1990s. The UNDP will be asking some pointed questions of countries seeking assistance from the world's largest multilateral grant development assistance agency, said Gall:

- Is your military spending on the increase?
- Are you spending more on defence and less on health, education and housing?
- If you are already focusing on human needs, are you spending more on primary education?
- Or does a high percentage of your budget go to university education which favours the rich and the upper middle classes at the expense of children at the lower end of the economic scale?

Report

In its first annual Human Development Report released last year, UNDP pointed out that among the developing countries with the highest share of military expenditures were some of the world's poorest and least developed nations. The eight countries singled out for criticism were Angola, Burundi, Sudan, China, Burma, Uganda, Yemen and Zaire.

The UNDP's second Human Development Report, due to be released on May 22, will take an even more critical view of countries that continue to give less priority to human development. The report is expected to stress that political will, not finance, determines whether national budgets and foreign aid go to education and health — or into arms, corruption and subsidies for the wealthy.

South 16/5-22/5/91 (336)

The UN estimates global military spending at more than R3,25 trillion a year. But meeting the goals set out for protecting the lives and growth of children the world over in the 1990s would cost about R50bn a year, according to Unicef executive director James P Grant.

Unicef's annual State of the Children Report for 1991 says that developing nations as a whole are spending more on the military than on education and health combined. — *INTER PRESS SERVICE*

UN asked to send forces to Angola

Sowetan 24/5/91

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AROUND THE WORLD

NEW YORK - UN secretary general has proposed the United Nations send 440 military and police observers and 175 civilians to monitor Angola's ceasefire and eventually help organise elections.

"It is a matter of great satisfaction that an end is at last in sight to the cruel war that has ravaged Angola for too long," Javier Perez de Cuellar said on Wednesday in a report to the Security Council.

Ambassadors from the US, the USSR, Britain, China and France - the five permanent members of the Security Council - met late on Wednesday to discuss financing for the force.

The UN already has an operation in Angola, the UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem) set up in 1988 to verify the withdrawal of Cuban troops, which will be completed on July 1.

De Cuellar proposed that this unit of about 70 military observers be enlarged as requested by the Angolan government and the rebel Unita in their peace pact.

The peace accords, to be ratified in Lisbon on May 31, provide for a ceasefire, the integration of government and rebel troops into a new slimmed-down force and the holding of elections between September and November 1992.

The secretary-general asked for up to 350 military observers, up to 90 police, three aircraft and 12 helicopters, 14 medical staff, about 80 international and 80 local staff for administration and support units.

Under the accords, the government and Unita are to establish joint monitoring groups to verify and prevent violations of their truce.

Initially the UN forces are to watch the monitoring groups conduct their investigations and help resolve potential ceasefire violations as troops from both sides gather at 50 locations for the process of merging their armies.

Nations contributing military officers to Unavem will be asked to increase their forces. They are Algeria, Congo, India, Jordan, Norway, Spain, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Brazil and Argentina.

The pact is aimed at ending 30 years of bloodshed in Angola, where guerrilla war against Portugese rule was followed by 16 years of civil war. - *Sapa-Reuter*

Asians are least developed, says a United Nations report

24/5/91 Soweten 24/5/91

(336)

NEW YORK - Inequality is one of the most striking features of Asia - between nations, between rich and poor and between men and women, according to a UN report released on Wednesday.

The UN Development Programme (UNDP) report, which seeks to rank 160 countries by their success in education and health care as well as economic progress, finds Japan a world leader.

Hong Kong ranks 25, South Korea 35, Singapore 37 and Malaysia 52 - countries which the report says have more in common with major industrial nations than with most developing countries.

But the continent as a whole has 700 million people who live in poverty with the great majority of them in India and Bangladesh.

Only about half the Asian population has access to both safe water and sanitation and there is marked discrimination against women, it said.

Female literacy rates are only 73 per cent of those for men, a figure that has not changed in the past 15 years.

"Female life expectancy is low, with a substantial number of women who would have lived if they had been born elsewhere," the report said.

The report on human development attempts to challenge the World Bank's annual development survey, which concentrates on economic wealth as a barometer of success.

Instead, the UNDP report ranks nations according to distribution of income, literacy rates, educational opportunities, infant mortality and other health factors as well as wealth.

Some East Asian countries have achieved fairly rapid reduction in infant mortality to about five per cent, including China, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Children

About 85 per cent of the region's one-year-old children are immunised, a higher proportion than the average for industrial countries, it said.

But in South Asia, all countries except Sri Lanka fall into the category of low human development.

Pakistan, which ranks 120 compared with 123 for India and 82 for China and 75 for Sri Lanka, is singled out in the survey, whose principal author is Dr Mahbub ul Haq, a former Pakistani finance minister.

Haq describes his country as having an impressive annual economic growth rate of about six per cent, which it failed to translate into a human development programme.

Its average life expectancy is below most Asian nations and adult literacy of 31 percent is among the world's lowest.

Corruption also took its toll in Pakistan with illegitimate private gain from public positions estimated at four percent of the gross national product, the report says.

In addition UNDP points to the high amount of internal debt governments owe their own citizens. - *Sapa-Reuter*

UN may be adopting a new attitude

NEW YORK - For every crisis it handles successfully, the United Nations turns a blind eye somewhere else because, so far at least, sovereignty has outweighed other questions.

Among trouble spots the United Nations ignored have been Kashmir, Tibet, the Baltics, Armenia, Sri Lanka, East Timor, and Liberia.

All of those involve events occurring within UN member states, which are defined as domestic problems to be handled by national governments at their discretion.

The UN Charter prohibits interference in domestic affairs.

Slowly, that attitude may be changing.

For years, the United Nations also ignored the Kurds of Iraq, Turkey, Syria and the Soviet Union. Even Iraq's massacre of at least 5 000 of its own Kurds with chemical weapons during the Iran-Iraq war created little outcry.

International attention focused on the Kurds' suffering after the Gulf War marked a rare level of concern for minorities harmed by their own governments.

With the recent exception of the Iraqi Kurds, the United Nations has done nothing to help oppressed minorities, majorities or secessionist movements.

Palestinians and black South Africans have received much vocal support from the world organisation, but little else.

When former Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union recently proposed the United Nations mediate between Moscow and its restive republics, UN officials did not react.

In May, the legislature of Armenia appealed for UN observers to monitor a referendum on whether the republic should secede from the Soviet Union. Again, no response.

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Violence

UN officials routinely decline comment on the ethnic violence and secessionist ferment in Armenia, Georgia, the Baltics and other regions inside the Soviet Union. Soweten 28/5/91

Almost never do they acknowledge petitions from Tibetans complaining about Chinese rule, Shiite Muslims protesting about Iraqi authorities or others.

Since the petitioners are not member states, they have no official status.

In the case of the Kurds, the United Nations appears to be on new ground, with Iraq's consent. It is sending a UN police force, has established refugee centres and corridors and is taking over allied refugee camps.

Some nations speak of a new international order and advocate relinquishing some sovereignty in order to promote human rights and coordinate development and environmental efforts.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar says the concept of non-interference in internal affairs may be changing.

In a recent speech at the University of Bordeaux, he said documents like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights appear to question the principle of absolute sovereignty. - Sapa-AP



Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar

SA low on UN human rights list

Star 29/5/91

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Star Foreign Service

ROME — South Africa's human rights record has earned it a place close to the bottom of a United Nations table.

In a survey of 88 countries from both the developed and the developing world, South Africa ties with the Soviet Union for the post of sixth from last. Only Iraq, Romania, Libya, China and Ethiopia fare worse.

The UN scorecard uses 40 guidelines taken from the World Human Rights Guide to establish each nation's performance in terms of democracy and personal freedom. They include the existence of universal suffrage and a multiparty system; the right to travel freely, inside and outside the country; racial tolerance; and social and financial equality for different ethnic groups.

The ratings also take into account factors such as freedom of speech and the press, the use of torture, the death penalty and illegal detention.

Countries with the best human rights records include Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Austria and the Netherlands.

But when it comes to assessing the quality of life of its inhabitants, South Africa fares better, coming 57th in a list of 160 countries.

UN chief on OAU agenda

Star 3/6/91 336

By Barney Mthombothi

ABUJA (Nigeria) — Apart from South Africa, another subject provoking agitated discussion among delegates to the Organisation of African Unity summit, which begins today, is the choice of a successor to Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar as secretary-general of the United Nations.

Dr de Cuellar has indicated that he will not seek re-election at the end of his term, and Africa is pushing hard for one of its own to succeed him.

Former Nigerian military leader General Olusegun Obasanjo is the front-runner at this stage.

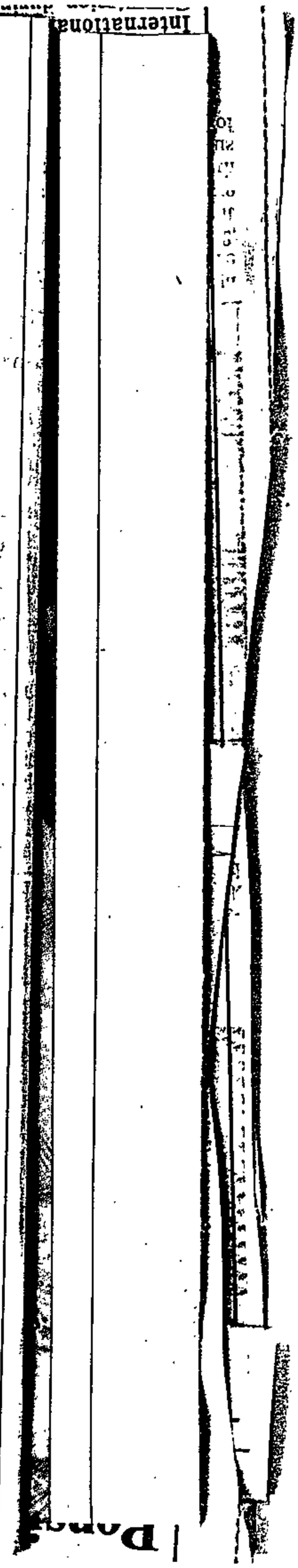
Two other prominent figures who want the job are Zimbabwean Finance Minister Dr Bernard Chidzero and Senegalese President Abdul Diouf.

OAU Secretary-General Dr Salim Ahmed Salim is believed to want the job, but is unlikely to have his name put forward unless he gets an assurance that the US and British will not again thwart his ambition.

Dr Salim failed to get the job 10 years ago because the two powers objected to his candidacy.

The Africans did not want Dr Kurt Waldheim, and Dr Perez de Cuellar was elected as the compromise candidate.

General Obasanjo has been a frequent visitor to South Africa in recent times.



African UN chief on the cards?

Argus 4/6/91 (336)

Argus Africa News Service

ABUJA (Nigeria). — United Nations Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, who retires at the end of his second term later this year, delighted African leaders when he put his considerable weight behind the candidacy of an African to succeed him.

Addressing the OAU, Dr De Cuellar said amid applause that Africa and Eastern Europe were the only two continents or regions which had yet to provide a secretary-general of the United Nations.

"Africa fully deserves to be given a chance," Dr De Cuellar said.

The open support for an African candidate from the incumbent came as a pleasant surprise to many delegates here.

The frontrunners are understood to be Zimbabwean Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero and former Nigerian military leader General Olusegun Obasanjo, who was in the audience last night.

General Obasanjo's campaign for the job has created a lot of excitement in Nigeria. Some, however, see him as an inappropriate choice because he came to power in a military coup.

De Cuellar wants an African successor

Soweten 5/6/91

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ABUJA (Nigeria) - UN Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, who retired last night after serving a second term, delighted African leaders when he put his weight behind the candidacy of an African to succeed him.

De Cuellar said Africa and Eastern European were the only two regions which have yet to provide a secretary-general for the United Nations.

The OAU is expected to decide on a candidate to succeed De Cuellar at the summit here.

Frontrunners are Zimbabwean Minister Bernard Chidzero and former Nigerian leader General Olusegun Obasanjo.

Africa hopes to lead world body

South 6/6 - 12/6/91.

336

DEFT diplomatic footwork, designed to install an African as the next secretary-general of the United Nations, is extending to important capitals around the world.

The second five-year-term of the incumbent, Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru, expires at the end of the year, and there is no shortage of African candidates to take his place.

Among those who have been considered by ad-hoc search committees are Joseph Garba of Nigeria, former president of the UN General Assembly; Ghanaian Kenneth Dadzie, secretary-general of the UN Conference on Trade and Development; Bernard Chidzero, Zimbabwe's finance minister; Senegalese president Abdou Diouf; Tanzania's Salim Ahmed Salim, the current secretary general, of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU); James Jonah, the Sierra Leonean undersecretary-general of the UN; and Olara Otunnu, Uganda's former foreign minister who now heads the International Peace Academy in New York.

For now, the top African contender appears to be retired general Olusegun Obasanjo, a former Nigerian head of state who has won the endorsement of Nigeria's government.

Although the decision to back him has not yet been announced publicly, the government of President Ibrahim Babangida has begun an international lobby campaign on his behalf.

Persuade

Nigeria hopes to persuade African heads of state attending the OAU summit this month to unanimously accept Obasanjo as "Africa's candidate".

Although the UN Charter does not require a geographical rotation of the secretary-general's position, many believe Africa is due for a turn at running the world body. The past five UN chiefs have come from Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Africa, the largest group of member countries of the United Nations, has never produced a secretary-general of that body. But now an international lobby campaign is underway to have an African candidate succeed Javier Perez de Cuellar at the end of the year. KINGSLEY MOGHALU reports:

Africa, with the largest group of member countries, has never produced a secretary-general. "If we miss this time," says Ibrahim Gambari, Nigeria's ambassador to the UN, "Africa will not have another opportunity this century to fight for the UN post."

Perez de Cuellar has said he would prefer an African to succeed him. If the five permanent members to the Security Council refuse to agree to an African, De Cuellar argues, "Africa will feel excluded."

Why is Africa vying for what Tryve Lie, the first UN secretary-general, called "the most impossible job on earth", when its citizens are struggling daily against poverty and war?

Racist myths

The reason, analysts here say, include a belief that an African secretary-general can make a success of global assignments and, in the process, raise the continent's international profile and help shatter racist myths of black inferiority.

Gabriel Olusanya, former head of Nigeria's Institute of International Affairs, says that although the position has been traditionally administrative and not a strong decision-making one, "an African secretary-general can influence decisions where Africa is unfairly treated".

Others believe that holding such a powerfully symbolic international position will give the continent greater confidence to push its diplomatic and economic interests. Greater international co-operation for solutions to Africa's economic crisis is one of those aims. Another, according to diplomats here, is a permanent seat for Africa on the Security Council.

"A continent that accounts for roughly a third of the UN's membership ought to be represented in the most powerful chamber on a permanent basis," Gambari argues.

Strong leadership

Germany and Japan are also seeking permanent seats in the council.

With the wane of the cold war and with the UN's image enhanced following the Gulf crisis, and after such successes as supervising Namibia's independence process, there is a pervasive feeling that strong leadership could help the UN fulfill its original mission of maintaining world order.

Africa's trumpet blowers say the continent has many leaders of international stature on whom the cap would fit.

With these goals heading Africa's agenda, Obasanjo is hardly a surprise choice. A military general who voluntarily handed over power to a democratically elected government, the widely admired leader has chalked up an impressive international resumé since leaving office in 1979.

He has served on several international commissions on security and development issues. In 1988 he founded the Africa Leadership Forum, a respected think-tank that trains future African leaders and proposes strategies for the continent's development.



PEREZ DE CUELLAR: An African successor?

In the long run, much is riding on the decision of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. A veto by one of the five will defeat any candidate.

In 1981, Tanzania's Salim, a popular choice of many UN members, was a candidate for the secretary-generalship against the incumbent, Kurt Waldheim of Austria, who was seeking an unprecedented third term.

Salim lost, due to a United States veto. China then vetoed Waldheim, leading to the emergence of Perez de Cuellar, a dark horse.

Many diplomats here believe it is unlikely the White House, under George Bush will follow Ronald Reagan's 1981 example and veto an African frontrunner. — *AFRICA NEWS*

UN top job: Hunt for African candidate goes on

Argus Africa News Service

ABUJA (Nigeria). — African leaders at the Organisation of African Unity summit here could not agree on an African candidate for secretary-general of the United Nations, delaying the closing ceremony planned for last night.

Leaders spent the afternoon and last night arguing about which candidate to recommend for the job. The closing ceremony will now take place today — but many leaders have already left for home.

UN secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar's term ends this year and African leaders are determined to have an African succeed him.

Addressing the OAU summit this week Dr De Cuellar threw his weight behind an African candidate. He said it was about time the continent was given a chance to occupy the post.

By last night the candidates had been whittled down to four. They are the former Nigerian military leader-turned-international statesman General Olusegun Obasanjo; Zimbabwean finance minister Mr Bernard Chidzero; Mr James Jonah of Sierra Leone, who is a UN under-secretary-general; and Ghana's Dr Kenneth Dadzie, head of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad).

The Nigerian government, which has just assumed the OAU chairmanship, is determined to have its former head of state, General Olusegun Obasanjo, elected. But others caution that his military background and the fact that he came to power in a military coup is unsuitable for the job.

Other African countries feel that Nigerians are getting all the top jobs allocated to Africa in international agencies and that it is about time they were given a chance.

UN slams SA govt

Own Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Perturbed by the worldwide collapse of sanctions, the UN is urging member states to avoid seeing any "moral equivalence" between the South African government and its negotiating partners.

The international community must lend its support only to the "liberation movements" and other anti-apartheid forces, and should lift sanctions only when they give the go-ahead.

Any other course, the UN Centre Against Apartheid argues, would be "outright dangerous".

In an "interim" assessment of South Africa's compliance with the 1989 UN Declaration on Apartheid, the centre finds the prospects for an end to apartheid and agreement on a new constitution "less promising now that a year ago".

"However," the report notes bitterly, "some member states appear to have overestimated the rate of progress and and have hastened to establish or strengthen links with apartheid."

SA in debt to UN

PRETORIA. — SA's debt to the United Nations has soared to R150 million. The fact that SA does not take part in the General Assembly does not absolve it from paying its dues.

Barred SA still owes UN $60m

PRETORIA — SA's debt to the UN has soared to $60m since the country was expelled from the General Assembly in 1974.

The debt, says Foreign Affairs Director-General Neil van Heerden, is made up of $45m in arrears on the UN's regular budget and additional arrears stemming from the working capital fund and the world body's peacekeeping operations.

The fact that SA does not participate in the General Assembly in no way absolves it from paying its dues.

Asked if the UN would insist on payment of backlogs if SA were readmitted to the General Assembly, Van Heerden said the question arose whether a country could be held responsible for payment of arrears when it was illegally prevented from exercising its rights at the UN.

SA considered the non-acceptance of its credentials in 1974 as a violation of the

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GERALD REILLY

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spirit of the UN Charter.

"The question of SA's arrears will be considered by government when it becomes clear that the country's right of participation is respected."

Asked if there was a likelihood of SA being readmitted to the General Assembly for either this year's session, or next year's, Van Heerden said there were signs the climate for SA was improving. But it was too early to speculate on precisely when SA's right of participation might resume.

SA's annual UN assessment runs at about $4m in addition to smaller amounts relating to peacekeeping operations.

It was interesting to note, Van Heerden said, that the US, which was also in arrears and contributed 25% of the UN budget, owed $430m at the beginning of this year.

Top UN official to visit SA on exiles issue

CT 13/6/91

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A high-ranking United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees official is due in South Africa next week for talks with the government that may finally open the way to the UN's involvement in repatriating exiles.

Mr Nicholas Bwakira, director of the UNHCR's regional bureau for Africa, will hold talks in Cape Town with government officials, national co-ordinator of the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of South African exiles Ms Mankekolo Mahlangu-Ngcobo said yesterday.

Meanwhile, Ms Mahlangu-Ngcobo yesterday released the contents of a letter she has sent to Home Affairs Minister Mr Gene Louw in which she said the government's refusal to grant exiles amnesty, and not a lack of funds, had hampered their return.

Top UN official due for talks on exiles

B 11 Beeld 13/6/91

PATRICK BULGER

A HIGH-ranking UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) official is due in SA next week for talks that may finally open the way to the world body's involvement in repatriating SA exiles.

Nicholas Bwakira, director of the UNHCR's regional bureau for Africa and the leader of a delegation which visited SA in February, will hold talks in Cape Town with government officials.

This was announced yesterday by National Co-Ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of SA exiles (NCCR) national co-ordinator Mankekolo Mahlangu-Ngcobo.

Bwakira's visit comes two weeks after a visit to SA by the legal adviser of the international protection division of the UNHCR, K Kalumiya. Kalumiya was in SA to try resolve a legal disagreement between the UNHCR and government over the question of a blanket amnesty for an estimated 40 000 returning SA exiles.

The SA government and the UNHCR jointly produced a memorandum of understanding to facilitate the return of exiles.

ANC is pleased over indemnity for Wolpe

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JOHANNESBURG. — Internationally acclaimed anti-apartheid academic Harold Wolpe, 65, who escaped from South Africa in the early 1960s while being sought on sabotage charges, has been granted unconditional indemnity by the government.

The African National Congress welcomed the announcement, and immediately called on the government to grant indemnity to the estimated 39 000 exiles still outside the country.

Mr Wolpe, a known ANC and SA Communist Party member when he fled, was one of five people, including two rightwingers, granted indemnity in notices gazetted in Pretoria.

According to the Government Gazette, Mr Wolpe's unconditional indemnity was granted in respect of sabotage committed between June 27, 1962 and July 11, 1963.

"We welcome him back with open arms," ANC spokeswoman Ms Gill Marcus said last night.

An ANC spokesman at the London office of the organisation said that Mr Wolpe was already back in South Africa, and lecturing at the University of the Western Cape.

Ms Marcus confirmed Mr Wolpe had accepted a lecturing post at UWC, and had been expected back in the country "about this time".

UWC rector Professor Jakes Gerwel could not be reached at home last night. — Sapa.

APG 13/6/91

Famine in Africa: new plan for UN aid

(336) Star 19/6/91

LONDON — An international operation to help Africa's 30-million famine victims and avoid a catastrophe on the continent is being considered by Western governments and aid agencies.

Aid officials have warned that without an initiative loss of life could exceed the Ethiopian famine in the 1980s when up to one million people are thought to have died.

The plan envisages the appointment of a United Nations supremo to co-ordinate aid efforts, with authority to call for military help to overcome logistical problems with food supplies and provide technical assistance such as bridge building.

Some aid officials are also pressing for the UN to have the right to override governments which obstruct relief agencies from reaching parts of their country on grounds of sovereignty. Britain and the United States are resisting this proposal.

Although the first priority is Africa, the proposed supremo would also co-ordinate disaster relief operations elsewhere in the world such as in Bangladesh and the Philippines.

Britain and Germany are expected to raise the issue at the European foreign ministers meeting under way in Luxembourg, and at the European Community heads-of-government meeting on June 28 and 29. It is also expected to be on the agenda of next month's meeting in London of the leaders of the seven main Western industrialised countries.

Dutch Development Minister Jan Pronk wants Western troops to help transport emergency food aid and has discussed the idea of an international force for Africa, similar to that which helped Kurdish refugees.

Aid officials say that military aircraft are needed to move food promptly to the worst-hit areas. — Financial Times News Service.

Pinatubo

The African connection

Star 20/6/91.

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As Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar's second five-year term as secretary-general of the United Nations comes to a close, the question of his successor becomes more and more pertinent to the Permanent Five. Africa seems the obvious choice from which to choose a successor, but things are not as simple as they seem, reports LEONARD DOYLE from New York.



ONE OF the most persistent rumours swirling around the United Nations in recent months concerns Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, the 71-year-old secretary-general, and whether he might be willing to stay on for another few years as head of the world body.

This would be an unwelcome scenario for Britain, which has seen its relations with the UN chief reach a low ebb over the past nine months. It is keen to see him replaced with an energetic, reform-minded leader at the end of this year, possibly from the slate of four candidates from English-speaking Africa recently put forward by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). One of them, Dr Bernard Chidzero, Zimbabwe's Finance Minister, is seen as a well-rounded candidate who seems to have the support of the US State Department — though not necessarily of the US government.

Dr de Cuellar, a Peruvian, has already served two five-year terms and it is widely accepted that it is Africa's rightful turn to provide the next secretary-general, if a suitable candidate can be found.

But as is becoming increasingly clear to many diplomats, the greatest obstacle to an African secretary-general emerging this time around may be the simmering rivalry between London and Paris over which region of the continent — Francophone or Anglophone — should provide the candidate.

There are clearly political interests at stake, more for France than for Britain, and the apparent absence of an immediately available candidate from Francophone Africa may well explain why France's ambassador to the UN has suggested that Dr de Cuellar be asked to stay on for two more years.

By February 1993, Abdou Diouf, the highly rated President of Senegal and former president of the OAU, will have completed his term of office and will be ready to be installed on the 38th floor of the UN headquarters. For France, there could be no better outcome, diplomats say. Paris wants to enhance its role in the newly revitalised UN Security Council.

At the same time, the emergence of a Francophone African as secretary-general would be a boost to what is France's last remaining sphere of political influence outside European integration.

The result of these tactical moves may be that Africa loses the chance to provide the next UN chief — not a bad thing, in the view of some countries.

Soviet and other diplomats say an African secretary-general would inevitably try to turn the UN's focus towards the problems of the continent, when, in their view, there are more pressing issues to be tackled elsewhere. The Permanent Five want the UN to remain focused on the fallout from the Gulf crisis, and there are hopes that it can help bring peace to the Middle East as well as Cambodia.

The apparent stalemate over an African candidate is providing an opportunity for others interested in the post, among them Washington's current favourite, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, Norway's Gro Harlem Brundtland and Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas. A dark horse candidate, who might get the support of the European Community if neither Britain nor France gets its way, is Viscount Etienne Davignon, the 57-year-old Belgian and former European Commissioner.

Some of the more fanciful candidates — such as Margaret Thatcher, Eduard Shevardnadze and Jimmy Carter — have been discounted as violating the unwritten rule than none of the Permanent Five should provide the candidate.

Britain's relations with Dr de Cuellar began to sour at the beginning of the Gulf crisis, when the UN chief refused to play the role of cheerleader for the Allied war effort. There was a nasty spat when Britain and the US sabotaged Dr de Cuellar's plan to appoint a close adviser as UN High Commissioner for Refugees, suggesting that he was guilty of "cronyism".

Dr de Cuellar's relations with London touched bottom during the Kurdish refugee crisis, when Downing Street openly criticised the UN chief for failing to act quickly enough.

In an uncharacteristic flash of anger, Dr de Cuellar responded by releasing a private letter from John Major, in which the British Prime Minister lavished fulsome praise on him while appealing for UN help in getting the Allies out of the quagmire of northern Iraq.

Diplomatic backbiting aside, there is a real power struggle going on in the corridors of the Security Council, primarily among the Permanent Five, each of which is jockeying to ensure that its interests are not ignored when the race for secretary-general begins later this year. Seen in this light, the smouldering row between London and Dr de Cuellar may be more tactical than real, designed to concentrate the minds of Security Council members on the selection process.

For all the negative commentary from British diplomats about Dr de Cuellar's inability to manage the organisation effectively, there is a lot of residual admiration for his sense of fair play and consummate diplomatic skills.

Finding his replacement is also shaping up as a test of US-Soviet co-operation. There is a good chance that, after 40 years of using the UN as an ideological battleground, the two world powers will settle on a candidate together. To be elected, the candidate must avoid a veto from any of the five permanent members and get four more votes, but a US-Soviet alliance would almost certainly ensure success.

Together with Britain, the superpowers share an interest in having an effective administrator run the organisation at a time when it is on the verge of a rebirth. But they differ on the degree of independence the new UN chief should have, with Washington keen to curtail it as much as possible. — The Independent News Service. □

UN group in talks with SA over exiles' return

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Star 20/6/91

CAPE TOWN — A delegation of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees met the Director General of Foreign Affairs Neil van Heerden yesterday for what is expected to be two days of key negotiations.

The meeting is a sequel to previous sessions when Mr van Heerden led a delegation to the UNHCR's Geneva headquarters.

The discussions are focused on the problem of thousands of South African political exiles and the indemnity requirements for a large-scale repatriation.

The UNHCR is expected to play a major facilitating role in the process if certain obstacles can be removed.

The UNHCR has held the position, rejected by the government, that a blanket indemnity be granted for all refugees wishing to return. It is understood this was the minimum condition acceptable to the UNHCR to assist with the repatriation operation.

The government, it is understood, has steadfastly maintained that the agreement reached with the ANC at Groote Schuur, Pretoria and D F Malan, at no time implied or suggested a blanket indemnity.

It has also become apparent, however, that this position is thwarting a mass return of political exiles. — Sapa.

PAC urges UN to rescind decision

THE Pan Africanist Congress has called on the United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid to rescind its decision to send a delegation to the ANC conference next month. Sowetan 26/6/91

In a statement issued by PAC secretary-general Benny Alexander on Monday, he said the SCA decision to attend the ANC conference was opposed by both the PAC and Zimbabwe delegations.

The statement said the SAC's decision was contrary to UN General Assembly resolutions.

"We contend that the SAC could show its solidarity with the ANC and the liberation movements generally. If a message of support was sent, the UN must not ignore the fact of the absence of our basic right to universal adult sufferage which means that apartheid is far from dead in this country", Alexander said. - *Sapa*

Planning for exiles' return stands on brink of disaster

LAW & THE COURTS

Carmel Rickard

THE government's determination not to grant blanket indemnity from prosecution to returning exiles is being tested to the limit.

Talks in Cape Town with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) hold much in the balance: unless the government makes substantial compromises on the amnesty issue, the UNHCR is unlikely to continue its involvement in the programme for returning exiles; without UNHCR participation, foreign funding already earmarked for assisting returnees will not be available; and without an agreement on amnesty, the internal umbrella body handling returnees — the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation (NCCR) — will close shop.

The government's choice is clear: grant a general amnesty which guarantees non-prosecution to returnees, or face a collapse of the infrastructure which could be used to reintegrate the exile community.

So far the government has given no indication it will back down. Its anti-amnesty position appears to have been adopted to protect law and order, as well as to protect its right to charge any returnee if this is felt necessary. However, given the reality of the current political situation, it is hardly likely that such a trial would begin, let alone reach a conclusion.

What are the dangers of a general indemnity? That the country will be flooded by returnees who have committed murder and sabotage?

During the heyday of the armed struggle police boasted that in most cases they had arrested the perpetrators; this would suggest relatively few would-be returnees have serious skeletons in their cupboards.

And the likelihood is that such people, if charged, would apply for — and might well eventually obtain — indemnity.

On the other hand, flexibility on the amnesty issue could bring a number of benefits. The seemingly interminable process of application and consideration would swiftly be brought to an end; the UNHCR could throw its weight behind a programme to get the returnees home quickly and efficiently; once the UNHCR was involved, significant foreign aid would become available to help returnees and this in turn could help ensure as many exiles as possible were usefully integrated into society; and the stick of the non-return of exiles, with which the government is regularly beaten, could finally be laid aside.

A serious by-product of the refusal to grant a blanket indemnity is that the NCCR, which co-ordinates the repatriation efforts of the different religious and political organisations, has had almost nothing to do. Staff and buildings meant to be at the service of an estimated 40 000 returnees have seen only about 1 500.

National co-ordinator Mankekolo Mahlangu-Ngcobo said unless a government-UNHCR agreement on amnesty was forthcoming, the NCCR would feel morally obliged to close down. It was not be justified to allow the expensive resources to stand idle any longer.

Frustrating though it might be, the plight of would-be returnees waiting for indemnity is preferable to that of prisoners who believe they should be given amnesty and released.

There is a constant war of words between the Department of Justice and human rights groups over how many prisoners entitled to amnesty are still being held. Although the exact number is unclear, there can be little doubt that many prisoners who should be released are still behind bars.

One might be able to imagine a scenario in which a robbery was committed for political motives, but one must agree with government scepticism about rapists asking for amnesty as political prisoners.

On the other hand, there are cases which obviously seem to fall into the government's own definition of political crimes.

Dieter Gerhardt, for example, is in jail for the blatantly political crime of high treason. He also caused no injuries, which should qualify him for release.

Then there is the case of Mthetheleli Mncube and Mzondeleli Nondula, Umkhonto weSizwe "soldiers" who killed a number of people. The two lost their appeal against the death penalty and are now approaching the state president for clemency and are asking for amnesty.

Ironically, Umkhonto weSizwe commanders from whom cadres like Mncube and Nondula received their orders have been granted indemnity.

The need for a more streamlined approach, cutting out delay and duplication, is obvious. The politicians have messed it up. The question now is whether they will allow the lawyers to find — and then implement — a solution.

ON THE SOUTHERN TIP

Great balls of fire



of journalistic espionage, of derring-do, of frustrating failure: "So the country and indeed the world still doesn't know what she really looks like. Fortress Slovo keeps its secret. For the moment."

African states' influence 'waning'

Argus 26/6/91

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — The influence of the African states, once immensely important among the Third World majority of United Nations members, has waned and they no longer command the support and sympathy they used to enjoy, a long-serving UN delegate from Africa believes.

Mr Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, Botswana's ambassador to the world body and former deputy head of the UN operation in Namibia, said in an interview that "another developing world," — Eastern Europe — had taken over the focus of attention.

"The plight of the Africans is no longer on the front burner and this is reflected at the United Nations," he said. A "creeping marginalisation" had set in.

But a continent that constituted one third of the UN membership still retained some influence and that should increase, because "we are the continent of the future," Mr Legwaila said.

His remarks were reported in Diplomatic World Bulletin, an independent newspaper widely circulated within the UN community.

The African states had changed, away from the "ritualistic" positions and voting patterns that used to exist, he said. Individual members showed a greater degree of independence, unlike the days when "people didn't have to do a lot of thinking" about the votes they cast, because they used routinely to side with the other African members.

As for Botswana, he said its only squabbles were with neighbours who tried to infiltrate and destabilise the region.

Mr Legwaila, who held the rank of UN assistant secretary-general in Namibia having been brought in to boost Africa's representation in the nation-making operation, called the experience "a cherished part" of his diplomatic career.

Respected for his intelligence and moderation, he is the longest-serving UN ambassador after the representatives of Madagascar and Yemen.

UN near deal on repatriating exiles

LONDON — The UN is close to agreement with SA over repatriating tens of thousands of political exiles, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata said yesterday.

Ogata told a news conference that a UNHCR working plan estimated that there were about 40 000 SA exiles in neighbouring countries alone.

"If you look into those who are in Europe (and elsewhere in the world), it might be very large," she said.

"Between the SA government and ourselves we are almost at the point of reaching agreement on our assisting the repatriation of political exiles." Bloan 3/7/91

Asked when she expected the SA government to approve the plan, Ogata replied: "I've been waiting every day." 336 $200

A UNHCR official said the programme for SA was estimated to cost about $40m.

Ogata, who has been holding talks on refugee problems with British officials, said her office might also get involved in repatriating Angolan and Mozambican exiles. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN study sees zero world growth this year

NEW YORK — A UN economic survey predicted zero growth in the world economy as a whole this year with output in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe plunging by 10 percent alone.

But the study, released yesterday, said production was expected to rebound in 1992 by two per-, cent.

The gloomy forecast, in the 240-page "World Economic Survey 1991", said no one factor caused the slump but a combination of anti-inflationary measures in industrialised countries and high debt in developing nations contributed to the decline.

The Gulf crisis also had an impact but far less than anticipated outside the Middle East because the rise in oil prices was short-lived, the study said.

It recommended that wealthy countries stimulate their economies and raise another $150 billion a year in funds.

This would help meet "their own social problems as well as the needs of international development, reconstruction in Eastern Europe and the protection of the environment," it said.

The survey showed a severe drop in growth among former communist nations struggling to change their economic systems. The worst decline was in former East Germany, followed by Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Hungary, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

"And these estimates are on the low side," said P Goran Ohlin, UN assistant secretary-general for international economic and social affairs. "There is no precedent for the transformations they are attempting."

The report said a safety net of health care, unemployment pay and other benefits was needed to maintain political support for continuing radical changes.

In the developing world, the growth rate slowed 10 percent for the third consecutive year and in Latin America and the Caribbean output actually fell.

Prices for commodities, except for oil, reached their lowest level since the 1930s, measured in terms of their purchasing power of imported manufactured goods.

It did not expect relief to be quick and said Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union were likely to drain resources from developing countries. Most Western nations have pledged not to divert funds from the Third World but budget restraints may force them to do so.

The study said that many industrial nations feared that any growth above two to three per cent a year would be inflationary and must be curbed.

"As long as this view prevails, these nations cannot serve their historic role as an engine of world economic growth," the survey concluded.— Sapa-Reuter.

UN team aids ANC in investment review

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Star 3/7/91

By Hugh Roberton
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A four-man team of experts on foreign investment and monopolies has been appointed by the United Nations to assist the ANC in a review of its economic investment policies and to advise it on the privatisation of state-owned monopolies.

The team was appointed at the request of the ANC and has already visited South Africa for "preliminary discussions". A report is to be presented to the UN and the ANC in the next few weeks, and the South African Government has been briefed on the UN action.

In terms of a UN General Assembly resolution, the world body is empowered to give advice and assistance to UN-recognised "liberation movements" on matters pertaining to the dismantling of apartheid structures.

The UN Centre for the Study of Transnational Corporations — a body set up in the mid-1970s to draw up a code of conduct for international companies — appointed a senior member of the UN secretariat, Maurice Odle, to head the team.

Other members are Joe Davidow, an American lawyer and expert on investment policy and monopolies and the author of a book on foreign investment and free competition, Dr Michael Faber, an economist and development specialist at Sussex University, and Roland Brown, former general counsel to the UN Centre for the Study of Transnational Corporations and an expert on investment law.

A member of the team said yesterday: "To some extent our discussions so far have been more a process of mutual education. We have tried to establish what the ANC's major concerns are, what their present position is on various economic matters, and from that to develop a design for specific research on South Africa.

"A report of our preliminary talks has been drawn up, and last Friday we also had a meeting in Pretoria to brief the government on the purpose of our activities.

"We are, after all, being employed to do this job by the UN, and South Africa is a member of the UN, so it was only natural that we should keep the government informed."

A copy of the team's report is expected to be made public in the next three weeks.

UN in danger of becoming puppet of US

Star 22/7/91. (336) (337)

After years of suspicion, America suddenly likes the United Nations. GODFREY HODGSON looks at the rationale and the problems of the relationship.

PRESIDENT Bush wants "a revitalised United Nations" at the heart of his "new world order". That is perhaps the biggest surprise in the Group of Seven's London communique, not least because it represents a startling turnaround in American policy since the Reagan administration — in which George Bush, as vice-president, and James Baker were powerful officials.

Under President Reagan, the United States treated the UN with suspicion, even contempt. It was regarded as little better than a front for anti-American machinations by the Soviet Union and its allies in the so-called Non-Aligned Movement.

"The reality of US impotence at the United Nations is stunning," declared America's former ambassador to the UN, Jeane Kirkpatrick, in 1985.

Around the same time, Charles Lichtenstein, the deputy US ambassador to the UN, became a tabloid folk hero when he encouraged the UN to leave the banks of New York's East River. "We'll be at the dockside," he said nastily, "waving you a fond farewell as you sail into the sunset."

And in 1986 Washington finally withdrew virtually all US funding. Not all of that money has been reinstated.

There are many reasons for the change of heart shown by the G7 communique. One is the end of the Cold War, proof of which is Mikhail Gorbachev's appearance at the Group of Seven meeting in London last week.

Mr Bush and Secretary Baker never were true believers in Reaganite ideology and do not share its xenophobia. Nor should it be forgotten that Mr Bush served as an ambassador to the UN from 1971 to 1972.

Americans have always felt strongly about the UN, because it was, after all, their creation.

It began not as an open assembly of all nations but as the coalition of victorious Allies after World War 2.

It was born on American soil, in San Francisco in 1945, of American ideals and American plans for the future.

Its composition reflected those origins. Defeated Japan, Germany and Italy were at first excluded, and the permanent members of the Security Council were those countries which were thought of as the significant Allied powers: America, Britain, China, France and the Soviet Union.

Nobody had any strong ob-



Making his point . . . President George Bush addresses the UN General Assembly.

Washington, so long as there was no real dissent from Washington's policy. But in the late 1940s, the Soviet Union and its allies objected to almost everything the US did.

And when the UN went to war in Korea in 1950, it was little more than a cloak for American policy. Before long, any hope that it might evolve into an open political forum was killed by the Cold War.

Certainly the UN proved useful in mounting peacekeeping operations where the interests of the Cold War antagonists were not too vitally engaged.

Then, from the beginning of the 1960s, the UN was transformed by the admission of more than 100 nations, most of them newly independent, small and impoverished.

They shared an ideology of nationalism, anti-colonialism if not anti-Americanism, and more or less dictatorial socialism, which went by the misleading name of the Non-Aligned Movement.

At first the leadership lay with more or less genuinely non-aligned countries such as India and Yugoslavia. But gradually the Non-Aligned Movement was taken over by Cuba, with the Soviet Union pulling the strings.

The "Zionism is racism" resolution of 1975, in which the Islamic enemies of Israel dra-

into the anti-Israel lobby, marked another turning point in US attitudes.

As the Palestine Liberation Organisation was treated almost as a member nation, public opinion in the US saw the UN as a sinister conspiracy against Israel and its American ally.

In 1979 President Carter's ambassador, Andrew Young, paid the price of not understanding that mood with his job. The stage was set for an ambassador with a very different world-view, Jeane Kirkpatrick, to campaign against the UN and for the US to withdraw most of its financial support.

The subsequent revelations about the implication of Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim (1972-1982) in Nazi brutality in Yugoslavia confirmed a widespread American instinct that there was something profoundly unhealthy about what was happening at UN headquarters.

It was the collapse of the Soviet Union's political and economic capacity to sustain a coalition of "non-aligned" nations against US interests that made the UN again available as an instrument of American policy.

And as a former ambassador to the UN, George Bush realised the enormous convenience of this ready-made international forum when it came to presenting a military operation against Iraq by the US and its Allies as the just sword of concerted world condemnation.

The inner coalition of countries that would send troops to fight Iraq was put together with bilateral diplomacy. But over the military operations Mr Bush was able to throw a mantle of international agreement and legitimacy embodied in UN resolutions.

It is worth reciting this history at some length, because if the UN is to take "a central role" in President Bush's "new world order" it will have to evolve into something very different from what it has been in the past.

If the UN is to fulfil the destiny that Mr Bush envisages for it, it cannot remain either a front for anti-US machinations or a cover for American self-interest.

Its dilemma is that if it is to succeed it must have the backing of US military power and political leadership, but it will fail if that backing makes it appear a Washington puppet. To square that circle will require a subtlety and a sensitivity that America has not always displayed. — The Independent

Little reporting out of Africa

NEW YORK — While apartheid remains grist for the global media mills and horror stories from starving Ethiopia receive wide coverage, much of the rest of Africa is virtually ignored.

The United Nations wants to change this and an international conference at the UN this month aims to review Western media attitudes and recommend how coverage of African news may be improved.

The BBC's Africa Service, the Voice of America and the magazines Time, Newsweek, The Economist, Ebony and Black Enterprise will all come under scrutiny, with the emphasis directed at magazines both within Africa and abroad.

The conference hopes to develop lasting contacts between African magazine publishers and their counterparts in the West, now regarded as "negligible". — Star Bureau.

'Spies to return once Govt, UNHCR agree'

Star 4/7/91.

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By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

DURBAN — About 120 released South African spies in ANC settlements would be returned once an agreement had been reached between the Government and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the ANC's deputy head of international relations, Stanley Mabizela, told The Star yesterday.

Mr Mabizela said the agents had been transferred from ANC camps in Uganda and Angola to settlements at Mazimbu and Dakawa in Tanzania.

Money had been donated for repatriation, and the ANC was prepared to foot the bill for the return of the spies.

"The only thing holding up their return are the complications between the Government and the UNHCR," he said.

The decision to release the agents had been taken by the ANC's national leadership in March in view of the ANC-Government agreement on the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles.

Mr Mabizela denied that ANC dissidents had been jailed and tortured but said "third-degree measures" — including torture — had been used to extract information from the agents.

"In terms of military discipline, these agents should have been lined up against a wall and shot, but president Oliver Tambo would not allow this because they were victims of apartheid.

"Many of them have been rehabilitated, including one who is currently completing his fifth year of medical studies under the auspices of the ANC," he said.

Key to UN role lies with South American countries

Star 13/7/91

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MIKE LITTLEJOHN

NEW YORK — The lifting of most US economic measures against South Africa and its readmission to Olympics competition have sharply diminished the Republic's international isolation, but probably not enough to bring it back into full UN participation this year.

This was the assessment of UN diplomats yesterday, who said they felt that Nelson Mandela's reiterated opposition to the removal of sanctions was still a major obstacle to a return to more normal international relations.

Hostility

Despite some relaxation of the former hostility of the Organisation of African Unity members, a change of heart has not yet come far enough to permit South Africa to resubmit credentials for a General Assembly delegation in September with a reasonable prospect that these would be accepted, several diplomats said.

However, they were hopeful that events in the Republic would have so far progressed in 1992 that this year's UN session might well be the last from which a South African delegation was excluded.

The delegation was ejected in 1974 in a decision that many members, including the entire Western group, considered illegal. Derek Auret, who is due in New York early next month as the new South African ambassador to the UN, was a junior member of that ousted delegation. It is sure to be a source of special satisfaction for him when South Africa reclaims its prerogatives.

South Africa has remained a UN member all along and will certainly be expected to pay a substantial part of about $40 million (R116 million) in assessed contributions it has withheld, understandably, during the wilderness years. This will be a matter for negotiation between Mr Auret and the Secretary-General, Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The shifts in policies towards South Africa in Europe and the US and a more favourable attitude by some African countries are expected to encourage Pretoria to seek parallel shifts in Latin America.

Argentina, where South African diplomatic representation was reduced from that of regular embassy to a vice-consulate as Buenos Aires sought to improve its image with Third World nations, offers an early opportunity for possible improvement because Pretoria's "vice-consul in charge" there is completing his term.

Also, President Saul Menem enjoys good relations with President George Bush and could be influenced by the latest decision on sanctions. Furthermore, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile all have full diplomatic relations with South Africa, with ambassadors in place. This makes Argentina's stance a bit of an oddity.

Diplomats say that Mexico, a nation of great and growing political and economic importance in the hemisphere, may prove to be a problem.

South African officials are so unwelcome there that the Mexican consulate-general in New York refuses even to give them the necessary forms to apply for entry visas.

POLITICS

Getting set for the UN once again

MICHAEL MORRIS Argus 19/7/91
Political Correspondent

THIS year's session of the UN General Assembly could be the last from which South Africa is excluded, but the timing of re-entry to the premier forum of world politics, possibly next year, will be cautiously assessed.

Relations with the UN secretariat and accredited diplomats from a widening circle of nations have improved steadily since last year.

Another boost could flow from the visit of a UN fact-finding delegation to South Africa early next month — the second such visit in just over a year.

The delegation's findings will probably form the basis of secretary general Xavier Perez de Cuellar's report on South Africa, due in September.

Diplomats hope 1991 will see the General Assembly more seriously re-assessing its relations with South Africa, and bringing an end to "name-calling", for instance.

In fact, South Africa has reached a position where actually taking its seat in the General Assembly — from which it was ejected in 1974 — is not necessarily a foreign affairs priority.

But, when the time is right, the government will want the move to go smoothly.

As one senior South African diplomat put it: "We want it to be done to general acclamation, rather than controversy."

Some States would still resist South Africa's resuming its place in the Assembly.

"They could make a great nuisance of themselves and the fact is that it does not serve our purpose to have that kind of controversy in a situation that at this stage is already going quite reasonably."



HOW soon will South Africa be back in these United Nations halls?

The diplomat said that South Africa — freed of the "baggage of the past" ... the Namibian question and apartheid particularly — would be able to return to the Assembly as "a positive and aggressive player in global politics".

He added: "So it is up to us to decide when to go back."

"By and large, we have reached the stage where many people are expecting us to come back, but the question is whether we have moved the organisation to a position where we could go back without controversy. It is probably too early for that.

"Do we need to worry about it now? After all, we have a presence there, we participate in lobby activities where most of the negotiation is done and we can submit letters stating the government's view on various matters. Our presence is a palpable fact."

Another touchy matter will directly influence the timing and nature of the resumption of full UN participation: South Africa's outstanding dues to the UN, now standing at about R150-million.

Despite the expulsion from the General Assembly in 1974, South Africa has remained a member of the UN and is being held liable for fees for all this time.

South Africa, however, will contest the sum. The diplomat said: "We say we do not owe because we have not been able to exercise our full rights.

"Between these two extremes probably lies the answer. That would need to be negotiated," he said.

That task will fall to South Africa's new ambassador to the UN, Mr Derek Auret — he takes up his post next month, replacing Mr Jeremy Shearar. Significantly, Mr Auret was a junior member of the delegation ousted from the Assembly in 1974.

Big 7 to pump up UN power

1917-25/7/91 w/mail 1917-25/7/91 336

The Group of Seven this week pledged to reinforce the United Nations and to establish guidelines to limit arms sales.

By GLENN FRANKEL and JIM HOAGLAND

THE leaders of the world's seven major industrial democracies pledged this week to strengthen the United Nations and limit international arms sales in a programme of "preventive diplomacy" designed to avoid repeating crises like the Gulf War and its disastrous aftermath.

In an abrupt departure from the traditions of international diplomacy, the Group of Seven promised to work to give the United Nations the power to intervene to protect human rights and organise disaster relief in member states, and warned Iraq that it faces punitive action if it does not comply with UN resolutions to destroy its nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

The leaders took up a wide range of subjects in their first full day of discussions at their annual summit, including Iraq, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the stalled multinational trade negotiations and arms sales. But all of these were overshadowed by the issue at centre stage: helping Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to reform and integrate his beleaguered country into the world economic system.

Gorbachev arrived on Tuesday night in London and was due to hold a series of bilateral sessions with individual leaders on Wednesday morning, followed by an unprecedented joint session with the Group of Seven leaders — those of the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan — in the afternoon and evening.

The summit seven

CANADA



Brian Mulroney
PM

Pop:	26.2m
GNP per head:	$19,030
Unemployment:	*10.3%
Inflation:	*6.2%
Merchandise trade:	
Exports:	114,066m
Imports:	113,230m

FRANCE



Francois Mitterrand
President

Pop:	56.2m
GNP per head:	$17,820
Unemployment:	*9.5%
Inflation:	*3.3%
Merchandise trade:	
Exports:	$172,561m
Imports:	$190,186m

W. GERMANY



Helmut Kohl
Chancellor

Pop:	62m
GNP per head:	$20,440
Unemployment:	
Old Federal state:	*5.4%
New Federal state:	*9.5%
Inflation:	*3.0%
Merchandise trade:	
Exports:	$340,628
Imports:	$268,6021

ITALY



Giulio Andreotti
PM

Pop:	*57.5m
GNP per head:	$15,120
Unemployment:	*11.3%
Inflation:	*6.6%
Merchandise trade:	
Exports:	$140,691m
Imports:	$149,503m

JAPAN



Toshiki Kaifu
PM

Pop:	123.1m
GNP per head:	$23,810
Unemployment:	^2.1%
Inflation:	^3.1%
Merchandise trade:	
Exports:	$275,040
Imports:	$207,356

UK



John Major
PM

Pop:	57.2m
GNP per head:	$14,610
Unemployment:	*7.8%
Inflation:	*5.8%
Merchandise trade:	
Exports:	$152,403m
Imports:	$197,714m

US



George Bush
President

Pop:	248.8m
GNP per head:	$20,910
Unemployment:	*6.9%
Inflation:	*5%
Merchandise trade:	
Exports:	$346,949m
Imports:	$491,512m

to resist.

The warnings appeared to reflect concern within the Bush administration that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein may be tempted to lunch a terrorist-style attack to forestall allied air raids.

Their declaration also stated that they would maintain sanctions until the Iraqi people and neighbouring states could live "without fear of intimidation, repression or attack" — language that suggested the punitive measures would remain in place until Saddam resigns or is overthrown.

By declaring that the world community "cannot stand idly by in cases where widespread human suffering from war, oppression, refugee flows" or natural disasters, the seven's political communique indicated endorsement of the idea that nations had a duty to intervene through the UN in special cases in what was formerly considered the internal affairs of a country.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd noted that Article 34 of the UN Charter gave potentially wide leeway for the international organisation to intervene in internal matters when world peace was threatened.

"You see the United Nations exerting itself, steering itself in all kinds of matters where it's been blocked by the Cold War," said Hurd at a news conference introducing Tuesday's declarations.

"Now this process is only at its beginning and what we want to do is to find ways of reinforcing it, enabling it to proceed."

Officials said Japan, which did not send forces to the allied war effort in the Gulf but contributed billions in cash, was unusually assertive in pressing for tougher language limiting arms sales.

[illegible] have said their

Officials of the nations pledged that the Soviet leader would walk away with strong expressions of support, although no pledges of cash.

In their arms declaration — one of two communiques they issued on Tuesday — the seven said the Gulf conflict had demonstrated how "peace and stability can be undermined when a country is able to acquire a massive arsenal that goes far beyond the needs of self-defence and threatens its neighbours. We are determined to ensure such abuse should not happen again."

They pledged to establish common guidelines to limit their own arms sales and promised to strengthen international treaties on the proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and missile delivery systems. But the only concrete measure they endorsed was for the United Nations to set up a register to record and publicly disclose all weapons sales and transfers.

The seven said they also wanted the UN Security Council to consider imposing "strict measures" against the use of chemical or biological weapons by any country, and said they would take other steps to give the United Nations a larger role in maintaining global stability.

"We commit ourselves to making the UN stronger, more efficient and more effective in order to protect human rights, to maintain peace and security for all and to deter aggression," they said in a separate political declaration.

"We will make preventive diplomacy a top priority to help avert future conflicts by making clear to potential aggressors the consequences of their actions. The UN's role in peace-keeping should be reinforced and we are prepared to support this strongly," the communique said.

Responding to the recent outbreak of human disasters in Iraq, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Sudan, the declaration proposed designating a senior UN official, answerable directly to the secretary-general, as responsible for coordinating speedier relief efforts.

The seven warned Iraq to comply with Security Council Resolution 687, which requires Baghdad to dismantle its arsenal of nonconventional weapons and missiles, and officials spoke of "severe measures" if Iraq continued

government is under intense domestic pressure from taxpayers who have been charged $100 (about R285) each to help finance a war they feel was caused by excessive arms sales from other countries.

France, however, fought to keep the arms issue out of the main political declaration and blocked efforts to set up a working group to maintain momentum on the issue after the summit ended on Wednesday.

French officials indicated they preferred that the issues come under the authority of the UN Security Council, where they wield a potential veto.

"They did not want to create another forum where they would get pressure to stop doing things they want to do," said a diplomat from one of the seven nations. — Los Angeles Times

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Focus on the United Nations Organisation (UNO)

New Nation (Learning Nation) 19/7 - 25/7/91 (336)

Throughout history attempts have been made to unite countries under one umbrella body in order to maintain peace and prevent war. Two major attempts ended in failure, namely the Congress of Vienna (1814-1815) and the League of Nations (1919-1939). However, the idea of a world peace-keeping organisation was favoured by the Allied powers during World War Two (1939-1945). The Big Three (Roosevelt of the USA, Stalin of the USSR and Winston Churchill of Britain) backed this initiative.

The UNO Declaration

Franklin D Roosevelt and Winston Churchill signed the Atlantic Charter on behalf of their respective countries, the USA and Britain, on 14 August 1941. They accepted the idea of worldwide in order to guarantee world peace. When the UNO declared war on Japan in 1941, the urgency of international co-operation became very important. By 1944, the idea of a **United Nations Organisation** had been accepted by most Allied powers. At the 1945 **Yalta Conference** the principles were specified and in 1946, the first UNO meeting took place in London. However, John Rockefeller donated a site for the UNO headquarters in New York and future meetings all took place there.

The principles of the UNO

The following principles are outlined in the Charter of the United Nations:

- The maintenance of international peace and security and to take effective steps to remove threats to peace and end acts of aggression which might prevent peace.
- To develop friendly relations amongst countries, based on the respect of equal rights and self-determination.
- To co-operate in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural and humanitarian character and to encourage the respect for human rights and freedoms for all without distinction to race, sex, language or religion.
- To harmonise actions of countries in their attempts to achieve these objectives.

The structure of the UNO

The major UNO bodies are important structures which enable the organisation to function effectively. Each body will be discussed briefly.

The General Assembly:
All member countries send one representative to this general body. Each member has one vote in spite of the fact that the population of one country may be larger than another. For example, the USA and Zimbabwe have one vote each.

The Security Council:
Fifteen countries serve on this council. Five are permanent members and ten are nominated on a bi-annual (twice yearly) basis. The five permanent members are the **USA, USSR, Britain, France and China**. Nine out of the 15 members must vote in favour of a motion before the decision is accepted. All council members have the right to veto. Here is an example. The General Assembly might vote in favour of applying sanctions against South Africa until apartheid is abolished. The resolution is passed and then taken to the Security Council. If one Security Council member is opposed to this decision then the decision is vetoed by the Security Council. The Security Council is therefore the executive.

The Secretariat
All Administrative work is carried out by this body. The Secretary-General, elected for a seven year period, is the head of the Secretariat. The present Secretary-General is **Dr Perez de Cuelar**.

The International Court of Justice:
The headquarters of this court are in the **Hague, Holland**. Judgements are made on international territorial disputes only.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC):
The supervision of related organisations falls under this body. To name a few:
WHO (World Health Organisation)
FAO (Food and Agricultural Organisation)
UPU (Universal Postal Union)
ILO (International Labour Organisation)
IMF (International Monetary Fund)
IFC (International Finance Corporation)
ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation)
GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades)



United Nations peace-keeping in the Congo in the early sixties.

Since 1946, many other bodies under the auspices of the UNO have arisen, for example **UNICEF** (children's fund), **UNHCR** (UN High Commission for Refugees), **UNCTAD** (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) and the **UNDP** (United Nations Development Programme).

The successes of the UNO

The UNO has a military force. In the event of territorial dispute or conflict in a country, the UNO can send in a military unit made up of soldiers from member countries to act as a buffer between the warring factions. This buffer force was effective in the **1956 Suez crisis** between Israel and Egypt, in **Zaire** (formerly known as the Congo) in **1960**, in **Cyprus** in **1964** and in **1989, UNTAG** was sent to monitor the election process and prevent armed conflict between the SADF and SWAPO forces in **Namibia**.

In certain areas the UNO has sent out commissioners to gather information on reasons for conflict. Such commissions were sent to the Lebanon, Laos (Cambodia) and in 1966, the UNO sent Carpio and de Alva to collect facts on the administration of SWA/Namibia by South Africa. The UNO is also willing to act as negotiators if called upon by member nations to do so.

Within the General Assembly of the UNO debates are held on conflict areas and where necessary, resolutions are passed to pressurise those at fault. For example the apartheid policy of South Africa has been debated every year and resolutions have been passed condemning these racist practices. However, countries also have to agree on the form of action to take against countries following these practices.

Apart from maintaining world peace, the UNO has undertaken major projects to improve the social and economic conditions of people living in war-torn conditions or in poverty. Food supplies are regularly sent to poverty-stricken areas such as Ethiopia, refugees are assisted and underdeveloped countries are given technical and industrial help. The plight of children is also a major concern of the UNO and the **Declaration of the Rights of Children** clearly states the way in which children should be treated.

The success of the UNO cannot be measured in terms of the role they play in preventing warfare, but more in the socio-economic sphere by highlighting the oppression and exploitation of people worldwide.

Failures of the UNO

The UNO has often failed to solve areas of conflict effectively. The tension between Israel and the Arab states in the Middle East still exists. Korea is divided into communist north and capitalist south and there is still conflict between India and Pakistan. There are also conflicts in which the UNO has not intervened at all, for example in Northern Ireland. The UNO also failed to apply sanctions and pressure against the apartheid regime in South Africa. The UNO was unable to prevent the 1991 war between the USA and Iraq.

World powers continue to build nuclear weapons and the UNO has been unable to pressurise countries to disarm.

In spite of its failures and weaknesses, the UNO is the only world organisation which enables countries to debate sensitive issues openly. The capitalist USA and the socialist USSR remain the dominant powers in the world today and both powers remain committed to this world body.

the first direct Austrian Airlines flight from Johannesburg to Vienna earlier in the day. Picture: AP.

Japan plans increased financial aid for blacks

BILLY PADDOCK

JAPAN was planning to increase its financial contributions to SA's black communities next year, senior consul Yoshinobu Hiraishi said yesterday.

He said Japan's total aid, through the UN and Kagiso Trust, this year amounted to about $6m and a further $3,2m had been earmarked to assist in the repatriation of SA exiles through the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Japan would make this money available as soon as the SA government allowed the UNHCR to assist in the repatriation.

Japan's aid is disbursed through a $20 000 grant to the UN Trust Fund, which pays legal fees in political trials and support to families of political prisoners; $10 000 to the Trust Fund for Publicity against Apartheid; $560 000 to the UN Educational and Training Programme for SA and Namibian post-graduate students to study abroad; $1,5m to the Kagiso Trust and an as yet undecided amount for small-scale grants and the Japan International Co-operation Agency (technical training programme).

Hiraishi said the Japanese private sector this year granted more than $3,2m for black empowerment projects.

He said he was hopeful that these contributions would increase and that new direct aid would be made next year. But this would have to be evaluated in the light of political developments within the country.

He said that as the SA situation changed toward the establishment of a new post-apartheid system, "the emphasis of our programmes would shift to the promotion of the peaceful process of negotiations, as well as assistance in the development of responsible human resources for a new political and economic system".

Diplomats said this week direct and indirect aid from Japan's other G-7 partners was expected to double next year from this year's R450m.



Austrian official Friedrich Gleissner, left, welcomes President F W de Klerk's wife Marike to a dinner at the exclusive Austrian spa resort of Baden on Wednesday night. De Klerk was on the first direct Austrian Airlines flight from Johannesburg to Vienna earlier in the day. Picture: AP.

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SA owes the UN a whopping R171-m

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NEW YORK. — South Africa owes the United Nations a whopping $61,2 million (about R171 million).

In addition, according to a new report on the status of contributions to the world body, South Africa is the only member state not to have contributed a share to the two-year working capital fund.

The Republic is the second biggest debtor after the United States, but its arrears pale by comparison. Washington owes $709,5 million (about R1 986 million).

Argus 20/7/91.

South Africa will certainly have to pay at least a proportion of its debt in order to reclaim representation in the General Assembly.

Among the Republic's debts are $84 000 (about R235 000) for the UN verification mission in Angola (following the agreement to withdraw Cuban troops) and $1,54 million (about R4,3 million) for the operation that brought Namibia to independence.

UN in danger of becoming part of US

After years of suspicion, America suddenly likes the United Nations. GODFREY HODGSON looks at the rationale and the problems of the relationship.

PRESIDENT Bush wants "a revitalised United Nations" at the heart of his "new world order". That is perhaps the biggest surprise in the Group of Seven's London communique, not least because it represents a startling turnaround in American policy since the Reagan administration — in which George Bush, as vice-president, and James Baker were powerful officials.

Under President Reagan, the United States treated the UN with suspicion, even contempt. It was regarded as little better than a front for anti-American machinations by the Soviet Union and its allies in the so-called Non-Aligned Movement.

"The reality of US impotence at the United Nations is stunning," declared America's former ambassador to the UN, Jeane Kirkpatrick, in 1985.

Around the same time, Charles Lichtenstein, the deputy US ambassador to the UN, became a tabloid folk hero when he encouraged the UN to leave the banks of New York's East River. "We'll be at the dockside," he said nastily, "waving you a fond farewell as you sail into the sunset."

And in 1986 Washington finally withdrew virtually all US funding. Not all of that money has been reinstated.

There are many reasons for the change of heart shown by the G7 communique. One is the end of the Cold War, proof of which is Mikhail Gorbachev's appearance at the Group of Seven meeting in London last week.

Mr Bush and Secretary Baker never were true believers in Reaganite ideology and do not share its xenophobia. Nor should it be forgotten that Mr Bush served as an ambassador to the UN from 1971 to 1972.

Americans have always felt strongly about the UN, because it was, after all, their creation.

It began not as an open assembly of all nations but as the coalition of victorious Allies after World War 2.

It was born on American soil, in San Francisco in 1945, of American ideals and American plans for the future.

Its composition reflected those origins. Defeated Japan, Germany and Italy were at first excluded, and the permanent members of the Security Council were those countries which were thought of as the significant Allied powers: America, Britain, China, France and the Soviet Union.

Nobody had any strong objection to the UN being used by



Making his point . . . President George Bush addresses the UN General Assembly.

Washington, so long as there was no real dissent from Washington's policy. But in the late 1940s, the Soviet Union and its allies objected to almost everything the US did.

And when the UN went to war in Korea in 1950, it was little more than a cloak for American policy. Before long, any hope that it might evolve into an open political forum was killed by the Cold War.

Certainly the UN proved useful in mounting peacekeeping operations where the interests of the Cold War antagonists were not too vitally engaged.

Then, from the beginning of the 1960s, the UN was transformed by the admission of more than 100 nations, most of them newly independent, small and impoverished.

They shared an ideology of nationalism, anti-colonialism if not anti-Americanism, and more or less dictatorial socialism, which went by the misleading name of the Non-Aligned Movement.

At first the leadership lay with more or less genuinely non-aligned countries such as India and Yugoslavia. But gradually the Non-Aligned Movement was taken over by Cuba, with the Soviet Union pulling the strings.

The "Zionism is racism" resolution of 1975, in which the Islamic enemies of Israel dragooned Third World countries into the anti-Israel lobby, marked another turning point in US attitudes.

As the Palestine Liberation Organisation was treated almost as a member nation, public opinion in the US saw the UN as a sinister conspiracy against Israel and its American ally.

In 1979 President Carter's ambassador, Andrew Young, paid the price of not understanding that mood with his job. The stage was set for an ambassador with a very different world-view, Jeane Kirkpatrick, to campaign against the UN and for the US to withdraw most of its financial support.

The subsequent revelations about the implication of Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim (1972-1982) in Nazi brutality in Yugoslavia confirmed a widespread American instinct that there was something profoundly unhealthy about what was happening at UN headquarters.

It was the collapse of the Soviet Union's political and economic capacity to sustain a coalition of "non-aligned" nations against US interests that made the UN again available as an instrument of American policy.

And as a former ambassador to the UN, George Bush realised the enormous convenience of this ready-made international forum when it came to presenting a military operation against Iraq by the US and its Allies as the just sword of concerted world condemnation.

The inner coalition of countries that would send troops to fight Iraq was put together with bilateral diplomacy. But over the military operations Mr Bush was able to throw a mantle of international agreement and legitimacy embodied in UN resolutions.

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If the UN is to fulfil the destiny that Mr Bush envisages for it, it cannot remain either a front for anti-US machinations or a cover for American self-interest.

Its dilemma is that if it is to succeed it must have the backing of US military power and political leadership, but it will fail if that backing makes it appear a Washington puppet. To square that circle will require a subtlety and a sensitivity that America has not always displayed. — The Independent News Service. □

SA's arrears at UN since 1974 climb to R177,5-m

Star 22/7/91

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Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — South Africa owes the United Nations $61,2 million (about R177,5 million) and is the only member state not to have contributed a share to the two-year working capital fund, says a report on the status of contributions to the world body.

The country is the second biggest debtor after the United States, but its arrears pale by comparison. Washington owes $709 5-million (about R2 billion).

South Africa will certainly have to pay at least a proportion of its debt in order to reclaim representation in the General Assembly, from which the SA delegation was ejected in 1974 and since when the arrears have accumulated.

The country remains a UN member and the New York diplomatic mission has always been active in UN headquarters, though denied a public voice, except in the Security Council.

Some diplomats say 50 percent of contributions due for the regular budget, now totalling more than $45 million (R130,5 million), plus a share of peackeeping costs, may be a satisfactory compromise as the price for returning to full participation.

TELJOY'S

Lack of action on exiles irritates US

B1 Daily 1/8/91

SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON — US relations with Pretoria are being strained by government's failure to reach agreement with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees on repatriating "tens of thousands of exiles", Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Herman Cohen confirmed yesterday.

Washington is also irritated by the lack of progress in the release of political prisoners held in Bophutatswana, he said.

These two problems, not the Inkatha funding scandal, were the reason Pretoria was informed last week Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk would not be welcome in the US, Cohen said.

Cohen called in Ambassador Harry Schwarz last Thursday to voice the administration's growing impatience.

The diplomatic gesture was intended as a powerful signal that Pretoria could not expect business as usual with the US until these matters were cleared up.

Cohen said yesterday he could not understand why President F W de Klerk and his advisers were dragging their feet in formally giving the UNHCR the go-ahead.

Sanctions proponents have claimed President George Bush acted illegally in finding that all the conditions of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act (CAAA) had

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Exiles

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been met because there were still at least 130 political prisoners in Bophuthatswana.

Cohen defended Bush's decision on the grounds that Pretoria could not force the release of these men without reincorporating Bophuthatswana, which was not a CAAA condition.

He gave no hint of when the administration might be prepared to support SA access to IMF credit lines or Export-Import Bank financing, saying only that "we will act in strict compliance with all requirements of existing legislation".

He did, however, give fresh details of how the administration proposes to spend the extra $40m a year it is seeking from Congress for its SA aid programme.

The US would "develop and support" credit and financing programmes for black home ownership and would expand its educational initiatives to include vocational training and adult literacy projects.

He also endorsed a change in the law that would enable the administration to channel funding through UCT, Wits and the University of the Western Cape.

The Lawyers Committee for Human Rights Under Law meanwhile asked that Bush suspend implementation of his executive order lifting sanctions "until a full and independent investigation of SA's Secret Services Account is concluded".

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● See Page 3

Exile return body hit by cash crisis

(336) PATRICK BULGER (820)

GOVERNMENT silence on the role of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in repatriating SA exiles and a shortage of cash had scuttled the exile return programme, repatriation officials said yesterday.

Representatives of the ANC, PAC and Azapo yesterday met officials of the National Co-Ordinating Committee for the Return of SA Exiles (NCCR) in a bid to manage the cash crisis facing repatriation attempts.

No decisions were taken and another meeting will be held tomorrow to examine the NCCR's dwindling financial resources. An ANC repatriation source said the NCCR — which co-ordinates the efforts of the different political movements — might have to close.

An NCCR source said, however, that the organisation was more likely to introduce spending cuts.

Both organisations said government's delay in giving an answer on the UNHCR was frustrating the process and that foreign governments were only prepared to make funds available through the UNHCR.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Foreign Affairs Department which has been negotiating with the UNHCR said there had been no fresh developments on the issue. BIDaily 1/8/91

The UNHCR is insisting on a general amnesty for all exiles. Government's approach is to insist each exile apply for individual indemnity.

Star 2/8/91. (336)

6 contending for top UN job

NEW YORK — The UN Security Council will be invited to choose among six African candidates for the post of Secretary-General.

The Organisation of African Unity today named Boutros Boutros Ghali, Deputy Prime Minister of Egypt, Bernard Chidzero, Finance Minister of Zimbabwe, Kenneth Dadzie of Ghana, Secretary-General of the UN Conference on trade and development, James Jonah of Sierra Leone, a UN Under Secretary-General, Owono Ngiuema of Gabon and General Olusegun Obasanjo, former head of Nigeria. — Special Correspondent.

ANC will spend R219m to bring home all 20 000 exiles by end of year

THE ANC is planning a multimillion-rand operation to get 20 000 exiles back to SA by the end of the year.

The operation, which repatriation head Jackie Selebi said yesterday would cost about R219m, would be overseen by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and sponsored by UN donor nations.

"If we get the money we are hoping to finish the operation by the end of the year," Selebi said.

He said the first 10 plane loads over the next week were only the start of a massive operation.

As the ANC prepared to bring home its entire Lusaka contingent of 3 000 exiles in aircraft chartered from SAA at a cost of R850 000, UNHCR officials arrived in SA for talks with government and repatriation officials. (336)

Government officials who met UNHCR representatives in Pretoria yesterday agreed the UN body would set up a temporary office in SA. Bloem 9/8/91

Foreign Affairs director-general Neil van Heerden said afterwards the parties were "closer to an agreement than ever before".

PATRICK BULGER
and TIM COHEN

The officials are the head of the UNHCR's southern Africa desk Nini Akiwumi and the international protection division's legal adviser Kallu Kalumiya.

On the UNHCR's fourth visit to SA the officials will attempt to strike a deal with government over a blanket amnesty for returnees.

After their meeting with government officials yesterday, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said in a statement that great progress had been made and an agreement could be reached soon.

Selebi said the ANC intended looking after the exiles once they returned.

A source in the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation of SA exiles (NCCR) said the exiles would be given a grant of R700 on their return. More money might be made available.

They would be accommodated temporarily in a church centre in the Johannesburg area, the source said.

Meanwhile, Selebi said the ANC was still examining venues to accommodate about 700 children coming from the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Tanzania.

Sapa reports that National Health Minister Dr Rina Venter said yesterday government was awaiting final ANC approval for a plan to repatriate the pupils.

She said government and the ANC jointly decided that a task group should visit the college to evaluate the position of the orphans and students.

However, Tanzanian authorities had ignored appeals by SA for permission to send a task group which would determine the number of children and find out if there were any special needs.

Don't scare off investors

Cpress 11/8/91

336

MONEY TALK

WORLD-WIDE investments by multinational companies from Europe, the US and Japan are set to become a key creator of wealth in coming years, according to a United Nations study.

The UN Centre on Transnational Corporations (CTC) states that investments by these companies have been growing three times faster than world trade since 1983.

Experts in Geneva say the study will have an important influence on policymakers all over the world.

A key implication is that international transactions are becoming increasingly dominated by these multinationals. Patterns of trade, technology transfers and the flow of money show a close correlation with their investment decisions, making them the principal force in structuring the world economy, according to Peter Hansen, executive director of the centre.

How large the flow of capital has become as a direct result of their investment decisions is highlighted by the CTC's calculation that the outflow of direct foreign investments by the multinationals grew by no less than 29 percent a year between 1983 and 1989. In 1989 alone the total amounted to R540 000 million.

The most impressive growth in foreign investment emanated from Japan. Its companies increased their foreign investment about six-fold during the 1980s. Within 10 years the total value of Japanese foreign investments may surpass that of the US, which would push the Americans into third position as they have already been overtaken by the Europeans.

A worrying feature for small countries such as South Africa is that the investments of the multinationals are concentrated within the three big blocks. They account for about 80 percent of foreign investment and the rest of the world put together for only 20 percent.

The UN document makes required reading for policymakers in South Africa because we are badly in need of development capital, one of the scarcest commodities in the world today. If we do not attune ourselves to the thinking of these corporations, we shall be the losers. But we need not even start to do that if we are not able to create a stable political climate conducive to profitable investment. And talks of nationalisation should be placed on the back burner. These companies have shown they are simply not interested if the fruits of their labour will be grabbed by politicians.

UN to co-ordinate repatriation

Govt agrees to amnesty for all exiles

GOVERNMENT has agreed to a general amnesty for all exiles, opening the way for an agreement with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to bring them back to SA.

The agreement could be signed as early as today and a joint SA-UNHCR statement will be made to disclose its contents. It will significantly improve Pretoria's often-strained relations with the world body and will provide a high-profile demonstration of government's commitment to fulfilling opposition demands to removing obstacles to negotiations.

The UNHCR would open an office in SA within weeks and the $40m operation would commence shortly afterwards, a source in the UNHCR's Geneva offices said yesterday.

The source said there were "considerably fewer" than the 40 000 exiles estimated to be living outside SA's borders. Their return is a major precondition for constitutional negotiations between government and the ANC.

UNHCR and SA officials were yesterday putting the final touches to the agreement, the source said. The agreement is the result of intense shuttle diplomacy between Pretoria and the Geneva-based organisation over the past six months.

"As a result of further discussions and the decision of the Cabinet, the SA government and the UNHCR are now in broad agreement. We have been able to come to total agreement even on outstanding minor technical issues," said the source.

Negotiations were being finalised by SA's ambassador to Switzerland Les Manley, while UNHCR international protection division legal adviser Kallu Kalumiya returned to SA earlier this week for final talks.

PATRICK BULGER

UNHCR officials met Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and Foreign Minister Pik Botha in Pretoria last week. They secured an undertaking significantly to modify the present system of selective amnesty for returnees on the basis of a mutually agreed definition of a political offence.

The decision was ratified by the Cabinet on Wednesday. Neither Justice nor Foreign Affairs spokesmen would comment on the issue yesterday.

The source said the agreement on a general amnesty had been modified by subsidiary agreements on the definition of a political crime and a cutoff date to determine who would qualify.

In terms of an earlier agreement between government and the ANC, the onus was on individual exiles to apply for amnesty for certain categories and for separate non-category offences.

The new agreement will satisfy PAC and Azapo demands for a general amnesty. These two groups were refusing to go through the amnesty procedures and as a result their exiles would have remained outside the country.

The agreement will open the way for a flood of foreign assistance to finance the UNHCR's efforts. The US government has already committed R11m as an initial contribution to the repatriation exercise.

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Amnesty

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Preparations to find employment for and give job-training to exiles are being co-ordinated by the National Co-Ordinating Committee for the Return of SA exiles (NCCR).

An NCCR source said a number of foreign governments had pledged assistance for job training.

An Austrian government delegation headed by an Austrian Bishops' Conference representative is at present in SA to plan development projects which will be funded by an Austrian government donation of about R2m.

About 3 000 exiles have already returned. Over a two-week period at least 10 chartered flights will bring exiles back from Tanzania, Zambia and Nigeria.

Star 16/8/91

Govt agrees to amnesty

(336)

By Kaizer Nyatsumba and Peter Fabricius

The Government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) are on the verge of signing an accord providing for an effective general amnesty for political exiles.

Sources said an agreement could be initialled today, although they warned some issues had not yet been fully clarified.

The amnesty would mean even "serious political offenders" such as ANC bomber Hein Grosskopf could return to SA within weeks.

The agreement follows months of rangling culminating in a visit by UNHCR negotiators to SA over the last week.

South African official sources said they would not describe the agreement as a "general amnesty" — but it would satisfy the conditions for such a description by anyone else.

It is understood that the essential difference between

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Govt agrees to amnesty

(336)

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the new amnesty arrangements and those so far applied by the Government is that exiles will not have to specify all the individual offences for which they seek indemnity. The previous practice has led to uncertainty and confusion among exiles as many have obtained indemnity for some offences only to be arrested for others.

Under the new agreement exiles will merely apply for indemnity and it will be up to the Government to decide if they qualify. A source said the understanding was that the Government would not delay the process and he expected the last of the political exiles to return within weeks.

The UNHCR has R100 million pledged from donor countries for the return of exiles.

The UNHCR negotiators returned to Geneva from South Africa yesterday and the final agreement could be initialled today and informally signed later, sources said.

The expected agreement is being interpreted as a significant boost for negotiations — amnesty for exiles is one of the key outstanding obstacles to constitutional talks — and a substantive compromise from Pretoria.

A Government source said today SA was still awaiting an official reply after the Foreign Affairs Department sent the text of a proposed agreement to Geneva yesterday afternoon.

However, newspaper reports sourced to Geneva suggested the UNHCR had accepted Pretoria's proposals.

If the newspaper reports from Geneva "are an indication that the commission has accepted the text, then we welcome it. Then we have an agreement", a senior Government official said today.

ANC national executive committee member Gill Marcus said if the agreement matched up to expectations aroused by early reports of its contents, the ANC would welcome it "as a mark of good faith on the Government's part".

All systems poised for exiles

W/Mail 16/8-22/8/91. (336)

THE government was poised to agree to a general amnesty for political opponents last night, opening the way for a massive repatriation of exiles and returnees and the involvement of the United Nations in South Africa for the first time ever.

An historic deal between the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and the government was on the verge of being struck in Geneva after months of behind-the-scenes haggling.

The return of exiles was snarled up by the indemnity process agreed to by the government and the African National Congress in the Pretoria Minute.

Coming on the same day as the draft peace agreement between the Inkatha Freedom Party, the ANC and the government, the amnesty will further hasten moves towards an All-Party Conference.

It is also a major step towards the end of the country's international isolation and the potential involvement of the international community in South Africa's transition to democracy.

The UN has finally managed to broker an agreement with the government regarding the return of political activists.

By JENNY POGRUND and PHILLIP VAN NIEKERK

Government representatives refused to comment on the latest developments. However, *The Weekly Mail* learnt from well-placed sources this week that the amnesty was all but in the bag.

Final details were being ironed out yesterday between the South African ambassador to Switzerland, Les Manley, and senior officials of the UNHCR. A source close to the meeting said the final points of dispute were "highly technical".

This followed a week-long visit to the country by Kallu Kalumiya, the UNHCR's principal legal counsel.

The UNHCR had refused to lend its much-needed logistical support to the repatriation of South African exiles unless there was a general amnesty.

The United Nations Charter states that after a peace agreement has been reached, all refugees should be allowed to return. UNHCR sources said that it was impossible for them to accept anything less.

The UN agreement will now permit governments around the world and non governmental organisations which have pledged millions of dollars to the repatriation process to become involved in the repatriation of exiles, who have been trickling back since August last year.

The deal is also believed to include remaining political prisoners inside South Africa and the TBVC states.

The government and the ANC were tied into an indemnity process agreed to in the Pretoria Minute.

The government argued that the indemnity was effectively a general amnesty — an argument the United Nations rejected. The other argument which the government had used to block the involvement of the UN was the insistence of its rights as a sovereign nation.

This has complicated the amnesty issue here. In the case of Namibia, amnesty consisted of two simple paragraphs over which there was no dispute or technical confusion.

A UNHCR source told *The Weekly Mail* that the agreement which was still being discussed yesterday contained certain modifications.

Peter Vale, director of the Institute for Southern African Studies at the University of the Western Cape, described the UNHCR deal as one of the

to return

country's most important political developments.

He said it was hugely symbolic and described it as the ending of South Africa's isolation from the international community. The next target would be for South Africa to resume its seat — vacant for 20 years — in the General Assembly.

Moss Chikane, representative of the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of Exiles (NCCR), said it was a foregone conclusion that the UNHCR was now going to be involved.

He said from the returnees' perspective, the indemnity procedure — which had been an attempt selectively to allow people to return — had slowed the whole process of repatriation.

"The NCCR can now deal with the problems of integration rather than with the legal and technical problems," he said.

An irony in the negotiations in Switzerland is that Manley, South Africa's chief negotiator, is a former ambassador to the UN who in 1987, at the height of the State of Emergency, told the UN Security Council to "do its damnedest" in regard to the economic boycott.



☐ **AMNESTY:** South Africa's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva Mr A Manley, left, and deputy UN High Commissioner for Refugees Mr Douglas Stafford, centre, shake hands with the UNHCR's Africa Division director Mr Nicolas Bwakira after initialling an accord to grant a general amnesty to political exiles.

UN starts first SA office to ease return of exiles

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PETER FABRICIUS
Political Staff

IN an historic first, a United Nations agency is to set up office in South Africa to process the return of thousands of political exiles.

The South African government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) have reached agreement on what is being described as a general amnesty for political exiles.

Officials close to the negotiations believe that even African National Congress bombers like Hein Grosskopf, who was allegedly responsible for the deaths of civilians, now will be allowed to return to South Africa.

And senior government sources believe this will make it difficult, if not impossible, to hold in jail convicted ANC members like Robert Macbride, who was responsible for civilian deaths in a bomb attack.

More than 1 600 exiles have arrived since the beginning of the week, National Co-ordination Committee for Repatriation (NCCR) spokesman Venita Meyer said yesterday. The exiles have been coming daily from Zambia and Nigeria.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha has announced the government had reached agreement with the UNHCR, but said it was not a general amnesty "in the usual sense of the word".

A "Memorandum of Understanding", which the government and UNHCR are to sign within days, shows the guidelines for determining which exiles may return are those used for idemnities over the past year.

The guidelines make a distinction between offences against political targets and offences against private persons or property.

However, official sources believe the government has agreed to interpret the guidelines as widely as possible — even concerning people like Grosskopf.

They said another significant concession by the government was that exiles would not have to apply for indemnity for every crime they had committed.

This has caused confusion and frustration as exiles have returned to South Africa armed with indemnification for some crimes only to be arrested for others.

In the new deal, exiles will apply for general indemnity and the onus will be on the government to discover their offences.

The agreement emphasises that the country's sovereignty is not diminished by the UNHCR involvement and that South Africa will have the final say about indemnity.

The UNHCR will establish an office for 12 months to help repatriates, raising funds to reintegrate them. About R100 million has been pledged by donor countries.

The government has agreed to take part in community projects to help exiles establish themselves — provided that they do not have preference over other South Africans.

The agreement applies only to South African exiles and the UNHCR has agreed to fund the return of any foreigners arriving as exiles.

Mr Chris Hani said he did not foresee thousands of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) cadres returning from exile under the agreement as they would be engaged in upgrading MK into a regular army.

ANC information director Dr Pallo Jordan observed that, in the past, the government had failed to properly implement sound agreements.

UN agency set to assist exiles in SA

Star 14/8/91

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PETER FABRICIUS
Political Correspondent

IN AN historic first, a United Nations agency is to set up office in South Africa to process the return of thousands of political exiles.

The South African Government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) have eventually reached agreement on what is being described as a general amnesty for political exiles.

Officials close to the negotiations believe that even ANC bombers such as Hein Grosskopf — allegedly responsible for the deaths of civilians — will now be allowed to return to South Africa.

And senior Government sources believe this will make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to continue to hold ANC prisoners, such as Robert McBride, also responsible for civilian deaths in a bomb attack.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha announced at a press conference at the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday that after "protracted negotiations", the Government had reached agreement with the UNHCR.

● TO PAGE 2.

Exiles

● FROM PAGE 1.

Although UN sources in Geneva and some South African officials are saying that the SA Government has, in effect, agreed to a general anmesty for political prisoners, Mr Botha said it was not a general amnesty "in the usual sense of the word".

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A "Memorandum of Understanding", which the Government and UNHCR are to sign within days, makes it clear that the guidelines for determining which exiles may return are still those which the Government has been using for the past year in its indemnification process.

These guidelines make an important distinction between offences committed against political targets and those committed against private persons or property.

But official sources believe an implicit understanding has been as widely as possible, even to include people like Mr Grosskopf.

They said another significant concession by the Government was that exiles would not have to apply for indemnity for every crime they had committed.

Outgoing Minister of Education and Training Stoffel van der Merwe has intervened on behalf of two returning exiles — one of whom was convicted of arson in the early 1960s — and helped them obtain permanent residence, writes **Patrick Laurence**.

Ben and Mary Turok acknowledge their debt to Dr van der Merwe in a statement released to Saturday Star.

Mr Turok, who served a jail sentence for trying to blow up the Jeppe Street post office and who left South Africa illegally in 1966, was one of the first exiles to be granted indemnity, but the couple's application for permanent residence was stonewalled.

● See Editorial: Page 12

Amnesty nearly aborted

Govt's dislike of UN makes talks long and difficult



Two of the 32 former ANC prisoners who arrived at Jan Smuts Airport at the weekend. They alleged they were imprisoned in ANC jails in Angola and Uganda for being South African Government agents. Pic. MBUZENI ZULU

LUSAKA - The negotiations leading to Friday's historic agreement over the return of South African exiles were described as the most difficult undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in more than a decade.

UNHCR sources in Lusaka say the current negotiations with the South African Government have been particularly difficult because of its traditional antipathy towards the UN in general.

The Cambodian negotiations were very long, but the UNHCR was not involved "in every twist and turn of that dance", as a source put it.

The agreement marks the first presence of a UN agency on South African soil. A new chapter in South Africa's turbulent relation with the world body will open when the UN flag is raised in Pretoria in two weeks.

Agreement

But the agreement was nearly aborted at the last minute.

Highly placed UNHCR sources in Lusaka say the negotiations were completed about a week before the agreement was made public.

The South African negotiators were expected to send the final text of the agreement to the UNHCR for clearance on the eve of the signing.

But when the text was sent to Geneva, sources say the South Africans had added six words which would have had the effect of turning the amnesty into an ordinary indemnity.

Indemnity

Thus, the amnesty would have been no different from the current indemnity agreed on by the Government and the ANC.

The UNHCR regarded this as a step backwards and firmly put its foot down. It even threatened to pull out of the negotiations altogether.

"We said if those six words are not taken out of the text, we're not going to sign, and we're going to walk out and tell the world about our difficulties with you," the source said.

Two hours later the offending words were removed and the deal was done.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha said last week that the agreement did not amount to a general amnesty. The UNHCR believes Botha was still talking in terms of those six words still being in the text.

As far as the UNHCR is concerned, the amnesty covers all politically motivated crimes, including murder.

The UNHCR was approached by the ANC immediately after its unbanning early last year to help ferry its members home.

Hostile

But the Government was cool, even openly hostile to the idea of UNHCR involvement in the scheme. It was the old animosity towards the UN. In addition, the Government didn't want to be seen to be taking orders from outsiders.

But the UNHCR also believes that the Government was reluctant to allow the UN inside the country because there are certain things it does not want outsiders to see.

"There are 100 000 plus Mozambican refugees, for instance, and some we understand were abducted. Up to now we have never had any contact with them. Those people will obviously be of interest to us."

International

The UNHCR could also find itself monitoring the violence, especially if any of those returning come to any harm.

The stance of international donors, especially the United States, Britain and Canada, who were prepared to release funds for repatriation only if the UNHCR was involved, finally forced the Government to give ground.

The Government also came to realise that co-operating with the UNHCR would do its image no harm internationally.

But it wanted limited involvement by the UNHCR.

As late as April this year the Government was still insisting that the UN agency open an office in Botswana from where its field officers would commute to South Africa to monitor the return of refugees. The UNHCR refused. - *Sowetan Africa News Service.*

"The agreement marks the first presence of a UN agency on South African soil."

Six words almost scuttled deal

Star 19/8/91.

(336)

The UN flag may soon fly in Pretoria in preparation for the return of about 40 000 political refugees to South Africa. BARNEY MTHOMBOTHI reviews the events of the negotiating process.



THE NEGOTIATIONS which led to Friday's agreement between the SA Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the return of exiles to South Africa have been described as the most protracted and difficult ever undertaken by the UN since discussions to resolve the Cambodian conflict more than a decade ago.

But UNHCR sources in Lusaka say the current negotiations have been particularly difficult because of the traditional antipathy of the South African Government towards the UN in general.

The Cambodian negotiations were long, but the UNHCR was not involved "in every twist and turn of that dance".

The latest agreement marks the first presence of a UN agency on South African soil.

A new chapter in South Africa's turbulent relations with the world body will open when the UN flag is raised for the first time in Pretoria in two weeks' time.

But the agreement was almost nearly aborted at the last minute.

Highly placed UNHCR sources in Lusaka say the negotiations were completed about a week before the agreement was made public, and the South African negotiators were expected to send the final text of the agreement on Thursday, the eve of the signing.

But when the text was sent to Geneva, sources say the South Africans had added six words to it which would have had the effect of turning the amnesty into an ordinary indemnity.

In other words, the amnesty would have been no different from the current indemnity agreed to between the Government and the ANC.

The UNHCR regarded this as a step backwards, and put its foot down firmly. It even threatened to pull out of the negotiations.

"We said that if those six words are not taken out of the text, we're not going to sign, and we're going to walk out and tell the world about our difficulties with you," the source said.

Two hours later the offending words were removed and the deal was done.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha said last week that the agreement did not amount to a general amnesty. The UNHCR believes Mr Botha was still talking in terms of the six words still being in the text.

As far as the UNHCR is concerned, the amnesty covers all politically motivated crimes, including murder.

The UNHCR was approached by the ANC immediately after its unbanning to help ferry its members home.

But the Government was cool, even openly hostile, to the idea of UNHCR involvement in the scheme.

It was the old animosity towards the UN and the fact that the Government did not want to be seen by its supporters to be taking orders from outsiders.

But the UNHCR also believes the Government was reluctant to allow its presence in the country because there are certain things it does not want outsiders to see.

"There are 100 000-plus Mozambican refugees, for instance, and some we understand were abducted. Up to now we have never had any contact with them. Those people will obviously be of interest to us."

The UNHCR could also find itself monitoring the violence, especially if any of the returnees come to any harm.

The stance of international donors, especially the US, Britain and Canada, who were prepared to release funds for the repatriation only on condition that the UNHCR was involved, finally forced the Government to give ground.

The Government also came to realise that co-operating with the UNHCR would do its image no harm internationally. But it wanted limited involvement. As late as April, the Government was still insisting that the UN agency open an office in Botswana from where its field officers would fly in and out of South Africa to monitor the return of refugees. The UNHCR refused.

"It was a question of principle to us. You don't run shows like that. Apart from the fact that it was a costly suggestion, it was also going to be almost impossible for the UNHCR to see that exiles are safe once they are home.

"The UNHCR will open an office in Pretoria shortly, with smaller offices in other major centres such as Durban and Cape Town.

"They are working on a planning figure of 40 000 refugees, most of them in Zambia and other Frontline states."

They will be flown in. One reason for using flights is to avoid the homelands, which UNHCR sources say could create potential problems.

The UNHCR, like the rest of the international community, does not recognise the independence of these homelands. What would happen if, say, refugees were transported by road from Botswana through Bophuthatswana, and the authorities in the homeland refused to allow them through unless the UNHCR dealt directly with them?

UNHCR field workers will have to follow up returnees to their homes to make sure they come to no harm. Some of the refugees come from homelands which may refuse entry to the field workers, who, in terms of the agreement, have been guaranteed freedom of movement in the country.

The ANC is currently sending its people home. The whole project is expected to take a year to 18 months, and cost R100 million to R120 million.

UNHCR sources say money is not a problem. "It's the kind of operation that excites a lot of people and politicians around the world. It's like the independence process in Namibia.

"Many people want to be part of it," said the source. But whether the repatriation process will lead to the permanent presence of the UNHCR in South Africa remains to be seen.

"I think the South African Government would like to see it as an operation which has a beginning and an end. I can well see them saying: 'You've done your job, now pack up and go'." □

Political murder included in agreement over exiles

bipart 20/8/91 PATRICK BULGER 336

GOVERNMENT's agreement with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) covers the full spectrum of political prisoners including those responsible for political murders.

However, a senior UNHCR source said yesterday government had not agreed to a blanket amnesty for ordinary criminals.

He said exiles would have to fill in a voluntary repatriation application form, but this did not require them to give details about past activities that could amount to offences under SA law. Under a previous system agreed to between government and the ANC, exiles were required to state the offences for which they were seeking indemnity.

"What we have agreed is a general amnesty in respect of political offences defined in the memorandum. There is nothing on the forms exiles will be filling in that amounts to a confession," he said.

Where government did not want to grant an indemnity, it would advise the applicant through the UNHCR. That case would then be examined by a panel of legal experts to which the UNHCR could make representations.

In terms of the agreement an exile responsible for a murder would be granted indemnity and allowed to return if government was satisfied that the offence was political in nature.

Adel Darwish on a man who may become the new UN Secretary-General

336

Africa reaches top of the queue

Star 22/8/91.

THE latest step in the campaign of Boutros Boutros Ghali, Egypt's deputy Prime Minister for International Affairs, to be nominated for the post of United Nations Secretary-General ended this week when he left Beijing after a three-day visit.

Diplomats say Mr Ghali's visit, his first to a permanent member of the UN Security Council since his campaign got under way, indicates China's backing for Mr Ghali's nomination as "Africa's choice". Qian Qichen, China's Foreign Minister, is reported to have said as much to his Egyptian counterpart, Amr Moussa, in a visit to Cairo in July.

China, which presents itself as the Third World spokesman among permanent members of the Security Council, has a long-term political investment in Africa and is interested in Mr Ghali as he is behind new links between Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Mr Ghali's campaign began with two weeks of intensive canvassing in Africa before moving to India last week where, diplomats say, he also won full backing. The campaign rolls on to Europe and the United States next month.

The post of Secretary-General becomes vacant in December when Javier Perez de Cuellar (71) retires at the end of his second five-year term. The election for his replacement is scheduled for October.

The new Secretary-General's tasks are expected to be different from the previous five, as the UN seems to have left behind much of the superpower conflict which hindered it for decades.

The selection process makes it essential that the five permanent members of the Security Council — Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and United States — who have the power of veto, agree on one candidate.

The Africans were encouraged by Mr Perez de Cuellar's address to the OAU in Nigeria this year in which he said it was time the job — which has been held by three Europeans, one Asian and one Latin American — should go to an African, and have presented a list with Mr Ghali's name at the top.

Diplomats say the cooling off in US-Soviet relations means the two superpowers no longer need to bid for support from Third World countries. Instead, they need more support from the other three permanent Security Council members. France has already said it would veto any candidate not fluent in French.

This, and additional intensive lobbying by Egypt of Britain and the US (with President Hosni Mubarak reminding Washington that Cairo is its leading ally in the region) makes diplomats see the race narrowing down to two candidates, Mr Ghali and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, a former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, who now heads UN relief activities in the Gulf. Both are French educated — but Mr Ghali has written a number of books in French.

Prince Sadruddin is a frequent guest at President Bush's dinner table. Despite denials by US officials, it is rumoured that this friendship will secure American backing for his candidacy. However, his administrative skills are not seen by UN bureaucrats as a match for Mr Ghali's. Moreover, Mr Ghali seems to have a majority of support among UN members.

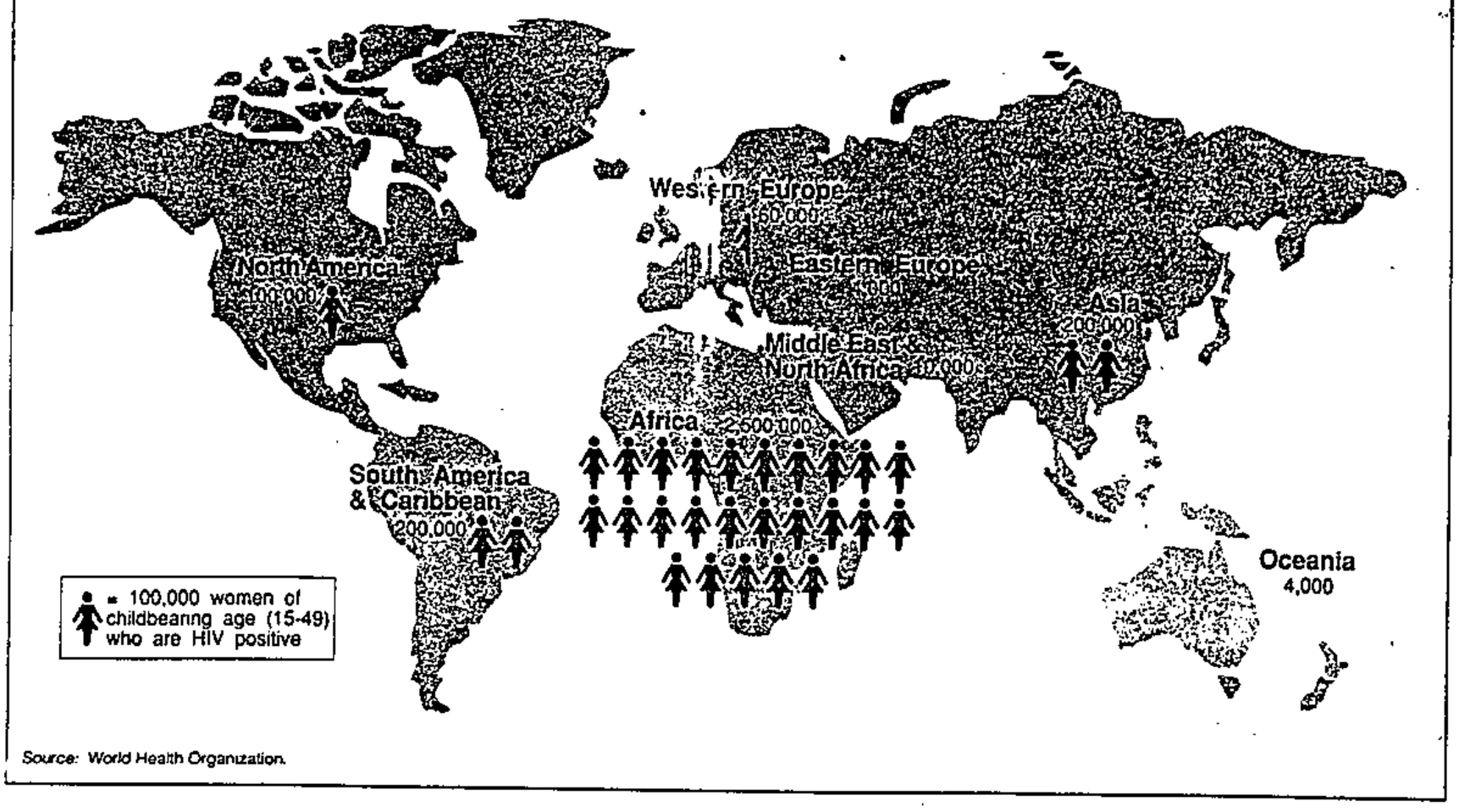
African diplomats say 43 out of 51 members of the OAU are backing Mr Ghali, while the other eight said they would back him if he was the only African. The Islamic Conference, which represents 46 states, last month endorsed Africa's list.

Although he is a non-Arab Egyptian Copt, Mr Ghali has also secured the backing of the Arab League which occupies 21 seats in the UN General Assembly. So far he has been promised at least 86 votes. In addition, most Latin American countries are expected to back him. — The Independent News Service. □

African babies' Aids nightmare

Star 24/8/91

336



THE devastating impact that Aids is going to have in Africa is dramatically shown by this graphic.

One of the most tragic aspects of the Aids pandemic in Africa is that, unlike other regions of the world, nearly half of those infected with the disease are women.

This means there are more doomed babies being born with Aids in Africa than anywhere else. The graphic, based on figures supplied by the World Health Organisation, is published in the latest edition of the United Nations magazine Africa Recovery.

Whichever way it is looked at, it shows the severity of the Aids infection in Africa compared with the rest of the world. The situation has been described by the UN Children's Fund (Unicef) as "a calamity whose dimensions are scarcely comprehensible".

AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

Of every 100 000 women of child-bearing age in Africa, 2 500 are infected with HIV, the virus that causes Aids. The comparative figure is 140 in North America, 70 in Western Europe and 30 in Asia.

Of the 8 million to 10 million adults estimated to be HIV-infected throughout the world, nearly 6 million are in Africa. And of these, 800 000 have full-blown Aids. In addition, 900 000 children are HIV-infected and nearly 500 000 of them have Aids.

The International Research Office of the United States Census Bureau estimates that in 25 years' time 70 million Africans could be infected with HIV.

UN estimates are that "child mortality rates may rise as much as 50 percent in much of sub-Saharan Africa during the Nineties, wiping out the gains in child survival that have been achieved over the past two decades.

"Another 10 million children may be orphaned by the deaths from Aids of their mothers or both parents."

Unicef says the key to preventing a massive toll among children is to contain the spread of Aids among women, since about a quarter of all pregnant women who are HIV-positive pass the infection on to their new-born.

According to a spokesman

Africa bids for top job at UN

(336)

AEG 27/8/91

NEW YORK. — Africa has staked a claim to the post of United Nations secretary-general by formally submitting the names of six candidates.

But more than two dozen contenders are already jostling in the wings, waiting to step into the shoes of Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose second five-year term ends on December 31.

No African has filled the post of secretary-general, held so far by three Europeans, an Asian and a Latin American. But unlike many other UN positions it is not governed by the principle of regional rotation.

The African candidates are: Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Mr Boutros Boutros Ghali; Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Mr Bernard Chidzero; secretary-general of the UN Conference on Trade and Development Mr Kenneth Dadzie of Ghana; UN under secretary-general for special political questions Mr James Jonah of Sierra Leone; former Nigerian President Mr Olusegun Obasanjo; and, former physics professor and culture minister Mr Nguema Francois Owono of Gabon. — Sapa-Reuter.

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Sowetan 28/8/91

Baltic states for UN

THE collapse of the Soviet Union could produce three new Baltic members in theUnited Nations and could mean Russian ascension to the Soviet seat on the Security Council, UN diplomats and observers said on Monday.

When the 159-nation General Assembly convenes on September 17, it will admit four new members - North Korea, South Korea, the Marshall Islands and Micronesia - raising membership to 163. But not far behind could be the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

UN diplomats said the collapse of central authority in the Soviet Union could mean that Moscow eventually might relinquish its seat to the Russian Republic. But observers said the issue would be decided in Moscow. - *Sapa-AP*

336

Rich nations urged to cancel Africa's debts

Star 30/8/91 336

UNITED NATIONS — Africa faces a crisis of "tragic proportions" and rich nations should cancel the continent's rising debts and increase their aid, says UN secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Five years after UN members promised to revive Africa's devastated economies, he says the continent can never develop under a debt burden of $270 billion in face of a shortage of international aid and the fall in commodities prices.

In a major report on the UN Africa recovery programme, he proposes that rich countries cancel official debt, as was done for Egypt and Poland, and boost their assistance.

He says: "By the end of 1990, it had become evident that the African economic crisis had indeed deepened.

"The average African continued to get poorer and to suffer a persistent fall in an already meagre standard of living."

On June 1 1986, the UN General Assembly adopted a five-year programme which was seen as a watershed in committing wealthy countries to supply resources for development. In turn, African countries promised to restructure their economies, reduce waste and reallocate government funds.

The report says resources fell far short of what was needed and many restructuring programmes were half-hearted and short-sighted. The programme is to be reviewed in General Assembly sessions from September 3 to 13.

Mr Perez de Cuellar proposes that the assembly now set concrete targets rather than general goals. These include:

- Doubling per capita income by the year 2015, entailing a six percent annual economic growth rate. Even then annual income would still be only about $700 in most nations.
- Increasing aid to $30 billion by 1992 from $21 billion in 1989 and continuing to raise it by four percent annually until the year 2000.
- Taking "bold" measures to reduce Africa's debt, which in 1990 cost at least $23 billion to service.
- Setting up an African Diversification Fund for technical assistance to ease a chronic dependence on primary commodities.

Nine out of 10 African countries depend on commodities for 70 percent or more of their exports, compared with seven out of 10 in Latin America and five out of 10 in Asia. — Sapa- AP.

Africa's debt crisis deepens

c/Pers 1/9/91. 336

AFRICA faces a crisis of "tragic proportions" and wealthy nations should cancel the continent's rising debts and increase their aid, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said this week.

Five years after UN members promised to revive Africa's devastated economies, he said the continent could never develop under a debt burden of R810-billion and cited a shortage of international aid and a fall in commodity prices.

In a major report on the UN Africa recovery programme, he proposed that rich nations cancel official debt, as was done for Egypt and Poland, and boost their levels of assistance.

"By the end of 1990, it had become evident that the African economic crisis had indeed deepened," he said.

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- Doubling per capita income by the year 2015, entailing a six percent annual economic growth rate. Even then annual income would still be only about R2 100 in most nations.
- Increasing aid to R90-billion by 1992 from R63-billion in 1989 and continuing to raise it by four percent annually until the year 2 000.
- Taking "bold" measures to reduce Africa's debt, which in 1990 cost at least R69-billion to service. This includes cancelling official government debt and semi-official export credits and reducing debt owed to multilateral institutions. Private commercial debt should also be written down and reduced.
- Setting up an African Diversification Fund for technical assistance to ease a chronic dependence on primary commodities.

Nine out of 10 African countries depend on commodities for 70 percent or more of their exports, compared with seven out of 10 in Latin America and five out of 10 in Asia.

Only six African countries – Gabon, Ghana, Mauritius, Morocco, Sierra Leone and Tunisia – have significantly reduced this dependence since 1986, the report said.

Reviewing the past five years, Perez de Cuellar said the increased resources that wealthy nations agreed to supply in 1986 did not materialise and real net flows of funds actually fell from R73,8-billion in 1986 to R69,9-billion in 1990.

Despite numerous initiatives and important moves towards democratisation, he said, restructuring by African governments often led to political instability, military conflicts and ineffective policies to mobilise domestic resources.

In addition, many African nations, spurred on by rich countries, focused on short-term measures such as foreign exchange earnings and diversification – rather than health, education and employment so that "human conditions worsened considerably", the report said.

As a result, many who could leave did so. The report cited an alarming brain drain of 50 000 to 60 000 highly-qualified Africans who have left the continent since 1986. – Sapa-AP



TRAGIC SCENARIO ... UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar says the average African continues to get poorer and to suffer a persistent fall in an already meagre standard of living.

UN team to open SA office

TIM COHEN

336

A SEVEN-member team from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will arrive in Johannesburg tomorrow to set up an office, which will be the first official UN presence in SA.

Government sources said yesterday the team would also meet a range of government officials to finalise an agreement on the repatriation of an estimated 40 000 political refugees.

The team will discuss the final details of an agreement which has been drawn up by the UNHCR and government after four months of negotiations.

Although the agreement has not been signed by the parties, it is understood that a memorandum to the agreement has been initialled by both sides.

Foreign Affairs director-general Neil van Heerden said three weeks ago that the parties were closer to an agreement than before, but it is not expected that the agreement will be formally signed in the near future.

Following these negotiations, it was agreed that UNHCR representatives would be allowed to set up an office in SA — one of the tasks of the group that arrives tomorrow. BD day 3/9/91

One source said the group would stay in SA for about two weeks and discuss the details of the repatriation of exiles, such as entry points, facilities and temporary accommodation.

Several foreign governments have indicated their willingness to contribute to the repatriation process, but only if the UNHCR is officially involved.

A large part of the estimated $20m-$40m required for the process will be donated by the US government, which has already conditionally pledged R11m.

The project is expected to take between a year and 18 months.

UNHCR team set to land in SA today

(536)

Star 4/9/91.

By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

Top Government sources have expressed optimism that the arrival of a seven-member delegation of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in South Africa today will signal the start of "the real process" to repatriate about 36 000 exiles.

The delegation would arrive at Jan Smuts Airport at noon today, South Africa's ambassador in Geneva, Les Manley, confirmed yesterday.

Mr Manley said the delegation would be led by the deputy director of the UNHCR's Africa bureau, Andrew Sokiri. Other members were Kallu Kalumiya, Nini Akiwumi, Dan Fowler and Rick Fell.

Also included were a two-man team from the International Organisation for Migration, which would mainly be involved in transport arrangements for the return of exiles, led by Carl Beck.

Mr Manley said the visit would be "preliminary" and a mutually convenient date had not been set between the Government and the UNHCR for the signing of the agreement recently reached and initialled.

A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said the delegation would meet representatives of the departments of Justice, National Health, Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs on "technical" issues.

Among others, he said, the delegation would investigate which airport would be used as a port of entry for the exiles.

The national co-ordinator of the National Coordination Committee for Repatriation (NCCR), Mankekolo Mahlangu-Ngcobo, said it would also have discussions with the UNHCR delegation on issues such as the nature of co-operation and work division between the UNHCR, the NCCR and the Government.

UN here to aid exiles

A TEAM from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees arrived in Johannesburg yesterday to assist with the return of 40 000 exiles.

One of the UNHCR team, Mr Andrew Sokire, said on arrival at Jan Smuts Airport that the delegation planned to open a full-time office in South Africa in the near future.

Hopes

Before leaving Geneva, the UNHCR announced that it had reached agreement with the South African Government about the process whereby exiles would return to the country.

Sokire said he had high hopes the visit would help in custom clearances and other problem areas during talks with the Government. - *Sapa.*

Govt, UN sign deal on exiles

Star 5/9/91

336

Political Staff

After months of negotiations, the Government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) yesterday signed an agreement on the return of exiles.

This is regarded as a breakthrough in efforts to bring home an estimated 36 000 exiles.

South Africa's ambassador to the United Nations, Les Manley, signed the accord at the UNHCR building in Geneva yesterday, the Department of Foreign Affairs said.

Visit

Hours earlier, a seven-member UNHCR delegation arrived in South Africa for a two-week visit to hold discussions with Government officials, the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation (NCCR) and other parties.

The leader of the UNHCR delegation, Andrew Sokiri, told newsmen at Jan Smuts yesterday the purpose of the visit was to set up a temporary office and to work out the details of the memorandum between the UNHCR and the Government.

A Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman said last night the Government had been "ready for quite a while" to sign the accord.

In a brief statement last night Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said the memorandum "on the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of South African returnees" had been signed by Mr Manley and the UNHCR. Details of the agreement, on which some confusion still exists, were not given.

It has not been established whether the agreement provides for a general amnesty for all exiles or whether certain individuals who have committed serious crimes will not return.

Asked to comment on the signing of the agreement, ANC spokesman Saki Macozoma said: "All we are prepared to say is that the agreement should have been signed a long time ago."

In Johannesburg, Mr Sokiri described his delegation as "a technical team" which would hold talks with Government representatives, the NCCR and other interested parties.

"As soon as we have been able to work out the logistics and details of the operation, we will open an office here and the repatriation of exiles will begin," he said.

Final details of exile pact unresolved

Star 6/9/91

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By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

The return of political exiles who have committed "serious crimes" still hangs in the balance, despite the historic accord signed between the Government and the United High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on Wednesday.

The Department of Foreign Affairs, the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation (NCCR) and the ANC could yesterday not say whether, for example, the alleged Krugersdorp bomber, Hein Grosskopf, would be granted indemnity in terms of the agreement.

Foreign Affairs spokesman Rafique Gangat said the agreement, signed in Geneva on Wednesday, was exactly the same as the draft "memorandum of understanding" initialled in Pretoria last month.

At the time the ANC, other political groups and analysts raised serious doubts about the definition of a "political offence", and the exclusion of people who have committed "serious common law crimes" from indemnity.

Yesterday, Mr Gangat said he did not know whether Grosskopf qualified for indemnity.

But, he said, people who had committed serious common law crimes — "for example, an exile who has murdered his wife, to take it to the extreme" — would not be indemnified.

He denied reports that the UNHCR had pushed for a general amnesty for all exiles, saying the UN body was not prepared to bring home common criminals under its banner.

NCCR national co-ordinator Makekolo Mahlangu-Ngcobo said her understanding of the agreement was that amnesty would be granted to all political exiles.

"We want amnesty for all people who have left the country for a political reason, but not criminals."

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said the ANC remained adamant that all people who had left the country for political reasons should be indemnified.

Mr Gangat said the UNHCR would, in terms of the agreement, "do the preliminary screening" to establish whether exiles qualified for indemnity, after which applications would be handed over to the Department of Justice for a final decision.

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Call for wider UN council (336)

ACCRA. — The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) on Saturday called for expansion of the United Nations's elite Security Council to put more power in Third World hands.

A declaration after a four-day NAM foreign ministers' conference in the Ghanaian capital of Accra also endorsed political pluralism, giving official weight to the multi-party issue. CT 9/9/91

UN chief praises progress in SA

UN Correspondent

NEW YORK — Signifying the profound changes under way in South Africa and the UN's response to them, the Secretary-General's annual report to the General Assembly, issued yesterday, devotes only about six lines to apartheid in remarks that are almost wholly positive.

The UN chief, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, refers to the world body's decades-long campaign against former South African governments' policies in the context of the entire issue of human rights.

In past years, other such annual reports have often dwelled at length on the apartheid question and, when Dr Kurt Waldheim was secretary-general, in acerbic language.

For his part, Dr Perez de Cuellar acknowledges that there has been "a certain dichotomy" about the UN approach to human rights — a veiled allusion to its preoccupation with South Africa and glossing-over of rights violations elsewhere.

On the one hand the UN has adopted formal measures while on the other "there has been dismay at the barbaric realities of the world in which we live, arising from the indiscriminate use of power to brutalise populations into submission", the Secretary-General observes.

He says public opinion now demands that the gulf between aspiration and fact be narrowed if the former "is not to become totally ineffectual".

He holds up the effort to end apartheid as "lasting testimony of the profound and active concern of the UN with eradicating racial segregation".

The wide-ranging, 22-page report — his last detailed assessment of the state of the world before his term ends on December 31 — goes on to speak of the "notable progress" being made in South Africa.

"It will," he says, "signify attainment of one of the organisation's major goals when the notable progress made so far is consolidated and a post-apartheid regime based on democratic principles and racial harmony is firmly put in place."

Perez De Cuellar issues progress report on SA

(336)

ARG 11/9/91

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — The international community's response to developments in South Africa should be fine-tuned to "this complex and delicate process," offering encouragement, pressure and help as appropriate, UN Secretary-General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar says.

In a progress report on the reforms in the country, he says that, although halting, the process has remained on course.

The report was requested by the General Assembly and will be discussed at the session opening next week.

A brief summary of the document, but not the full text, was released today. The Secretary-General is on a visit to Iran.

He again expresses concern over the outbreaks of violence in South Africa, calling this a severe test of confidence and a serious obstacle to "the evolving political dialogue".

The impartiality of the security forces had been called into question and the destabilisation activities of extremist groups remained a cause for concern, he says while expressing hope that recent initiatives would allow the process of change to regain momentum.

However, the process would probably be lengthy and "vulnerable".

Improved access to the media and a sustained effort to inform the public on the effects of apartheid on the majority of the people could contribute to building a consensus on the urgent need to address socio-economic problems, Mr De Cuellar says.

He is encouraged, he says, by a broad consensus that has emerged on the need for human rights protection in a democratic nation, adding that ratification of the UN rights covenants could be a significant step.

What is needed from the international community are "encouragement, pressure and assistance," suitably applied. He says he is ready, when requested by South Africans and the international community, to help now, during the transitional period and beyond.

The report devotes only about six lines to apartheid in remarks that are almost wholly positive.

Mr De Cuellar, refers to the world body's decades-long campaign against former South African governments' policies in the context of the entire issue of human rights.

In past years, other such annual reports have often dwelled at length on the apartheid question and, when Mr Kurt Waldheim was Secretary-General, in acerbic language.

For his part, Mr De Cuellar acknowledges there has been "a certain dichotomy" about the UN approach to human rights — a veiled allusion to its preoccupation with South Africa and glossing over of rights violations elsewhere, not least in parts of black Africa.

On the one hand the UN has adopted formal measures while on the other "there has been dismay at the barbaric realities of the world in which we live, arising from the indiscriminate use of power to brutalise populations into submission," he observes.

He says that public opinion now demands that the gulf between aspiration and fact be narrowed if the former "is not to become totally ineffectual".

He holds up the effort to end apartheid as "lasting testimony of the profound and active concern of the UN with eradicating racial segregation and persecution".

The wide-ranging, 22-page report, his last detailed assessment of the state of the world before his term ends on December 31, goes on to speak of the "notable progress" being made in South Africa.

UN chief upbeat in report on SA

336 B/Day 12/9/91

SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON — Negotiations on a new constitution could be derailed unless SA embarked immediately on "a comprehensive national programme" to redress "socio-economic inequalities", UN secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar said in a report released yesterday.

He appeared to be issuing a subtle warning to those demanding the maintenance of sanctions that unless SA was able to get its economy in order, prospects for negotiated settlement could founder.

The generally upbeat and even-handed document is Perez's second annual report on progress towards implementation of the UN General Assembley's 1989 Declaration on Apartheid.

Perez said that despite violence, controversies over the release of political prisoners and government funding of Inkatha, developments, especialy the National Peace Accord to be signed on Saturday, "hold the promise that the momentum started more than a year ago could regain strength".

Unrest and violence were not unexpected, he suggested, noting that the process of change was "complex" and would "inevitably give rise to reaction and political antagonism".

He avoided assigning blame for this, stating only that "the impartiality of the security forces has been called into question and the potential for destabilisation by extremist groups remains a cause of concern".

Delays in dealing with the prisoner and exile issues, the "perceived ineffectual response" to violence and the Inkathagate scandal had all led to "a crisis of confidence".

However, this was offset by "a broad consensus that human rights must be protected" and "a growing convergence of views . . . on a number of basic principles of a new constitution".

Perez declined to take sides on the question of an interim government, but said he was hopeful that, following agreement on the peace accord, work would begin within "the next few months" on drafting "a new constitution and the establishment of transitional arrangements".

This process might be "relatively lengthy", he warned, and could be sidetracked by "the magnitude of the socio-economic inequalities that persist in SA and the inadequacy of the measures taken so far".

The General Assembly is expected to discuss the report tomorrow.

Sapa reports that Foreign Minister Pik Botha welcomed "positive admissions" made in the report even though he did not agree with some of its statements.

These admissions included acknowledgement that the process to end apartheid had remained on course and that SA was moving towards starting substantive negotiations, Botha said.

SA may link up with UN agencies

336 TIM COHEN

GOVERNMENT was thinking of associating itself with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and could soon participate in a number of technical UN agencies, former ambassador to the UN Jeremy Shearar said yesterday.

Shearar said in an interview it was unlikely SA would try to resume its seat at the UN General Assembly immediately.

"We feel we should allow the fruit to ripen of its own volition," he said.

Shearar was recently replaced as ambassador to the UN by former ambassador to Rome, Jim Steward.

He said SA would require support from in particular, the OAU before it could take its seat and this would take time.

SA would also have to negotiate the question of the R60m in fees it owed the UN before it could vote in the General Assembly. SA has not paid its fees since being suspended in 1974.

Shearar said he felt SA should now participate in the "more technical" agencies of the UN, such as the World Health Organisation and the UN's telecommunications and ecological organisations.

He said SA had not signed any human rights accords since 1948, often because it was impossible to do so as many included stipulations about apartheid.

But Shearar pointed out that Foreign Minister Pik Botha had suggested in his maiden speech to Parliament in 1970 that SA should associate itself with the declaration on human rights.

Government had not signed the declaration in 1948 because it felt at the time that if it did, it would be required to bring its law into line with the declaration.

● See Page 3

SA may again be a punching bag for a scarred African bloc at the UN, writes **Mike Littlejohn**

The curse of interesting times

Star 13/9/91. (336)

TURMOIL in the Soviet Union, the bitter aftermath of the Gulf War and the strains imposed on the Western alliance by Israel's tough stand on a Middle East peace conference would appear preoccupations enough for the United Nations without the addition of South Africa's problems.

However, the African members are unlikely to see it that way in the General Assembly, which begins a new session on Tuesday.

Their influence in the UN severely weakened by the political events of a momentous year and still struggling against severe economic adversity, they will want to use South Africa as a punching bag, Western diplomats fear.

Fortunately for Pretoria, the year has also seen an improvement in the Government's foreign relations and a growing international respect for the efforts being made by President de Klerk to change the system.

So there may well be a sizable increase in the ranks of South Africa's defenders. Or, at worst, a lowering of the excited rhetoric that has marked many previous discussions.

Heeding African concerns, the UN secretariat has issued an annotated agenda that devotes more than four closely typed pages to that hardy perennial called "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa". It is the 37th item in a list of no fewer than 137 questions the world body will try to plough through in three months of meetings.

Other items of more than passing interest to South Africa include one titled "International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola".

Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general, currently on a mission to Iran, is due to report to the assembly soon on political and other developments in South Africa.

He remains deeply concerned about the frequent outbreaks of violence, such as the bloodletting this past weekend, but has also expressed his admiration for President de Klerk's reform policy and cautious optimism that negotiations eventually will get under way and lead to a satisfactory outcome.

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RICA
5
E TOWNSHIP

SA may again be a punching bag for a scarred African bloc at the UN, writes **Mike Littlejohn**

The curse of interesting times

Star 13/9/91 (336)

TURMOIL in the Soviet Union, the bitter aftermath of the Gulf War and the strains imposed on the Western alliance by Israel's tough stand on a Middle East peace conference would appear preoccupations enough for the United Nations without the addition of South Africa's problems.

However, the African members are unlikely to see it that way in the General Assembly, which begins a new session on Tuesday.

Their influence in the UN severely weakened by the political events of a momentous year and still struggling against severe economic adversity, they will want to use South Africa as a punching bag, Western diplomats fear.

Fortunately for Pretoria, the year has also seen an improvement in the Government's foreign relations and a growing international respect for the efforts being made by President de Klerk to change the system.

So there may well be a sizable increase in the ranks of South Africa's defenders. Or, at worst, a lowering of the excited rhetoric that has marked many previous discussions.

Heeding African concerns, the UN secretariat has issued an annotated agenda that devotes more than four closely typed pages to that hardy perennial called "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa". It is the 37th item in a list of no fewer than 137 questions the world body will try to plough through in three months of meetings.

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RICA
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E TOWNSHIP

R3,7-m to go for exiles, prisoners

Sowetan
16/9/91

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

336

THE Canadian Government has donated R3,7 million towards the repatriation of South African exiles and resettlement of released political prisoners.

The money, to be given to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, is part of a pledge of R14,3 million which Canada made to ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela when he visited that country last year.

More than R2 million has already been disbursed, most of which has been used to assist released political prisoners.

The Canadian contribution coincides with an appeal by the UNHCR for international assistance following the signing on September 4 of an agreement with the Government which provides for the establishment of a UNHCR office in South Africa and the repatriation of exiles.

Announcing the donation at a meeting of the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on South Africa, held in New Delhi at the weekend, Canadian Minister of External Affairs Ms Barbara McDougall said: "The situation in South Africa is changing but our commitment to support the development needs of the victims of apartheid continues."

The R3,7 million comes from the International Humanitarian Assistance Programme of the Canadian International Development Agency, the Canadian Embassy in Pretoria said.

"With the conclusion of the agreement between the South African Government and the UNCHR, it is expected that the repatriation programme will progress rapidly and further Canadian contributions will made to fulfill Canada's pledge," it said.

UNITED NATIONS

SA on the way back

(336) ARG 16/9/91

MIKE LITTLEJOHN of The Argus Foreign Service reports on the Republic's chances of rejoining the General Assembly.

TURMOIL in the Soviet Union, the bitter aftermath of the Gulf war and the strains imposed on the Western alliance by Israel's tough stand on a Middle East peace conference would appear preoccupations enough for the United Nations without the addition of South Africa's problems.

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ARG 18/9/91

SA's seat at UN remains empty

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — South Africa's seats in the UN General Assembly remained unoccupied today for the 17th year running as the world body began a new session with the biggest intake of new members since 1975.

While founding member South Africa was again unable to reclaim its seat, North and South Korea, the three newly-independendent Baltic states and Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands won places

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Tembisa puts problems in focus

THE Tembisa Industrial Association has called for a meeting of industrialists, local political leaders, clerics and local principals to discuss problems facing the township.

An association spokesman said the meeting was due to take place at the Tembisa Industrial Park hall yesterday.

Representatives of the TPA, Eskom, the North-East Rand Chamber of Commerce and the East Rand Industrialists Network had agreed to attend, according to the association.

The association was also keen to involve others, with an interest in the Tembisa area, in the meeting.

Subjects for discussion include the power switchoff to some 50 businesses in the area - which the association believes affects both black and white businessmen - and boycotts and stay-away actions.

Those needing further details should contact Frank Tshetla on (011) 926-2802 or 926-2700.

- *Sapa*

Coming in from the cold

B'day 19/9/91

336

TIM COHEN

"MY WIFE and I know all about discrimination," Jeremy Shearar reflects wryly about his six years as SA ambassador to the UN.

Shearar tells of how, when they first arrived, they used to tell their driver to wait for 20 minutes outside receptions — long enough to pay due courtesy to the host, long enough to be seen but also long enough to be shunned by almost all the guests.

But gradually the atmosphere changed and perseverance paid off. Reception guests would not suddenly become engrossed in conversations whenever the SA representative approached, but more important, the SA government's perspective was actually listened to.

By the end of his term, they still told their driver to wait for 20 minutes — but they took much longer.

The main reason for this change of heart was the protracted negotiations for the independence of Namibia, which were marked by mutual suspicion at the start but gradually became more pragmatic as negotiations progressed.

Naturally President F W de Klerk's February 2 speech last year gave impetus to this trend and Shearar says by the time he left, he was being received warmly, especially by African representatives.

But despite the existing policy of pragmatic engagement, the legacy of the SA government's long battles with the UN still leave a bitter aftertaste and the rapprochement has not been total, especially in government departments that were not involved in the Namibian experience.

Even Shearar, integrally involved in the Namibian negotiations, paints a picture of the UN as a conglomeration of discordant vested interests.

For example, he says, SA's return to the UN will depend on the development of a variety of bilateral and multilateral relations. There will have to be enough support for SA's return in the OAU to get support in the Arab league, in which SA relations with Israel will be a factor, and so on.

To demonstrate the confusing inter-relations that are the hallmark of the UN, Shearar tells a story he says he was told by the Zambian representative.

When African elephants fight, they tend to flatten the surrounding bush. When they make love, the result is the same, the story goes.

SA is still something of a pawn in global politics, and would probably be flattened in the love-hate power play if it tried to do something preemptive about its return.

As a result, Shearar says: "We feel that the fruit should be allowed to ripen of its own volition."

SA's outstanding R60m debt to the UN is also a complicating factor, and Shearar says the debate about whether SA in fact owes this money is a moot point.

The UN could argue that like being a member of a club, if you do not agree with decisions at the AGM, that does not free you from your obligation to pay your fees — especially if you still have use of the facilities. SA has had full access to UN documentation and to the UN secretariat.

SA could argue that the analogy is not valid as SA was not in the position of a member merely disagreeing with something akin to an AGM decision. If SA did pay its debt it would in effect be assisting in the payment of operations specifically operated against it — operations which had the aim of encouraging the overthrow of the SA government.

"So perhaps we are not in arrears for everything," Shearar says.

The UN would not like to forgo the R60m, but it amounts to less than one week's running costs, so it is possible the money will be written off, especially if there is a new government in office.

Even so, SA relations with the UN are likely to warm up. It seems the surrounding bush might, in time, develop the strength to deflect the loving elephants.

As the United Nations seeks a new leader, **Sarah Helm** looks at the front runners

(336)

Those with charisma need not apply

Star 20/9/91

"APPLICATIONS are invited for the job of United Nations secretary-general. Job involves implementation of New World Order. Applicants must have stamina, tact and a low profile. Anyone displaying signs of a) political bias, b) charisma or c) vision need not apply. Nationals of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Britain and China — are also barred. Candidates should avoid overt campaigning."

So, the cynics might say, begins the race for the most challenging job in international diplomacy, which follows the decision of Javier Perez de Cuellar to step down. The appointment of his successor, being discussed this week at the UN General Assembly in New York, is probably the most important the world's leaders have made. Never have hopes been so high for the UN's capacity to influence world events. The East-West logjam has been broken; it is widely hoped that the UN's peace-making powers have come of age.

However, anybody who thinks this will change the UN's age-old rituals for choosing its top executive or allow for any candidates other than the usual Third Worlders, bland chameleons or Scandinavians to come forward, is in for a depressing surprise.

To say the Security Council is scraping the barrel is perhaps unfair to the admirable qualities of the 10-odd candidates in the running. The problem is not the lack of potential candidates — Eduard Shevardnadze has been floated for one — but that UN politicking and rituals mitigate against such big names being chosen.

There is, of course, no advertisement for the post, no job description. To set out such priorities would be too political.

There are in fact no rules, only "conventions", except that the final choice must be agreed by nine members of the Security Council without a veto. The most restrictive convention is that the candidate cannot come from one of the permanent Security Council member countries, and cannot in practice come from western Europe, which is heavily represented on the council.

There is also a convention that says certain groups have turns. This time it is the turn of the Africans (although Britain is bravely trying to pretend this convention does not exist).

It is not surprising, therefore, that at this stage of the race the runners are shrouded in a thick cloud of confusion. To add to the confusion some of the runners are heavily tipped. But this is likely to be their downfall: they may have peaked too early.

Take Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Egypt's deputy prime minister, the only candidate running anything vaguely resembling a campaign. Dr Boutros-Ghali, whose main claim to fame is his association with the Camp David accords, is the strongest African candidate, but unfortunately for him, not the only one — the Africans have been unable to agree on a single runner. They are also fielding Zimbabwe's finance Minister, Bernard Chidzero, Ghana's Kenneth Dadzie and Sierra Leone's James Jonah — the latter two senior UN officials.

Dr Boutros-Ghali has nevertheless reputedly won endorsement from much of the Third World, as well as China and Israel. Critics, however, see him as the ultimate compromise candidate.

Then there are the candidates who are running in the shadows. They don't want to risk the shame of a veto, so they will not run until they know they will win. The biggest name among these is Sadruddin Aga Khan, head of the UN relief operation in Iraq. His advantage is that he is fabulously wealthy and totally international. But the latter quality is also a disadvantage. So international is he that no country is backing him.

Then there is Gro Harlem Brundtland, feminist and mother of four. She is said to be interested, but cannot declare her hand unless she is sure of getting the job, or she'll lose her present job as prime minister of Norway.

Ali Alatas, the foreign Minister of Indonesia, is interested, say the diplomats in Whitehall, "but he comes with East Timor (which was never recognised by the UN) around his neck".

There are few other Asians on the horizon: "They come trailing clouds of corruption," say the cynics. The Latins have had "their turn". Malcolm Fraser, the former Australian prime minister, is white.

Such is the level of discussion. The idea that great world issues might be debated in the process of this "selection" is inconceivable, as is the idea that anybody might seriously propose Eduard Shevardnadze, Giscard D'Estaing, Jimmy Carter or the like.

Behind all this jostling for position the truth is that perhaps none of the current candidates will be selected; the future secretary-general will probably come up from behind.

All of this raises serious questions about the UN. The selection process is consensus politics at its worst. If those doing the selection dare not challenge the conventions, what hope is there that the person they select should have any more courage? — The Independent News Service. □

Plea for African to head the UN

(336)

B1 Dan 23/9/91

NEW YORK — Nigeria's UN ambassador has urged the election of an African as UN secretary-general for the first time. Elections are due in October.

Ibrahim Gambari said an African secretary-general could bring greater "sensitivity" to the most important job of the UN secretariat, resulting in a "more just world in which the interests of both the rich and the poor, the big and the small, will be protected."

"Africa is the only region which has not had the opportunity to provide a secretary-general ... We want the United Nations, the Security Council and the General Assembly to pick the best secretary-general who happens to be African, not an African secretary-general," Gambari told a news conference.

Last month African states at the UN issued a list of six African candidates endorsed by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in a letter to the Security Council president.

They are Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Boutros Boutros Ghali, Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, Kenneth Dadzie of Ghana, secretary-general of the UN Conference on Trade and Development James Jonah of Sierra Leone, UN under secretary-general for special political questions, former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, and former physics professor and culture minister Nguema Francois Owono of Gabon.

Gambari said Africa was the only continent that submitted offical candidates for the job, which becomes vacant on December 31 when Javier Perez de Cuellar completes his second five-year term.

But more than two dozen names have been mentioned in informal speculation about a successor, although no clear frontrunner has emerged.

Gambari said the West was neglecting Africa as its attention turned to the fledgling democracies in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Backing

Meanwhile, Malawi has announced it will support Zimbabwe's Chidzero for the post.

John Tembo, treasurer-general of the Malawi Congress Party, was speaking to Ziana news agency in Harare after presenting a letter to Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe from Malawi's President Kamuzu Banda.

Tembo said the letter also referred to issues on bilateral relations between Zimbabwe and Malawi. Although the level of trade between the two countries was good, there was always room for improvement, particularly in the transport sector, he said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Our man at UN has plenty to smile about

Pretoria's new UN ambassador Jim Steward, one of Pretoria's most experienced diplomats, was a counsellor in the delegation of 1974 when SA was expelled. Back in New York, he is pleasantly surprised by how things have changed.

Star 28/9/91

MIKE LITTLEJOHN

NEW YORK — The United Nations was long considered a "hot seat" for South Africa's diplomats.

It was a place where snubs and widespread incivility were a part of daily life. The crowning ignominy came in 1974 when the country was ousted from the General Assembly.

But back in New York today as Pretoria's new UN ambassador, Jim Steward, who was a counsellor in the delegation in those difficult days, says he is pleasantly surprised by how much has changed.

Mr Steward is unlikely to be reclaiming representation and voting rights at the General Assembly session that began last week. But diplomats on all sides believe he will experience no small degree of satisfaction when he leads his delegation back towards the end of 1992.

The near-demise of the economic boycott, new diplomatic ties with important countries such as Argentina and with former Soviet satellite states, the invitation to the nation's athletes to re-enter Olympics competition — all in the wake of President de Klerk's reforms — have already transformed the country's UN status.

After a cordial meeting with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, to whom he submitted his credentials last week, Mr Steward sipped a white wine spritzer in the delegates' lounge and remarked to a UN friend from the 1970s how welcome he found the new political climate.

When he served in New York between 1970 and 1976, a South African diplomat's life was very grim, he said. Even colleagues from countries with ties to South Africa were reluctant to be seen with their counterparts from Pretoria.

No more, however. "Since President de Klerk has reversed South African policies, there has been a great receptivity from the UN secretariat and membership," he said.

"Although there are still some pockets of hostility, I think it is generally recognised that South Africa has rejoined the ranks of the democratically minded countries and that our policies are fully reconcilable with those of Western democracies under principles enunciated in the UN Charter."

Actions like the cancellation of planned visits to South Africa by the prime ministers of Australia and Canada represent setbacks, but Mr Steward made it clear that he still considers the trend is solidly on a positive course.

The new ambassador, a tall, trim man with a sense of humour and a talent for story-telling, is one of Pretoria's most experienced diplomats. A chartered accountant by profession, he applied for and was accepted by the diplomatic service in London in 1957 — "because I wanted to do something for my country", he said. Later, he became a Middle East specialist, serving in Cairo and Beirut for more than eight years.

AFTER his first UN term, he was an under-secretary and deputy director in the Department of Foreign Affairs and was named ambassador to Italy in 1982. Returning to Pretoria five years later, he became director of the European section, and immediately before being sent back to New York was chief director for Europe and multilateral organisations.

Vernon Rudston Whitefoord Steward — he says he has always been known as Jim, because that is what his mother called him — was born in Zululand in 1931, the only child of a sugar-planting family. Zulu was his first language, but he has forgotten much of it.

His grandfather was Sir William Jukes Steward, a modest merchant who left England in the last century to make his fortune in publishing in New Zealand and later became Speaker of the New Zealand House of Commons.

The Whitefoord part (originally Wheatford) comes from an English ancestor. According to family legend, he kept his sovereign's feet dry by dumping a wagonload of wheat so that the king might ford a swollen stream.

Like Sir Walter Raleigh, he was knighted on the spot. "At any rate, that's the story," Mr Steward said.

A Hilton College and Wits graduate, the ambassador also has solid Afrikaner lineage. His father left New Zealand to, as he put it, "suppress the bloody Boers", and at the age of 50 wooed and took for his second wife the 24-year-old daughter of General Louis van Zijl — Mr Steward's mother. The general was one of those who claimed South West Africa from the Germans in World War 1.

Divorced since his first term at the UN, Mr Steward has not remarried. He has three sons.



DOING SOMETHING FOR HIS COUNTRY: The new ambassador — a tall, trim man with a sense of humour and a talent for story-telling.

De Klerk reforms get pat from UN top five

Star 30/9/91

336

By Mike Littlejohn

NEW YORK — The foreign ministers of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council have voiced their satisfaction with the "movement towards the dismantling of the apartheid system" and hope for an acceleration of the process.

They made their views known in a communique after meeting under the auspices of UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

President de Klerk's reforms and their effect on South Africa's future, including its international relations, were among several questions discussed.

Statements by the five (US, Soviet Union, Britain, France and China) had already been made during the General Assembly debate last week, with President George Bush speaking for the US.

Representing their governments at the latest meeting were Quian Qichen (China), Roland Dumas (France), Boris Pankin (USSR), Douglas Hurd (Britain) and James Baker (US).

Their communique spoke of a "revitalised" UN that would have a central and increasingly important role in international affairs.

This is a reason why Western diplomats said they hoped South Africa, a founder-member, would soon be able to resume full participation in UN affairs.

In their communique, the ministers said they had agreed to make preventive diplomacy a top priority and to work for the reinforcing of the UN role in peacekeeping and peacemaking.

Among the areas where they expressly welcomed the world body's peacekeeping intervention was Angola — where South African diplomacy helped remove Cuban troops and resolve an internal conflict between Luanda and Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement.

The communique passage which relates directly to South Africa reads: "The ministers noted with satisfaction the movement towards the dismantling of the apartheid system in South Africa, and expressed the hope that this process will be accelerated."

During what they termed "a timely and constructive exchange of views", the ministers paid tribute to Dr Perez de Cuellar for his 10-year stewardship — a further hint that they expect him to step down at the end of this year.

There had been speculation that they might ask him to accept a further year or two.

As a parting salute, they affirmed "that his integrity and dedication to the principles of the Charter have contributed in large measure to the high standing which the organisation enjoys, especially with regard to the resolution of regional conflicts".

UN official: new SA must get aid

Star 21/10/91 (336)

GENEVA — A future democratic South Africa will need a "fairly massive programme of assistance" to help tackle the affects of years of discrimination against blacks, a UN official said yesterday.

Basem Khader of the UN Development Programme said the international community must be ready to mount housing, education and employment programmes for blacks in a post-apartheid South Africa.

But he told a press conference the South African Government would be expected to "assume the bulk of the responsibility".

Mr Khader urged the UN General Assembly to relax restrictions on UN activity in the country and allow the organisation to set up a base in South Africa.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees recently set up offices in South Africa under a special agreement with the Government, but no other UN agencies are present because of long-standing policy against racial discrimination.

Mr Khader spoke to journalists after a one-day meeting to discuss technical assistance to South Africa. Representatives of the World Bank, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, the European Community and the UN Centre Against Apartheid also attended the meeting.

No South African delegates were present.

Mr Khader also said the UN would implement aid programmes only after South Africa adopted a new constitution and had a racially representative government.

The cost of such assistance was not yet known, but it would likely be much higher than the estimated R600 million to R700 million in aid currently received from the US and European Community. — Sapa-AP.

UN: Future SA will need much help

GENEVA. — A future democratic South Africa will need a "fairly massive programme of assistance" to help tackle the effects of years of discrimination against blacks, a UN official said yesterday.

Mr Basem Khader of the UN Development Programme said the international community must be ready to mount housing, education and employment programmes for blacks in a post-apartheid South Africa.

He also said the South African government would be expected to "assume the bulk of the responsibility". — Sapa-AP

336 CT 2/10/91

Joint prize for FW, Mandela

ANC leader Nelson Mandela and President FW de Klerk will receive their UN-sponsored peace award in Geneva on October 22.

The Felix Houphouet-Boigny peace prize will be presented to the joint winners during the session of the UN Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

Canada's premier eyes top UN post

Brian Mulroney is tipped to be the next UN leader, but this could sour Canada's relations with some African nations.

CANADIAN Prime Minister Brian Mulroney will make an open bid within the next few days for the secretary-generalship of the United Nations, according to knowledgeable sources, and is expected to win the post.

He is expected to leave the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Harare early in order to launch his effort to head the UN.

The US is reported to have thrown its support behind Mr Mulroney, making it virtually certain he will get the job.

The appointment of Mr Mulroney to the post would almost certainly anger the African countries, who maintain it is Africa's turn to get the job. It would particularly anger the Zimbabwean government, which has been conducting an international drive to win support for its Finance Minister, Dr Bernard Chidzero, to be appointed UN secretary-general.

The appointment of Mr Mulroney would probably sour the warm relations between Zimbabwe and Canada and in particular the close friendship that is reputed to have developed between the Canadian premier and President Mugabe.

Britain announced recently that it would back Dr Chidzero's candidacy in the initial stage of the election. This does not, however, commit Britain to maintaining its support for Dr Chidzero throughout what is usually a protracted series of ballots in the Security Council, which appoints the secretary-general.

Any of the veto-wielding great powers in the Security Council can block any proposed appointment by voting against it. However, for the first time even the Soviet Union, which needs American aid, might support the US position. — Star Africa Service. □

ess

Letter to UN slates IMF role in VAT

By Paula Fray

The Co-ordinating Committee on VAT (CCV) has appealed to the United Nations to assist in stopping the International Monetary Fund from "meddling" in South Africa — especially in regard to the implementation of VAT.

The organisation has also written to the IMF.

In a statement issued yesterday, CCV co-ordinator Bernie Fanaroff said the IMF had apparently worked out the technical aspects of the VAT system for the Government and had advised a VAT rate higher than the 10 percent originally proposed by Vatcom, the committee set up to investigate VAT.

"The Government seems to have relied on IMF advice not to allow exemptions or zero rating of basic foods, electricity and water, medicines and medical services in its discussions with the CCV," it said.

The UN secretary-general was requested to take action in terms of three UN resolutions, adopted by the General Assembly in 1986 and 1990, which commit the world body to call on the IMF, the World Bank and other organisations not to extend loans or assistance to the South African Government until there is "clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes in South Africa".

In a letter to the UN secretary-general, the CCV said that while certain minor changes to the VAT system had been made, the Government had refused to enter into a process of negotiation.

VAT group's plea to UN

Sowetan 17/10/91

THE Co-ordinating Committee on Value Added Tax yesterday asked the United Nations to persuade the International Monetary Fund not to process a R30 billion loan to the Government.

In a letter to the UN, the committee, which represents more than 100 organisations, asked the world body to stop the IMF from ''meddling'' in South Africa's economic policies until the tax disputed had been settled.

The committee comprises the country's two largest union federations, the African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress, the Azanian Peoples Organisation, consumer, welfare and religious groups.

The letter said VAT would spread the tax burden significantly on to South Africa's poorest people, most of whom were disefranchised.

It said State President FW de Klerk had explicitly refused to enter into discussions over tax reform or economic reconstruction, while showing willingness to negotiate a political settlement. - *Sapa.*

Cuier.

UNHCR starts work today

B Day 21/10/94

GENEVA — Newly appointed head of the SA desk of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Kalu Kalumiya has said he is aware there will be "a great load on his shoulders" since the UNHCR would be paving the way for a normalisation in the relations between SA and the UN. (336)

The UNHCR will be the first UN agency to operate within SA since the international community opted for the total boycott of apartheid.

Kalumiya left Geneva at the weekend for SA while the UNHCR operations are expected to start today in Johannesburg and Cape Town. Other offices will be established in East London or Port Elizabeth.

The UNHCR is to assist with the repatriation of exiles and follows an agreement signed on October 2 between the UN and government.

Kalumiya, a former legal adviser of the UNHCR, will be accompanied by four adminstrative staff members. — Sapa.

into hell. Much, much more is required.
The police will have to win the confi-

UN gears up to aid Pretoria

Sowetan 22/10/91 (336)

WINDHOEK - A senior United Nations diplomat is on his way to Lusaka to establish an office with a special brief: to prepare the UN for its role in the post-apartheid South Africa.

Mr David McAdams, outgoing resident representative for the UN Development Project in Namibia, will be gathering information and planning for the moment when the UNDP can legitimately set up its offices in South Africa.

Sowetan African News Service

"Once the constraints of sanctions are removed, we'll be in there as quickly as possible," he says, acknowledging an excitement inside the UN body about work in South Africa. "Certainly there's an impatience to participate in the process."

McAdams' posting is an odd one: he has no idea how long it will last. The moment the General Assembly changes the UN's legislative mandate and opens the doors to South Africa, various UN bodies will want to set up inside the country itself and get to work.

The UN High Commission for Refugees is the only agency active within South Africa with the special task of repatriation of exiles.

At a recent meeting in Geneva convened by the UNDP, a number of the major multilateral donors sat down to discuss their future in South Africa. McAdams was there in talks with the European Community, the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation and the Economic Commission for Africa.

He says the meeting concluded that a sort of Marshall Plan might be needed for South Africa and that his posting in Lusaka was to plan for that future, to identify needs and to gather information.

Brian Mulroney may become UN Secretary-General, says **Leonard Doyle**

Courting friends in high places

(336)

Star 22/10/91

PRIME Minister Brian Mulroney, of whom 75 percent of Canadians disapprove according to the latest opinion poll, may be thrust upon the rest of the world by becoming Secretary-General of the UN, thanks to his close friendship with President George Bush.

The mysterious and secretive process of finding a new UN chief enters a decisive phase this week, when the Security Council holds a straw poll to determine whether the numerous Third World candidates have any hope of being elected.

The anonymous ballot papers will also provide an opportunity for other names to be put into the ring. Any new names at this stage will be seen as a direct challenge to the Third World list — in particular the Africans, who believe it is their turn to provide the next secretary-general.

To avoid a public row with the developing world, Mr Mulroney, or another candidate acceptable to the US, is expected to be nominated only once the council has made a public show of taking the African list seriously — Zimbabwe's Finance Minister, Bernard Chidzero and Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister, Boutros Boutros Ghali.

The prospect of the leader of one of the world's leading industrialised countries and a member of Nato, being given the job would have been unthinkable a mere year ago. But in the wake of the leading role played by the Security Council during the Gulf war in backing US policy and with the collapse of the Soviet Union as a superpower, Washington is casting a far more benevolent eye on the UN.

The instinct among British, French and US policymakers is that Dr Perez de Cuellar be replaced with a like-minded politician, who will not get hung up on the legal niceties of the UN Charter and will provide the necessary political support when requested by the West. Since Mr Bush likes to conduct his foreign policy by telephoning his buddies in positions of power, Mr Mulroney is seen as a natural choice.

Diplomats expect the West to remain on the sidelines today, watching the African and other candidates fight it out to stay on the ballot. Next Wednesday, Foreign Ministers of the five permanent Security Council members will meet in Paris, and may review the status of the race. Only after this meeting is Mr Mulroney's or some other late entry expected to be put before the full Council. — The Independent News Service. □

UN man arrives in SA

Sowetan 25/10/91

THE head of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in South Africa, Mr Kallu Kalumiya, has arrived in South Africa to oversee the repatriation of refugees to South Africa.

Kalumiya said more UNHCR staff were expected in South Africa soon. They would be based in Johannesburg, with smaller offices in other centres, according to reports.

Some 30 000 refugees are estimated to be awaiting repatriation to South Africa. - *Sapa*.

Africans upset at being left out

336

Star 25/10/91.

Own Correspondent

NEW YORK — As the Security Council prepared to conduct a straw poll on five new candidates for UN Secretary-General, African members reacted bitterly yesterday to reports that none of their candidates was perceived as a likely winner.

Several vowed to muster support to block confirmation of the council's nominee if he or she was not African.

A report in The Washington Post yesterday that Brian Mulroney, the Canadian prime minister, had President Bush's backing served to increase African distress since two of their candidates have received more than the required number of votes for appointment in a straw poll.

That poll, in which Bernard Chidzero, finance minister of Zimbabwe, and Boutros Boutros Ghali, an Egyptian deputy prime minister, tied with 10 votes each, took no account of possible vetoes.

With a goal of agreement on a nominee by the end of October, the 15-nation council is expected to begin on Monday a series of straw polls designed to weed out which among the 14 candidates named so far would not encounter a veto.

The US, Britain, France, the Soviet Union and China, permanent members of the council, have veto powers.

It is the responsibility of the council to nominate the secretary-general and the General Assembly's to make the appointment.

A confidential memorandum setting out strategy agreed by the OAU said with 51 members in the UN Africa constituted close to one-third of the total membership.

(336) ARG 25/10/91

Africa

Threats fly as poll for top job points to West

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — As the United Nations Security Council prepared to conduct a "straw poll" on five new candidates for secretary-general, African members reacted bitterly to reports that none of their candidates was perceived as a likely winner.

Several vowed to muster support for an effort in the General Assembly to block confirmation of the council's nominee if he or she was not African.

A report in the Washington Post yesterday that Mr Brian Mulroney, the Canadian prime minister, had President George Bush's backing served only to increase African distress.

Two of their candidates already have received more than the required number of votes for appointment in a straw poll earlier this week.

But that poll — in which Mr Bernard Chidzero, finance minister of Zimbabwe, and Mr Boutros Boutros Ghali, the Egyptian deputy-prime minister, tied with 10 votes each — took no account of possible vetoes.

With a goal of agreement on a nominee by the end of October, the 15-nation council is expected to begin on Monday a series of straw polls designed to weed out which among the 14 candidates named so far would not encounter a veto.

The US, Britain, France, the Soviet Union and China, permanent members of the council, have veto powers.

Although it is a responsibility for the council to nominate the secretary-general, the General Assembly — where there is no veto — must make the appointment.

A confidential memorandum setting out strategy agreed by the Organisation of African Unity at its summit meeting in Nigeria emphasises that with 51 members in the UN, Africa constitutes close to one-third of the total membership — an unsubtle reminder that, with additional support from sympathetic states, a solid African voting bloc could turn back a non-African nominee.

It speaks also of the present "marginalisation of Africa and Africans within the UN system" and of discrimination against African employees of the world body.

A recent, also confidential, addendum to the memorandum expresses African opposition to any compromise arrangement that might leave the incumbent, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, in office pending a lengthier search for a successor.

The selection of any non-African candidate, male or female, as a compromise "at the expense of the African continent" would be unwelcome, the note states.

The argument has been made in the UN that while there has never been an African secretary-general, neither has there been a woman chief executive.

Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, prime minister of Norway, is the first woman proposed for the post.

Manger UN

UN's proposed 'white helmets' could play peacekeeping role

Star 26/10/91 (336)

NEW YORK — In a fundamental rethinking of the UN's role in world affairs, more and more nations want the United Nations to intervene to stop widespread violations of human rights. Most of the clamour comes from Europe. A force of "white helmets" has been proposed.

UN "blue helmets" have for years been sent to keep peace in internal disputes, when both parties agree.

"White helmets", the thinking goes, could be experts and police who look into violations and safeguard rights at the request of a world commission.

The principles of sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs historically have precluded UN intervention to protect human rights, despite massacres and flagrant rights violations.

The UN Charter enshrines human rights, but says nothing about a UN presence to safeguard them. It prescribes UN peacekeeping only when international conflicts endanger regional or international peace and stability.

But in recent General Assembly speeches an increasing number of nations have asked for a new look at the UN role and said the sovereignty principle must be suspended at times.

They say sovereignty is not more important than protecting human rights.

The UN's first venture into intervening to protect human rights came in May, when it sent a civilian police force to shield Kurds from slaughter in northern Iraq at the hands of Saddam Hussein's forces.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar dispatched the UN force with the grudging acceptance of the Iraqi government.

The UN also took unprecedented action in sending observers to the Haitian elections in December 1990 because of fear of bloodshed and human rights violations. The Security Council later issued a rare public statement urging restoration of democracy in Haiti following the September 30 coup.

That would have been unthinkable in years past, because even criticizing a sovereign government was off limits.

Still, no movement has surfaced to amend the UN Charter to broaden the UN role and authorise intervention to safeguard human rights. The process of charter amendment would open a Pandora's Box of controversial issues, like changing the composition of the Security Council.

Dr Perez de Cuellar said in his annual report: "Protection of human rights has now become one of the keystones in the search of peace."

He said such protection now requires more international warnings, appeals and "in the last resort a more appropriate UN presence than what was regarded as permissible under traditional international law".

The principle of non-interference is not "a protective barrier behind which human rights could be massively or systematically violated with impunity," he said.

In the General Assembly, several European nations have called for intervention in blatant cases of rights violations. A few Latin American nations, such as Chile, Argentina and Venezuela, cautiously joined in.

Foreign Minister Alois Mock of Austria said the UN proposed that the UN Commission on Human Rights adopt an emergency procedure and draw upon a register of experts — "white helmets" — placed at the disposal of the commission.

But Mexico and China argued the case for non-intervention and African nations said almost nothing, seeking to avoid any statement that could invite interference in their internal affairs.

China's foreign minister, Qian Qichen, said human rights "have been used for pursuing power politics and interfering in affairs which are basically the jurisdiction of states."

The Chinese government, which brutally crushed its own pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in June 1989, said double standards have been used in the human rights field. — Sapa-AP.

● See Editorial Page 12

government," NAC financial director Brian Frankel said yesterday.

a Lauda Air Boeing for in Thailand this year after an engine thrust-reverser malfunctioned.

UN focuses on African debt

NEW YORK — UN secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar said on Monday there was a widening gap between rhetoric and action on the part of creditor countries dealing with African debt.

He said that positive steps had been taken by some creditor nations but indebtedness of African countries still "hangs, like a dark cloud over the continent, obscuring prospects for the renewal of growth" Bloomberg 30/10/91

Perez made his comments at an "African Day Devoted to Debt Relief" at the UN, initiated by the Rev Leon Sullivan, who originated the rules for ending apartheid among employees of US firms in SA.

In addition to Sullivan's appearance, the day was marked by speeches from a wide array of international and American political figures, including New York Mayor David Dinkins and General Motors chairman Robert Stempel.

Perez said it was "disheartening to see how, in spite of the widespread recognition of the gravity of the situation ... the gap between rhetoric and action remains largely unbridged". (336)

He said there was no single, easy way out "but it is surely feasible to find a lasting solution".

Assistant director-general of the UN Children's Fund Richard Jolly said Africa for eight years had spent 4% to 5% of its resources merely to service debt, double the volume the US spent on the Marshall plan to rehabilitate Europe.

US ambassador Thomas Pickering added a note of regret that the US and the Soviet Union had in the past expended resources in Cold War competition, often in unproductive areas.

He also pointed out that a "few nations" in the developing world had military budgets two or three times their expenditures on education and health. — Sapa-Reuter.

(336)
Preferably an African
ST Times 3/11/91

The UN seeks a paragon

The United Nations is about to choose a new secretary-general. SIR ANTHONY PARSONS, former British permanent representative at the UN, looks at the front runners

THE identity of the new secretary-general of the United Nations should be known within the next few weeks.

In the 46-year history of the UN there have been only five secretaries-general and only two seriously contested elections — those which delivered Kurt Waldheim in 1971 and Javier Perez de Cuellar in 1981.

Waldheim's election in 1976 was briefly opposed in 1986. The other three — Trygve Lie (1946-53), Dag Hammerskjold (1953-61) and U Thant (1961-71) — "emerged".

My grapevine tells me that the permanent members are in a huddle trying to agree on a single candidate who can then be shepherded through the formal hurdles.

Who is it likely to be? The Chinese are said to be insisting that it is Africa's turn (the Organisation of African Unity has put forward six names) or, failing that, the prize must in any case go to the developing world.

CAPABLE

France is alleged to be insisting on fluency in French.

Two front-runners have emerged: the highly respected Egyptian deputy foreign minister Boutros Ghali and the capable Zimbabwean finance minister, Bernard Chidzero, a former official of the UN Secretariat.

The grapevine also hums with dozens of names of runners clustering behind the starting gate.

These include Prince Sadruddin; the former Nigerian president, General Obasanjo; Olara Otunnu of Uganda; the senior Ghanaian diplomat Kenneth Dadzie; even the prime ministers of Canada and Norway; Malcolm Fraser of Australia; and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mrs Ogata of Japan.

Some of these names may have been fed in by log-rolling wishful thinkers rather than the principals themselves.

THATCHER

The Chinese are not alone in feeling that, after three Europeans, one Asian and one Latin American, it is Africa's turn.

Furthermore, the African group comprises nearly one-third of the total membership (51 out of 166).

There is also the convention dating from the Cold War, which excludes permanent members, Nato and Warsaw Pact nationals.

But, in the New World, there is a counter current that the permanent member convention is old hat.

There have even been whispers that Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze might have a go, risking vetoes from their national delegations.

More rides on this choice than at any time since the Hammarskjold era. Given the constraints of the Cold War, Perez de Cuellar has done as well as could have been expected.

Now it is over, the new secretary-general can expect co-operation, not partisan obstruction or marginalisation by the great powers. The UN parliamentary situation has become more fluid, no longer rigidly divided into Soviet-led East, American-led West and a non-aligned majority.



BERNARD CHIDZERO
One of the favourites



GENERAL OBASANJO
Also in the running

The new secretary-general's agenda will be mind-boggling.

BARONS

Unfinished peace and security business awaits from Cambodia to Central America via the Middle East.

The world is demanding more action on human rights abuse and civil conflict.

The secretary-general must tackle the financial crisis in the organisation, streamline the unwieldy secretariat, control the over-mighty barons in the specialised agencies, co-ordinate the environmental programme, the war against drugs and so on.

The fresh upsurge of ethnic nationalism will breed more crises.

As with the aftermath of the Gulf War, the secretary-general will be busy carrying out policies agreed by a more united Security Council.

A recent Ford Foundation report describes the qualities needed:

"The secretary-general should both have the confidence of governments and be an inspiration to the peoples of the world ... he or she should be at the same time a bold leader, a master in managed delegation and a prudent diplomat.

"He or she should be independent and not afraid, when necessary, of upsetting a super power or a large group of member states.

"He or she should have a deep commitment to the eradication of poverty.

INFLUENCE

"He or she should know when to take initiatives and when to hold back ... the secretary-general should be the world's leading mediator and honest broker in disputes between governments.

"Although the office has little real power, it provides very wide possibilities for exercising influence."

Personally, I would seek this paragon of diplomatic and managerial virtue in a candidate from the developing world.

Africa, Asia and Latin America make up a good two-thirds of the total UN membership.

Someone from the First World would always be vulnerable to the charge of being in the pocket of the rich donor countries. He or she might well have to over-compensate to allay such suspicions.

Without naming names, there are some first-class African candidates waiting to take up the challenge. — *Daily Telegraph.*

ARG 7/11/91 336

Pressure on SA stays

The Argus Foreign Service

GENEVA. — Leaders of 46 organisations devoted to dismantling South Africa's racial policies have decided to keep up pressure on the government until a truly multiracial regime emerges.

Mr Sotiris Mousouris, UN assistant secretary general and head of the UN Centre Against Apartheid, said here yesterday that a two-day meeting had resolved to support a two-track approach to South Africa — to maintain pressure on the authorities until a democratic constitution is in place and to increase assistance to anti-apartheid forces.

"Our meeting with anti-apartheid groups from around the world and with representatives of the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Conference of Azania have shown that there is still much work to be done," Mr Mousouris said.

He said the meeting had reviewed developments in South Africa since 1989 and international reaction to them, and had decided that while the government had taken some positive steps, "further measures need to be taken to create a climate for free political activity."

He said the future activities of the UN Centre against Apartheid would only be plotted after the General Assembly debate on South Africa next month.

But it had been agreed at the Geneva talks that there should be an end to violence, the formation of a transitional government and the release of all political prisoners.



Africans do well for De Cuellar's UN job

The Argus Foreign Service (336) AAG 12/11/91

NEW YORK. — African candidates did surprisingly well in the latest straw poll conducted by the UN Security Council in its search for a successor to Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar as secretary-general.

Mr Boutros Ghali, the Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister, led the field with 11 affirmative votes, followed by Mr Bernard Chidzero, Zimbabwe's Finance Minister with 10 and former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo with nine.

Polling was due to be resumed today. Then the votes of permanent members which have the power of veto will be separated from those of the 10 elected members.

Several negative votes were cast in the latest round, but without distinction between permanent and non-permanent members.

France is strongly supporting Mr Boutros Ghali, who was educated in Paris. The British consider him too old for the rigours of the post — he admits to being 68 but some believe he may be older — and are thought to have cast the single negative vote against him.

There were three abstentions, which may have included that of the United States, also said not to be enamoured of the Egyptian candidate.

Mr. Chidzero received two negative votes and three abstentions and Mr Obasanjo four negative votes and two abstentions.

A surprise in the latest poll was the respectable showing for Mr Hans van den Broek, Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, who received five affirmative votes, with six members voting against him (thought to be the Third World states backing African candidates) and four abstentions.

This result was sufficient to encourage some speculation in the corridors that he could be considered later as a possible compromise choice.

The Netherlands was among the first countries to propose that the industrialised states earmark one percent of their GNP to Third World aid and the Dutch government is a generous contributor to development funding in Africa.

UN-backed talks lead to consensus on copper forum

GENEVA — Copper-producing and importing countries agreed to meet in January to set up an international body to improve co-operation and inter-governmental consultations.

The agreement came at the end of a two-day meeting organised by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) which has co-ordinated efforts to form the body, keenly sought by the US.

Unctad officials said the meeting was told the new body, to be called the International Copper Study Group, already had formal support of countries accounting for just over 37% of world trade in the strategic metal.

The group, to be autonomous from Unctad and to have its own secretariat and headquarters, will be barred by its statutes from any form of intervention in the market.

Unctad officials said notice of adherence was expected from Zambia, a major producer, and this would push coverage of the group to over 42% of world trade.

Japan, by far the world's top importer with over 12,5% of overall trade, told the meeting it would be ready to join if the body's legal status could be slightly adapted to fit its domestic legislation.

Unctad officials said other delegations indicated wording of the statutes could be altered, once the group was formally created, to meet the Japanese requirements.

Other countries — including Canada, France and Italy, who together had originally expressed some hesitancy and account for some 14% of trade — had reported that they had begun domestic procedures necessary to join it, the officials said.

Establishment of the group, which will have no power to trade or contract itself, has long been sought by the US and Chile, both key players in the market, and was agreed in outline at a UN conference on copper in 1988.

Decision

Several developing countries and then-Communist states wanted it to be set up under the auspices of Unctad, itself a forum for contacts between developing and developed countries, but accepted US insistence that it should be independent.

At this week's discussions, representatives of 29 countries and the EC agreed to call another meeting on January 23 and 24 next year to take a formal decision to set up the group.

It would come into operation once countries representing 60% of world trade in copper — widely used in modern telecommunications — had accepted its terms of reference.

But it was also agreed that if that figure was not achieved by the middle of 1990, countries favouring creation of the group could set it up themselves.

A US representative told the meeting difficulties in the market reinforced the need to improve transparency by creating a forum to exchange of information.

Unctad said countries that had already officially declared they would be part of the group were the US, Finland, Chile, Greece, China, Poland, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain and the Netherlands.

Germany had indicated it was also planning to join, but Britain, Ireland and Denmark — who account for little more than 3% of the international market — had said they would stay out, according to Unctad. — Reuter.

Africa leads race for UN's top post

(336)

C\Pres 14/11/91

ZIMBABWEAN Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero and Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Boutros Boutros Ghali are frontrunners in the race to become the new UN secretary-general – although a long shot may still emerge.

But if an unofficial Security Council poll this week holds, Africa will have its first UN secretary-general when Javier Perez de Cuellar retires at the end of 1991 after two five-year terms.

"I think it is a two-man race," said one key diplomat on the council. Chidzero drew 11 votes, one more than Ghali, in the straw poll. However, Ghali appeared to have stronger support, drawing votes from four of the five permanent members, who have veto power, while one abstained. Chidzero was backed by only two big powers with the other three abstaining.

The Security Council must choose a new UN chief by the end of the year, when Perez de Cuellar ends his second term. To win, a candidate must get at least nine votes and no vetoes from the 15 council members. Both Chidzero and Ghali escaped any veto.

The five permanent members are the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China. The other 10 are Austria, Belgium, Cuba, Ivory Coast, Ecuador, India, Romania, Yemen, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

There has never been an African secretary-general, and African states believe it is their turn. Diplomats said China agreed and France also leaned towards this argument, while the United States and Britain had been less enthusiastic on rotating the secretary-generalship according to regions.

Consequently, there is still considerable doubt that either Chidzero or Ghali will win the race.

Chidzero, 64, launched Zimbabwe's five-year economic reform plan in early 1991 with the backing of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. He spent much of his life in exile during Zimbabwe's fight for independence, including time spent in Montreal where he earned a doctorate at McGill University and married a French Canadian.

He worked for the United Nations in 1960 as a social affairs officer. He served with the UN Economic Commission for Africa, the UN Technical Assistance Board and the UN Development Programme.

Ghali, 69 years old next week, was for many years Egypt's foreign minister and can claim to be both Arab and African. A Christian from a mainly Muslim country, he is married to a Jewess. But his age seems to have been a problem for some diplomats who say the new UN head should be able to fill the post for two five-year terms.

In third place was Kenneth Dadzie of Ghana, secretary-general of the UN Conference on Trade and Development, who obtained six votes in favour and two against, with seven abstentions. He, too, emerged without a veto.

A secretary-general is chosen by the 166-member General Assembly on the recommendation of the council. – Sapa-Reuter

OAU bungles in UN call to bar SA

336

S/ Times 17/11/91

By DON JACOBS
Harare

OAU militants have made another classic diplomatic howler — barring South Africa from rejoining the United Nations Food and Agriculture Authority on the same day Zimbabwe concluded a vital R45-million deal for maize from SA.

Diplomats here compared it with President Robert Mugabe's classic gaffe three months ago, when he asked Pretoria to renegotiate his "most favoured nation" trade agreement, inherited from Mr Ian Smith's Rhodesian government, on the same day he urged world leaders to maintain sanctions.

In September, SA came to the rescue of Zambia with a R1,2-billion maize deal, averting the imminent prospect of famine.

Currency

SA was hoping for readmission to the FAO, which is headquartered in Rome, at a meeting in the Italian capital last week, but the matter was deferred for two years as a result of strong pressure from OAU states, including Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe's parastatal Grain Marketing Board may run out of maize in February as a result of a pricing bungle.

Diplomats here see the bungle as the work of Zimbabwe's 190 000 bureaucrats, who face a 25 percent reduction in numbers.

Economist John Robertson, breaking a 20-month silence last week, noted that President Mugabe's government was still absorbing 60 percent of Zimbabwe's Gross National Product.

Civil service redundancies could inject an immediate R600-million into the economy, with speedy benefits for the two million unemployed, said Mr Robertson.

Mr Robertson was silenced on the orders of Zimbabwe Reserve Bank governor Dr Kombo Moyana in March 1990 after he attacked mismanagement of exchange rate policy.

PAC and ANC to talk at UN

336

Sowetan 21/11/91.

PAN Africanist Congress president Mr Clarence Makwetu and his African National Congress counterpart Mr Nelson Mandela will address the United Nations on December 2.

This was confirmed yesterday by a PAC source.

Mandela and Makwetu will address the UN General Assembly on progress that has been made in South Africa in relation to a political settlement.

Both organisations were asked by the UN to compile reports on the progress. The reports were submitted earlier this year.

The General Assembly had in the meantime compiled its own progress report, using its own Consensus Declaration of December 1989 as a yardstick.

The declaration said the South African Government had to unilaterally remove all obstacles to a

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

negotiated settlement - much of which has been done.

The December 2 address will be followed by a four-day debate on South Africa.

It has been learnt from a reliable source that a major rift has emerged between the ANC and PAC over the holding of an all-party or multiparty conference.

The ANC wants the talks to be held before Mandela goes to the UN and the PAC wants "a later date to allow maximum democracy to run its course in the run-up to formal talks between the parties in the Patriotic Front and the Goverment".

Unconfirmed reports have said that President FW de Klerk, Mandela and Makwetu will be out of the country during the first two weeks of December.

It is understood that the proposed multiparty or all-party talks will be held "around the middle of December".

By late yesterday all the organisations involved in setting up the round-table talks were "still talking", a Government spokesman said.



CLARENCE MAKWETU

Three emerge favourites to become UN's top man

(33b) ARG 21/11/91

The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — The race for the United Nations secretary-generalship is expected to be narrowed to two or three candidates, all African, when the Security Council holds its first formal round of balloting today.

These are the men who lead in a field of 14:

● Bernard Chidzero, 63, Finance Minister of Zimbabwe;

● Boutros Boutros Ghali, 69, Deputy Prime Minister of Egypt;

● Olusegun Obasanjo, 56, a former military president of Nigeria.

By picking any, the council would reject both the conventional wisdom that the UN was not ready for African leadership and that a front-runner had never emerged in what has been called the world's weirdest election.

But the strong showings of all three, especially Mr Boutros Ghali and Mr Chidzero, in the informal balloting appears to have convinced many members that the council would find it politically difficult, if not manifestly unjust, to look beyond this small group for a successor to Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose second five-year term expires on December 31.

Choosing an African to lead the world organisation for the next five years would be a resounding victory for the African states, which have pursued a vigorous campaign to have one of their own elected.

They threatened enough votes to reject any non-African.

Goeie Môre from United Nations man in Johannesburg

336

W\M and 22/11 - 28/11/91.

The United Nations recently opened its first mission in South Africa. **HUBERT MATLOU** spoke to its top official, Kallu Kalumiya

A GREETING of *"Goeie môre"* is normal at Sanlam Centre in Johannesburg, but is off-key when it ushers you into the United Nations' first official office in South Africa.

Particularly when one considers that the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) office has been playing host to envoys of an organisation which has for so long advocated personal, economic and diplomatic sanctions against Afrikaner-dominated South Africa.

But then, the first UN official to be based in South Africa is used to being out of place.

UNHCR chief in South Africa Kallu Kalumiya was himelf a political refugee during the reign of former Ugandan dictator Idi Amin.

Now, as head of the UN mission to facilitate the return of an estimated 30 000 South African exiles, he personally identifies with the plight of people who were forced to flee their own country for fear of persecution.

"I believe my 10-year background as a refugee inevitably affects my perception of this mammoth task," the middle-aged graduate of Makerere, Cambridge and Harvard universities told *The Weekly Mail*. "I know the vulnerability of the situation, the emotional stress involved. I know what it means to come home without skills or profession and no place to stay."



UNHCR head, Kallu Kalumiya

He is equally familiar with the relocation of displaced people.

He joined the UNHCR's Washington office in 1981 and was appointed head of its Southern African section in 1986.

Before his appointment as chief legal adviser for the UNHCR, Kalumiya was sent to Hong Kong to facilitate the screening of Vietnam's "boat people" in 1989. After playing a central role in the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the South African government in September 1991, he was appointed chief of the UNHCR mission in South Africa.

He drew contrasts with Namibia and Uganda, where returnees were given seeds and agricultural tools to start a living in the lands. "In South Africa returnees have no land to return to.

"Most come from urban centres or would like to settle in urban areas — which are plagued by unemployment, housing shortages and political violence."

A visit to the organisation's first official office in the country last week revealed a structure which is struggling to get on its feet. No multinational blue and white symbol of the UN was to be seen — but then neither was a fax machine, photocopier or computer equipment.

In fact, it was still short of no fewer than 50 employees.

Kalumiya said he had made an appeal for $30-million based on provisional estimates of 30 000 exiles. The UNHCR will require at least 30 international staff members and about 20 locally recruited members, who will be distributed through five centres to be established countrywide.

The UNHCR's implementing partner in the country, the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of Exiles (NCCR), will play a critical role in the final process which, in the words of Kalumiya, "can generate ideas from the ground, rather than having models planned in Geneva implemented here".

Kalumiya said reintegration would require a tripartite framework for the UNHCR, the NCCR and the government to plan a strategy together.

Matters of fact

■FOLLOWING a focus on mandrax abuse in last week's edition (November 15), *The Weekly Mail* has received reports that the police have taken extensive action against those they suspect are involved in the mandrax trade in Western Coloured Township.

We wish to make it clear that none of our reporters or the people who assisted them are in any way connected to this police action.

All names of people interviewed were changed. The names mentioned are pseudonyms and bear no relation to members of the Western Coloured Township community.

The use of the name "Fast Guns" was fabricated to protect the background of one of our sources. Its similarity to an existing gang was entirely coincidental.

■The SA Police have pointed out that the man shot during the bank robbery drama at First National Bank in Johannesburg's Liberty Life building last Wednesday had not committed suicide.

The Weekly Mail report, that he shot himself after being persuaded to come in off a ledge, was based on an early comment by a policeman on the scene. Subsequent police reports, however, clarified that he had been shot by police after opening fire on them.

Egyptian chosen as new UN chief

Star 22/11/91. (336)

By Mike Littlejohn
Star Bureau

NEW YORK — The United Nations, for the first time, is to have an African secretary-general: Boutros Ghali, deputy Prime Minister of Egypt.

He will succeed Javier Perez de Cuellar on January 1.

The Security Council recommended his nomination last night after balloting behind locked doors to choose among 13 candidates, including seven other Africans.

Confirmation of the appointment by the 166-nation General Assembly is a now only a formality.

Mr Ghali (69), the oldest person to be named to the UN's highest office, trounced two leading African contenders: Bernard Chidzero, the Finance Minister of Zimbabwe, and former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, neither of whom managed to muster the required minimum of nine positive votes.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak insisted on the inclusion of a North African in the list of six candidates offered by the Organisation of African Unity and worked vigorously for Mr Ghali's election.

The secretary-general-elect also had strong support from France, which demanded that the new UN head be fluent in French. In fact, his French is said to be flawless and, besides Arabic, he speaks excellent English.

As an Egyptian, Mr Ghali can claim to be both Arab and African. He is also Christian from a mainly Muslim country and married to an Egyptian Jew, reports Sapa-Reuter.

In an apparent bid to gain Israel's backing for his bid to be UN secretary-general, Mr Ghali met Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Paris in September before flying to Washington to ask President George Bush for US support.

Mr Ghali says his main political ambition harks back to the Arab-Israeli conflict. This is the dominant issue for modern Egypt, which brought him into politics from academic life and journalism in 1977.

"My ambition would certainly be — let us be modest — to see the beginning of the road to solve the Palestinian problem," he said in 1989.

"It will take years of work. But if you could just start . . . because unfortunately we have not started."

Two years later, Arabs and Israelis began the historic peace process in Madrid.

Mr Ghali, descendant of a wealthy Christian Copt family from southern Egypt whose land was nationalised in the 1950s, has a taste for antiques and is an amateur collector.

He also has high government office in his blood. His grandfather, Boutros Pasha Ghali, was assassinated as prime minister in 1910.

An uncle was foreign minister in the 1920s, and other ministers and MPs figure in the family tree.

Of his career in journalism, he said it taught him to write simply and "helped me to come out of the university's ivory tower". He has written 12 books.

Mr Ghali and his second wife Lidia have no children.

The 5 who went before

The Secretaries-General of the United Nations since the organisation was founded were:

- Trygve Lie, Norway, 1946.
- Dag Hammarsjkold, Sweden, 1953.
- U Thant, Burma, 1961.
- Kurt Waldheim, Austria, 1972.
- Javier Perez de Cuellar, Peru, 1982.

UN job 'victory for Africa'

(336)
ARG 23/11/91

BONN. — Egyptian diplomat Butros Ghali said that his selection to lead the United Nations is a key victory for Third World nations at an important moment in history.

Egypt's 69-year-old deputy prime minister was jubilant after word that the Security Council had backed him to succeed Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"It's quite an honour for me, for my country, and for the countries of the Third World. I believe the United Nations will play a role (in the enormous changes taking place) and I will do my best," Mr Ghali said.

Leaders of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the Palestinian Liberations Organisation welcomed Mr Ghali's appointment.

"This victory is a great honour and tribute to the continent of Africa which has consistently and forcefully argued and worked so that one of its eminent sons should be elevated to the post," OAU secretary-general Salim Ahmed Salim said in Addis Ababa.

The OAU had proposed six candidates from Africa for the post and Mr Salim said earlier this week it was high time an African took over the top UN job.

Under Mr Ghali's leadership, "we expect that the United Nations will play its part in the application of international law and the protection of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories," spokesman Ahmed Abdel-Rahman said at the Palestine Liberation Organisation's headquarters in Tunis.

Mr Ghali, who played a major role in the 1978 Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt, has to be approved by the 166-nation General Assembly but this is considered a formality.

He also participated in Palestinian autonomy talks among Egypt, Israel and the United States between 1979 and 1982.

Mr Ghali was on an official visit to Bonn to meet with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher when the Security Council's decision was made.

The 166-member General Assembly is expected to approve the decision and Mr Ghali would succeed Mr Perez de Cuellar on Jan. 1. He would give the Arab and African worlds their first UN leader.

The vote came after eight months of lobbying by African diplomats who insisted it was their turn to lead the United Nations. Mr Ghali termed his election a "diplomatic victory" for Arabs, Africans and the Third World.

Mr Ghali, who played a key role in the Egypt-Israeli peace treaty, is expected to give priority to resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict.

But he was extremely cautious in his comments after his selection and refused to address any specific issues as he prepares to assume a key role in world affairs at a pivotal moment in history.

Mr Ghali later held a brief news conference that attracted only four journalists, a testament to the drawing power of Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin, who also was in Bonn.

Among the deluge of phone calls he received after his selection were those from Mr Perez de Cuellar and Mr Ghali's wife.

"She said in Arabic 'mabrouk,' which means congratulations," said the beaming diplomat. — Sapa-Reuter-AP



NEW CHIEF: Boutros Boutros Ghali is congratulated by telephone yesterday on his appointment as the new UN Secretary-General

New UN chief gets praise and criticism

Star 23/11/91

336

NEW YORK — The naming of Boutros Boutros Ghali as the new United Nations Secretary-General was hailed with banner headlines by Egyptian newspapers yesterday. "The first Egyptian, the first Arab, the first African," said Cairo's leading daily, al-Ahram.

The vote on Thursday for Mr Ghali (69), Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister, followed eight months' lobbying by the nominee and other African diplomats. If approved by the General Assembly, Mr Ghali will take over from Javier Perez de Cuellar on January 1. He will be the first African and first Arab to hold the job, which pays $185 000 (R499 500) a year.

On the day of the voting, Egyptian officials travelling with Mr Ghali in Paris found him pessimistic. "I think it the final vote came as a shock," said Makram Muhammad Ahmed, the editor of al-Mussawar weekly. "He didn't have big expectations, because he thouqht that things weren't going well. He was very disappointed he had been attacked by the Africans because he wasn't black.

"And at the same time the West was not giving him an obvious endorsement. We all think he deserved it. He's a scholar, a real thinker. He does not have a black face, but he is an African."

Mr Ghali is expected to give priority to the Arab-Israeli conflict and problems of Third World countries.

At the same time, he is likely to maintain the pro-Western, pro-American policies of Mr Perez de Cuellar.

It is unclear how Mr Ghali's appointment will affect attempts to normalise Arab relations following the Gulf war. Iraq may be less hostile towards Mr Ghali than some observers have suggested. Before the war Egypt had a a close relationship with Baghdad.

Married

While Cairo led Arab support for the use of military force to end Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, it also warned against the demilitarisation of Iraq. Egypt has opposed steps that could lead to the break-up of Iraq and is concerned about the growing influence of Iraq's former adversary, Iran.

Mr Ghali, a Coptic Christian, is married to an Egyptian Jew. He is an expert on international law and is fluent in French, English and Arabic. He studied in Cairo, Paris and the United States and has written 12 books.

His family has a long tradition in politics. An uncle was foreign minister in the 1970s and his grandfather was assassinated as prime minister in 1910.

Concerns about his age apart, some Egyptians have expressed reservations about Mr Ghali's ability to give direction and leadership to the UN. "He's an expert in many fields, with great experience," said one former colleague. "But he's always been a man who has implemented policies rather than a man who made his own breakthroughs. He has always been known for his discipline, his loyalty. Now he's in a position in which he must be inventive and creative."

Mr Ghali went with Anwar Sadat on his historic trip to Jerusalem in 1977 and was acting foreign minister in 1977 and 1978, when the ministers Ismail Fahmi and Muhammad Ibrahim Kamel resigned over Sadat's peace policy. He played a key role in talks which led to the Camp David peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

After Sadat's assassination in 1981, Mr Ghali worked closely with his successor, Hosni Mubarak. He was minister of state for foreign affairs for 14 years before becoming deputy prime minister. — The Independent, London.

Mandela, Makwetu for UN

ST Times (Cm) 24/11/91

THE president of the African National Congress, Mr Nelson Mandela, and Pan-Africanist Congress leader Mr Clarence Makwetu are heading for New York where both are expected to address the UN General Assembly.

Mr Makwetu will address the Assembly on December 2.

The PAC's deputy president, Advocate Dikgang Moseneke and PAC Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ms Patricia de Lille, will pay an official visit to Namibia on Tuesday "to strengthen ties with the Sam Nujoma government".

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus confirmed on Friday that Mr Mandela will visit the United States from December 1 to December 8. He could not confirm reports that Mr Mandela would be addressing the United Nations General Assembly on December 6, but this was "very likely".

Town faces ANC boycott

WHITE businesses in strife-torn Richmond in the Natal Midlands are facing an ANC boycott which could last the rest of the year.

The boycott started on Wednesday as a result of police action against 3 000 ANC protesters who were stopped from marching through the town a week ago.

Business and farming representatives will meet ANC members tomorrow to discuss the impasse which could cripple many small businesses, said town board chairman Ravenor Nicholson.

Natal MEC Peter Miller is expected to address a meeting on Wednesday.



of photographers

UN hopes to take part in SA development

(336) 13 Days 25/11/91.

WINDHOEK — The UN Development Programme hopes to be a part of the development going on now in SA, programme administrator William Draper said on his arrival in Namibia on Saturday.

"Clearly within the next five years we will have programmes in SA and we will be carefully monitoring the best way to do that," Draper said.

"We already have David McAdams, who is our co-ordinator on those problems, and we expect to do more there as the situation unfolds.

Draper is one of 300 delegates from 45 countries who are in Windhoek for the meeting of African planning ministers, programme representatives and inter-government agencies, starting today. — Sapa.

Mandela to address UN, says Dinkins

B1 Pay, 25/11/96

NEW YORK — ANC president Nelson Mandela is to visit New York next month to speak before the UN general assembly, a spokesman for New York mayor David Dinkins said last week.

Mandela is expected to arrive in the US on December 2 and to speak at the UN on December 6.

He will also visit businesses to inquire about future opportunities for SA once apartheid is completely dismantled.

Meanwhile, the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore announced that Mandela had accepted an invitation to speak at its Martin Luther King celebration on December 4.

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus confirmed in Johannesburg at the weekend that Mandela would visit the US from December 1 to December 8. He could not confirm that Mandela would address the UN. — Sapa-AP

Housing is now open to all races

Sowetan 11/9/91

HOUSES in white areas in Johannesburg would be opened to all population groups pending a positive response from the Government, a spokesman in the Johannesburg Health and Housing Department disclosed yesterday.

By ISAAC MOLEDI

Health and Housing Executive director Mr Nicky Padayachee yesterday said: "Now that the Group Areas and Land Acts are scrapped, the Johannesburg City Council has set up a single waiting list for its properties to accommodate all population groups.

"Before the Group Areas and Land Acts were scrapped, the council had three waiting lists for its approximately 30 000 houses in white, coloured and Indian areas. Two weeks ago officials decided to compile one list."

He said the city council was now accepting applications in Johannesburg from all population groups.

But he warned: "We are still awaiting a reply from the Government. As soon as the Government responds positively, we will go ahead in processing those who seriously need houses."

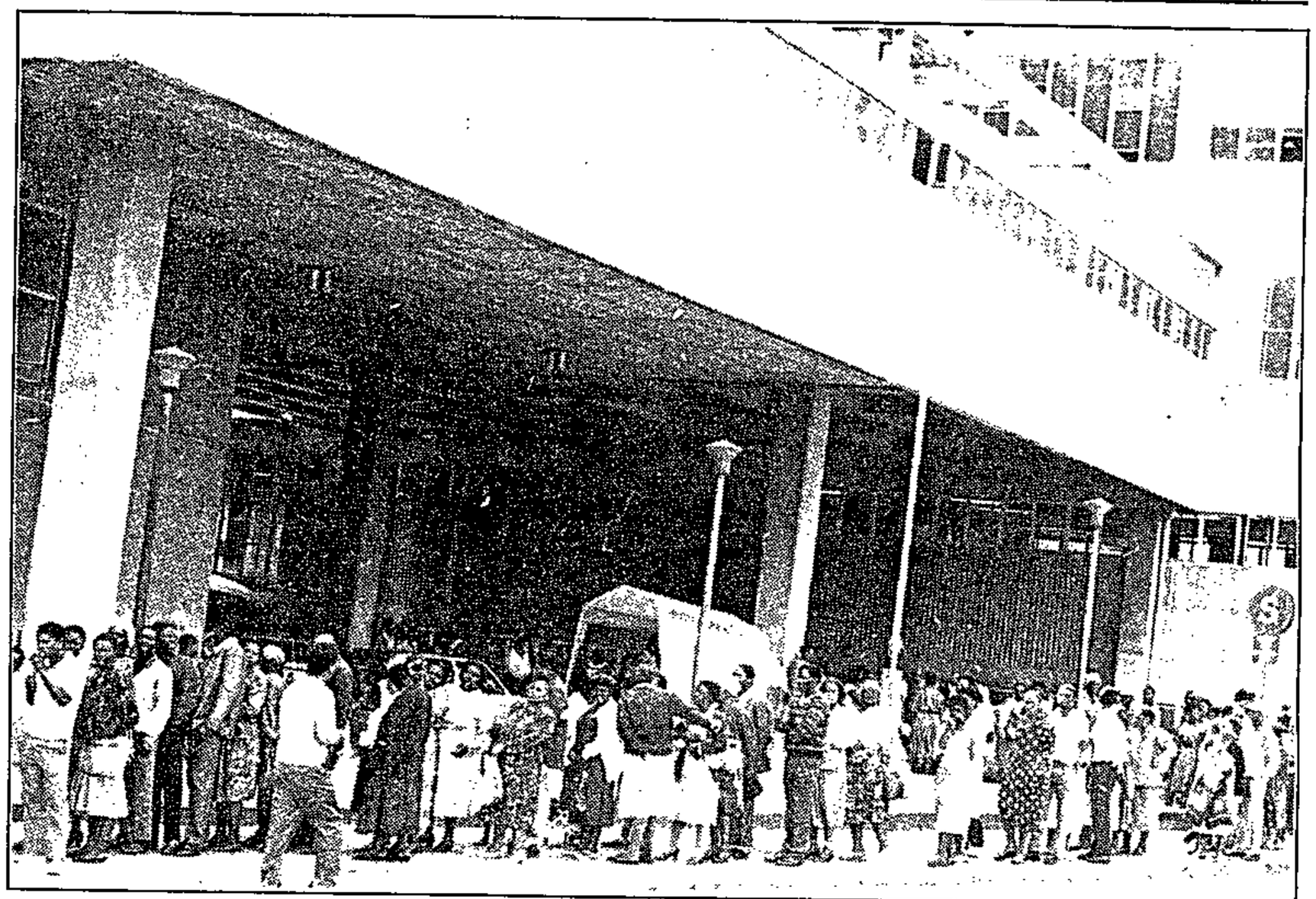
People who could buy houses from the private sector were not likely to get houses through this process.

"Homeless people are to get a priority. Those individuals who cannot afford to house themselves and those who have no houses can start applying."

Padayachee said as they were still in a transitional stage and consulting with a wide range of groups for input and to come up with criteria for people who could qualify for city houses, the department was proceeding in accepting applications from all those living in Johannesburg.

Not promising that all who apply will get houses, he said: "There is such a great shortage of housing. We have had more than 1 000 applications a day, predominantly from black people."

The unexpected number which had descended on council offices would provide valuable information for the council's new urbanisation department.



A long queue of more than a thousand people in President Street, Johannesburg, anxious to put their names on a list for council-owned houses in previously white areas.



Lawyers keep open the debate on political prisoners, writes **Jo-Anne Collinge**

UN asked for rethink on amnesty

STAR 25/11/91

LAWYERS for Human Rights has made an urgent appeal to the United Nations Committee Against Apartheid to ensure that the international community does not accept claims that all political prisoners in South Africa have been set free.

"If the Government feels that it has succeeded in persuading foreign governments that the issue is indeed resolved, it is able to ignore calls from within the country for the release of remaining prisoners," argued LHR national director Brian Currin in a recent report to the UN body.

"The issue we face is political in nature, not legal. Attempts to seek legalistic answers will not help us. We require political action and we require it as a matter of urgency," Mr Currin said.

He added that he believed the leadership of the African National Congress should be encouraged to act "more forcefully" on the issue, but that this would be insufficient. "It has become obvious that more pressure is needed on the Government to ensure that the issue is resolved and, sadly, we believe that the ANC is unable to do this on its own."

The revised strategy of the ANC after the Inkatha slush fund disclosures, when it declared the National Party government the chief obstacle to peace and set its sights directly on achieving an interim government, "meant that the obstacles (to negotiation) as detailed in the Harare Declaration ... have in effect been downgraded", Mr Currin reasoned.

This allowed the Government to assert more confidently that the political prisoner issue had been resolved, he said. LHR pointed out that members of Umkhonto we Sizwe were still in jail and that several members of the ANC national executive committee still had only temporary immunity, remaining at liberty "at Government whim".

The consequences of the failure to free prisoners were not insignificant. Firstly, frustration among prisoners was mounting "and we fear they will resort to desperate measures — hunger strikes being the least of these. Such actions will inflame emotions and cause further turmoil".

Secondly, a "political prisoner psychosis" was being nurtured. "Until the issues of releases is resolved the 'political prisoner psychosis' will continue enabling every person — from the Left or the Right — who commits violent actions with some kind of political motive, to believe that they will be indemnified or released."

Mr Currin argued: "The only way to end this kind of psychosis is to clear the jails of all those persons who are imprisoned as a result of their actions (violent or otherwise) in the struggle against apartheid.

"If the Government wants to enter into some arrangement with the right-wing organisations, that they can do. The right-wing issue should not, however, be allowed to delay the release of those people whose organisation entered into the Groote Schuur Minute and subsequent agreements." □

's $1m a

ing of the Washington talks until after the Jewish festival of Hanukka ends on December 9.

But they said Israel would refuse members to act as advisers to the negotiators.

"Our proposal is out there," Tutwiler said. "We are not accepting conditions." — Sapa-Reuter

US rejects UN budget increase

WASHINGTON — The US, rejecting UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's call for a 10,7% increase in the main UN budget, said on Tuesday the world organisation needed reform, not new money.

"Rather than increased calls for new money, the UN secretariat should focus on better utilisation of existing funds," the US state department said in a statement.

"This would include review of programmes and activities so that resources could be freed up for new high priorities," it said.

Noting the secretary-general's report on the UN financial situation illustrated the urgent need for more reform, Washington said it hoped to work with Perez de Cuellar on this.

"Adding more financial obligations to UN member states will not help the problem," the state department said, adding: "Clearly this is beyond the tolerance of member states."

The state department also rejected a proposal to impose interest charges on countries lagging behind in their UN assessments and was cool to a proposed $1bn peace-keeping fund.

Perez de Cuellar advocated a 10,7% increase in the main UN budget and said the organisation would run out of money next month because so many countries had failed to pay what they owed.

Saying UN finances were being stretched by new responsibilities, he said real growth in his budget proposals, excluding inflation and some expenditures, was slightly less than 1%.

The US, which contributes a quarter of the UN budget and is heavily in arrears, has its own serious budget problems which loom even larger as the 1992 election campaign approaches.

The new two-year UN budget for 1992-93 estimates regular expenditures at $2,3bn and another $3bn for peace-keeping and other specialised functions.

Without mentioning the US by name, Perez de Cuellar said the main UN budget was $528,5m in arrears. Of this amount the US owed 65% or $344,5m, UN documents show.

Washington also owes about $100m for peace-keeping operations. — Sapa-Reuter.

GENC

Call for probe of UK firm selling SA arms

BRITISH Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and the UN Security Council have been asked to investigate the promotion and sale of SA-manufactured weapons, ammunition and other military equipment by a UK-based firm.

This follows Business Day reports on DTS Technologies of Albert Street, Slough, Berkshire, which placed a supplement in Jane's Defence Weekly, advertising military hardware, most of it manufactured by Barlow Rand subsidiaries in SA.

The Oslo-based and partially Norwegian government-funded World Campaign

LINDEN BIRNS

against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with SA, asked Hurd to initiate an urgent probe into DTS's activities.

Campaign director Abdul Minty, also Anti-Apartheid Movement honorary secretary, said the sale of SA military equipment in the UK violated the Security Council's 1984 embargo (to which Britain was a signatory) on arms imports from SA. DTS might also be guilty of contravening EC and Commonwealth sanctions, he added.

Minty said he had sent urgent messages to the chairman of the Security Council's arms embargo committee, and the UN special committee against apartheid asking them to ensure the case was fully investigated and all facts made public.

Although Britain had signed the 1984 UN resolution which had strengthened the earlier UN ban on arms trade with SA by including imports, Britain had opposed moves led by the Dutch to have the resolution made mandatory, added Minty.

On Tuesday a DTS spokesman said from Slough the company was UK-based and all its directors British.

ANC briefing to UN envoys could spell doom for Front

THIS week's disclosures by the Pan Africanist Congress that African National Congress foreign affairs secretary Mr Thabo Mbeki had briefed African ambassadors to the UN on the Patriotic Front could spell doom for the initiative.

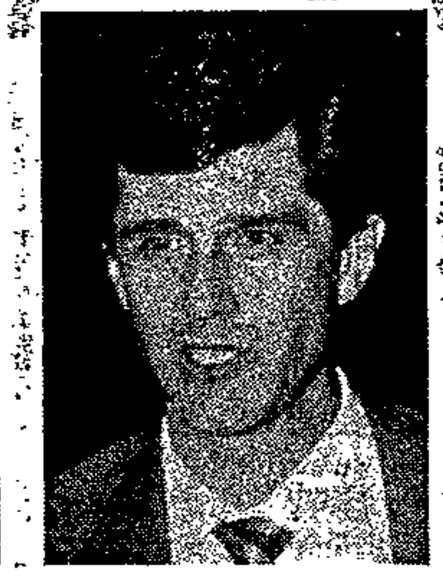
Mbeki's briefing to the ambassadors at the United Nations has once and for all shattered the grand illusion that the Patriotic Front, as it exists, is a watertight and workable concept for meaningful political change in South Africa.

Senior PAC leaders have for weeks secretly complained that the ANC was not honouring agreements which were reached at the launch of the PF in Durban last month.

When on November 20 Mbeki told the UN ambassadors of a series of behind-the-scenes agreements that the ANC had reached with the Government - without consulting its PF partners - the movement irrevocably broke the trust which it had engendered when it entered into the front.



GERRIT VILJOEN



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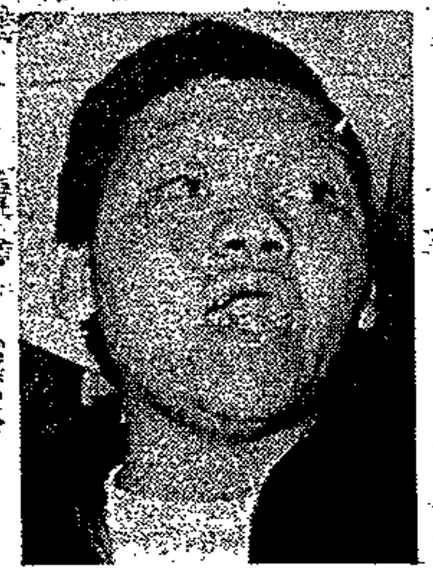


BENNY ALEXANDER

It also enhanced the position of organisations such as the Azanian Peoples Organisation and the Conservative Party who for different ideological reasons are refusing to enter into multiparty talks.

For the ANC, the revelations signal a last, at-all-costs dash for the winning post even if it means ignoring its PF partners.

The ANC has only one avenue left for attaining power. This is through negotiations and if it fails (to attain maximum power) because of hardline influences in the PF it is sunk.

Sanctions are on their way out, the armed struggle is not feasible in the present world order and President FW de Klerk has suggested that he could use force to quell unwanted developments - he was not specific though.

The fact is, recent market research results had lent a measure of authenticity to the notion that the ANC was the putative government of South Africa.

Other polls have given the NP the majority of the vote. Effectively, between the two of them, the NP and ANC must feel that they can win an election without any help.

It is an established fact that senior and very influencial Government people are not in favour of the Patriotic Front.

Constitutional Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen referred to the PF as "a ganging up by the ANC and its allies against the Government".

Defence Minister Roelf Meyer said earlier this year: "It is extra baggage which the ANC does not need."

A conclusion that can be drawn from what appears to be moves towards closer unity between the Government and the ANC, to the extent that it excludes every other political party, is that neither the ANC or Government any longer need the PAC or the Patriotic Front.

The ANC needed the PAC in the PF to gain credibility among more militant black people and the Government needed the PAC to say yes to multiparty talks so it could gain credibility for having "done everything in its power to bring all sides to the negotiating table".

In the final analysis, the Government's Machiavellian scheme of incorporating sections of the liberation movement while it continues to gain friends and influence people at home and abroad is working.

Commenting on the "deal" between the Government and the ANC, PAC secretary general Mr Benny Alexander said on Wednesday: "We believe that the ANC is in cahoots with the regime and is aborting our common resolve."

UN is broke and unable to pay its staff

STAR 29/11/91 336.

THE UNITED Nations, facing its worst financial crisis, will be unable to meet the staff payroll next month unless wealthy member states like Canada and the Nordic countries pay their 1992 budget assessments far ahead of the due date, say UN officials.

A massive UN peacekeeping and election-supervision operation in Cambodia next year could not be launched unless governments contributed at least $200 million (about R560 million) up front.

Only by failing to pay its debts to most of the governments which were contributing forces was the UN able to maintain nine separate current peacekeeping operations.

Secretary-General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar wrote in a report that the UN had been on the brink of insolvency for a number of years. The problem had dramatically intensified because the UN was required to undertake ever-increasing and complex tasks.

UN deputy controller Susan Mills said mandatory staff cuts to save money coincided with greatly increased political tasks as most goverments still failed to pay their dues. More than $344 million (R959,76 million), or two-thirds of the regular budget deficit, was owed by the US, whose total debt exceeded $485 million (R1 353 million).

The Soviet Union owed a total of $72 million (R200,8 million). South Africa, which lost its General Assembly seat in 1974 but remained a UN member, was the third largest debtor, owing $61,5 million (R171,5 million).

The overall debt to the UN was placed at $988 million (R2 756,5 million).

Among measures Dr Perez de Cuellar proposed to meet the crisis was the establishment of a $1 billion (R2,79 billion) trust fund for peacekeeping to which private institutions and individuals could contribute, a $50 million (R139,5 million) start-up fund for new peace-keeping operations, authority to borrow commercially and charging interest on late payments.—Financial Times News Service. □

BOUTROS BOUTROS GHALI — NEW MAN AT THE UN

336

FM 29/11/91

Boutros Boutros Ghali, Egypt's deputy prime minister, takes over the job of secretary general of the United Nations at a time when the formerly beleaguered organisation is enjoying unprecedented respect as a facilitator of peace and transitions to democracy.

In addition to an expanding role as a peacemaker, the secretary-general administers US$1bn annual budget, overseas co-ordination among numerous UN agencies and runs a staff of about 14 000. For this he will be paid $190 000 a year.

After the announcement last week of his election, Ghali (69) said his new job demands "somebody who can make the machine work and cope with the new challenges the world will face in the next decade and which will implicate all the countries of the world."

He is expected to maintain the pro-Western, pro-US policies of the outgoing secretary-general, Javier Perez de Quellar of Peru. But as an Egyptian, Ghali will undoubtedly find himself particularly drawn to the issues plaguing the Middle East. As acting foreign minister in 1977, he went with President Anwar Sadat on his peace mission to Jerusalem and led Cairo's team at talks with the Israelis that culminated in the 1978 Camp David accords and, ultimately, the peace treaty.

Though the reaction around the world was mainly positive, Israel was not overjoyed. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has complained that "Israel's standing in the UN is not known as one of the brightest and this choice adds to this."

In his 14 years with the Egyptian foreign ministry, Ghali visited every State on the African continent, including SA (where he took part in secret negotiations for the release of Nelson Mandela, according to the London *Daily Telegraph*).

In a weekend interview, Ghali said his election is "an encouraging sign" for African States in general but called on them to "speak up, to say what they want . . . to show they have the political will to participate" in the debate.

The stooped and bespectacled Ghali, a Coptic Christian married to an Egyptian Jew, comes from a wealthy, political family. He was born in a 200-room family mansion that has since been turned over to an old-age home. His grandfather, Boutros Pasha Ghali, was assassinated when he was prime minister in 1910. An uncle took Egypt into the League of Nations.



Ghali, who is fluent in Arabic, French and English, obtained a doctorate from Paris University in 1949 and, from then until 1977, was a professor of international law at Cairo University. He is said to be aloof and irascible, despite the quick smile that lights up his craggy face.

Those who know him say his election is especially sweet because, in the past, he was passed over to head Unesco and the UN High Commission on Refugees.

AROUND THE WORLD

R49-m for war refugees

Sowetan 3/12/91

(336)

ZAGREB - The United Nations is setting up a multimillion-dollar relief operation to help more than half a million war refugees in Yugoslavia.

"This is the worst situation involving displaced persons in Europe since World War 2," said Mr Jose Maria Mendiluce, special envoy of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Yugoslavia, said the United Nations would open offices in Zagreb and Sarajevo this week.

He said the UNHCR would reinforce its staff and expand its operations in Belgrade, the Serbian and Yugoslav capital.

"This is the first operation on such a scale that the UNHCR has launched in Europe," Mendiluce said.

Thousands of people have been killed in the five months of fighting since Croatia declared independence in June. Shelling continued on Sunday despite a new ceasefire.

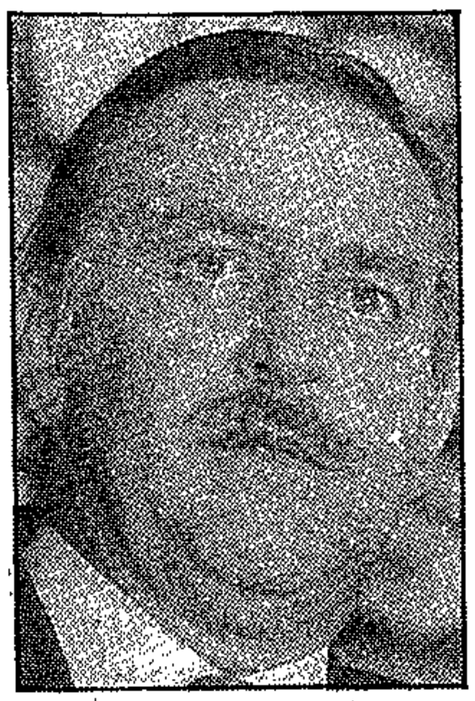
Entire towns and villages in Croatia have been devastated, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without homes.

Mendiluce said the war had spawned more than 550 000 refugees and displaced persons in Yugoslavia, 300 000 of them in Croatia.

"The number increases every day," he said. "The UN has designated R49,3 million to start assistance programmes in the coming days."

Refugees have been pouring into Zagreb, the Croatian capital, since last month. - *Sapa-Reuter.*

Pik asks UN to lift sanctions



Pik Botha . . . stressed Inconsistency of members.

By Mike Littlejohn

NEW YORK — The key to future political stability in South Africa was the earliest possible regeneration of the economy, and this necessitated the lifting of sanctions, the SA Government told the United Nations yesterday.

A letter to the secretary-general signed by Foreign Minister Pik Botha stressed the inconsistency of UN members complaining about low economic growth, high unemployment and poverty while advocating constraints on the economy.

"Retarding economic growth in South Africa will inevitably have a negative impact on the entire region," Mr Botha said. The maintenance of sanctions and isolation of South Africa were "particularly inappropriate in the light of the generally acknowledged real, profound and irreversible changes that have taken place".

The letter coincided with the opening of the annual debate on South Africa in the General Assembly.

South African diplomats are hopeful that progress made since last year in implementing reforms in the country will be recognised during the UN discussions and be reflected in the voting on a final resolution.

The excited atmosphere of some past apartheid debates was absent yesterday. As proceedings began, there was a sea of empty places.

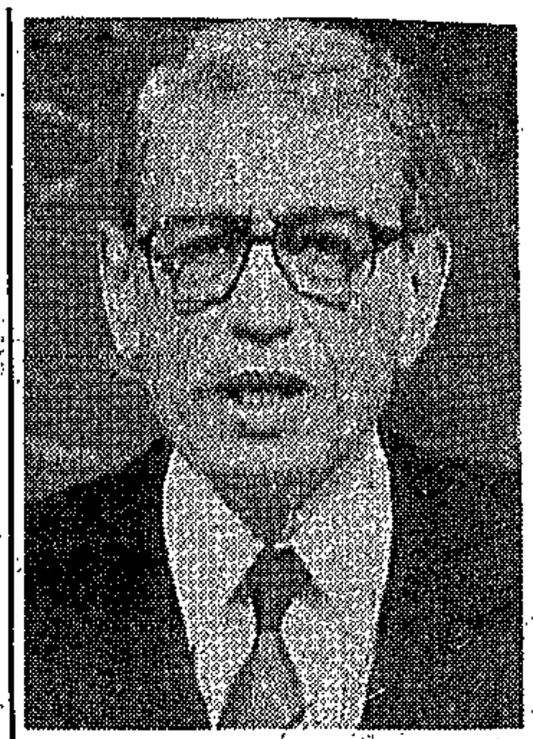
In a written report, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar again urged members to fine-tune their response to "the complex and delicate process under way in South Africa".

The ANC's Nelson Mandela is scheduled to address the world body today and hold a press conference. He is to have talks in Washington on Thursday with President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker.

At a press conference, minutes before the General Assembly session began, Clarence Makwetu of the PAC condemned Japan and Finland for lifting sanctions and said Mr Bush had been overly hasty in declaring that the terms of the US Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act had been met.

Referring to last week's meeting at the Holiday Inn in Johannesburg, he claimed that the PAC was the only participant "that was neither an establishment party nor a party engaged in negotiations with the regime". The meeting, he said, was "prepacked with organisations created by and in collaboration with the regime or those willing to be co-opted".

He spoke of a prior agreement between "the regime" and the ANC and said the greatest disappointment was that positions agreed to between the PAC and ANC had been blatantly flouted.



Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali

ARG 4/12/91

Egyptian is sworn in as UN chief

336

The Argus Correspondent

NEW YORK. — Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt has been formally appointed and sworn in as the new UN Secretary-General, the first Arab and first African to hold the 166-member organisation's highest office.

Although he was nominated unanimously by the Security Council and appointed by acclamation by the General Assembly, Dr Ghali's accession has not been without an element of controversy.

Privately some black African delegates voiced disappointment that the UN had gone to the continent's northern tier for its choice.

Dr Ghali, 69, has said he plans to serve only one five-year term.

South African officials have privately voiced confidence in their ability to get on with him and win his understanding of the republic's special problems.

● An Egyptian diplomat on the staff of Dr Boutros-Ghali has skipped town while New York police were still investigating charges that he sexually abused a maid in a Manhattan hotel.

It is the second time in a week that an Egyptian diplomat has made headlines in the New York tabloid Press.

In the earlier incident, a former member of Egypt's UN mission was mentioned in an report about Lidia Bryant, formerly a third secretary in South Africa's UN mission, with whom he was said to have had an affair.

He was accused of having tried to blackmail her over nude photographs for which she posed.

New constitution could be ready in a year, Mandela tells the UN

8/12/91 4/12/91 (336)

BILLY PADDOCK

ANC president Nelson Mandela told the UN General Assembly he was confident SA could draw up a democratic constitution within a year, signalling that all economic sanctions could be lifted within this period.

He said that after Codesa had done its work it would have to move quickly to establish a constitution-making body, which the ANC believed should be an elected constituent assembly.

"We see no reason why this assembly should not conclude its work of drawing up the new constitution within the year," Mandela told the annual UN debate on SA.

He also urged the General Assembly to maintain pressure on SA to compel the ruling NP to give a commitment that the decisions of Codesa would have legal force, failing which it ran the risk of becoming a "mere talking shop".

Mandela said SA was on the final lap of its race to normality and a new society. But the new SA would have to embark on extensive socio-economic transformation to ensure the permanence of the democratic outcome of negotiations.

The political settlement SA sought could not survive for very long if the living standards of the people as a whole and the quality of life were not addressed. That was why the growth of the economy and its restructuring to serve the needs of the entire population had to be an integral part of the process of reconstruction.

A democratic, peaceful and stable country could not be attained if SA had to rely entirely on its domestic resources; it would require the support of the international community. Economic sanctions should be maintained until an interim government was in place; the remaining sanctions should be lifted once a new government had been elected.

But the international community should make preparations to enable it to lift sanctions immediately.

He reiterated his call on the world body to implement measures of censure and sanction on any organisation acting contrary to the purpose of the peace accord to help create a violence-free process.

He also urged the International Atomic Energy Authority to "move with all speed to inspect the nuclear installations in our country" to ensure compliance with the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

He hailed the convening of Codesa later this month and said: "We can see rising on the horizon the new glorious entity which shall no longer be spoken of as the pariah among the nations, the detestable example of what is impermissible in the ordering of human relations."

☐ Sapa-AP reports PAC president Clarence Makwethu told the General Assembly on Monday that President F W de Klerk's government had introduced only a veneer of reform.

Mandela urges UN to lift sanctions in phases

New deal 'within year'

336 STAR 4/12/91.

Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — There was no reason why South Africa's new constitution could not be drawn up within a year, ANC president Nelson Mandela told the 46th session of the UN General Assembly in New York yesterday.

Mr Mandela said it was of decisive importance to the work of the Convention for a Democratic SA (Codesa) that the ruling National Party should make a commitment that the decisions of the convention be given legal force.

"Unless this is done, the convention will be no more than a mere talking shop.

"After the convention's work has been concluded we will need to move as quickly as possible to establish the constitution-making body.

"In our view, this should be an elected constituent assembly. Once established, we see no reason why this assembly should not conclude drawing up the new constitution within the year."

Mr Mandela, however, repeated his call for sanctions to be maintained.

"Precisely because the goal of liberation has not yet been reached, we believe there is need for continued international pressure to encourage speedy movement towards ending the system of apartheid," he said.

"Sanctions, therefore, continue to be important."

He said the ANC believed that such sanctions should be lifted in phases corresponding to actual progress being achieved in South Africa.

"The two major phases ahead of us would be delineated by the establishment of the interim government and, secondly, the election of the new government."

But Mr Mandela also said he saw a brighter future ahead for South Africa.

"We can see rising on the horizon the new glorious entity which shall no longer be spoken of as the pariah among the nations.

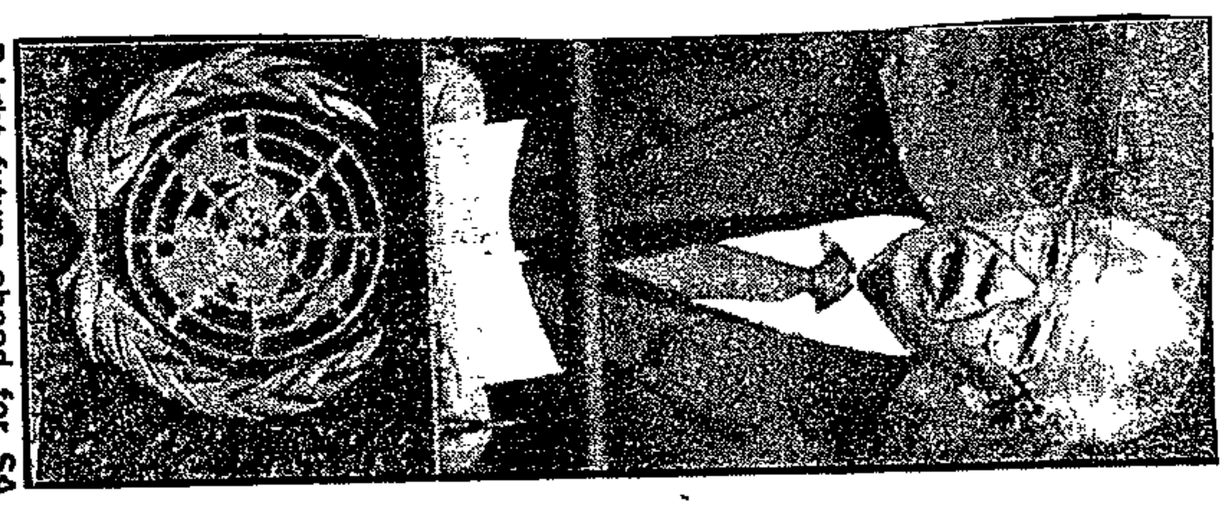
"We are beginning to see emerge a new country which, because it arrives so late at the festival of liberty, must surely value freedom like the apple of its eye, and strive hardest to live up to the dream of all humanity throughout the ages for emancipation, prosperity, happiness and peace."

He added: "We envisage a South Africa which shall, in all respects, belong to all who live in it, both black and white.

"Its political life will be governed by a thoroughgoing democratic constitution, based on the principle of one person, one vote, without any distinction on grounds of race, colour or creed, and without any element whatsoever of racial domination and discrimination."

The ANC leader went on: "We also want to see entrenched all the necessary provisions ensuring the fullest possible protection and advancement of the fundamental human rights of every citizen."

But he warned that at the same time, the new South Africa would have to address the burning question of mass poverty, which afflicted millions of people, especially the black population, and the gross racial imbalance regarding the distribution of income, wealth, land and opportunity.



Bright future ahead for SA . . . Nelson Mandela at UN.



s 35 charges
N HENDLER

SA gets a soft ride at UN for once

(336)

ST Mag 8/12/91

THE United Nations debate on South Africa this past week has been a strange and wonderful spectacle.

With the South African government absent and still refused the right to take up its seat in the General Assembly, the country was nevertheless more part of that brotherhood of nations than it has been in decades.

The speech by ANC president Nelson Mandela on the second day provided the keynote. Virtually every speaker echoed his appeal for pressure to be maintained on the government, with a carrot-and-stick phased approach to the lifting of sanctions.

But the overall tone of the debate, unhampered by the kind of party-political jockeying required of Mandela, was more upbeat. Voting on the major resolution was delayed until some time this week, not because of furious controversy but because the special committee against apartheid was intent on wording the resolution in such a way that it would be guaranteed adoption by consensus.

Violence

The rough version being circulated among delegates gives more space to "noting with satisfaction" and "welcoming" progress being made towards the establishment of a non-racial democracy than it does to the "noting with concern" elements that dominated resolutions of previous years.

It goes on to urge "the South African authorities" (as opposed to "the Pretoria regime") to end the violence and pursue in good faith negotiations leading to a new constitution.

It also calls on the international community to support "the vulnerable and critical process now under way in South Africa", by resuming academic, scientific and cultural links with democratic

By ELAINE DURBACH
New York

anti-apartheid organisations and individuals.

The secretary-general is urged, "at the appropriate time to expand ... the scope of assistance provided inside South Africa aimed at addressing socio-economic issues, particularly in the areas of education, health, housing and social welfare, which may entail the physical presence of the UN system in that country."

Not all the language in the debate was that amiable. The Angolan representative, referring to the war which he said had left 60 000 Angolans handicapped and caused billions of rands of damage, said his country would continue to support the complete erasure of "the vile regime of apartheid" and its replacement with a democratic one.

There was support virtually across the board for a step-by-step lifting of sanctions like that proposed by the Commonwealth Heads of Government.

Speaker after speaker stressed the continuing suffering and injustice in South Africa, but nearly all acknowledged that "the pillars of apartheid" had been dismantled.

Support for increased contacts with South Africa came from entirely new sources, such as Hungary.

ZDT

General Assembly urges restoration of sporting, cultural ties

Open doors to SA – UN

336 STAR 14/12/91

UNITED NATIONS — The General Assembly yesterday unanimously urged all nations to restore sporting, cultural, scientific and academic exchanges with South Africa because of progress made towards ending apartheid.

In its annual resolution on apartheid, the assembly also encouraged countries to review and lift remaining economic sanctions as South Africa creates a new transitional multiracial government and drafts a democratic, nonracial constitution.

For decades, the General Assembly had called for a sports and cultural boycott of South Africa while apartheid was firmly in place.

Many governments have already lifted their sports boycotts of South Africa and the country has been readmitted by the International Olympic Committee.

The UN decision comes days before the Government, ANC, Inkatha Freedom Party and other political parties meet for the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) on December 20, to begin to lay the groundwork for a new democratic government.

Proposals for an interim government to organise new elections will be considered at the talks, but it is not certain whether such a transitional administration will be formed.

The General Assembly's apartheid resolution was adopted by consensus, without a vote.

As usual, the South African seats in the assembly hall were empty. South Africa's voting rights were suspended in 1974 for the country's defiance of UN resolutions calling for racial equality.

Glaring inequalities

The resolution also addressed the wave of violence that has convulsed South Africa, urging officials to redouble their efforts to suppress violence and terrorism "by ensuring that all competent authorities act effectively and impartially".

The resolution also called on the signatories of the National Peace Accord — the ANC, IFP and the Government — to live up to their pledges of non-violence, and urged other parties to support the accord.

The Government should encourage the reform process by immediately releasing any remaining political prisoners and assisting the return of refugees and exiles, it said. The assembly also urged "the repeal of repressive and discriminatory legislation still in place and to address the glaring inequalities created by apartheid".

Diplomats said it was the most positive resolution in many ways that the assembly had adopted on South Africa, and this was evident by the extensive Western support it had received.

But in a statement, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha did no hand-stands over the outcome, although he said elements of the resolution were encouraging.

The assembly might better have spent its time

Stage set for crucial talks on charting SA's future

PETER FABRICIUS
POLITCAL CORRESPONDENT
STAR 14/12/91

THE GOVERNMENT'S total monopoly of State power is beginning to slip from its grasp as high-powered South African and international delegations gather for the Friday and Saturday meeting of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa which will start to determine the country's future.

"It is in Codesa that the future government will be determined," ANC sources are now saying, for the first time conceding that the reform process is irreversible.

"Codesa is going to make it impossible for the Government to refuse to hand over power to a democratically elected government."

"We are beginning to see what irreversibility really means," one senior Government official said.

As heavyweight delegations from five international organisations and about 20 political parties and homeland governments begin to assemble for Codesa, elements in the Government began to get jittery about the implications.

Codesa rekindled the Government's perennial sensitivity about its sovereignty when the Commonwealth announced a high-level delegation including a former national president and several former foreign ministers to observe Codesa.

And it became clear that all the South African parties to Codesa were according it the necessary gravity by sending their top people.

President de Klerk will lead the Government delegation which includes only one member not in the Cabinet. The NP delegation led by Cape leader Dr Dawie de Villiers includes three other Cabinet ministers.

The ANC is still to announce its team, but it is sure to be led by Nelson Mandela and to include other heavyweights such as secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa.

The Labour Party will be led by its leader, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, and Solidarity by its lead-

● TO PAGE 2.

Mango season sure to rock you

MANGO Groove are back in South Africa, after a highly successful tour of Australia, to kick off their "Do You Dream" national tour with performances at Sun City this weekend.

South Africa's hottest ethnic-pop act has got the Aussies in a positive tizz with their sparkling, original pop music and vibrant stage performances.

After performing in Perth, Melbourne and Canberra, the group were so well received by Sydney audiences that they put on two extra shows.

The 11-piece outfit have also won over the Australian media, which have predicted that Mango Groove will be the next international band to break records in that country.

Blessed

The respected Sydney street-music newspaper, The Drum Media, hailed their act as "blessed with some extraordinary music talent".

The group were also praised by leading Australian music promoter Lawrence Jackson, who rated their appearances as one of the best international tours of the year. He added: "Mango Groove had Australians crying out for more at each and every show





Star
14/12/91
336

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But in a statement, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha did no hand-stands over the outcome, although he said elements of the resolution were encouraging.

The assembly might better have spent its time dealing with "flashpoints and immense economic problems elsewhere", he suggested.

Still, it was encouraging, he said, that the UN was "at last recognising important political developments in South Africa".

Specific recognition by the General Assembly of progress made in overcoming obstacles to negotiations was another important step forward, Mr Botha acknowledged.

The decision to resume academic, scientific, sport and cultural links confirmed that sanctions were crumbling, despite the world body's "continuing shortsightedness on financial and trade sanctions".

Mr Botha said it was essential for the progress and well-being of South Africa's people that the assembly support economic growth, rather than inhibit it. — Sapa-AP, Own Correspondent.

UN lifts ban on SA links

THE UN General Assembly on Friday unanimously adopted a resolution lifting a ban on cultural and most sporting links with South Africa but encouraged nations to keep up economic pressure until apartheid was eradicated. (336)

The resolution endorses negotiations between the government of FW de Klerk and anti-apartheid groups and refers obliquely to a timetable for lifting trade sanctions proposed by the ANC. (280)

The document appeals to the international community to support the negotiations "through a phased application of appropriate pressure on the South African authorities as warranted by developments". C/Pen 15/12/91

One of the main thrusts of the resolution is getting authorisation for a larger role for the UN in South Africa if progress is made in changing the composition of the country's white-minority government.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha said in a statement the UN was "at last recognising important political developments in South Africa", and called it "a considerable advance in the attitude of the UN". – Sapa-Reuter

Mbeki lauds UN resolution

THE United Nations resolution on sanctions adopted this week would ensure that no countries abitrarily lifted sanctions until a transitional government was in place in South Africa, said ANC international affairs head, Mr Thabo Mbeki.

He added that the resolution echoed recent decisions by the Organisation of African Unity and the Commonwealth to lift "people" sanctions now, but linking the lifting of remaining economic sanctions to the establishment of a transitional government.

15/12/91 Star

336

UN group donates money for exiles

336

Sowetan 17/12/91

A FIRST instalment of R4 million to help exiles returning to the country has been donated to the National Co-ordinating Committee for Repatriation by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

The money will be given as allowances to returnees to enable them to meet their "basic human needs", according to UNHCR Head of Mission in SA, Mr Kallu Kalumiya.

An implementation agreement for the donation was signed by Kalumiya and the Rev Frank Chikane for the NCCR in Johannesburg on Thursday.

A first group of 120 exiles from Tanzania returned last week, marking the beginning of the UNHCR's official R84 million repatriation programme, which is to bring an estimated 30 000 exiles home by April next year.

The commission's involvement follows protracted negotiations between the UNHCR and the SA Government, who initially objected to outside intervention in local affairs.

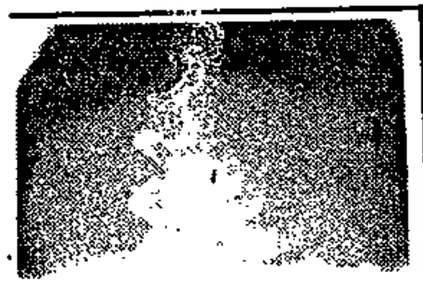
Chikane said the commission's expertise in repatriation was already being felt.

"With the first plane that has already landed I can feel the difference between when we tried to do it without the UNHCR and when the UNHCR is here."

"I believe that we made the right decision to campaign for the coming of the UNHCR here."

The agreement between the two organisations spells out how they will work together in the repatriation and reintegration of returning exiles.

"Under the agreement the UNHCR has undertaken the responsibility to mobilise the necessary financial resources for this operation, to take care of the various sectors in this operation, like the registration, pre-departure arrangements, international transportation," Kalumiya explained. - *SA Press Association.*



More exiles return home

Sowetan 17/12/91

336

A GROUP of 114 mostly single exiled men between the ages of 18 and 35 return to South Africa today under the agreement between the Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the UNHCR announced yesterday.

Chartered flight

The group is due to arrive at Jan Smuts airport at about 9am on a chartered flight from Tanzania, said a statement from the UNHCR.

They join 105 people who arrived in the first UNHCR-organised return of exiles on December 11 and another 110 who arrived in Durban last Friday.

- Sapa

UN and EC name Codesa missions

KIN BENTLEY

LONDON — The UN and the EC yesterday named high-powered teams to observe the inaugural session of Codesa in Johannesburg on Friday and Saturday.

And a powerful Commonwealth delegation, named last week, flew to SA from London last night.

These delegations — and the OAU is scheduled to join them — constitute the most representative body of international opinion to visit SA at one time.

Their presence indicates the importance with which the international community views Codesa.

In the UN party is the chairman of the special committee against apartheid, Ebrahim Gambari, who is also Nigeria's permanent representative to the UN in New York.

The UN delegation will be led by Sadako Ogata, the Geneva-based High Commissioner for Refugees.

The other key member of the UN party is assistant secretary-general Mousouris Sotirios, also head of the Centre against Apartheid at the UN.

London information officer for the UN Julian de Wet, a South African, said the team had been put together in response to a Codesa invitation. It would arrive in SA shortly before the talks started.

An EC spokesman said Chris van de Klaauw, a former Dutch foreign minister, would represent the holder of the EC presidency, the Netherlands, at the talks.

She said the European Commission would be represented by a former commission vice-president, Karl Heinz Narjes.

In another development yesterday, the Foreign Office indicated that Britain would encourage the PAC to reconsider its decision to boycott the talks.

UN plan to cut Africa's debt

NEW YORK — The UN General Assembly on Wednesday approved a new 10-year programme to reduce Africa's staggering $270bn foreign debt after the failure of its previous five-year plan to raise living standards on the continent. Business Day 20/12/91 (336)

The new programme, approved unanimously, lists a series of political commitments between donor nations and developing countries and recommends an average growth of 6% a year for African economies.

The document commits wealthy nations to "bold and innovative" measures to increase aid and reduce debt as a commitment to a substantial reduction or removal of tariff and other barriers affecting African exports.

In return, developing countries commit themselves to promoting investments by the private sector, more democracy, a respect for human rights, and the development of farming, small trade, crafts and enterprise. — Sapa-Reuter. Business Day 20/12/91

World body gains new respectability after decade under Perez de Cuellar

UN begins to realise its destiny

SIHR 30/12/91

336

CRITICISED for years as an expensive international talk shop, the United Nations in 1991 began to realise its destiny in the aftermath of the Cold War.

Lofty goals infrequently achieved since they were set 45 years ago suddenly seemed more realistic as the world body worked to settle conflicts from Central America to Cambodia, often provoked or exacerbated by superpower rivalry.

For Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, a decade in office draws to a close on December 31 with a string of hostage releases and a dozen peacekeeping operations around the globe.

From August, he negotiated with officials from the United States, Iran, Syria and Israel to gain the release of Western hostages in Lebanon in exchange for Lebanese held by Israel and information on missing Israelis.

His aide, Giandomenico Picco, undertook risky missions to talk with the hostage-takers.

Dr Perez de Cuellar's everlasting regret, however, was that he was unable to secure Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait without bloodshed.

After the Gulf War ended in April, the victorious US-led coalition forces withdrew and left the United Nations with a pile of unfinished business. This included preventing Baghdad from again acquiring weapons of mass destruction, overseeing the payment of war reparations and dealing with refugees.

Other operations were launched this year to negotiate peace or prepare for elections in El Salvador, Angola, the Western Sahara and Cambodia.

The Cambodian peacekeeping mission promises to be the riskiest and most costly of them all.

Throughout all this activity, the United Nations teetered as usual on the verge of bankruptcy, with debts of $1 billion (about R2,8 billion) for regular dues and peacekeeping, and was forced to borrow from one operation to keep another going.

"Such measures could lead to a real financial disaster," Dr Perez de Cuellar said with one eye on Washington, which owes by far the most — some $400 million (about R1 120 million).

In the General Assembly, which includes the entire UN membership of 166 states, few issues symbolised the change in political attitudes as much as the repeal of a 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism, a move that would have been unthinkable even a year ago.

Edward Luck, president of the UN Association of the United States, believes the repeal "repositions the United Nations to become active in the Middle East peace conference" by signalling a more even-handed approach towards Israel.

Dr Perez de Cuellar rode the crest of a wave of respect for the United Nations; his successor, Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister Boutros Boutros Ghali, is under pressure to keep up the momentum.

Mr Ghali must pick up the pieces left over from the old order — as in Cambodia and Afghanistan — and deal with a new era of ethnic warfare in Yugoslavia and the break-up of the Soviet Union.

One of his first tasks will be to streamline a chaotic bureaucracy, much of it foisted on the United Nations by governments seeking jobs for their nationals.

About 20 ambassadors, led by Australia's Peter Wilenski, have already presented Mr Ghali with a plan on how to do it.

Mr Ghali will also face dissatisfaction from developing countries, many of which feel excluded from the new world order and from a United Nations where the centre of gravity has shifted from the General Assembly to the 15-nation Security Council.

Malaysia's ambassador Ismail Razali recently blasted the Security Council as an exclusive club dominated by five powers with veto rights and with a total of six seats automatically allocated to Europeans.

Mr Razali, a member of the council in 1990 when it stood firm against Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, called the body anachronistic, a hangover from World War 2.

Underlying his outburst is a perception that the United Nations has given little intellectual leadership and had scant impact on the continuing fall in Third World living standards.

"If you look at the United Nations record that is being celebrated, security issues, which are no doubt important, dominate," Mr Luck said. "Real development in terms of trade or international financing is nowhere among them." — Sapa-Reuter. □

Two plane loads a week planned

UN to fly all (336) exiles home by mid-year

BIDaily 30/12/91.

TIM COHEN

THE massive task of bringing back SA's estimated 30 000 exiles begins in earnest in early January when returnees will be flown back at the rate of more than two plane loads a week.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) public information officer Michael Keats said at the weekend the R80m repatriation programme, which is due to last about six months, was well under way, with about 2 000 registrations already received and ratified.

Of these about 600 returnees, mainly students, have been brought home already. About 6 000 exiles have returned under their own steam.

Keats said the returnees would not be tested for AIDS as a matter of course. Visitors to SA were not given AIDS tests, and the returnees were not arriving from countries like Zaire and Uganda, which were known for their extremely serious AIDS problems.

They would have to be innoculated against cholera and malaria, in line with normal entry requirements, he said.

Most of the returnees would be coming from Tanzania and to a lesser extent Zambia and Zimbabwe, although the UNHCR had received enquiries from other countries, including the US.

There is also a registration centre in Angola.

Once individual returnees have registered with the UNHCR, they are required to be ratified by government in terms of an agreement between the two bodies.

Keats said no returnees had been registered by the UNHCR and subsequently turned down by government.

"We are delighted to say so far so good," Keats said.

The UNHCR's only "slight problem" with the SA government so far was its failure to provide reception centers for those who had returned in the UNHCR's operation.

But there had been discussions and once exiles were returning at a more regular rate next year, government would provide reception centers.

The centres would not be tent towns designed for long- or medium-term residence. This is something the UNHCR is specifically trying to avoid. The intention is to use hotels, university campuses or military camps where short-term processing would take place.

Individual returnees would receive R250 as they arrived and would get a further R4 000, spread over six months, from the UNHCR to assist them in their reintegration into society.

Any additional support would have to be organised by the National Co-ordindating Committee for the Repatriation of SA Exiles (NCCR).

The next flight of returnees would arrive on January 8 in Durban, followed by a flight on January 10 to Cape Town, Keats said.

Profiles of the returnees had not yet been compiled, he said.