ZIMBABWE – GENERAL

1983

AUG. — DEC.

Frontline states may ban SA-based media

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

He said the association had still not decided if it would issue a statement on the matter.

5th Brigade pulls back to Midlands

Star 11/8/83 (362)

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

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

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

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

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

Chief government spokesmen were unavailable to comment on reports of the withdrawal of the Fifth Brigade soldiers, specially groomed in tank warfare, counter-insurgency and martial arts by North Korean army instructors. — Reuter.

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·%, but the one-month moved more sharply to 14,75%.

he banks' 12-month depo- rate eased to 13,5% from This was in contrast some building societies ch were quoting 14,75% ½% commission, which monthly interest works at 15½%.

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IE secondary market was overactive, although lers reported that some itutions were switching dated RSAs to improve on differentials.

The market does not ex- to be busy. The institu- are said to have bought requirements well into year and at good values. y are not looking for k and they are getting at they might need from Reserve Bank which has en offering scrip to the ket.

The bank has sold out the 7 RSA which is said to ve been closed off at 000-million.

The stocks being offered the 11% 1998 and the ½% 1990. The price of the appears to be flexible deals have been noted at 35%, 13,38% and up to 40% depending on quantity the buyer's adroitness. ne 1990 is priced about 20%.

The Reserve Bank is sell- stock to fund Government ling, not to mop up any bbles of liquidity. Market ling is supporting rates diverting business from secondary market.

Escom is said to be offer- stock, but the rates are fine for a market which is joying 13,4% on the superi- stock.

The primary market has yet got into its stride. ere are doubts whether it ll be a busy market be- use current rates are ghtening off would-be rrowers.

With Escom 154 at 13,67%, wer-status borrowers will forced into rates of more han 14% long term. This is ently uneconomic for me corporations and one an expect to see names on e official list not coming to arket.



Mr John Bleazard has been appointed financial director of Hudaco Industries.

Japan VCR exports soar

TOKYO. — Helped by brisk sales in the United States, Japan's video cassette recorder exports jumped by 70,2% to 1 250 000 units in June.

VCR exports in the first six months of this year were 6 182 000 units, up 34,9% from the same period last year, says the Electronic Industries Association of Japan.

The United States took a third of the shipments with 2 063 000 units — up 82,6% from the 1982 level.

Exports account for nearly 80% of Japan's total VCR output, which came to 7 669 000 units in January-June.

The fast growth in the American market more than offset lower shipments to the European Economic Community which has placed a ceiling on imports of Japanese VCRs.

The EEC imported 1 964 000 units in January-June — down 9,3% from last year. Exports to other regions increased by 67,6% to 2 156 000 units.

Japan turned out 1 530 000 VCRs in June, up 45,9% from a year ago. This brought January-June output to 7 669 000 units. — UPI.

Free-spending socialism curbed

Austerity threat to Mugabe power

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

Presenting the fourth Budget since independence to Parliament, the Minister of Finance, Dr Bernard Chidzero, admitted that the economy had been blown off course and that harsh austerity measures were required.

The economy grew at only 2% in real terms last year compared with a target of 8%. Painting a grim picture of the immediate outlook, he forecast little if any expansion for 1983-84.

He conceded that the Government's cherished three-year development plan, unveiled amid fanfare last year as the foundation for a truly socialist society, had been thrown into disarray.

Two Zimbabwean banks have forecast that real gross national product will fall this year for the first time since 1978, necessitating a reshaping of Government economic strategy.

Not only is the economy failing to meet its ambitious 8% annual average growth target, but the pattern of growth is the opposite to that intended.

The development plan projected growth of 8,4% a year between 1982 and 1985 as against 6,5% for services. But in 1982 output in manufacturing, agriculture, mining, construction, distribution and transport fell by 1%. Spending on non-productive education, health and public administration soared by more than 14%.

The pattern is reflected in the Z$2 800-million Budget itself with more than half of recurrent spending to take place in education, defence, health and home affairs, including the police. Capital spending in the public sector, seen as essential for growth, is being cut by 17% to Z$781-million.

Critics of the Government of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, accuse it of losing control on public spending, especially on social services, administration and defence.

The next 12 months will be crucial for Mr Mugabe and his Minister of Finance. Political analysts say their reputation is on the line, not least among the hard-core Leftists of their Zanu-PF Party.

If the tough, conservative Budget fails to bring economic dividends in the coming year there will be no shortage of critics calling for strict adherence to Marxist-Socialist principles.

Both men need a rapid turnaround in Zimbabwe's economic misfortunes so that Dr Chidzero can present a soft Budget in 1984 in the run-up to the first post-independence general election which must take place by February 1985.

Mr Mugabe has pledged to go to the polls on a platform of making Zimbabwe a one-party, Zanu-PF State.

Dr Chidzero said Zimbabwe was a nation on trial.

The Government is clearly in the dock with it.

Since independence in April 1980 public spending has outstripped economic expansion. The ratio of Government expenditure to gross national product has increased from 40% in 1980 to a forecast 50% in 1983.

The balance of payments deficit on current account rose from Z$82-million in 1979 to Z$555-million last year.

The public sector has been growing too fast for the economy to cope, resulting in burgeoning domestic and international debt and sharply higher taxes which have made Zimbabwe, on Dr Chidzero's admission, one of the highest taxed nations in the world.

Tax rises include higher sales and import duties that will hit the poorest hardest, as well as a 2% levy on the 300 000 Zimbabweans earning only Z$100 a month and who had hitherto been spared taxation.

A particularly bitter pill for the avowedly Socialist revolutionary Government is the increasingly regressive nature of the tax structure which now impinges more severely on the lower-paid than during white minority rule in Rhodesia.

In the last year before independence indirect taxes on consumption, which profoundly affect the lower-income groups, provided 42% of tax revenue compared with 54% in the Chidzero Budget.

The impact this will have on the Government's popular support is incalculable.

Higher food prices, some food shortages, and increased tariffs for electricity and rail services are all envisaged.

Details of a national wage review are due out soon along with new producer prices for farmers.

Economists predict that wages will be allowed to rise by no more than an average of 10%, less than half the rate of inflation since the last wage increase 18 months ago. If, as seems likely, maize prices are increased for farmers the inflationary spiral will be boosted, affecting urban dwellers who will have to pay more for their staple diet. Higher prices for bread and milk are also in prospect. — Sapa-Reuter.

Penalties lift ship losses

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

It lost £28-million in the first half of its financial year, and the figure for the second half is known to have been much worse.

The size of penalty clauses for late delivery is rarely disclosed.

British Petroleum is said to have invoked penalty clauses for two 109 000-ton tankers, together worth about £50-million.

One is the British Spirit, Scott Lithgow, on the Clyde.

The the BP Achiever is still to be delivered from Swan Hunter on the Tyne.

Sealink (UK), the British Rail subsidiary, is also said to have invoked penalty clauses over late delivery of its two jumbo ferries to carry cars to the Isle of Wight. Both were due in service this summer.

The 1 800-ton St Catherine, able to carry 1 000 passengers and 142 cars a crossing on the Portsmouth-Fishbourne route, began service a couple of weeks ago instead of in May. Her sister ship, still to be launched, will miss the summer season. Both are from the Henry Robb yard at Leith, near Edinburgh.

Although some yards have won praise for early deliveries — such as the 1 000-ton offshore supply vessel Dur-

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Newsmen hope for talks over banning

ARGUS 2/8/83

362

Canadians see Boesak as 'the star of WCC assembly'

Argus Foreign Service

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

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

Dr Boesak attended as a representative of the WARC.

He spoke with the voice of the Third World,



Dr Allan Boesak

cautioning against overemphasising the issue of nuclear disarmament if it were at the expense of problems such as hunger, poverty and injustice.

The newspaper said his voice kept almost 4 000 participants listening, charming and "seducing" them, even if they did not like what he had to say. It described him as South Africa's Martin Luther King.

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

TALKS

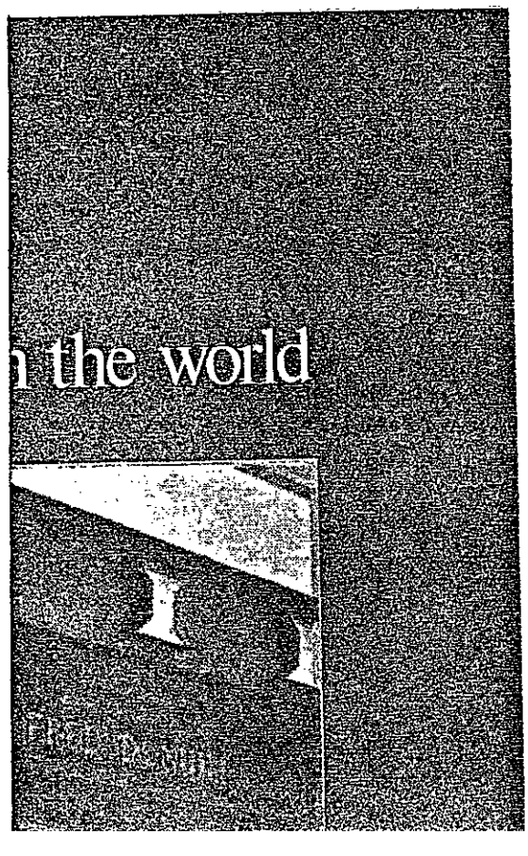
This was read by some of the media to mean that he supported violence. But what he said was that if people take up arms after years of non-violent attempts to win justice, the church must continue to support them — "not by supplying arms, but by supporting them and bringing them back from the battlefield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

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

"FLOWERED"

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

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





Argus Correspondent

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

The delegation is led by the association's chairman, Mr Bob Chancellor, Southern Africa correpondent for Voice of America, and includes another American journalist, a Briton and a West German.

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

Restrictions

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

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

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

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

Freedom

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

Afrikaans church leaders meet PM

ARGUS 2/8/83

28 048

Provincial Reporter

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

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

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

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

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

REPRESENTATIVES

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

Representing the Gere-

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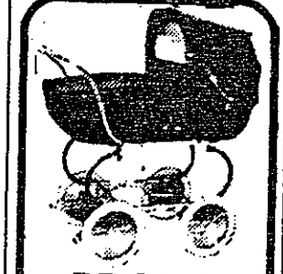

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Freedom

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

Action is also being taken to restrict the operations of South African news gathering organisations in Zimbabwe, and the bureaux of the Argus Group and of South African Associated Newspapers operating in Zimbabwe will possibly be limited to one man each.

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

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Representing the Gereformeerde Kerk were Dr J Visser, Dr P J de Bruyn and Dr C J Malan.

Hervormde Kerk representatives were Professor Bart Oberholzer, chairman of the General Assembly; the Rev Mossie van der Bergh, deputy-chairman, and the Rev J C de Lange, scribe.

The Apostoliese Geloofsending was represented by Dr F P Moller, head of the church; Pastor W Uytenboogaardt, executive officer, and Pastor J F le Roux, national secretary.

SA-based newsmen barred by Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government has slapped a ban on all foreign correspondents based in South Africa intending to visit Zimbabwe.

The tough action has been taken in terms of the agreement reached by Frontline states' Information Ministers who met at the weekend to draw up an information offensive strategy.

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

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

Officials are working on the basis that the bureaux of the Argus Group and Saan now operating in Zimbabwe will be limited to one man each.

The information strategy is aimed at establishing a Frontline states voice which will disclose their views.

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

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

It is argued that correspondents based in South Africa who periodically visit the Frontline states present a distorted picture because they tend to see the situation through South African "racially inspired eyes".

The decision to ban South Africa-based correspondents "in principle" has been intepreted here as a restriction in general which will allow exceptions in certain circumstances.

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

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

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

A number of Western news organisations have full-time representatives or part-time reporters both in South Africa and in neighbouring countries.

Others have based reporters in South Africa because of good communications and interest in South African racial problems, and these reporters cover parts of black Africa too.

The Star Bureau in Washington reports that the United States has expressed regret at the restrictions.

A spokesman for the State Department, questioned about the action, told reporters:

"While this is a decision each country must make for itself, our own view is that no attempts should be made to restrict freedom of the Press."

UK TV crew first victims

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

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

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

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

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

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



Martina Navratilova ... speeding. "But she ... jail."

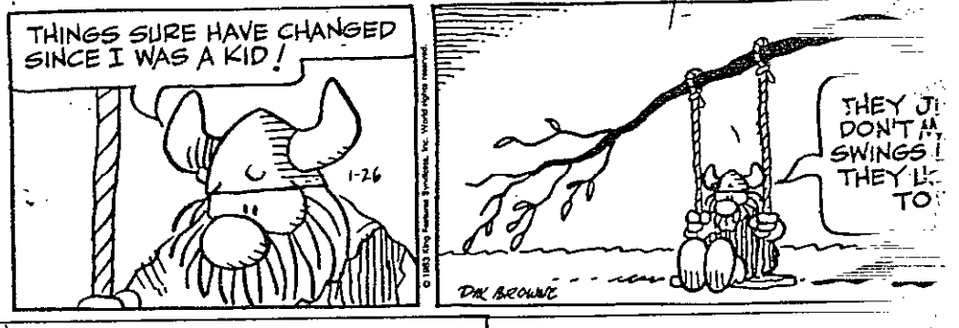
Speed ... judged

NORFOLK (Virginia) ... tina Navratilova, ... champion and the ... ranked women's ... was fined R22 yest... speeding and abusing police officer last ...

Navratilova is pla... tournament in I... did not appear in ... lawyer, Mr Andrew ... entered a guilty pl... speeding charge but ...

HÄGAR the Horrible ®

By Dik Bro



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has 'em all . . .
Kitchenware at guaranteed lowest prices
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Accused: I was ...

The Star Bureau

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

Mr Zwelibanzi Nzima (21) and Mr Bensen Dube (20) pleaded not guilty to

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Accused: I was made to train in SA camp

2/8/83 (362)

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Mr Zwelibanzi Nzima (21) and Mr Bensen Dube (20) pleaded not guilty to murdering Police Constable Mike Nyamuda and to alternative charges of committing acts of terrorism and possessing arms of war.

Mr Dube's defence is that he went to South Africa in May last year to look for work, but was arrested at Messina and taken to a Transvaal training camp for Zimbabwe dissidents.

He was forced to undergo training in weaponry, explosives and bushcraft and was told he would be sent back to Zimbabwe to "fight against the government".

Last October, Mr Dube said, he was taken by a colonel and a sergeant from the South African Defence Force to the Limpopo River and sent to join a band of dissidents operating inside Zimbabwe.

Imported Cake Cutter and Server

- Made entirely of stainless steel
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- Easy large release

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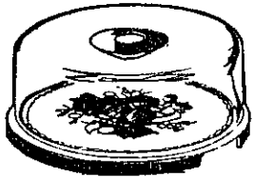
Imported "School Mate" Insulated Flasks

● Keeps hot or cold drinks ● Lid can be used as cup ● Insulated, very safe ● Ideal for school kids

3.98 Dion's Low Price



Cake Dish with Lid

● Wooden cutting platter — lovely designs ● Plastic cover keeps cake fresh ● Fantastic value

7.98 Dion's Low Price



Wilkinson "Lion" Kitchen Devil 3-piece Carving Sets

● Super sharpening steel ● Includes: Roast meat carver, carving fork super sharpening steel

9.98 Dion's Low Price

Illness forces Barnard into early retirement

CAPE TOWN — Professor Chris Barnard, chief specialist in the department of cardiac surgery at Groote Schuur Hospital, where the world's first heart transplant took place nearly 16 years ago, will retire on early pension later this year for health reasons.

This was announced in a statement in Cape Town yesterday by the Cape MEC in charge of hospital services, Mr P J Loubser.

Rheumatic arthritis was the cause of Professor Barnard's early retirement, Mr Loubser said.

"The retirement of Professor Barnard, which was at his own request, means the end of a long and famous connection which he has had with us since June 9 1958.

"My department and I are heartsore to have to take leave of this colourful colleague and friend.

"His brilliance as a cardiac surgeon and his pioneering work in this sphere of medicine led to the amazing and dramatic first human heart transplant, which shook the whole world during December 1967," said Mr Loubser. — Sapa.

Bike star in protest over GP death crash

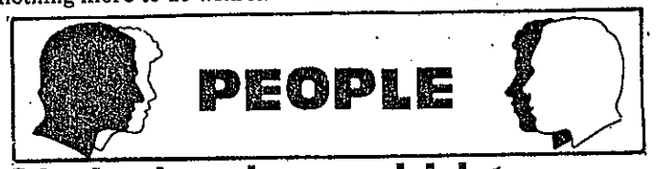
SILVERSTONE — American motorcycle star Randy Mamola has launched an official protest into why Sunday's British Grand Prix was allowed to continue for two laps after a bad accident that claimed the lives of two riders.

Roberts, the eventual race winner, commented: "It was all just confusion. We didn't know what we were supposed to be doing. Crossed flags were put out but that meant nothing to me."

another impressive victory by the Australian entry in the challenger trials off Newport, Rhode Island yesterday. — The Star Bureau.

Nurse drops surrogate mother plan

LONDON — A registered nurse has dropped a scheme to sell babies to childless couples for nearly R14 000 each. Mother of three Mrs Sylvie Dawson (31) said last night: "I only wanted to help other women share the joy of children, but it has all gone wrong. "I have lost money, the backer has pulled out and I want nothing more to do with it." — The Star Bureau.



Christina loses bid to delay R35-m tax payment

ATHENS — A Greek court yesterday rejected a request by shipping heiress Christina Onassis to delay payment of R35 million in death duties on the Greek estate of her late father, Mr Aristotle Onassis.

In the request — made through her lawyers — Miss Onassis asked for the postponement until her appeal against the tax liability was heard, probably this fall.

The court ruled that the 33-year-old heiress was sufficiently well off to come up with R13 million in taxes so far, and there was no justification for a delay.

Miss Onassis is fighting a long, drawn-out legal battle with the Greek state over death duties on several villas in Greece, some undeveloped land and the Onassis family's private island of Skorpios.

In terms of an earlier court decision she is required to pay — by instalments — R35 million in death duties, and could also be liable for interest on the amount which would bring the total to R54 million, legal sources said. Miss Onassis, who seldom visits Greece, claims she should not pay the taxes because her father was a citizen of Argentina, not Greece. — Sapa-AP.



TRANSVAAL — Till 6 pm tomorrow. Fine to partly cloudy and mild but cold overnight with frost.

	Max	Min	Rain mm		Max	Min	Rain mm
Bryanston	18	6	—	Vereeniging	N/A	N/A	N/A
S Suburbs (Hill Ext)	18	5	—	Cape Town	22	8	—
West Suburbs (Melville)	18	6	—	Durban	24	16	—
Nelspruit	24	3	—	Port Elizabeth	28	14	—
Pretoria	23	3	—	East London	28	15	—
Krugersdorp	19	2	—	Bloemfontein	19	1	—
Springs	22	1	—	Pietersburg	22	3	—

JOHANNESBURG CENTRAL — Chill factor at Jan Smuts at 8 am today was Nil. Wind direction today was NW. Yesterday: Maximum, 18 deg C; minimum, 7 deg C. Rainfall so far this month, — mm; so far this year, 237,6 mm. Average total rainfall for July over 25 years 11 mm. (Average annual rainfall 769 mm.)

(362) Rpy 2/8/83

Harare court hears of 'SA-backed' dissidents

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

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

Mr Zwelibanzi Nzima, 21, and Mr Bensen Dube, 20, both pleaded not guilty to murder and the alternative charges of terrorism or illegal possession of arms of war.

But, the two men admitted they were members of a group of seven dissidents involved in a shootout with Police Support Unit members on Dorrington ranch in the Mwenezi district of south eastern Zimbabwe on December 1.

Five dissidents, two civilians and a police constable, Mr Mike Nyamuda, died in the shootout. Another policeman was wounded.

Mr Dube claimed he went to South Africa in May last year in search of work. He was arrested in Messina and taken to a "Zapu camp" for training to fight against the Zimbabwean Government, Mr Yunus Omerjee, for the State, told the court yesterday.

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

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

Mr Nzima claimed he was abducted while hunting in Matabeleland.

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

Mr Nzima said he had not fired any shots in the Dorrington contact. Mr Dube admitted firing several magazines of AK rounds.

Police Superintendent Misheck Ncube told the court that on December 1, he and 10 of his men advanced on a labourers' homestead on Dorrington ranch. When they were about 75m from the homestead, they were fired on with automatic rifles.

The dissidents in the homestead also fired an RPG-7 rocket and threw two hand grenades.

He left the scene of the contact and returned shortly in an armoured vehicle. At this stage the dissidents broke cover and some of them were shot. He drove over the bodies. Asked why he did this, he said: "It was one way of fighting the war."

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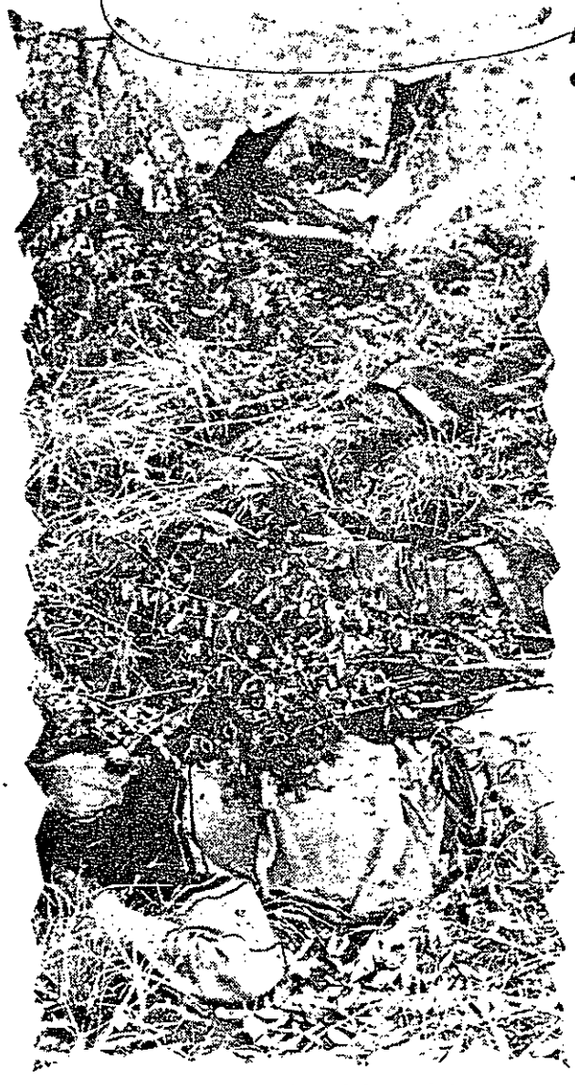
5th Brigade le: terror in its w:



FLASHBACK . . . to the bodies of three of six passengers allegedly taken off a bus by Fifth Brigade soldiers and shot earlier this year.

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

After a brief lull in reports of atrocities committed by the notorious 5th Brigade in Zimbabwe's Matabeleland province, more incidents have come to the notice of priests in the area — just as the Brigade has been pulled out. . .

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

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

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

Among the newest incidents reported:

- June 3 — Tsholotsho district; 19 people shot dead in separate incidents.
- June 10 — Silongwe kraal line, Tsholotsho district; 22 people including women and children herded into a hut and burnt to death.
- June 14 — Madona kraal line, Tsholotsho; eight people shot and two burnt to death.
- June 15 — Three people bayoneted at 5th Brigade Camp near Pumula Mission, Tsholotsho.
- July 5 — Tshongokwe district, Nkayi; army rounded up hundreds of people from the areas around the Zinaphi, Bangali and Ngobane schools.

INVESTIGATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

INDOCTRINATED

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



FLASHBACK . . . to Fifth Brigade soldiers demonstrating their interrogation techniques. Their victim was a young man who was stopped at a roadblock and accused of having false identity papers. The soldiers said: "We often do it . . . such beatings are often necessary to extract information."

5th Brigade leaves terror in its wake



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

INQUIRY

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

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

"What the people of this province are crying out for now is an independent inquiry into all the killings. Only that way will the truth come out and justice be done," said Father Wilson.

Zimbabwe's 'Iron Lady'

362

Sowetan 4/8/83

By SINNAH KUNENE

Zimbabwe's first "Iron Lady", Mbuya Nehanda, who was portrayed as a she-devil responsible for the slaughter of more than 100 white settlers in 1896, is today revered as the country's first freedom fighter in the stage production "Mbuya Nehanda — the Spirit of Liberation".

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

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

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

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

Nehanda was sentenced to hang and while colonial history has it that she died pleading for mercy, a photograph of her taken on the way to the gallows, shows a woman of defiant bearing.

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

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

Table 3: Annual Errors in the Forecast of Unemployment (ln U - ln U)

Year	Model I (Equation (a), Table 2)	Model II (Equation (d), Table 1)
1965	-.175	-.067
1966	-.308	-.121
1967	-.269	-.017
1968	-.372	-.010
1969	-.546	-.036
1970	-.756	-.102
1971	-.929	-.175
1972	-1.119	-.172
1973	-1.234	-.137
Average absolute error	[illegible]	[illegible]

Harare invites Star man to stay

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Three journalists who report for South African newspapers have been invited to stay in Zimbabwe, the local Herald newspaper reported today.

Quoting a Ministry of Information spokesman, the report said that the three were Mr Robin Drew of the The Star Bureau, Mr Andre Viljoen of South African Associated Newspapers, and Mr Ken Mobbs of the South African Press Association.

The spokesman said that exceptions to the ban could be made and would be considered on an individual basis.

The restriction on Zimbabwe-based journalists reporting for the South African news media came after the Frontline states issued the "Kadoma declaration" last weekend.

In this the Frontline states agreed to ban South African-based foreign correspondents from operating in their countries.

Foreign news organisations reporting on Southern Africa would, in future, have to base their representatives in one of the Frontline states, the declaration said.

For reasons not yet made clear to the Press, Zimbabwe has included in the ban some journalists reporting for the South African media who are based in Harare.

The ban on journalists reporting for the South African media affects several full-time pressmen and several part-time correspondents who are based in the Zimbabwean capital.

The report also quotes spokesmen for major international news agencies based in Harare as saying that they did not expect any problems stemming from the Kadoma declaration.

The spokesmen said that their Harare offices operated independently from their Johannesburg headquarters.

In Johannesburg yesterday the chairman of the Foreign Correspondents' Association, Mr Bob Chancellor, said correspondents based in South Africa would ask their governments to put pressure on Zimbabwe to change the ban.

ZIMBABWE BUDGET

Harsh but realistic

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

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

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

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

Indeed, the new low-income tax, payable at the rate of 2% by persons earning at least Z$100 a month but not sufficient to be pulled into the pay-as-you-earn income tax net, will increase the number of direct taxpayers from 90 000 to more than 600 000. Whether this new tax will be worth the effort is a moot point. Employers will be required to collect the tax but there will be a need to increase tax department staff to handle all the administrative work. The tax itself will raise a paltry Z$9m compared with Z$475m from personal income tax and Z$490m in sales taxation.

Tax hikes

Admitting that Zimbabwe is now one of the highest taxed countries in the world, Chidzero introduced a range of tax increases, designed to pull in an extra Z$158m in revenue. By far the most important is the increased sales tax that will raise Z$78m. The basic sales tax rate is increased to 18% from 16%, while the rate for consumer durables and luxuries is raised to 23% from 19%. At the same time, the range of goods attracting this higher tax rate has been widened to include alcoholic drinks and tobacco products, jewellery, photographic film, records, tapes, pictures and paintings.

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

On the direct tax side, Chidzero has increased the sliding tax surcharge from its previous level of 15% to 33%, so that it now ranges from 20% to 40%. This takes the top marginal income tax rate in Zimbabwe from 60% to 63%, compared with 50% in SA, 65% in Kenya and 80% in Zambia. The company tax surcharge has been increased to 20% from 15%, taking the overall corporate rate to 54% against 45% in Kenya and Zambia, 46,2% in SA and 50% in Malawi.



Chidzero ... act of political courage

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

Total budget spending will increase 14% this year — which is below the 18% forecast inflation rate, implying that in real terms public spending will fall. By contrast, revenue is forecast to rise 18,5%, reducing the budget deficit from last year's forecast Z$589m to a forecast Z$450m in 1983-1984.

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

Even with the reduced deficit, the government will need to borrow Z$585m this year as against Z$760m in 1982. But with Chidzero revealing some worryingly-high debt-service figures, almost all this amount will have to be drawn from the domestic capital market.

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

Inflation

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

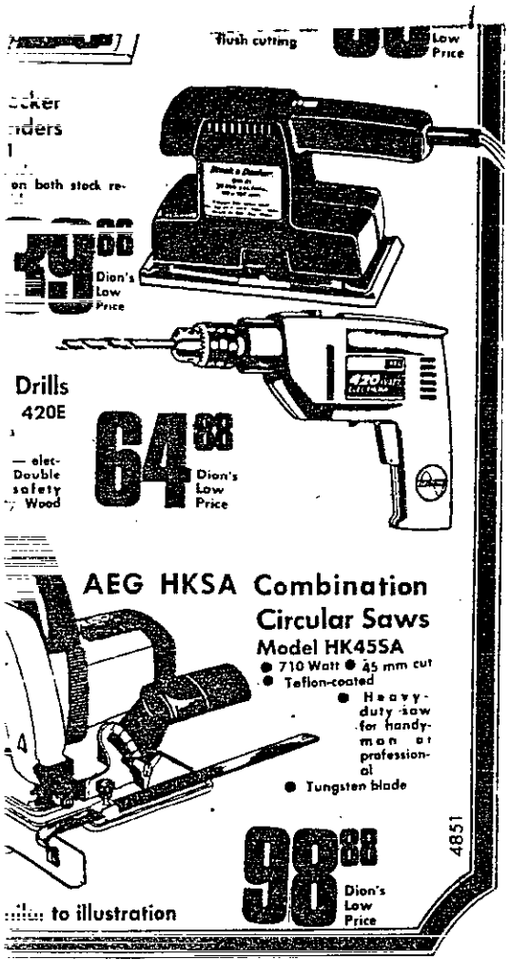
The large borrowing requirement and the high inflation rate between them will also maintain upward pressure on interest rates.

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

Business leaders believe this is less than fair, because:

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

In this situation, it is less than realistic to expect high levels of private sector investment. Indeed, Chidzero himself has admitted that his own development plan targets are no longer viable and government investment this year will be substantially lower than in 1982.



after Rawicz's death but always hankered to play duets.

...ashamed of the world being informed about the truth of what is going on in the continent."

Nkomo to keep seat — for a while

The Star Bureau 5/8/83

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mr Nkomo has been away for nearly five months.

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

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

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

He said he would not support the action unless he was convinced there was no problem.



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Cape Times

Friday, August 5, 1983 ★ 362

SA journalists invited to stay

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ending supposition, the Botswana Government yesterday announced that it would not stop journalists from any country visiting. Previously Botswana had signed the ban declaration, but declined to state whether it would enforce it.

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

Kenya's biggest-selling newspaper, The Nation, has meanwhile critcized the decision by the frontline States.

"Africa should not be ashamed of the world being informed about the truth of what is going on," an editorial in the privately-owned paper said yesterday.

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

Police station death probe

Own Correspondent

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

Mr Paris Malatji, 23, of Mofolo Central, Soweto, was arrested on July 4 and his parents were told by police the next day that he had died in a shooting incident at the Protea police station.

Suspended

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

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

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

New price set for Kronendal

Staff Reporter

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

A bid of R290 000 for the 18th-century house, realized at an auction on Monday, was turned down by owners Mr Alasdair Wyllie and Mr Malcolm Tait yesterday.

The bid was made by Mr John Silburn of Durban.

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

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Staff Repo...

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He is alleged ... sworn at a Ms To... Klerk on May ...

GET A GOOD CAMERA DEAL. THEN COME TO US FOR A BETTER ONE

Photo wynberg

Photo wynberg

Photo wynberg

GRAPHIC DIVISION OF WYNBERG PHARMACY
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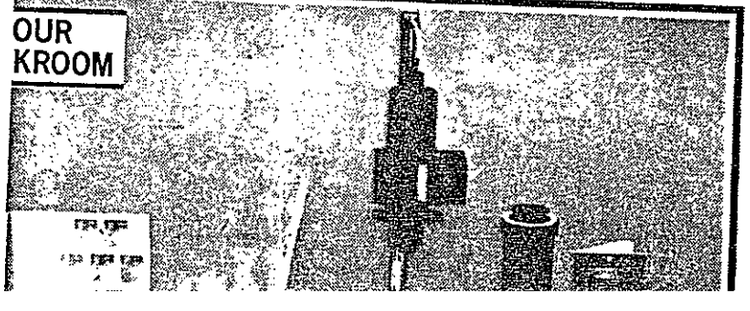

Vibrant music

Stud...

Boy missing after father killed

(362) Star 6/8/83

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

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

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

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

Police said a gun cabinet in the house had been forced. — Sapa.

Mugabe: Trade with SA will end

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

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

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

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

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

Westminster

On the subject of democracy, Mr Mugabe said the Westminster system was inappropriate for black states.

"How can a government be truly united if it is torn between many parties with their differing ideologies and policies? The Westminister multi-party model is certainly not in conformity with our own tradition which is based on single leadership and togetherness."

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

Discrimination

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

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

There had to be compromise between the "two streams of thought on our racial situation". The one-man-one-vote concept in a unitary state could not come about without a bloody revolution, nor could the Verwoerd concept of separate development work, Dr De Klerk said. — Sapa-Reuter.

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Mugabe tells rally his party will rule forever

The Star Bureau

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Court told of arms traning 'in SA camps'

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"This was a training centre full of soldiers and we trained there for six months.

"During the training we were kept in the camp as soldiers. At night we were guarded by other soldiers," he said.

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

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

He said he did not know where his abductors had come from, but said there were about 300 Zimbabweans with him at the military training centres in South Africa.

The hearing continues today. — Sapa.

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President could decide when there should be a joint session.

However, joint session is still specifically prevented from adopting any resolutions.

Although the new Bill lightly limits the President in deciding what is an "own" affair in which another group cannot interfere, the stricter limitations placed on the definitions of an "own" affair in the initial Bill have been removed.

In the first Bill a long list of "own" affairs was attached in a schedule. The schedule still remains but a section has been added to the Bill stating that any matter affecting a population group in the maintenance of "its identity and the upholding and furtherance of its way of life, culture, traditions and customs," are "own" affairs.

Nominated members of Parliament will no longer have the right to vote in the electoral colleges formed from the State President of the President's Council. However, the controversial exclusion of Opposition parties from the electoral colleges remains.



HEUNIS: Minister in charge of constitutional affairs.

SA accused of abduction

Soweton
9/8/83
362

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

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

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

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

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

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

The trial is continuing. — SFS.

Quake rocks Tokyo

OKYO — One person was ... and 28 others were in-ed yesterday when a strong ...thquake hit central Japan, ...luding Tokyo's metropoli-... areas, police said.

The national police agency ... a 53-year-old woman was ...ed by a rock which fell from waterfall in the Tanzawa ...untain area, west of Tokyo. Eight of the injured were ... hit by falling rocks while ...ing for a souvenir picture ... the earthquake shook ...is of central Japan shortly ...re 6am, it said.

The agency said the tremor, which measured 5,8 on the Richter Scale, was followed by a weak aftershock.

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

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

SAP release details of blast

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

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

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

Twenty years onwards

Zimbabwe prepares for scientific socialism

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

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

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

But in the first year of its existence before it was banned in August 1964, the action was mostly a series of running battles with the Nkomo group which was known as the People's Caretaker Council.

But even while the stonings and petrol bombings went on, the plans for war were being formulated and the first of the "boys" who were to form the Zanla gue- ...nt to

It is a party with a bloody history of internal struggles, purges, splits and revolts.

The survivors are:

- Robert Mugabe who took over the leadership in 1976 with the backing of the Revolutionary Council after Ndabaningi Sithole had lost the support of the guerilla fighters;
- Dr Eddison Zvobgo, the party's acting secretary for information and Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs in the Government;
- Mr Enos Nkala, at whose house the decision to form Zanu was taken, who is the party's treasurer-general and Minister of National Supplies;
- Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, the party's administrative secretary and Minister of Information;
- Mr Simon Muzenda, Deputy Prime Minister and party Secretary for Foreign Affairs;
- Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, national organising secretary and Minister of Mines;
- Mr Moton Malianga, Deputy Minister of Finance;

that the central committee set out to revitalise the party and to reinforce its position as the dominating force in the country.

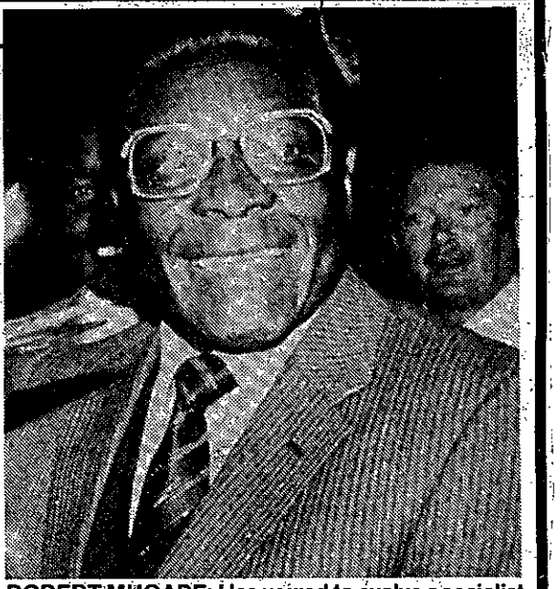
In December that year the party headquarters in the centre of Harare were blown up in a massive blast which killed six people and injured more than 100. South African agents were blamed for the blast.

A new party headquarters costing R40-million is being designed by a team of black American architects. It will include a hotel, a conference hall and a school of political sciences.

The long-awaited second party congress is due to be held next year and will be asked to endorse scientific socialism as the guide for the future.

A key figure in the party Dr Zvobgo, has said that after establishing a party of the masses which would lead to the elimination of all other parties on the ground, Zanu will be transformed to a vanguard party to which people will have to qualify for membership.

In time, he prophesised, there would be no separation between party and state.



ROBERT MUGABE: Has vowed to evolve a socialist pattern of government.

Ghana and China for training.

STRATEGY

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

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

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

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

REMAIN

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

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

COUPS

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

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

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

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

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

It was not until towards the close of 1981



Zimbabwe's 'education explosion'

ONE of the most striking developments in Zimbabwe's three years of independence is what its Deputy Minister of Education and Culture, Senator Joseph Culverwell, calls "the education explosion".

In that time the primary school population has increased 255%, from 800 000 to 2 040 000, and the secondary school population by a staggering 475%, from 66 000 to 313 297.

In a recent interview the Johannesburg-born and University of Cape Town-educated Sen Culverwell proudly claimed Zimbabwe was the only country where education received a larger slice of the national budget than defence.

He attributed the pupil boom to free education — especially at primary level — and said that, regardless of the critics, the country would continue to pursue its goal of education for everybody.

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

From ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare (362 RDM 9/8/83)

"However, racial integration at Zimbabwean schools seems to be an adults' problem these days.

"I have nothing but admiration for 99% of the white kids — they have far, far greater understanding and more natural attitudes than some of their parents," said Sen Culverwell.

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

When her white daughter apologetically told a black schoolfriend that her grandmother did not allow blacks into her house, her friend said simply that it did not matter "because your granny is just old".

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

Senator Culverwell said: "Complaints by white parents that standards are falling because classes are bigger are invalid.

"Before independence, while every white child had access to education, facilities for blacks were limited to the few fortunate ones who could afford it. The new government has opened doors to all children, especially at primary school level.

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

"We are organising in-service courses for teachers to prepare them for handling increased numbers.

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

"What is important to us, especially at this early stage, is that no child is denied the opportunity of being educated.

"The shortage of teachers is a problem. But our training colleges are increasing their intake with the hope that, in the not too distant future, we should be able to rely less and less on expatriate personnel who, no doubt, are doing a commendable job at the moment."

On the curricula complaints he said: "A serious process of reviewing the curricula at both primary and secondary levels has been instituted. Some syllabuses have already been completed, but we still have quite a lot to do in this area."

He said some curriculum changes were obvious — such as the "cock and bull that Rhodes discovered the country" — but others required careful research and would have to be introduced slowly.

He said the government planned to "correct the anomaly" of over-emphasising academic education at the expense of technical education.

"In future it is planned that one quarter of school time will be spent on practical/technical subjects, one quarter on languages, one quarter on maths and sciences and the remaining quarter on social and moral education."

The proposed new blend of practical and academic education is called "Education with Production".

"It is for every Zimbabwean pupil and not only for academic rejects," said Sen Culverwell.

He said lack of funds, manpower and a programme for introducing "Education with Production" into school textbooks meant the system lacked central control.

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

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

In the meantime Senator Culverwell acknowledged there was real concern about absorbing the growing number of school leavers into worthwhile employment.

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

Whatever the complaints of critics in the urban areas is clear that the government's education drive is being welcomed enthusiastically in the formerly deprived rural areas, where the bulk of Zimbabweans live.

Star 9/8/83 (36)

20 years later the 'rebels' are in power

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

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NKOMO ON THE OUTSIDE

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

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

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

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

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



Mr Robert Mugabe ... Prime Minister of Zimbabwe.



Dr Nathan Shamuyarira ... the Minister of Information.



Mr Enos Nkala ... the Minister of National Supplies.



Mr Edgar Tekere ... former party secretary and Minister.



Dr Eddison Zvobgo ... Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs.



Mr Maurice Nyagumbo ... Minister of Mines and national secretary.

Zimbabwe dissident 'abducted to SA'

The Star Bureau

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

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

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

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

Mr Dube was giving evidence at his trial, together with another alleged dissident, Mr Zwelibanzi Nzima (21), on charges of of murdering a policeman during a gun battle at Dorrington Ranch in south-eastern Zimbabwe on December 2 last year. They have pleaded not guilty.

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

Mr Nzima and Mr Dube escaped wounded.

They were arrested later, after being turned in to the authorities by tribespeople. The hearing continues.

Harare clerk in jail over 'secrets'

The Star Bureau

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

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

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

Rebel claims he trained in SA

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Sowetan 10/9/83

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"This was a training centre full of soldiers and we trained there for six months.

"During the training we were kept in the camp as soldiers. At night we were guarded by other soldiers," he said.

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

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

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

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

They slept there and the next morning they were told to move. They were a group of more than 50 armed men, he said.

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

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

Cross-examined by Mr Yunus Ormerjee for the State, Mr Dube said he did not know where his abductors had come from, but said there were about 300 Zimbabweans with him at the military training centres in South Africa. —Sapa.

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Mugabe tells Pretoria that intimidation will not work

The Star's Foreign News Service

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

He said: "We do not seek confrontation with anyone as our detractors have been quick to claim.

"South African destabilisation ranges from sophisticated economic manipulation to blatant military attacks.

"SADCC must be seen to succeed because the whole world is watching and we cannot afford to fail," Dr Masire said.



A smiling Mrs Margaret Thatcher, wearing dark glasses after successful eye operation, poses for Press photographers outside official London residence in Downing Street yesterday.

Thatcher, back at No 10, consults eye surgeon toda

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

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

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

Mrs Thatcher (57) described herself as "101 percent fit" at weekend when leaving hospital after last Wednesday's operat repair a detached retina in her right eye. — Reuter.

Soldier charged as death sparks new riots in Belfast

The Star's Foreign News Service

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

The death provoked the second serious outbreak of rioting in 24 hours.

The soldier was appearing in court today.

The dead man, Mr Thomas

youths at a road junction to the huge Springfield Road lice and army base.

A police spokesman said a "fracas" occurred yeste afternoon. Police patrols wh entered met a hostile recep

Last night, after police army patrols had left, rio broke out in the Whiterock ar which earlier yesterday some of the most intense

rrible ®

By Dik Browne



Zanu, Zapu talks on unity run into snags

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Talks aimed at uniting the two main black parties in Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu and Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu, have run into difficulties and the prospects of success are fading.

A member of the Zanu team, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, who is Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, accused Zapu yesterday of refusing to come to grips with reality.

He told the national news agency Ziana it had become very difficult to make progress.

The talks which started in April are being conducted by three-man teams from the two parties.

OVERCOME

Soon after they started, Dr Zvobgo said he saw no insuperable difficulties and that most problems which might have stalled the talks had been overcome.

But yesterday Dr Zvobgo said Zapu "balked at any facts which are real, and live in a world of their own — in a world of imagination and of dreams.

"They find it hard to accept that Zanu (PF) was accepted by the majority of the country and that it is the Zanu central committee which will have to give it an accommodation among the people."

He said it was commonsense that if the central committees of the parties merged at any future congress, the leadership of Zanu would dominate any new organisation.

Because of Zapu's "unrealistic attitude" the prospects for unity were gradually fading, Dr Zvobgo said.

The acting president of Zapu, Mr Josiah Chinamano, who took charge of the party when Mr Nkomo fled to London in March, said last month that Zapu would not take part in talks in which Zanu sought to swallow his party.

He called for a genuine effort by both parties to enter into unity talks.

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Harare to curb SA travellers

Star 11/8/83

By Richard Paris

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

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

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

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

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

But many South Africans do fly to the Seychelles, India and Australia and a few to other points in black Africa by making a connection in Harare.

Two dissidents get the death sentence

11/6/83 362

The Star Bureau

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Two civilians, one of them a small child, were killed in the cross-fire.

Some fear that Matabeleland won't recover

11/8/83

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By Brendan Seery, The Star's Foreign News Service

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

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

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

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

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

Her mother watches helplessly.

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

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

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

The controversial North Korean-trained 5 Brigade of the Zimbabwean army, accused of being responsible for atrocities against civilians, has been withdrawn. there have been no reports of activity by dissidents.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

They were prime dissident targets.

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

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

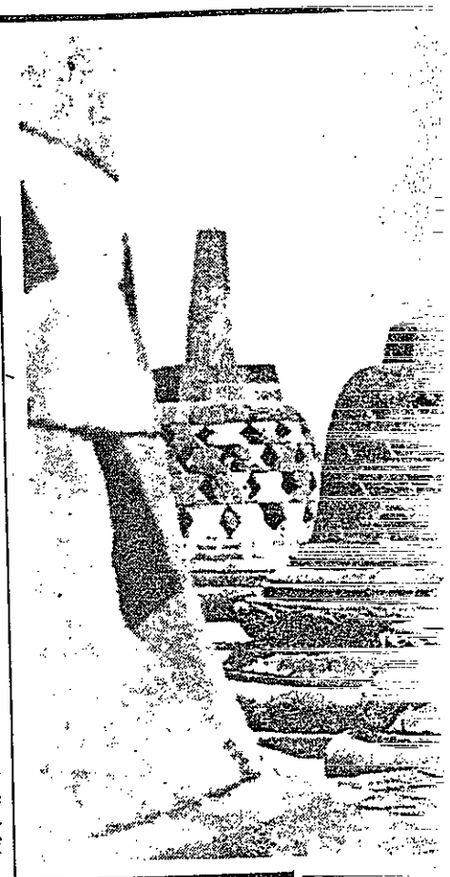
Its relations with its neighbours have been prejudiced.

For example, thousands of refugees from the army violence have been given a haven in Botswana amid accusations from the Zimbabweans that refugee camps such as Dukwe are being used for training and recruiting rebels.

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

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

This was a grim figure which, at the end of last year before the crackdown began, stood at scores of people killed and millions of rands' worth of equipment and property destroyed or damaged.



Famous temple saved

The great Buddhist temple in central Indonesia has been saved — although the work took twice as long as planned and cost three times what had been anticipated. For 12 years, experts from all over the world have worked at restoring the monument and it has cost a total of R25 million. But now the impressive "Mandala" symbol of the cosmos stands once more on firm foundations. The temple was founded in Java in the eighth century, but was later forgotten and overrun by jungle. It was not until the 19th century that it was rediscovered. The first renovations took place at the start of this century.

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Nkomo to be fined if he returns — Mugabe

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13/8/83

The Star's Foreign News Service

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

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

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

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

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

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

SA TALKS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Botswana had agreed to return those Zimbabweans who fled to Botswana with the purpose of using it as a base from which to attack Zimbabwe, he said.

PRESS FREEDOM

Living with Kadoma

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

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

Zimbabwe, they explain, was merely the first frontline state to impose the ban (and take the flak) in terms of the Kadoma declaration on the press recently adopted by them all — Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. However, Botswana seems unlikely to adhere to the ban and is still welcoming correspondents.

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362 FM 12/8/83

The declaration is being seen by some observers as one item in a wider frontline and Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) disengagement drive away from SA. The declaration is intended to counter "SA information aggression," which correspondents based in SA are said to become tainted with — a suggestion the journalists find laughable.

Some frontline states also seem to believe that because they are reported on by SA-based foreign correpondents, this implies that they have "second-class status" in relation to SA.

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

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

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

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

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

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


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Nkomo need not fear jail - Mugabe

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The Star's Foreign News Service

12/8/83

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

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

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

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

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

Mr Nkomo has been in virtual seclusion at secret addresses for the past five months. Aides say he fears assasination.

DAY TIMES, August 14 1983 5

Mugabe's vow: A 'little fine' for Nkomo

Sunday Times Reporter: Harare

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

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

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

And, as if to allay Mr Nkomo's oft-stated fears of harassment if he returns, Mr Mugabe added:

"He is free to come back and we will not molest him unduly."

Smuggling

The reassurance was a sharp backtrack from the government's previous officially-stated position.

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

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

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

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

...strengthen its mar- ...ng director Graham Hodgson: "The Eastern Transvaal develop- ... from refractory engineering to ...

Foreign food giant buys into Zimbabwe

362
S. Tribune 14/8/83

Finance Correspondent

HARARE: Considerable interest has been stirred up in Zimbabwe over the Government go-ahead for an international food and agricultural group, Dalgety, to take a one-third stake in a quoted Zimbabwe company.

Speculation centres on the possibility of the avowed socialist Government becoming more capitalist-oriented through allowing foreign intervention in the Cairns Holdings Group.

Formerly wholly owned in Zimbabwe, this makes processed foods, snacks and beverages, and has the manufacturing franchise for Cerebos Foods.

Noticeably absent from the euphoric joint announcement by the companies is information on where the money comes from.

And, just as with the Heinz deal a couple of years ago, there is suspicion that almost no foreign capital is coming in.

The the vehicle for the takeover is Dalgety Zimbabwe, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the international corporation. It is known that this has a large amount of blocked funds in the country which have been lying around doing nothing.

The deal costs Dalgety the equivalent of R3,7 million, not a sum calculated to get corporate blood racing.

The main feature is a technical services agreement by which the domestic company has access to the foreign group's technical resources and expertise. Almost nothing has been said about the details of this either.

Quite possibly the agreement is merely a lifeline for Cairns, which was becoming hugely over-borrowed, with Dalgety getting the chance to get back some of its idle money in the form of a dividend.

Strangely, nothing has been said about capital expenditure plans. In the past two years Cairns has spent R10 million on equipment, mainly to replace old plant.

Little seems to have gone on increasing capacity and the recession has come at a bad time in that profits have been static.

If Dalgety had not come in, the ratio of borrowing to shareholders funds would have been more than 80 percent, an unacceptably high gearing. With the new money the borrowings will be brought down to 55 percent.

Businessmen have welcomed the move, believing that the Government secretly realises the need for foreign capital.

Other observers say this is really a cosmetic arrangement and that if it really meant foreign intervention the Government would not have given the green light, or, if it had, the price would have been for a share to go to the State.

This has brought the spotlight back to Heinz, since the announcement of its deal with vegetable oil maker Olivine there has been a singular lack of any capital development.

It has become clear this was a deal involving outside shareholders and no money has come into the country. Heinz is really using this country as a possible source of development and at the moment has no plans.

So the score after three years of independence is one tangible foreign-inspired development — a chewing gum factory put up by the Danish firm of Dandy.

British FOOD

Nkomo flies home from UK exile 'like a lion'

15/8/83

The Star Bureau

LONDON — Zimbabwe's minority leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, has sent word to his supporters back home that he is returning "like a lion, not a lamb".

Packing his bags in his north London hideout at the end of his five-month self-imposed exile, the burly 66-year-old opposition chief looked like a man with a huge burden lifted from his shoulders.

He flies home tonight aboard Air Zimbabwe flight 121, undaunted by his narrow escape when he fled the country in March during the Matabeleland massacres which left 5 000 people dead, including two killed in a raid on his Bulawayo home.

Mr Nkomo will insist on having his say in Parliament on Wednesday when the ruling Zanu party of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, will try to silence him in a motion to have his seat declared vacant because he has missed 21 consecutive sittings of the House.

Mr Nkomo said: "When I was forced by events to leave my country I made it clear I was not leaving just for my own safety.

"I made use of this enforced absence to work out ways of trying to achieve the solutions of the problems of my country," Mr Nkomo said.

A government spokesman said in Harare last night: "We have not been told officially that Mr Nkomo is coming back, but if he is returning it will be as an ordinary Zimbabwe citizen and he is unlikely to receive any red-carpet treatment."

Mr Mugabe said last week that although Mr Nkomo still faces currency and gem smuggling charges, he did not think they warranted a jail sentence.

"He might face a fine but otherwise I don't think he will be molested unduly," Mr Mugabe added.

● See Page 7, World section.

Mugabe rules out socialism deadline

The Star's Foreign News Service

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It was necessary to have a large Cabinet and "with a few exceptions" Ministers had been very effective.

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Private sector in Zimbabwe slated over 'racial bias'

By Robin Drew
The Star Bureau 15/8/83

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

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

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

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

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

WORKFORCE

He quoted the instance of a company losing 20 white artisans out of a total workforce of 22 artisans, 60 black semi-skilled workers and numerous unskilled employees.

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

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

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

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

SALARY STRUCTURE

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

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

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

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

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

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

But the experience of Zimbabwe had been that the new administrators had been both available and skilled.

ıt old black magic

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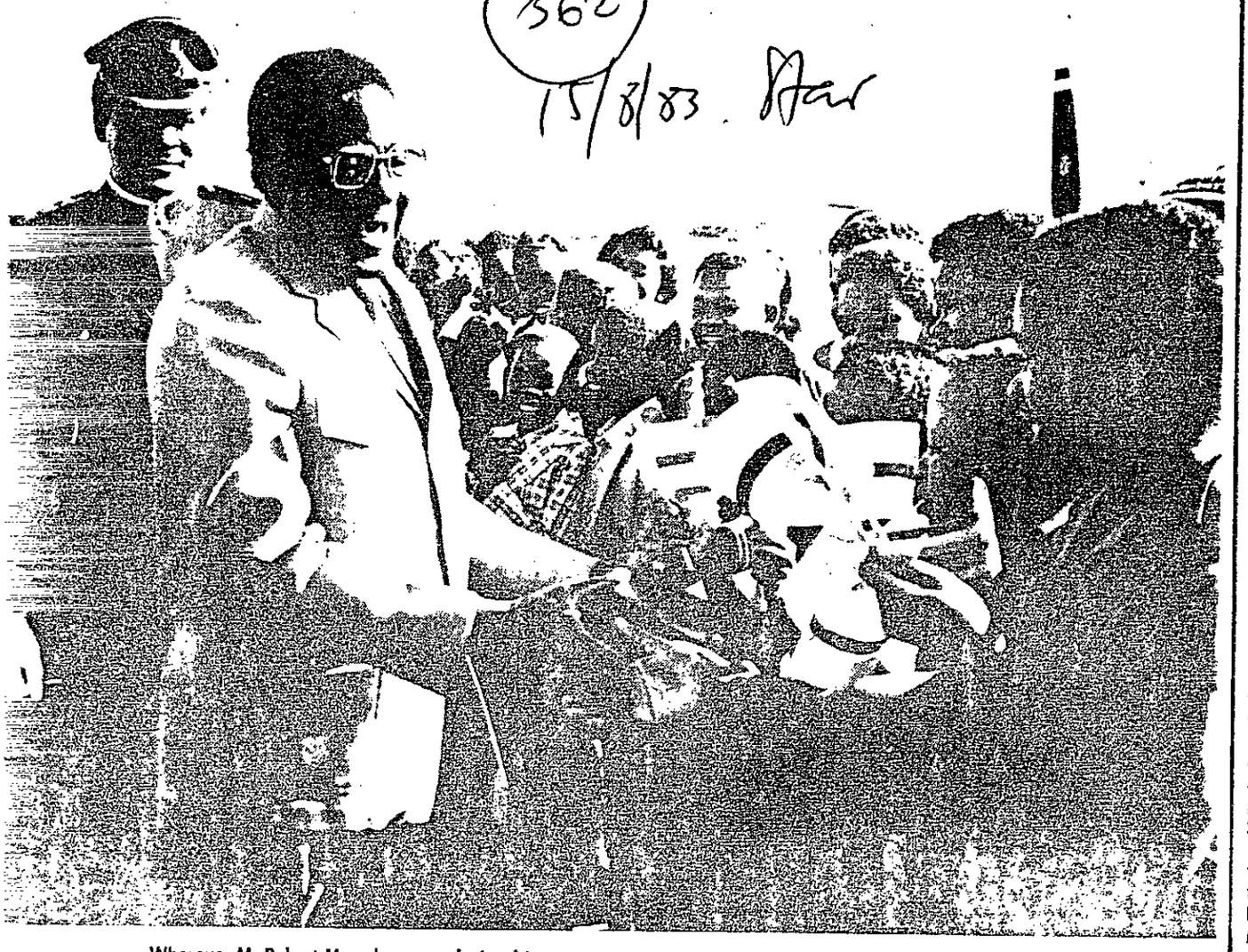
15/8/83 Star



Wherever Mr Robert Mugabe went during his recent visit to Botswana he was given a hero's welcome.

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Asked if his Government's expulsion of a BBC correspondent meant the end of a critical, free Press in Zimbabwe, he replied: "No."

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

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

Mr Mugabe was asked if he would be prepared to talk to the South African Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha

He asked what would be the purpose of talking to Mr Botha.

"Why should he want to talk to us while avoiding the people of Namibia and South Africa to whom he should be talking."

Mr Mugabe said his Government had to have discussions with Pretoria on economic matters but would not enter into political or diplomatic talks with South Africa.

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Today in history

1658 — League of the Rhine is established under French protection after Louis XIV fails to be elected Holy Roman Emperor.

1796 — Napoleon Bonaparte defeats Austrians at Castiglione delle Stiviere in Italy.

1834 — South Australia Act is passed by British Parliament, allowing for establishment of a colony there.

1861 — Sir George Grey

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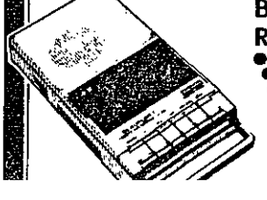

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Mugabe has that ol

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

Zimbabwe's Prime Minister was the first leader of an African state to visit Botswana officially this year. During his four-day stay Mr Robert Mugabe travelled extensively in the country, meeting many pople in different places. JON QWELANE followed him, and here assesses his popularity.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Wherever ..

Sri Lankan army joined in killing, claims survivor

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

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

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

Agricultural boom in Bophuthatswana

Star 15/8/83 (169) (3 General

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

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

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

This has emerged in in-

ther 10 000 ha over the next five years.

development schemes have been initiated as

I'm going back home — Nkomo

By MARGARET SMITH
London Bureau

LONDON. — Mr Joshua Nkomo, Zimbabwe's opposition leader, said in London yesterday that he would fly home to Zimbabwe today.

This would mean the end of five months of self-imposed exile in Britain.

Mr Nkomo said he would attend parliament in Harare on Wednesday.

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

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

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

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

His return to Zimbabwe would enable him to speak in a parliamentary debate, due to resume on Wednesday, on a government move to have his seat in Parliament declared vacant because of his absence.

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

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

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

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

But while his early return would probably prevent his almost certain expulsion from Parliament on Wednesday for absenteeism, his political future looks gloomy.

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

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

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

Mr Nkomo has ruined whatever chance he had of leading a reconciliation drive between his and Mr Mugabe's parties.

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

At a Press conference in Harare at the weekend Mr Mugabe said the government would not "molest him unduly" and that Mr Nkomo probably faced at most "a little fine".

He was referring to possible charges of emerald and currency smuggling charges which police started investigating against Mr Nkomo before his flight.

Nkomo puts peace plan to Mugabe

362

The Star Bureau 6/8/83

HARARE — Mr Joshua Nkomo, back in Zimbabwe after five months in self-exile, today spoke of a plan he had devised to resolve Zimbabwe's problems.

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

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

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

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



Mr Nkomo in London yesterday before flying back to the Zimbabwe capital of Harare.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"This time I went to Britain, next time I'll go to Moscow," he added.

Nkomo home 'with plan to solve proble

3624 ARGUS 16/8/83

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

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

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

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

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

Charges

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

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

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

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

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



VETERAN Zimbabwe nationalist leader Mr Joshua Nkomo returned to Harare today, ending a five-month self-imposed exile in Britain.

Sacos official refused passport

Staff Reporter

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

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

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

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

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

Smith mu

(Contd f

switched off the mains.

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

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

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

FAMILY

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

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

The court erred in not taking into account that she was unaware that the killing was to take place and played no part in the planning of such killing on the night in question.

MICROWAVE

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Nkomo flies home to warm welcome

From ANDRE VILJOEN

HARARE. — Veteran Zimbabwean opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, was given a warm welcome home early yesterday morning by a small crowd of supporters and Zapu party officials who met him at Harare Airport on his return from five months self-imposed exile in London.

Mr Nkomo's luggage, which included a new colour television set, was scrupulously searched for about an hour before he was allowed to join his friends.

Apparently by coincidence, a fellow passenger on Mr Nkomo's Air Zimbabwe flight from Gatwick Airport was the Minister of Home affairs, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, who was responsible for the seizure of his passport shortly before he fled Zimbabwe in March.

After Mr Nkomo's flight, Dr Ushewokunze, who controls the police, said the huge politician, known to his supporters as "Father Zimbabwe", had slipped across the border into Botswana, disguised as "a fat old woman" to avoid possible criminal charges related to currency.

"We just met on the plane and I asked him (Dr Ushewokunze) whether I looked like a person in woman's clothing and he just laughed," said a cheerful-looking Mr Nkomo at a press conference at his home in the modest Harare suburb, Highfield, later yesterday morning.

There was a small crowd of exuberant men and singing and ululating women sitting on the lawn during the press conference. A Zapu party spokesman who chaired the conference urged journalists not to judge the party by the size of the crowd. Numbers had been kept low deliberately in case anything happened, he said.

Mr Nkomo firmly fielded all controversial questions put to him by a large group of local and foreign newsmen. He said during his absence he had applied his mind to seeking a solution to Zimbabwe's political problems.

Asked how he felt about the adjourned debate on a motion to expel him from parliament for absenteeism which the government has said would continue today, despite his return, he said: "My vacant seat is not the problem. What made me leave it vacant is the problem."

He refused to give any inkling of the contents of his proposed parliamentary address today and when asked about the alleged slaughtering of his civilian supporters at the time of his flight he said: "Let's not go back and talk about bodies because there would be a lot of bodies to talk about."

Wealthy Wally, the toy Pom

By CLARE STERN

WALLY McCARTHY is one of the wealthiest fellows in Cape Town. But he prefers chasing cats to bulls and bears on the stock exchange.

The nine-year-old Toy Pom has his own savings account called "Account Wally" at a City bank. Since he inherited R3 000 from his late owner, he has never touched the capital, which has grown, through careful budgeting, by R300.

Wally finds that the interest of about R16 a month is more than enough to pay for life's little luxuries — steak, not too well done and Sunday outings to the

Officials' plea is rejected

Cape Times 17/8/83

Education Reporter

POLICE vans circled Mountview Senior Secondary School in Hanover Park yesterday morning as three inspectors from the Department of Internal Affairs (Coloured Education) addressed boycotting pupils and urged them to return to classes.

The pupils, who have refused to attend classes since four fellow-pupils were expelled three weeks ago, refused and reiterated their demand that the school principal, Mr P Snyders, be transferred

He denied as "wishful thinking" a claim by pupils that the inspectors had told them the department would tranfer Mr Snyders after two weeks if they returned to classes.

"We are adamant in this regard. This directorate will not be held to ransom by these children," he said.

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape, Captain Jan Calitz, said police had patrolled the area but were not "on standby".

Pupils burnt Mr Snyders's diary on Monday as a symbol of their de-



Two recent photographs of Liverpool policeman Bill Bird, in uniform and in his Pope look-alike pose. A devout Roman Catholic, PC Bird wrote a letter enclosing photographs to the Vatican to request permission to exploit his resemblance to the Pope to aid charity. Yesterday, three months later, a reply with a Vatican postmark arrived authorizing him to become papal look-alike for the north-west of England.

Nkomo back in the fold as expulsion bid is withdrawn

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Mr and Mrs Jimmy Chalmers

US planes track suspected Red arms ship in Caribbean

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Informer's relatives found safe

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

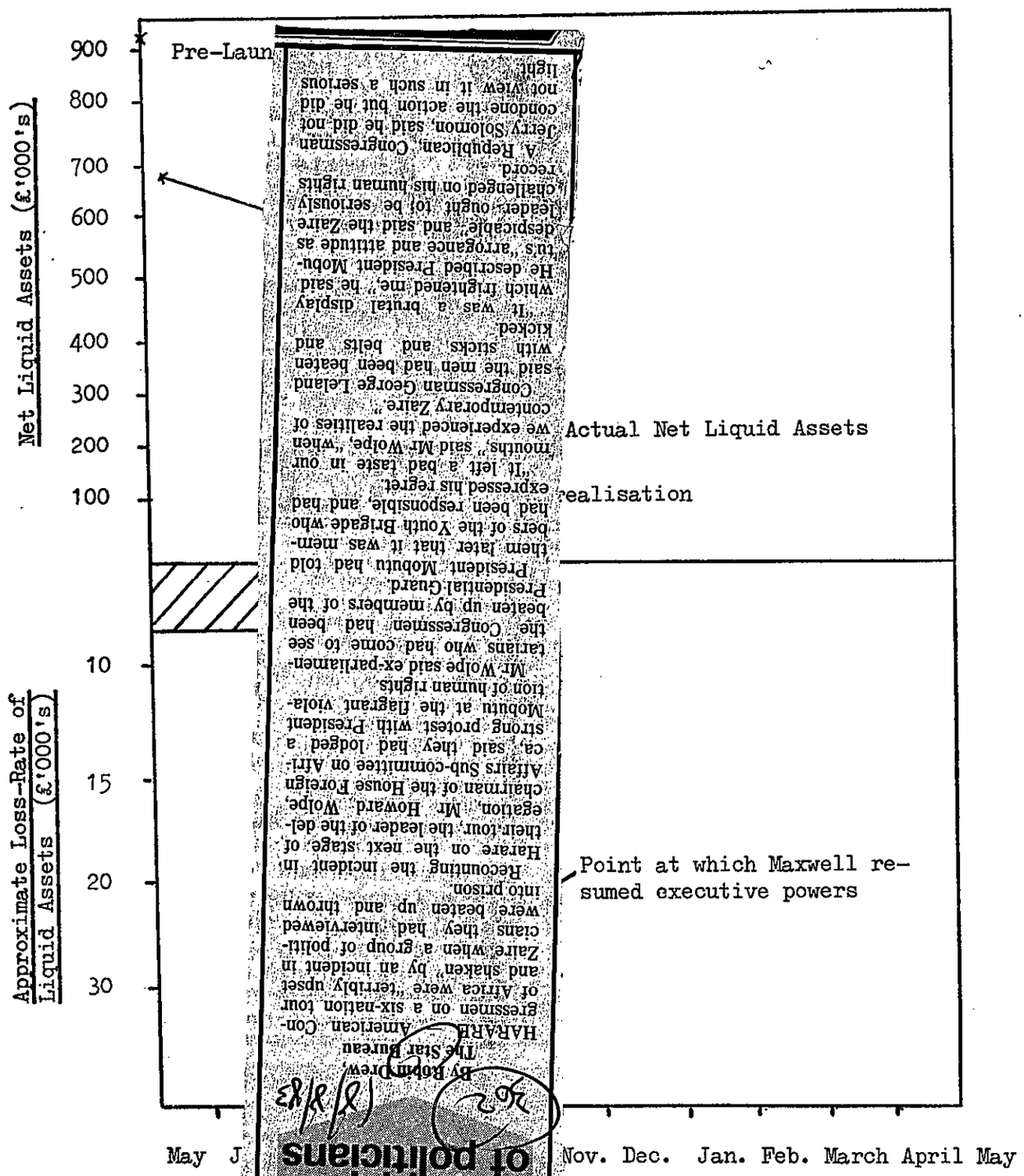
Mr Richard Hill and his 13-year-old daughter Diana, relatives of informer Harry Kirkpatrick, were located near the village of Falcarragh in County Donegal after a police search.

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

Mr Hill (45), Kirkpatrick's stepfather, disappeared along with his daughter from their holiday home in County Mayo two weeks ago.



Figure 3 - Rate of Loss of SDN Liquid Assets[1].



US group shocked by beating up of politicians

By Robin Drew
The Star Bureau

HARARE — American Congressmen on a six-nation tour of Africa were "terribly upset and shaken" by an incident in Zaire when a group of politicians they had interviewed were beaten up and thrown into prison.

Recounting the incident in Harare on the next stage of their tour, the leader of the delegation, Mr Howard Wolpe chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Sub-committee on Africa, said they had lodged a strong protest with President Mobutu at the flagrant violation of human rights.

Mr Wolpe said ex-parliamentarians who had come to see the Congressmen had been beaten up by members of the Presidential Guard.

President Mobutu had told them later that it was members of the Youth Brigade who had been responsible and had expressed his regret.

"It left a bad taste in our mouths," said Mr Wolpe, "when we experienced the realities of contemporary Zaire."

Congressman George Leland said the men had been beaten with sticks and belts and kicked.

"It was a brutal display which frightened me," he said. He described President Mobutu's "arrogance and attitude as despicable" and said the Zaire leader ought to be seriously challenged on his human rights record.

A Republican Congressman Jerry Solomon said he did not condone the action but he did not view it in such a serious light.

1. The rate of loss [illegible] g the actual loss by the period in which that los[illegible]

5 000 welcome Nkomo home

Mail Africa Bureau

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

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

Bulawayo is the centre of Matabeleland, where Mr Nkomo draws most of his support. When he returned from exile in 1980, he was welcomed by more than 120 000 people.

Mr Nkomo's followers — the first of whom started gathering outside his home at dawn — sang in Sindebele: "Joshua Nkomo will never die while Zapu is here."

Mr Nkomo addressed the crowd briefly, urging all Zimbabweans to "pull together to make our country one".

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

In Parliament this week, Mr Nkomo repeated his claim that he had fled Zimbabwe in March after soldiers had been ordered to kill him. He also said soldiers had killed more than 3 000 civilians. He had sent Mr Mugabe a document outlining his proposed solution to the country's political problems, he said.

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

According to a well informed source, Mr Mugabe would probably refuse to meet Mr Nkomo if the purpose was to discuss his proposed solution, but he would probably be prepared to accept a "courtesy call" from the Zapu leader.

It's just not on — unions

19/8/83 (361) ROM

Mail Africa Bureau

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

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

"The ZCTU is extremely disappointed with the slow pace the special committee chaired by Prime Minister Mundia is working. We won't wait any longer because we are depriving the workers of the right to live well.

"Since its appointment on June 27, we have met only twice — for less than three hours. This is just not on. "Hunger has got no timing," he said.

19/8/83

August 19 1983 Star p. 7

US policy promotes SA aggression, says Mugabe

The Star's Foreign News Service

WASHINGTON — In an interview with the Washington Post, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has sharply criticised United States policy in Southern Africa, claiming it encouraged South Africa to become more aggressive towards neighbouring countries.

According to Post reporter Mr Jay Ross, who interviewed Mr Mugabe in Harare, the Prime Minister said constructive engagement — the Reagan Administration's Southern African strategy — was a "policy of acquiescence to South Africa's policy."

Mr Mugabe said he had hoped that the Reagan policies would transform Namibia and South Africa, but these hopes had been dashed. South Africa had become more intransigent, relying on what it believed to be US support.

In the report, published today, Mr Ross speculates that Mr Mugabe seems to be setting the stage for his first official visit to Washington next month.

'SAME OLD PATH'

Mr Mugabe told him: "The policy of constructive engagement has had the effect of encouraging South Africa to continue along the same old path of resistance to the wishes of the majority of the people in Namibia and South Africa, and to become more aggressive against the Frontline States. "Almost every neighbour has something to claim about South Africa's acts of aggression, and these seem to be increasing all the time."

Mr Mugabe repeated his criticism of the linking of Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

He accused the US of using the Namibian situation to achieve an end in the region it was not able to achieve otherwise — a reduction of the Soviet sphere of influence.

A solution in Namibia was mainly in US hands because South Africa had the greatest confidence in the US, the Prime Minister told the Post.

Turning to the fate of the six air force officers charged with assisting in the sabotage of Zimbabwean warplanes, Mr Mugabe said no decision had been made on what action to take — such as re-detention — should they be acquitted.

Harsh words lead to Tass walkout

The Star's Foreign News Service

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

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

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

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

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

Said Mr Solomon, an ex-marine wearing an American flag in his buttonhole, "I didn't hear you sounding off against the human rights violations in Ethiopia.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

They said the Ethiopian Government had signalled its desire for improved relations with the United States.

Nkomo proposes a peace talks plan

(362)

By Robin Drew

Star 20/8/83

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

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

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

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

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

Mr Nkomo is understood to have appealed to Mr Mugabe to recognise that Zimbabwe is at the crossroads.

If action were not taken the country was in danger of disintegration, he said.

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

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

Mr Nkomo strenuously denied plotting any coup.

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

See picture on Page 5.

Nkomo returns to the stiffest test in his political career

Bitter pill for a lion turned hen

D/E ARGUS 20/4/83 362

From ROBIN DREW
Weekend Argus Foreign Service

HARARE. — The atmosphere was electric in the Zimbabwean Parliament this week.

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

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

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

Old man

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

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

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

But he has established a reputation for failing to use it effectively and critics have accused him of lacking judgment and vision.

Now 66 years old and burdened with a mass of more than 130 kg, Joshua Nkomo has been active in politics for more than three decades.

But his tendency to vacillate showed itself even in the early days when, after first opposing the plan to establish a federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, he later stood unsuccessfully for election to the federal Parliament.

He has during his political life led six successive organisations, in the wake either of Government bannings or splits in the nationalist movement.

The most serious split occured 20 years ago when the party now led by Mr Robert Mugabe broke away from Mr Nkomo, accusing him of lacking the necessary determination to lead a militant movement.



JOSHUA NKOMO . . . "The moon sails on despite the baying of hungry jackals and hyenas." (In reference to attacks on him in April 1982, after his sacking from the Cabinet.)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Peacemaker

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

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

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

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

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

FUNCTIONS FOR WHICH RESPONSIBLE

Table 1

Ruth passes 4th A-level

The Star Bureau

LONDON — Ruth Lawrence, the 12-year-old girl who is to become Britain's youngest university student in October, has passed her fourth A-level.

Ruth, who has never been to school, has just learnt that she has passed her physics A-level, again at grade A.

Her father, Mr Harry Lawrence, of Huddersfield, a computer consultant who gave up his job several years ago to coach his daughter, said: "We are particularly delighted with this. It was a difficult paper."

Now dons at St Hugh's college at Oxford are bracing themselves for the arrival of the little girl who dislikes being called a superbrain or a whizzkid.

The dons are recounting an incident earlier this year. Ruth had been invited to attend an Open University lecture given by leading physicist Dr Alan Solomons.

"He wrote something on the blackboard," said father Harry, "and Ruth put up her hand to point out he'd missed the square of an element. No one else had noticed."

Dr Solomons looked at his work and then had to confess: "Dear me, dear me, yes, you're quite right."

Detainees lose property

The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE — Two former Zimbabwe intelligence officers, redetained last year after being acquitted in the High Court of spying for South Africa, have had their property confiscated by the authorities under the country's emergency regulations.

Mr Colin David Evans and Mr Philip Edward Hartlebury, former officers in the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO), have been detained indefinitely under an order signed by Home Affairs Minister, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, and are being held at the maximum security Chikurubi Prison, outside Harare.

CONFISCATION ORDER

The orders confiscating their property, also signed by Dr Ushewokunze, were published in yesterday's Government Gazette.

At their trial in December last year the two men were acquitted of passing vital information to South African agents in Harare.

During the trial, Mr Justice Nick McNally found that alleged confessions made by the two men had been extracted under undue influence and pressure.

Bomb threat man arrested

NEW YORK — A white South African has been arrested and charged with harassment for allegedly threatening to blow up the Manhattan offices of the Pan African Congress and for making threats against one of its employees, police report.

Sergeant Raymond O'Donnell said the suspect, Mr Colin Kruger (23), a white South African who had been living at a YMCA hotel here, was seized on Thursday morning when he went to meet the man he allegedly threatened.

Sergeant O'Donnell said Mr Kruger telephoned the Pan African Congress and spoke to Mr Lesaoana Makhanda.

He learned from Mr Makhanda that he, too, was an expatriate South African and asked for a meeting. During the conversation, Mr Kruger allegedly threatened Mr Makhanda and warned that he was going to blow up the PAC offices.

But Mr Makhanda agreed to a meeting across the street from the UN building and asked for a telephone number where Mr Kruger might be reached.

Sergeant O'Donnell said police called the number and spoke to someone who gave a description of Mr Kruger. Police then went to the meeting place and arrested him there.

Beer ge... a big bo...

TOKYO — Increa... in Africa and Asia ... global beer produc... while European ... American produ... off, according to a survey released ... the Kirin Brewery ...

The United Sta... list of beer-produ... with 22,8 million ... quarter of the ... West Germany was ... 9,48 million litres, ... Union third with ... litres, Britain ... 5,98 million litres, ... fifth with 4,79 milli... a spokeswoman for ...

However, 1982 ... creased a nominal 0... Europe and 0,2 per... America from t... year, in sharp contr... 9,9 percent and A... percent. The spoke... beer production h... rapidly in Nigeria, ... and China during ...

West Germans ... top position in con... downing an average ... person. The Czechs ... ond with 140,1 litr... Germans third with ... the Australians four... litres, and the Da... 131 litres, accordin... lier consumption ... ducted by the brew...

The shortest rugby game?

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

It lasted five minutes.

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

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

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

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

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

But the chivalrous Queensbury rules went by the board as players started kicking as well as punching.

The referee managed to ...



Nkomo letters spell it out

S. Times 21/8/83



LONDON

RAY JOSEPH on the letters Mr Nkomo wrote to Mr Mugabe

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

In the first of the letters — a 25-page document — the veteran Zapu leader declares that "I write because I feel that our country is in danger of complete disintegration, to the detriment of all its citizens now living and of generations to come.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Trumped up

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

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

"I am sure you appreciate the absurdity of trying to protect people who have 200 of them killed (sic) in 12 months by dissidents while the Fifth Brigade in the process of that protection killed 3 000 to 5 000 people in six weeks."

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

Mr Nkomo slams the maintenance of legislation enacted during the years of Mr Ian Smith's government and asks: "Don't you think there is something wrong? What did our people fight for?"

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

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

"As it is now in Zimbabwe, everyone faces fear."

SUNDAY TRIBUNE, AUGUST 21, 1983

JOSH

Why Mugabe fears bringing him in from the cold

By Colin Legum

LONDON: THE main focus of interest in Zimbabwe is the future of Joshua Nkomo after his return from voluntary exile, but Prime Minister Robert Mugabe is much less concerned about his old rival's role than about the state of affairs in his own ruling party, the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu).

So far as Mugabe is concerned, Nkomo is a spent political force — a nuisance rather than a threat. However, because of his undoubted continuing influence in Matabeleland, Mugabe will hope to win him over to support his plans for turning Zimbabwe into a single-party state — but on his own terms and not on Nkomo's.

During Nkomo's months in exile in London, secret negotiations took place to try to find a basis for Nkomo's agreement to merging his wing of the Patriotic Front, Zapu, into a single party with Zanu. But no progress proved possible.

Nkomo's lieutenants, who favour such a merger, insisted that one condition should be that he would be made deputy-leader to Mugabe with an important new post in the Cabinet.

But such an elevated role for Nkomo is unacceptable to Mugabe, who no longer feels he can trust Nkomo because of what he believes to have been his duplicity in conniving at the storing of secret arms and his cover-up of the dissident rebel forces.

Mugabe, though, is not the strongest opponent to the idea that Nkomo should be allowed to save face by giving him an important role, especially since this could help to mend fences with the Ndebele and Kalanga minority groups in Matabeleland.

Among his lieutenants there are several hardliners who take the view that Nkomo is now completely discredited and that nothing should be done to help him recapture any of his former power and influence.

They favour a policy of turning Nkomo into a forgotten politician.

However, there are also others among Mugabe's lieutenants who feel that reconciliation between the Shonas and Ndebele is of overriding importance. They would like to see a renewal of the earlier offer made to Nkomo that he should become Zimbabwe's president in place of another Ndabele figure, the Reverend Canaan Banana, whose personal eccentricities have begun to worry many Zimbabweans.

Nkomo originally refused to accept this position because it is purely honorific. But even if he were to accept the presidency it would be of only a short duration since the ruling party has announced that among its plans for changing the country's constitution is the creation of an executive presidency which would be filled by Mugabe.

Apart from promoting reconciliation with the Ndebele, Mugabe has three major concerns that transcend the questions raised by Nkomo's return. The first is how to achieve a single-party state by consent.

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

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

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

Mugabe met this challenge head-on by declaring that such a change of policy would strike at the fundamental character of Zanu. He insisted that those who now favoured a system of private enterprise should come into the open, and that he would then be ready to order new elections on the single issue of whether Zanu should abandon its commitment to socialism. This issue remains unresolved.

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

Mugabe has also ordered that his ministers should give a full accounting of all their assets and show how these were acquired since independence.

Meanwhile, though, the prime minister remains deeply concerned about what he sees as a growing military threat from South Africa. During his recent visit to Botswana he discussed reports about the movement into South Africa of dissidents who have fled into exile from Matabeleland.

There is independent evidence to show that this is happening. According to one source, a lieutenant of Nkomo's, Zapu is itself concerned about this development.

Mugabe has several times accused South Africa of building up a sizeable force of Zimbabwean exiles, black and white, with the aim of destabilising his country. Pretoria denies it.

However, the question remains why Zimbabwean exiles should be undergoing training in a South African military camp in the Northern Transvaal.

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

He intends to discuss the possiblity of a security agreement between the USSR, Zimbabwe and other border states along South Africa's frontiers when he visits Moscow shortly.



□ Mugabe and Nkomo in peace-making times: Signing the Lancaster House agreement when allies

The big grab in Zimbabwe

Now South Africa faces problem of ex-Rhodesians

Finance Correspondent

THOUSANDS of ex-Rhodesians in South Africa could face destitution and could become drains on the State following the latest ruling of Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank.

The ambiguously worded ruling, issued in May, was construed by financial analysts in this country as a shrewdly generous move to release blocked shares (notably external securities) to encourage confidence and thus further investment in the Zimbabwean financial structure.

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

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

These securities could either be sold in Zimbabwe and the proceeds equivalent to the individual's entitlement or be re-registered and exported.

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

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

But the snag, created by the Smith regime and now being exploited by Zimbabwe's new rulers, was that the scrip of all shares and stock required in this way, had to be held in safe custody by nominee companies (mostly banks) who alone held registers of the individual investors.

External organisations, such as Escom, were required to send dividends from South Africa in the form of blanket amounts, to the relevant nominee companies in Rhodesia.

The nominee companies would then sort out from their registers what the individual investors living outside Rhodesia were entitled to and the correct dividends would be re-remitted to them in South Africa.

There was an obvious foreign currency benefit in this for the receiving country, in the form of bank charges and advantageous exchange rates. But at least the emigrants now living in South Africa did eventually get the bulk of the dividends they would have received had they been paid direct by the income-generating organisations in this country.

Now, however, the individual investors have been informed that their dividends will no longer be re-remitted to them. Whatever dividends come in from South Africa — and presumably any other country — will stay in Zimbabwe.

To give a semblance of legality to this seizure, which appears to be a direct breach of the undertaking given by the nominee companies, the Zimbabwe Reserve Bank has directed that the deprived investors may have exported to them stock or shares to the value of each dividend entitlement as it comes in from the external countries until such time as their investments have been whittled away to nothing.

Thus, in place of the income they would normally have received the investors will merely get releases in dribs and drabs, of the scrip for which they have already paid in full.

Moreover, they have been advised that it will take "considerable time" to effect such re-registration and transfer of scrip.

Even if the transfers were made concurrently with the receipt of each dividend in Zimbabwe, in the case of such a highly popular investment as Escom long-term loan stock, the recipients would have to wait anything from 20 to 25 years before they would be locally drawing what has hitherto been their full income from this source.

By that time, assuming the recipients are still alive, inflation will have reduced the value of the income they *now* depend on to the equivalent of cigarette money . . . if that.

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

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

A possible solution, as suggested by one ex-Rhodesian immigrant, is that for those who can produce documentary proof of their investments here, an instruction from the South African Government be given to the local undertakings concerned, to cancel the relevant amount of stock held by this or that nominee company in Zimbabwe, issue new stock and pay the dividends direct in this country to the investors.

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

this year. — Reuter.

sociated Press.

Nkomo lobbied outside support, says Mugabe

362 22/8/83

The Star's Foreign News Service

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

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

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

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

Zapu vice-president Mr Josiah Chinamano, who headed the party during Mr Nkomo's absence, said at the weekend that the recent Government move to oust Mr Nkomo from his seat in Parliament had badly damaged the Government's image abroad.

Ethiopians fa

KHARTOUM — All able and 50 are being called Recruits are being push... months of basic training series of new offensives

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...be forced to a virtual ...
...strike in the townships
Mr Masson argued: "If th...
...the already sensitive labo...
...sands of black commut...
...cars were growing tha...
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(362) R304 23/2/83

Major writers in Zimbabwe for landmark literary fair

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

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

Centrepiece of the fair is a display of about 1 700 recent titles from 110 African publishing houses in 26 African countries, as well as about 200 African-published journals and periodicals. The only South African publishing house taking part is Ravan Press.

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

And tonight, the premier African publishing award, the Noma Award, will be presented to Ghana's former attorney-general, Mr A N E Amissah, for his scholarly work, Criminal Procedure in Ghana.

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

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

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

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

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

There are also several delegations from Francophone Africa as well as writers from Mozambique, Angola, Malawi, Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Nigeria and Ghana.

Mara's long wait in the agony of uncertainty

'I JUST WANTED TO DIE WHEN HE WAS TAKEN AWAY AGAIN'

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



● Mrs Mara Minnaar — her face shows the strain but she keeps a tight rein on her emotions.

Report: JEAN LE MAY Picture: OWEN REES

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

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

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

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

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

"Tai's arrest came as a terrible shock to me," she said. "I had no inkling that anything was brewing. I had always been under the impression that he was on very good terms with President Lennox Sebe."

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

"I have my work in East London, where I run a freight company — it's a long way, 85km each way, to commute daily.

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

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

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

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

"I was told he was being detained in prison in Mdantsane — the Ciskeian township outside East London — and it was agony not being able to see him.

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

"The next I heard of him was when our lawyer telephoned to say he had been told my husband had been taken to Weskoppies Hospital, for observation."

Mrs Minnaar said she — and the lawyers — were "absolutely in the dark" as to the reasons for Gen Minnaar's removal to Weskoppies, a state mental hospital in Pretoria.

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

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

"Then we brought the application in the Pretoria Supreme Court and he was released to us on Tuesday — and immediately re-arrested by South African police with a provisional warrant of arrest.

"I just wanted to die," she said, close to tears.

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

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

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

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

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



Home-made schoolboy in

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

Doctors said it was a miracle that he was not killed or more seriously injured and

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S. Express 28/8/83



Mrs Mara Minnaar — her face shows the strain but she keeps a tight rein on her emotions.

AY Picture: OWEN REES

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Rhodesian links in the life of jailed Ciskei expert Minnaar . . .

By JEAN LE MAY

CLOSE business links were traced this week between Major-General Taillefer Minnaar, the former Ciskei security adviser now in Pretoria Central Prison, and a number of prominent ex-Rhodesians operating in the security field.

They include Mr Isaac Kaye, whose Rhodesian interests date back to Northern Rhodesia; Lieutenant-General Ron Reid-Daly, founder of the Selous Scouts and Mr John Erasmus, a former National Party candidate backed by Mr Kaye.

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

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

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

A former employee of Volksguard confirmed to the Sunday Express that Mr Kaye, former chairman of Greatermans as well as of the Alumina group and a board member of SA Druggists, was the majority shareholder in the company.

Volksguard operated for only nine months in 1979.

After the company collapsed, another company, Security Specialists International, was formed, the majority shareholder being Mr Kaye's company Veritas Promotions International.

The Rhodesian link is obvious in this too, since among the directors of SSI are Mr Erasmus; Gen Reid-Daly, now head of the Transkei armed forces and former Rhodesian war hero Mr Christopher John Gough.

Mr Erasmus had business links with Mr Kaye before the formation of Volksguard and SSI, since he was security consultant to Greatermans — now Checkers — of which Mr Kaye was then managing director, and to SA Druggists which over Mr Kaye's giant Alumina group.

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

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

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

Mr Goldberg now runs a freight company, Adfreight.

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

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

"Both Mrs Minnaar and Mr Bishop left when Volksguard was formed," he said.



Home-made bomb lands schoolboy in hospital

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

Doctors said it was a miracle that he was not killed or more seriously injured and predicted his recovery will take at least three months.

The boy, a pupil at Selbourne Primary School, made his bomb by mixing household substances in an empty mineral bottle.

The bottle exploded, burning his chest, neck, abdomen, arms and face. — Sapa.

MAISH CAN TAKE A BRICK AND BEND IT, TURN IT, CORNER IT, TWIST IT AND ANGLE IT

Zimbabwe bid to beat corruption

262 The Star Bureau 28/8/85

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

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

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

The maximum penalty has been increased to R5 500, or five years imprisonment, for people who cannot prove that gifts received in connection with their work were given legally.

Zimbabwe sabotage trial nears close

The Star Bureau

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

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

The six officers are Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter (41), Air Commodore Philip Pile (43), Wing-Commanders Peter Briscoe and John Cox (both 36), and Air-Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd (31) and Neville Weir (24).

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

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

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

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

(Proceeding).

Mugabe will face pressure over huma

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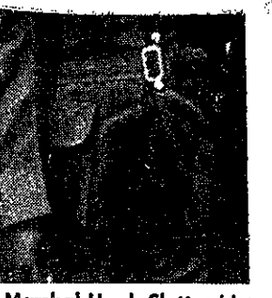

Marshal Hugh Slatter (rig
Philip Pile are led away i
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LONDON — The British Government has called for the "urgent clarification" of the Zimbabwean decision to redetain the six air force officers who were acquitted in the High Court, Harare, yesterday of being involved in the sabotage of aircraft last year.

This was confirmed by a Foreign Office spokesman who said the British Government welcomed the fact that Judge Enoch Dumbutshena had found all the accused not guilty.

"But we are disturbed by the redetentions. Our High Commission in Harare has been instructed to seek urgent clarification of the position."

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

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

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

QC is 'sickened'

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

He said the Zimbabwe Government can expect pressure from friendly Western countries worried about its human rights record.

Western diplomats said before the trial that the question of whether acquittals would be followed by freedom or redetention would pose a major challenge for the Government.

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

The Government has argued in the past that courts often acquit people in security cases because of legal technicalities, and that the Government has the supreme duty of caring for the

tenant Nigel Lewis-Walker, who was redetained after being set free by a Gweru magistrate on a firearms charge.

Charges against him in connection with the sabotage of the aircraft at the Thornhill base were withdrawn.

Zimbabwe has officially admitted holding 47 people in indefinite detention, but independent sources, including church authorities, believe the real figure could be much greater.

Fleet Street newspapers today reflected British anger over the re-arrest of the six men.

Under a banner headline "Set these men free — or else" the Daily Mail sets the tone of the outrage.

In an editorial the Daily Mail said: "The rule of law bequeathed by the British is seen to go only skin deep. The euphoria which greeted that country's independence and its apparently democratic government was sadly naive, as some realists predicted.

"Mr Mugabe's regime is drifting gradually into the totalitarian mould of most of the other African states, with its combination of dictatorship and economic stagnation".

The Daily Telegraph pointed to the unusually harsh tones of Whitehall's reaction in an editorial under the heading "Justice denied". The Telegraph described the re-arrest of the six officers as "crude".

Dr Ushewokunze "has the gall to describe the arguments of the judge as legal technicalities," the Telegraph said.

It said history will probably take a dim view of Britain's "unseemly boastfulness after Lancaster House", and there is a cause for "feeling shame for the way in which we divested ourselves of all our responsibilities in Africa".

The Times carried a report which described the scenes outside the court.

The Guardian also carried the re-arrest prominently on its front page quoting people in the crowd shouting: "So this is your justice, you black bastards."

Joy turns to tears as officers are marched off

Wives are shocked by redetention

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — In a heartrending scene at the Harare High Court tears of joy shed at the acquittal of the six Zimbabwean Air Force officers turned to bitter sobs and cries of anger as news of redetention spread among the crowd of relatives, friends and wellwishers.

Inside the courtroom there had been emotional scenes as Mr Justice Enoch Dumbutshena pronounced the verdict of "not guilty".

There was an immediate burst of applause and, as the judge left the court at 3.15 pm, spectators surged forward to embrace and shake the hands of men who had been imprisoned for the past year.

The oficers hugged wives and families and spoke of the joy of going home.

"Just to be with my family," said Wing Commander John Cox, "That's all I want now. We are still serving officers and we must see the AFZ commander before deciding the next step."

The plan was for the men to be given warrants of release before leaving for Chikurubi maximum-security prison to collect their belongings.

The crowd drifted into the courtyard, leaving the officers, their lawyers and service chaplains inside.

Shortly before 4 pm extra policemen and prison officers appeared and anxiety spread among the groups.

A chaplain came out to say that indefinite detention orders had been ordered, and anxiety turned to anger.

The crowd of about 200 refused to move and when the officers were finally led out of the courtroom to the cells, handcuffed in pairs, men and women first cheered and clapped and then shouted at the prison oficers.

"Bastards, bastards," shouted one elderly white man. "So this is justice."

Lawyers said the officers had been detained under a section of the emergency powers which enables the Home Affairs Minister to detain anyone if he considers it expedient in the interests of public safety or public order.

The detention orders are subject to a review by a tribunal, but the Government is not obliged to follow its recommendations.

● See Page 2, World section.



Air-Lieutenant Neville Weir's girlfriend, Miss Sue Haylock (centre), and his mother, Mrs Pati Quail (right), in tears after the news was broken to them that the serviceman had been redetained after his acquittal by the Harare High Court yesterday.

Zimbabwe releases Moll

HARARE — Mr Edward Moll, the Zimbabwe National Railways employee in Botswana who was arrested in January this year for allegedly insulting President Caanan Banana and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, has been released.

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

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

Mr Moll was ordered to be released on March 21, but the Minister re-detained him on April 20. — Sapa.

Joy to grief for Zimbabwe wives as

Freed air force men redetained

362 R504

1/9/83

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE.

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

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

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

After the verdict, a triumphant Mr Ognall had said: "These men have had a conspicuously fair trial, not only in the attitude of my opponent but in the co-operation I have received from him and the state."

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

Observers believe the r detention — the fourth tim this year that people ha been re-arrested after be set free by the courts — severely strain relations tween Zimbabwe and s Western countries.

In an indefinite dete order under the swe emergency powers r tions, the Minister of Affairs, Dr Herbert U kunze, said he believ officers "will be a danger to public safety and order" if set free.

The officers had alleg they had been subjected brutal electric shock tortur Yesterday Mr Justice Dum butshena said some of the electric shock evidenc heard in the nine-week trial had "the ring of truth".

He found that police inves tigating the sabotage of war planes at Thornhill Air Force Base, near Gweru, in July last year, had moved the six officers from one "antagonis tic environment to another" and denied them their consti tutional right of access to their lawyers.

He said the denial of legal access was illegal inducement and therefore ruled the confessions inadmissable as evidence. Besides the confessions there had been "very little incriminating evidence against the officers".

The officers are Air Vice-Marshal Sir Hugh Slatter, 41, Air Commodore Philip Pile, 43, Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, 37, Wing Commander John Cox, 36, Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd, 31, and Air Lieutenant Neville Weir, 24.

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

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

One of the officers' wives said immediately after the trial that she and her family would be leaving Zimbabwe as fast as possible".

A spokesman for the British High Commission in Harare said the position was "still unclear" and he would not comment yet on the redetention. Four of the officers have dual British and Zimbabwean citizenship.

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

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

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

Sowetan 1/9/87

Mugabe asks for German aid

762



MUGABE: Request to friends.

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

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

This was a request Zimbabwe had always made to its friends in the West . . . the same friends whom South Africa depended on for support at international forums, especially the UN.

"One hopes . . . that there will be this realisation that for us to prosper, for us to develop our economic systems, there has to be that degree of freedom from acts of aggression, from acts of sabotage that South Africa is perpetrating against us," the Prime Minister said.

Mr Mugabe said South Africa had recently begun taking advantage of the dissident problem in western Zimbabwe.

"They have been recruiting former Zipra and banding them together with former Muzorewa auxiliaries who fled the country and are still in South Africa and sending them to Matabeleland as trained dissidents to operate under the banner of Zapu," he said.

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

Asked whether the West German Government had responded "constructively" to requests for a more positive stand on South Africa, Mr Mugabe ackowledged the role that the country was playing as a member of the five-nation contact group.

"But one would hope that our appeal has been passed from the previous administration to the government of Chancellor Kohl and now that there has been this interaction between us and the new administration, there is an understanding of our problem." — Sapa.

Zimbabwe re-detentions revive old fears about Mugabe

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — The re-detention of the six air force officers acquitted of complicity in last year's sabotage of aircraft at Thornhill has revived old fears that Mr Robert Mugabe's Government is prepared to pay only lip service to the concept of the rule of law.

Whether the officers are released shortly, as some informed circles believe is likely, or whether they are kept in prison indefinitely, the damage has been done.

In three major trials now the State has failed to prove its case.

Yet the people involved, innocent in the eyes of the law, are behind bars.

The orders served on the air force officers follow the pattern set when two former Central Intelligence Organisation officers, Mr Philip Hartlebury and Mr Colin Evans, were detained in January after their acquittal, and the re-detention in May of six top Zapu men, including Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and Lieutenant-General Lookout Masuku, after they had been found not guilty.

But the outcome of the air force trial and the acceptance by the judge that the stories of torture and ill-treatment had "a ring of truth" raises wider issues concerning the conduct of the police.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

But in this case the presiding judge, Mr Justice Dumbutshena, who was the first black judge to be appointed to the bench after Mr Mugabe came to power, has long-standing associations with the nationalist movement.

Thornhill six may be deported by Zimbabwe

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

With international concern mounting over their fate, Britain yesterday made it clear that the continued detention of the six officers was "absolutely unacceptable".

The incident could seriously damage British/Zimbabwean relations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Of the other officers, four hold dual British-Zimbabwean nationality and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, who was born in South Africa, is a citizen of Zimbabwe by registration.

Six refugee buses from Botswana return empty

(362) Mercury 2/9/83

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

The buses had been sent to Francistown to transport those of the estimated 3 000 Zimbabweans in the Dukwe Camp who were willing to return, following an agreement between the Bostwana and Zimbabwean governments to repatriate them.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The protection officer of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Botswana, Mr Rainor Hassinen, said the UNHCR was particularly concerned about the fate of 470 'unaccompanied' children. — (Sapa)

Lawyers battle over six airmen

HARARE — Negotiations were apparently taking place yesterday between lawyers representing the six detained air force officers and the Zimbabwe Government.

However the government seemed to be adopting a relaxed attitude over their fate.

As the airmen languished in a maximum security prison two days after being acquitted of sabotage and then re-detained under emergency powers, government leaders were out of their offices.

A government spokesman said the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, was in Urungwe, some 200 km from the capital, addressing a political meeting. Officials in the Information Ministry took the afternoon off to attend the annual Harare Agricultural Show.

One Information Ministry spokesman said a statement on the re-detentions was imminent while another said it was possible there might be no news until after the weekend.

Diplomatic sources said the issue was very delicate and there was no firm indication yet whether the airmen would be freed soon or held indefinitely.

Sources close to the defence team for the airmen — acquitted because their alleged confessions to involvement in a devastating raid on Zimbabwe's air force a year ago were obtained through torture — said negotiations were under way to obtain the officers' early release and departure from the country.

But there was no indication of how far the talks had progressed. Four of the defendants have joint British-Zimbabwean nationality and Britain has indicated that all six would be welcome to go there.

Both Britain and the United States, Zimbabwe's biggest aid benefactors with several hundred million dollars pledged for development programmes, have indicated concern at the implications of the re-detentions on the rule of law in one of Africa's youngest states.

Mr Mugabe is due to leave next week on an official visit to Ireland, the United States and Canada and could face tough questioning if the officers are still in jail. — Reuter.

Chad claims to have killed 800 rebels in new fighting

N'DJAMENA — The Chad Government said yesterday that its troops had killed 800 Libyan-backed rebels and captured 600 after repulsing an attack on a garrison in north-east Chad.

An army communique said most of the men captured after a battle around Oum-Chalouba, some 640 km from here, were Sudanese.

The communique said the forces of President Hissene Habre's government captured 12 vehicles with anti-aircraft and ground-to-ground missiles mounted on them, and 16 large Mercedes trucks loaded with ammunition and food.

The communique gave no further details of the battle which began early yesterday morning.

Chad's Information Minister Mr Mahamat Soumaila said a force of about 3 000 Libyan-backed rebels, supported by tanks, armoured cars and artillery, attacked the government garrison at Oum-Chalouba.

Earlier there were reports that French Jaguar aircraft were involved in the fighting — but the French Defence Ministry in Paris would not confirm or deny this.

French Jaguar striker aircraft and Mirage fighter escorts — there are four of each based here — did take off from N'djamena yesterday morning but there was no word on their destination. — Reuter.

RUMOURS RIFE THAT AIRMEN WILL BE DEPORTED BEFORE MUGABE'S THREE-NATION TOUR

Smith (I was gagged) plans new appeal

to release Zimbabwe's six detained officers

By NORMAN ELLIS and ANDRE VILJOEN: Harare

AMID an international storm over Zimbabwe's detention of six white airmen acquitted of sabotage charges, former Prime Minister Ian Smith is to publicly call for their release in Parliament on Tuesday.

Mr Smith was thwarted in an effort on Thursday to raise the issue in the 100-member House of Assembly the day after the airmen were declared free men for the first time in a year.

A government-led walk-out robbed the House of a quorum.

But Mr Smith said in an interview he would raise the matter when the House sits next on Tuesday.

"It was a deliberate, dirty trick to silence me," Mr Smith said.

"They have guilty consciences."

The state-controlled Press, radio and TV have pointedly ignored reports from Britain, the United States and other Western nations of angry protests over the detentions — ordered by Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze minutes after black Judge Enock Dumbutshena acquitted the airmen.

They were charged with helping South African saboteurs to blow up 13 warplanes at the Thornhill airbase on July 25 last year.

But the independent Financial Gazette slammed the detentions as "cruel and impossible to understand" and suggested Prime Minister Robert Mugabe axe Dr Ushewokunze — who has signed hundreds of detention orders — from the Cabinet.

"The Prime Minister will undoubtedly feel the effect of this on his imminent trip to Ireland, Canada and the United States," the editorial said.

"It will cast a shadow on what promises to be a most constructive tour."

The airmen are Zimbabwean-born Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, 41, London-born Air Commodore Philip Pile, 43, South African-born Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, 36, Dublin-born Wing Commander John Cox, 36, Manchester-born Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd, 31, and Malawi-born Air Lieutenant Neville Weir, 24.

They were freed of the charges after the judge ruled that their "signed confessions" — the lynchpin of the State case — were extracted through electric shock torture and threats and were inadmissible.

Spectators in the crowded courtroom rose to applaud the judge, but tears of joy from the officers' wives turned to tears of anger and despair as the airmen were handed detention orders instead of release papers by a prisons officer.

Jeers

And cheers from family and friends changed to jeers as the bewildered officers, clad in business suits, were handcuffed and driven away in a police van — not to the freedom the judge promised, but to the cells of the Chikurubi Prison on the outskirts of Harare that had been their home for months.

"Black bastards," shouted one white man as tensions heightened. He was promptly arrested.

"This is unbelievable, just unbelievable," cried one of the five wives who had sat on wooden benches at the front of the courtroom during the two-month ordeal.

Behind-the-scenes diplomats and legal efforts were continuing yesterday to get the officers freed along with a seventh airman, Briton Nigel Lewis-Walker, who was re-detained on Dr Ushewokunze's orders in May after being exonerated of charges of illegal possession of arms.

Both government and diplomatic sources say they expect the seven airmen to be freed and expelled, probably to Britain, before Mugabe sets off on his three-nation tour.

"It would not be a very comfortable trip for the PM if this matter is not settled before he goes," said one official.

Embarrassing

"He would run into a lot of embarrassing questions."

But it would be equally embarrassing for Mr Mugabe — at home — if the whites were freed while six black officials of Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zimbabwe African People's Union remain in detention after being acquitted in April of capital charges of plotting to overthrow the government.

"Zimbabweans will be mighty puzzled if they see the whites go free and not the blacks," one diplomat noted.

Wives of the five married airmen, meanwhile, have their bags packed ready to quit Zimbabwe for good.

"We are confident our prayers will be answered," said Liz Pile, who like the other wives and all their husbands have become born-again Christians over the ordeal.

Lt Col Val Rajah, chaplain to Zimbabwe's armed forces, visited the airmen in their cells at Chikurubi prison on Thursday and reported: "They're in good spirits and confident they'll be out soon."

Informed sources continued to speculate that it was probable that all or some of the detained officers would be released and deported although they thought it unlikely that any action would be taken before Monday.

A spokesman for the British High Commission in Harare, which has sought clarification from the Zimbabwean Government because of British concern that the six officers were not released after their acquittal, would say only that there had been talks at "a high level" between the High Commission and the Zimbabwean Government.

Speculation that the government was considering deporting the officers has been given added impetus by the fact that it asked their lawyers on Thursday whether the six had valid passports.

The lawyers said they were watching the outcome of diplomatic pressure to secure the officers' release but that possible legal steps would include trying to secure an urgent review of their re-detention.



THE JOY — Phillip Pile and wife Liz shortly after his release, but their reunion was brief



THE SORROW — Paddy Briscoe ... praying for release

Zimbabwe silent on fate of six re-detained

The Star Bureau 5/9/83 (362)

HARARE — Official silence surrounds the continued detention of the six Zimbabwe Air Force officers re-arrested after their acquittal in the High Court on sabotage charges.

The action led to protests from Britain, and the United States is concerned that the incident may mar Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's forthcoming visit to Washington.

Morale has slumped in the business community and there is a discernible air of depression among whites and moderate blacks over the damage done to Zimbabwe's international standing.

While the main newspapers, owned by a Government-appointed trust, have declined to comment so far, the independent Financial Gazette weekly said that by any accepted standard of justice the men should now be free.

It called on the Government to provide cogent reasons for the re-detention or else to release the officers.

British officials insist that contact between the two governments over the fate of the men is too delicate for comment. Zimbabwe officials have remained tight-lipped.

Lawyers for the officers have been in consultation with their clients and with officials of both governments for many hours since the re-detention last Wednesday.

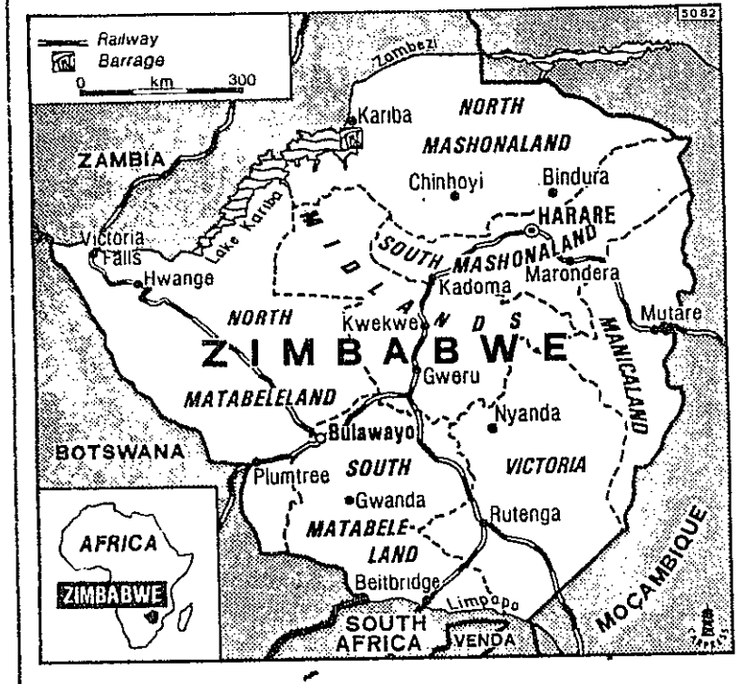
It is widely expected that at least some of the officers will be released before Mr Mugabe leaves on Wednesday for Ireland, the United States and Canada.

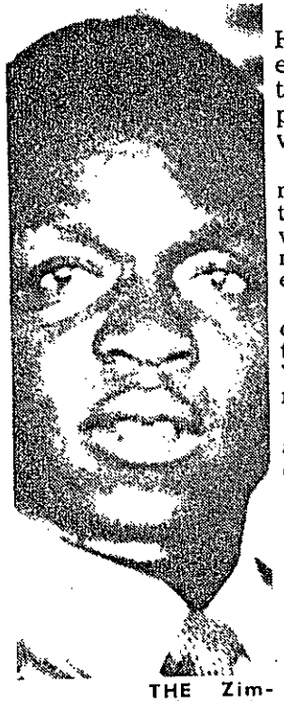
It is thought likely that Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, Air Commodore Philip Pile and Wing-Commander Peter Briscoe will be released on conditions. But there is doubt about the release of Wing Commander John Cox and Air Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir.

DISSIDENTS

(362) Argus 6/9/87

Remains of abducted whites found — report





THE Zimbabwe Minister of State Security, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa ... remains found.

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — The Zimbabwe Government says captured bandits in the Matabeleland province have pointed out the remains of two whites abducted some months ago.

The State Security Minister, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, said the captured dissidents showed security forces what appeared to have been the remains of Mr David Bilang and Mr Robert Dyer-Smith.

Mr Bilang, a Natal University student, was abducted with his grandfather, Mr Benjy Williams, on New Year's Eve in the Turk Mine area north of Bulawayo.

Mr Williams was found dead shortly after the abduction. He had been murdered by his kidnappers.

Bulawayo accountant

Mr Dyer-Smith, 66, a Bulawayo accountant, was taken by armed bandits from his farm on the outskirts of the city on March 18.

Two employees with with Mr Dyer-Smith were set free by the dissident gang and given a note to take back to the authorities. The note demanded the release from detention Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and Lieutenant-General Lookout Masuku, both top officials in Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party.

According to Mr Munangagwa, the captured dissidents also admitted being involved in the murder of a farming couple, Mr and Mrs Eric Stratford, and their two grandchildren in the Nyamandlovu district on

Special Offer !

VISITS

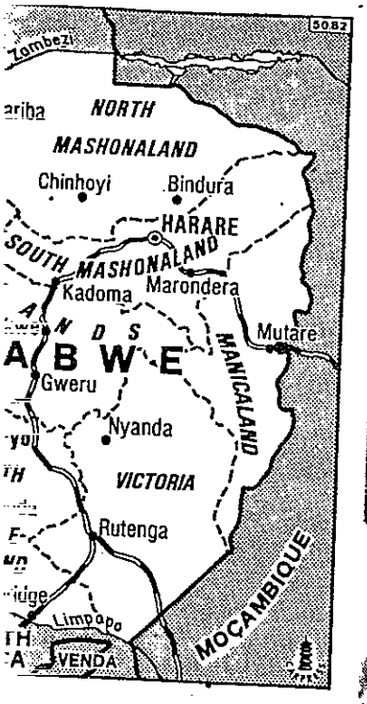


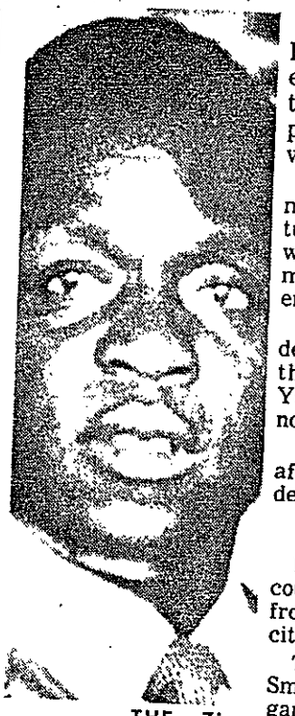
MOZAMBIQUE President Samora Machel, who has held talks in Maputo with the Cape Verde leader, President Aristides Pereira, a key intermediary in talks between South Africa and Angola.

Radio Maputo said President Pereira flew to Luanda after a "working visit". Mr Machel praised the Cape Verde leader for his mediation role.

DIPLOMACY

Reds in Harare meeting





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According to Mr Munangagwa, the captured dissidents also admitted being involved in the murder of a farming couple, Mr and Mrs Eric Stratford, and their two grandchildren in the Nyamandlovu district on March 18.

Meanwhile, there has still been no news of the fate of six foreign tourists who were abducted by dissidents on July 23 last year.

The six — two Britons, two Americans and two Australians — were nearing the end of a trans-Africa tour when they were abducted at a bandit roadblock on the Bulawayo-Victoria Falls road.

● Some bus services have been stopped in parts of rural Matabeleland after the recent destruction of buses. One bus company has reported losing eight buses.

VISITS



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DIPLOMACY

Reds in Harare meeting

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — A two-man Soviet delegation led by the head of the Foreign Ministry's East and Southern Africa department has arrived here for "official consultations".

The leader of the delegation, Mr Vladilen Vasev, said the purpose of the visit was to consult friendly countries on the eve of the UN General Assembly session.

It was his country's practice to hold consultations with other countries on their attitudes to various issues and "also to make our own position known".

SCARES

Residents in part of city are plagued by pythons

Argus Africa News Service

NAIROBI. — Residents of the Kasarani district of Nairobi have appealed to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife to rid them of pythons in the area.

"I do not want to imagine what a python could do to my three-year-old child, who usually plays outside in the compound," said one resident, Mr Festus Keverenge.

Another related how his dog narrowly escaped when a python lunged at it but missed. The alarm came after a policeman shot a five-metre python in the area.

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ZIMBABWE

362 Argus 7/9/83

Day of economic reckoning comes

Following this week's food price increases, the ordinary man must be asking what has happened to the promised fruits of independence, writes Robin Drew of the Argus Foreign Service in Harare

NOTHING has so clearly rammed home the message that Zimbabwe is in desperate economic straits than the sweeping increases in the prices of essential basic foodstuffs which came into force this week.

The price of mealie meal, the people's staple diet, went up by more than 40 percent, milk by 50 percent and bread by 25 percent. And prices charged for meat, cooking oil and fats have also shot up.

To soften the blow a little, the Government has ordered that people earning less than R320 a month be given pay increases of up to R10. But for the majority of workers, including those in the agricultural, mining and domestic sectors, the increase will be limited to about R5 a month.

The huge increases in food prices are as a result of the painful decision to cut agricultural subsidies savagely and are aimed at saving the Government about R150 million a year.

Warnings aplenty

There have been plenty of warnings that belts will have to be tightened because of the dual effects of the drought and the world recession.

Indeed, "Tighten Your Belts" might be said to have become the national slogan.

But the ordinary man, who has already suffered from July's budget of austerity which brought increases in sales tax on most consumer goods and an extention of income tax down to those earning as little as R107 a month, must be asking what has happened to the promised fruits of independence.

In just 20 months, for example, the price of mealie meal has doubled. But minimum wages, which last went up at about the same time, have — apart from the compensatory wage increase for lower paid workers just announced to coincide with the food price rises — remained the same in spite of frequent promises of review.

Inflationary

There can hardly be a single item which has not increased sharply in price. Many of the increases — such as the increase for petrol, which went up by 38 percent in February and electricity charges which soared by up to 53 percent in July — have had a biting inflationary effect.

The slashing of the subsidies on agricultural products has been on the cards for some years and an earlier reduction resulted in the first increase in the price of mealie meal at the end of last year.

But the Government has been reluctant, because of possible political repercussions, to take a big stride in this direction.

After the first year of independence, the previous Finance Minister, Mr Enos Nkala, complained that he was fighting a lonely battle to get food subsidies reduced.

"Much worse"

He warned then that the subsidy bill would bankrupt the nation and that the day of reckoning must eventually come. Two and a half years later that day seems to have been reached.

Mr Nkala's warning that putting off the unpopular decision would make it that much worse seems to have been borne out.

There have been many other calls by economists for the Government to reduce subsides. But by failing to act decisively before now, the Government has been forced to implement cuts across the board instead of being able to phase in the increases.

The sacrifices which the people are having to make will revive criticism of over-spending by the Government in other areas, such as the number of Ministers and Deputy Ministers Mr Mugabe has around him.

Credit due

There are altogether 55 Ministers and Deputy Ministers, making it an extremely top-heavy administration.

The civil service, too, has increased by nearly 70 percent. This excludes the armed forces which are also a heavy drain on Government funds.

The defence vote is absorbing more than R1-million a day, taking up 19 percent of recurrent expenditure. And the four votes of defence, education (top of the bill), health and home affairs (which includes the police) take up more than half of Government expenditure.

With the decline in the inflow of international aid, the absence of any substantial investment and reserves completely run down, the Government has obviously decided that the time to act on the subsidy bill could no no longer be delayed.

In that sense it deserves credit for taking what is a dangerously unpopular step. But the price it will pay in loss of support among the people has yet to be counted.

Mugabe's ties with West are slipping

362 RDM 8/9/83

AS BRITAIN and Zimbabwe wrangle over the release of the six white Zimbabwean Air Force officers re-arrested after their acquittal on sabotage charges last month, it is clear that Mr Robert Mugabe's relations with Britain have reached a turning point.

The wave of fury that followed the re-detention of the six officers in the Thornhill sabotage trial was the reaction of a nation that proudly fathered Zimbabwean independence and believed that the new state would respect at least the fundamentals of British democracy and justice.

The decision to re-arrest the men acquitted by a High Court judge has embarrassed and hurt the British as much as it has angered them.

With the United States, Britain provides the bulk of Western aid to Zimbabwe and its hopes for the development of a stable and prosperous black state in Southern Africa — which could set an example to white-ruled South Africa — have been high.

The Americans and British have stood by Zimbabwe and watched with alarm the gradual erosion of a strong economy, the growing insecurity of whites, the alienation of Joshua Nkomo and his Ndebeles, the strengthening of ties with the Eastern bloc and Mr Mugabe's determination to establish a one-party state in Zimbabwe.

The Thornhill case was by no means the first assault on the rule of law in post-independence Zimbabwe.

But opinion in Britain is unanimous that the contempt shown for the considered finding of Mr Justice Enoch Dumbutshena is the last straw in the erosion of the rule of law.

Whatever happens to the six re-detained men — and a seventh who was detained but not tried — it will be a difficult task for Mr Mugabe to win back the trust of Britain and the Western world.

He will no longer be given the benefit of the doubt when his ministers overstep the bounds of democratic decency.

Fleet Street has been unanimous in its condemnation of the re-arrest of the men.

First came the extravagant language of the tabloids as they relegated Mr Mugabe and his ministers to the African jungle.

But since then a stream of editorials in the serious Fleet Street dailies condemned the Zimbabwean action and urged Mr Mugabe to reconsider his decision.

The Left-of-Centre Guardian said: "When the courts can be overturned simply to validate a suspicion unsupported by evidence the judicial process is empty of all meaning ...

"Mr Mugabe has a panoply of repressive laws available to him which he inherited from the previous administration ...

"One criterion of Zimbabwe's attitude to its people and its minorities is the way it uses those laws ... when the constitution has to be invoked to protect the individual in court it is the institutions themselves that are on trial," the Guardian said.

The Financial Times warned Mr Mugabe that a "high-handed attitude" to his own constitution would seriously erode the sympathy and support he had enjoyed from the West.

"Mr Mugabe's Government seems to be making an unfortunate habit of ignoring the verdict of the courts," the Financial Times editorial said.

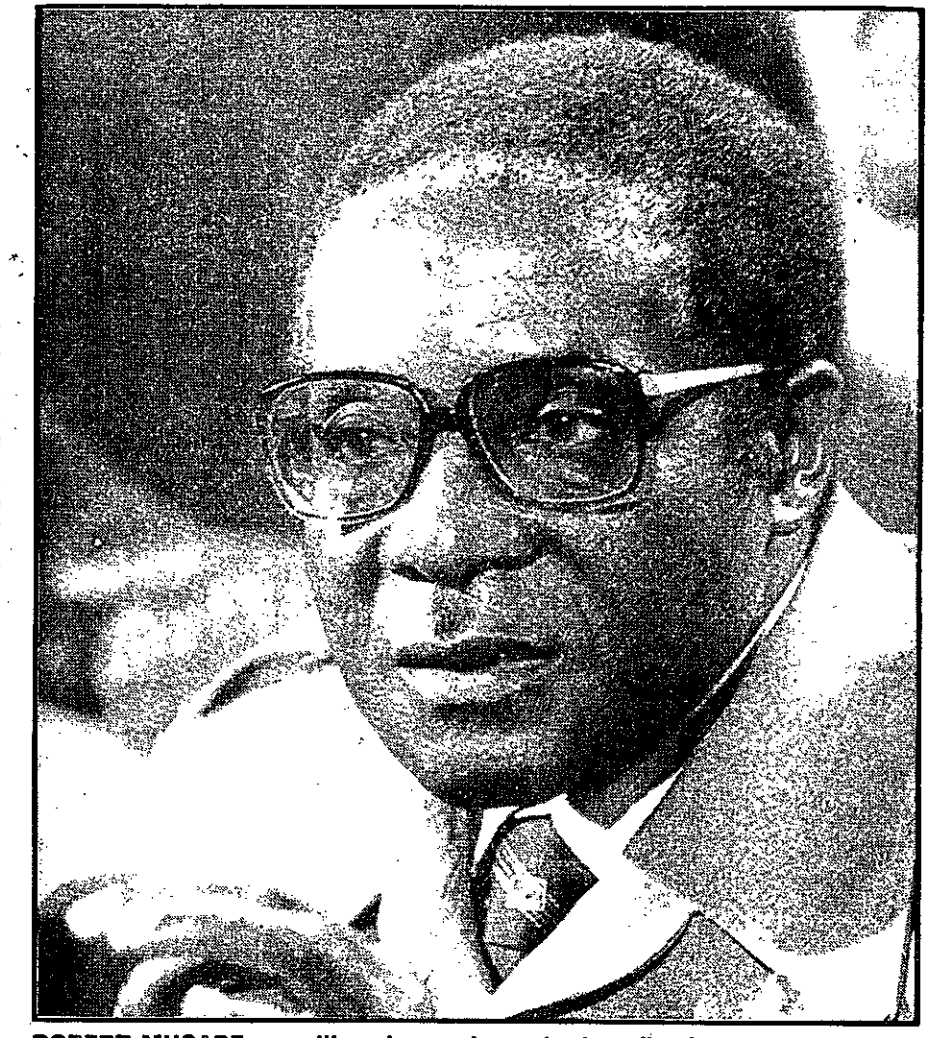
The Times warned Mr Mugabe to think again, and gave the following advice to the West:

"No sensible Western government wants to see Harare looking East for support. So very eloquent words and well-directed deeds will be needed to convince Mr Mugabe that contempt for human rights is a self-isolating and damaging course."

The Observer warned that the present damage to Zimbabwe's reputation could only be salvaged by resolute action, describing the re-arrest of the six as a "deplorable charade ... so totally repugnant to universal concepts of fair play".

And the United States' International Herald Tribune said that a return of the case to the courts would improve the prospects of Mr Mugabe's trip to the US later this week and stop "a travesty of justice which appears to be unfolding in Zimbabwe".

From JOHN BATTERSBY in London



ROBERT MUGABE ... will no longer have the benefit of the doubt

The writers of Africa

VISITORS to the recent book fair in Harare had a unique overview of the scale and fabric of contemporary African writing.

About a quarter of the 1 400 African-published titles of the past three years were creative fiction, poetry and drama (semi), a tenth were children's books and the rest were mainly academic works on the arts and social sciences. They were written by authors from 25 African countries.

Many of the displayed non-fiction books would be banned in South Africa ... four books about the jailed African National Congress leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, appeared in a number of publishers' and distributors' displays.

Much non-fiction was Marxist-oriented, and even in the religious category books with such provocative titles as "Comrade Jesus" looked unlikely candidates for South African bookshelves.

The fair — the biggest ever held in Africa — was given added life by the presence of writers from 10 African countries. The authors attended a workshop on issues facing African writers.

Dr Lewis Nkosi, a prominent critic of African writing and Professor of Literature at the University of Zambia, told the workshop there was little chance that the visibly strong political content would ever disappear from serious African writing.

Dr Nkosi was a journalist in South Africa in the 50s and left the country in 1962 to take up a fellowship at Harvard University.

"Politics is the very fibre of South African literature. The less politics it has the worse it seems to get because the writer has to make a conscious effort to avoid it," he said in an interview.

"However this is not to say that good African writing is

From ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare

just a monograph of socio-political events. It is an imaginative exploration of what is going on in society."

Looking in general at post-war African literature he said writers of the 40s and 50s had protested against colonialism. By 1965, "post-independence writers had split into two main camps: those who attacked the former colonial masters and those disenchanted writers who started criticising the regimes of men they had once supported as nationalist leaders."

It was thus no surprise that most leading writers in English-speaking Africa had either been jailed at some time or were in exile, he said.

The current conflict between writers and politicians in Africa was highlighted by a self-exiled Somali author and university lecturer, Nuruddin Farah, in a paper he presented at the workshop.

"The common task of writers is to remove the wicked and corrupt dictatorships of Africa and the falsehood that goes with it," he said.

"I am not so naive as to believe that all practitioners of the art of writing are noble, humble and true to their ideals and that all African politicians are profane, wicked and bloodthirsty . . . but by and large as an African I have been disappointed with the performance of our politicians," said Farah, who now lives in Nigeria.

A special guest at the workshop, Mr James Currey, the editorial director of Heinemann education books in charge of the 20-year-old African Writers' Series — the major existing collection of African writing — said books were chosen for their literary merit and not for their political message.

His company sold most of its books in Africa to educational institutions.

Most of his company's book sales in Africa were to educational institutions but individual book sales were improving. In the African Writers' Series, Nigerian author Chinua Achebe's "Things Fall Apart" had sold more than 2 500 000 copies, 17 titles had sold more than 100 000 copies and "quite a few first novels" had sold 20 000 to 30 000 copies.

Nigeria was the biggest market for African books followed by South Africa, Kenya and Zimbabwe.

RDM 8/9/83

Britain is urged to act on detained Zipra men

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The British Government has been urged to protest about the redetention of two of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zipra officers while making demands for the release of the six white air force officers in Zimbabwe.

Major-General Sir John Acland, who commanded the British monitoring force in Rhodesia prior to independence, says there should be no differentce in the clamour for the release of white and black officers.

Sir John, who was military adviser to the British Government during the independence transitional period, has pointed to the lack of outcry over the redetention of Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and Mr Lookout Masuku.

The two Zipra officers were acquitted at an earlier trial and immediately redetained, but their plight went almost unnoticed in Britain.

In an interview Sir John said he "sincerely hoped" that the British Government was making similar demands for the release of these two men while making its feelings known over the re-arrest of the six white officers.

He said the two Zipra men "could scarcely have been more co-operative" during the ceasefire period — "much more so than many of the white Rhodesian officers with whom we had to deal".

In a letter to The Times Sir John said that without these two the "fragile ceasefire would have collapsed on many occasions, and the whole operation would probably have failed."

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said it was "considerably more difficult" to protest over the handling of Zimbabweans in Zimbabwe than other nationalities.

Mugabe on tour as 'class justice' row hits Harare

The Star Bureau 8/9/83 (362)

HARARE — A Zimbabwe Cabinet Minister has accused the Judge President who acquitted six air force officers last week on charges of sabotage of dispensing "class justice".

As Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe left on a three-nation tour of the West — expected to draw flak over the re-detention issue — Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze lashed out at the acquittal by the Judge President, Mr Justice Enoch Dumbutshena, of the men and his evaluation of evidence.

In a statement, the controversial Dr Ushewokunze claimed that before independence High Court judges believed police witnesses and disbelieved the accused — a position "now exactly reversed".

The "Thornhill Six" — Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, Air Commodore Philip Pile, Wing Commanders Peter Briscoe and John Cox and Air Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir — were acquitted by Mr Justice Dumbutshena of complicity in a sabotage attack on the Thornhill air base last year. They were freed, but immediately re-detained.

In believing the "police torture" claims by the airmen, the judge had relied on "intuitive and unexpressed factors" which showed a set of values within the country's judiciary which favoured people with the same culture, education, and class position of those dispensing justice, the Minister said.

The Minister then tacitly admitted that the policemen investigating the case had acted illegally. He said that even if evidence was obtained illegally it was still admissable in court.

Mr Mugabe, meanwhile, looks set to stir up a storm in the West — he is due to arrive in the United States after two days in Ireland, but there is still no indication of any plan to release the "Thornhill Six".

During his five-day visit, Mr Mugabe will meet President Ronald Reagan. He has left behind him accusations of "gangster tactics" in Parliament — the house was adjourned until next Wednesday after a stormy scene on Tuesday night caused when the Government blocked attempts by Mr Ian Smith to debate the re-detentions.

ZIMBABWE

Hara-kiri in Harare

(362) Tm 9/9/83

Zimbabwe is not the only country to have detained citizens indefinitely without trial; nor did it invent the pernicious practice of re-detaining those whom the courts have found guiltless. Indeed, SA itself stands similarly convicted along with scores of states which have failed to pass international muster on human rights.

However, the case of Harare's acquitted airmen, freed by the courts of sabotage and thrown back into jail by security police last week, is beyond comprehension.

Such cynical disregard of basic justice is bad enough. But we are used to that in Africa now. What is more difficult to understand is the futility of it all.

At last count there were about 20 people in Zimbabwe prisons who were re-detained after being cleared by the courts. One, a white railway worker, has been locked up for nearly four months.

Among the others are members of Joshua Nkomo's Zapu who are regarded, rightly or wrongly, as a potential danger to the state. Yet that cannot be the reason behind the incarceration of the airmen. Their stated wish is to get out of the country as soon as possible.

In a sense, it was not only the officers in the dock last week. Zimbabwe itself was on trial. It passed the test honourably in the courtroom — not only because the accused were acquitted, but because due process of law was seen to have taken place.

But then, with the eyes of the world upon it, the Mugabe government chose to inflict upon itself and the country grievous damage which, even if the detainees are set free, will take years to repair.

Predictably, the free world finds the re-detentions abhorrent; there is talk in Britain of withdrawing foreign aid. But even more important for the national interest will be the reaction of business.

Already there are signs that investors who were initially well disposed to creating job opportunities in the newly-independent Zimbabwe have begun to waver. Zanu's anti-business stance has seen to that.

And now it publicly flaunts the fact that they will also enjoy precious little protection under the law. A combination of the two, we suspect, will turn investment away and the common man, as usual, will be the loser.

The best construction which can be placed on the unhappy events in Harare last week is that the detentions were the work of a single individual — fanatical Home Affairs Minister Herbert Ushewokunze.

As Minister of Health, he all but brought Zimbabwe's medical services to a halt with his anti-white outbursts against hospital nurses. They responded by walking out *en masse*. Ushewokunze was dropped from the Cabinet, only to be re-appointed later to the even more sensitive portfolio of Home Affairs.

In view of Ushewokunze's rank-and-file Zanu support, Mugabe no doubt found the move expedient. But the government must take collective responsibility for his irrationality. If Ushewokunze's senseless action was indeed without Cabinet knowledge, he should be dropped again. This time for keeps.

(362) FM 9/9/83

ng 183c/kg — 10% up on last year.
Current estimates are that when the es finish next month, the average price the season will exceed 185c/kg — up nost 12% on last year's figure. This ans that total income to growers will in- ease from Z$146m in 1982 to a record 175m.
For growers the good news will be that ey will have secured a 20% rise in total come — keeping up with the 20% devalu- on of the Zimbabwe dollar last Decem- r. The bad news, though, will be that ice the sales closed a year ago, the Zim- bwe dollar has depreciated by some 33%, hich means that this season's average ice will be at least 15% lower than that 1982 in terms of the US dollar.
However, the Zimbabwe Tobacco Associ- ion (ZTA) is confident of export pros- cts. It says stock carryover into the 1984 les season will be the lowest since UDI in 65.
Whether the optimism is justified re- ains to be seen. The fact is that Zim- bwe has become a high-cost producer of bacco largely because of the rising price labour, transport and fuel. Devaluation ay not have offset these increases.
Traditional export markets have always been in western Europe, north America and Japan — markets where consumption growth is stunted by high unemployment and severe excise and import duties. Yet tobacco remains Zimbabwe's main export, and it is vital that it retains its overseas market share in the face of fierce competition from lower cost producers in the far East and Brazil.
This past season's performance has been better than anticipated — given the drought-affected leaf qualities — and it may be this achievement that lies at the heart of the decision to expand again in 1983-84.

ZIMBABWE TOBACCO (362)

Puffing up profits FM 9/9/83

Zimbabwe plans to increase its flue-cured tobacco output by more than 15% in 1983-84 to 110 000 t — the largest such crop since 1980. After last season's severe drought, growers were recently pleasantly surprised by the prices on Harare auction floors. By the end of August, the seasonal price for a crop estimated at some 95 000 t was aver-

ZIMBABWE

Down austerity lane

(362) FM 9/9/83

The 70% reduction in food subsidies, sharply higher food prices and the modest rise in wages for low-income groups announced by the Zimbabwe government last week, underlines the new mood of economic realism abroad in Harare. Exactly how tough the package is won't be clear for some time since retail price increases have still to be finalised. But there can be no doubt that all sections of the community are facing a decline in living standards.

Announcing the package, Labour Minister Kumbirai Kangai revealed that without higher retail prices, food subsidies in Zimbabwe this year would total some $Z200m, but the increased prices for milk, bread, maize meal, meat and vegetable oils and fats would enable the subsidy bill to be cut by more than 70% to $Z58m.

The milk price is up 50%, while bread will cost 25% more and maize meal has gone up more than 40%. Less dramatic increases have also been announced for beef and items such as cooking oil and margarine. In an effort to soften the blow, wages which had not been raised since January 1982, have been increased by 10% ($Z5 a month) for farm labour and domestic workers, by 9,75% for industrial and commercial workers (by $Z10 to $Z115 monthly) and by 4,8% (from $Z105 to $Z110) for miners. However, these wage increases apply only to those earning less than $Z300 monthly. A wage review for higher-income groups has been promised for early 1984, but there is no doubt that the pay rises fail to compensate adequately for the increased food prices.

(362) Fm 9/9/83

In any event, this latest tough package is just one further step along the austerity road that the Zimbabwe government has been following since mid-1982. The early 1982 wage increases were followed by a tough mid-year budget which raised indirect taxes and then by the increases in vegetable oil and maize meal prices at the end of last year. In February, the mini-budget led to higher prices for petrol, drink and tobacco and the 1983 budget in July not only raised sales tax and import duties but also saw the imposition of the new 2% income tax on people earning less than $Z100 monthly. This tax has still to be finalised but is expected to come into operation next January.

By mid-1983 — before the budget increases which took effect in July — inflation was averaging 18% and this will move over the 20% level for the first time in recorded memory, before the end of this year. The increased food prices will have a particularly severe impact on lower income groups since expenditure surveys suggest that such people spend 55% of their incomes on foodstuffs. Indications are in the final quarter of 1983, the lower income group CoL index will rise by between 12% and 15% while wages will be rising by a maximum of 10%.

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Politically, the package will be unpopular but government ministers seem confident either that political memories are short or that the Shona majority will not cross the tribal divide at next year's elections to vote for an Nkomo-led opposition Ndebele party. They are almost certainly right, but that doesn't mean that the politicians can afford to ignore the "crisis of disappointed expectations" reportedly building up amongst some of the lower-paid groups.

Obviously, what is vital is that the world economic recovery should remain on course and that there should be good rains over the next six months. Given these two developments, the economy will be clearly on the mend by the time Mr Mugabe has to call the country's first post-independence general election, probably in the latter part of 1984. But if the world recovery runs out of steam or if Zimbabwe has its third successive drought, there will be no shortage of politicians inside the ruling Zanu-PF itself looking for scapegoats.

economy feature—

Aerosol Paint ... inc GST)

Stars

JOHANNESBURG FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 9 1983

Zimbabwe to expel Slatter and Pile tonight

Airmen face forced flight to freedom

362

By Andrew Walker

Two of the six Zimbabwean Air Force officers who were redetained after being acquitted in the Harare High Court of charges of sabotage were offered their freedom 10 days ago — but they refused to leave prison unless the other four were released.

Sources close to the families of Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter (41) and Air Commodore Philip Pile (43) said in Johannesburg today that the two men had "bowed to pressure" and would accept the offer of freedom today.

They are scheduled to leave Harare this evening on an Air Zimbabwe flight to London, said the sources.

The two officers had demanded that the other four — Wing Commanders Peter Briscoe (37) and John Cox (36) and Air Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd (32) and Neville Weir (24) — who are being held in the Chikurubi maximum security prison, near Harare, also be freed.

"Now they have been told by the Zimbabwean authorities that they must accept the freedom offer — or they will predudice themselves and the other four officers," said the sources.

It is not known why Air Vice Marshal Slatter and Air Commodore Pile were singled out for release.

In a surprise development last night, Zimbabwe's Home Affairs Minister, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, who signed the orders for the redetention of the six airmen, said in a statement that the two would be released on condition that they agreed to leave Zimbabwe.

Service chaplains who visited the detained men said the six had agreed that, if an offer were made to release only some of them, they would refuse to go.

Dr Ushewokunze did not mention the other four detained officers in his statement.

The Minister said the decision to release the two men was taken last Wednesday but delays in implementing the decision were caused by "unnecessary and irrelevant stances and tantrums by the officers and their lawyers".

Air Vice-Marshal Slatter holds Zimbabwean citizenship while Air Commodore Pile holds Zimbabwe-British nationality.

In London it is believed that, if the other four men are not released the Thatcher Government will be "forced to take action".

ZIMBABWE

(362) 9/9/83 Argus

Minister accuses judges of 'rich class justice'

ROBIN DREW, Argus Foreign Service, reports from Harare

THE first comment by a Zimbabwe Minister on the acquittal of the six Air Force officers of complicity in the sabotage last year of warplanes at Thornhill airbase has dimmed hopes of an early lifting of the detention orders served on all the men.

But the possibility has not been ruled out in informed circles and late last night it was announced that Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and Air Commodore Philip Pile would be freed on condition they left the country forthwith.

The tempestuous Home Affairs Minister, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, who issed the orders, made no reference to the re-detention in his public criticism of the judgment.

But he said the judge had underplayed the fact that the aircraft had been destroyed and he said:"In the final analysis these high officers had responsibility for the security of the aircraft and the base in their country's service — they obviously failed in that responsibility."

He said the judges as a group dispensed "class justice" in that they favoured the rich and educated who could afford lawyers against the poor and under-privileged.

He said: "I believe that the pattern of decisions on credibility reveals a set of values in the High Court judges, as a group, that favours those with whom they were educated and with whom they tend to associate.

"I am confirmed in this belief by the judgment's acceptance of a rule that, whatever its seeming equality, in fact treats rich and poor accused persons differently.

"That rule favours the rich only because they can afford a lawyer and demand one. Poor people however almost never demand one because they know they cannot pay for legal advice."

The Minister was referring to the ruling by Mr Justice Dumbutshena, who was the first black lawyer to be appointed a judge by the Zimbabwe Government, that confirmation proceedings before a magistrate of the alleged confessions by the officers were invalid because the men had been denied access to lawyers beforehand.

"That constitutes class justice, if ever I heard it," he said.

Deported airmen had been headed for the top

(362) Star 10/9/83

By Brendan Seery, The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE — The two airmen deported from Zimbabwe left behind them distinguished air force careers in the country they both called home.

Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter, were it not for the devastating Thornhill air base sabotage, would in all probability have now been head of the Air Force of Zimbabwe, with the rank of Air Marshal.

Air Commodore Philip Pile could well have been his second-in-command.

Air Marshal Norman Walsh told the trial that the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, and the President, Mr Canaan Banana, had approved Air Vice Marshal Slatter's appointment to the top post.

For both men, their arrests came as they were nearing the pinnacles of careers which began 20 years ago.

Originally planning on becoming an architect, Zimbabwe-born Air Vice Marshal Slatter (41) left university, accepting that his real love was flying, and joined the then Royal Rhodesian Air Force in 1962.

He gained his wings and was an active flying officer when he decided to resign from the force in October 1965. The following month, when the UDI declaration was made, he withdrew his notice and stayed in the air force.

He rose rapidly through the ranks, and in 1972 attended a staff officer training course at the South African Air Force staff college, where his instructors were impressed by his ability.

A pilot with instructor's ratings in both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, Air Vice Marshal Slatter revealed in his evidence in court that he was involved in the planning of cross-border air strikes from Rhodesia into neighbouring territories during the country's bush war.

After independence in 1980, he was chosen to head delegations from the air force to the United States and later to Europe on trips to evaluate various aircraft types for the force.

It was largely on the recommendations of his team that the government decided to buy Hawk fighter trainer aircraft from British Aerospace. Three of these aircraft were badly damaged and one destroyed in the Thornhill sabotage.

Mr Slatter was the air force chief of staff at the time he was arrested — Air Marshal Walsh's number two man.



Mrs Liz Pile buying tickets in Harare for her sons to join their father in London.

The court heard in evidence that Air Vice Marshal Slatter, as a senior officer responsible for planning, had devised a more economical pilot training programme which saved the country more than R160 000 per pilot per course.

Air Commodore Pile (43) was born in London and came to Southern Rhodesia with his parents in the late 1940s, and was educated in the country. He joined the air force in the 1950s, training first with the Royal Air Force in England as a technician and then eventually winning his wings and a commission.

Recognised by superiors as a well turned-out and meticulous officer, Mr Pile served for a time in the pre-UDI years as aide-de-camp to the then governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Humphrey Gibbs.

He also rose steadily through the ranks and was selected to be Zimbabwe's first air attache at the country's High Commission in London, shortly after independence in 1980. During this time at Zimbabwe House, Mr Pile made many friends among those in British military and aviation circles.

On his return to Zimbabwe, he was appointed as Director-General of Support Services, then promoted to Air Commodore and given the post of Director-General of Operations — effectively the third-in-command of the air force.

Heads bowed, holding hands, they prayed

By Robin Drew, The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE — In their detainees' garb of khaki longs and tunics, they stood in a circle, joined hands and bowed their heads in prayer.

The five Zimbabwe air force officers in the circle with their chaplains today were those who are remaining behind the walls of the Chikurubi maximum security prison, set in rolling farmland on the outskirts of Harare.

Their two senior colleagues, Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and Air Commodore Philip Pile, were making final plans for their departure for London following the announcement of their release and removal from the country.

The men who are still in prison are the other four officers who were acquitted in the High Court last week of complicity in the sabotage of warplanes at Thornhill airbase last year and an officer who was not brought to trial on the sabotage charges.

He is Air Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker, who was allowed to join his brother officers today — Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, Wing Commander John Cox and Air Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir.

For Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, the former South African Air Force pilot who opted to make Zimbabwe his home, the last few days must have been particularly trying.

It was widely expected that in the event of some of the men being released at this stage, he would have been among those set free.

But the official announcement of the decision to free Air Vice Marshal Slatter and Air Commodore Pile on condition that they leave Zimbabwe immediately made no mention of the other men still in detention.

It is over a year since they were first arrested in the aftermath of the devastating explosions at Thornhill airbase which destroyed or damaged 13 warplanes, an act which the government claims was carried out by South African agents.

If the five officers remain in detention, the next step in the long, drawn-out drama will be for a review tribunal to consider whether the government is justified in holding them. But even if it recommends their release, the government is not obliged to set them free.

Silence as airmen fly to freedom

(362)

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

10/9/83

HARARE — Two Zimbabwe Air Force chiefs left for freedom in London yesterday in a cocoon of silence.

Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter (41) and Air Commodore Philip Pile (43) arrived at Harare Airport in the evening in an unmarked prisons van and were given a subdued sendoff by relatives, friends and fellow air force officers.

The two senior officers, who were redetained last week after their acquittal by the High Court in Harare on charges of sabotage, would not speak to the crowd of pressmen at the airport.

"This applies here as well on the other side," said one lawyer. He would not, however, say whether the airmen were maintaining silence on the orders of the government or on legal advice.

● See Page 5.

SA-Zimbabwe talks reported

By LIZ van den NIEUWENHOF

SECRET meetings between officials from South Africa, Zimbabwe and Lesotho were reported this week but neither the Department of Foreign Affairs nor the police would confirm or deny the reports.

Colonel Chris Coetzee of the Police Directorate, however, said: "It is from time to time necessary that liaison occurs between different police forces."

Interest in the reported meetings arose from the announcement of an agreement between Lesotho and the office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees that 24 African National Congress refugees would be moved from Lesotho to other countries.

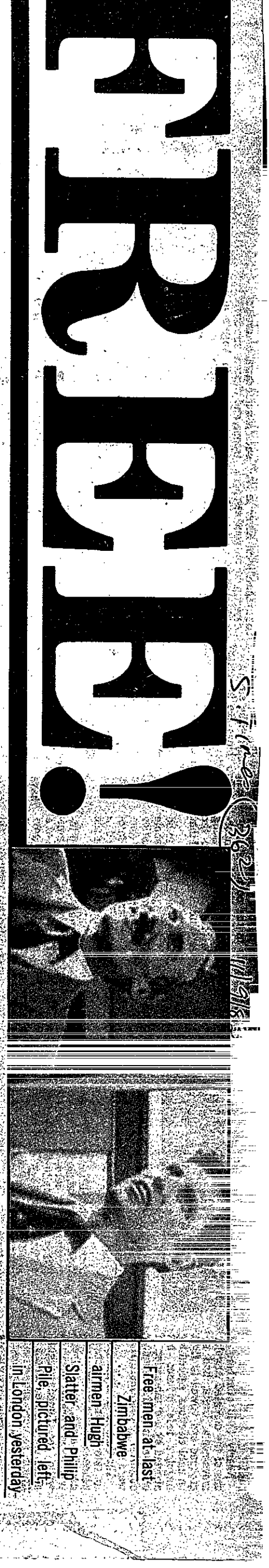
The Lesotho Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr E Sekhonyana, had announced the moving of the refugees, saying it was done to "remove obstacles that seem to obstruct normalising of relations with South Africa".

It is understood that the refugees to be moved from Lesotho were included in a list submitted by South Africa.

Sapa reported that an lawyer from Pietermaritzburg, Mrs Phyllis Naidoo, was among them.

FREE

Airmen fly in as Mugabe faces storm



Free men at last . . . Zimbabwe airmen Hugh Slatter and Philip Pile, pictured left, in London yesterday

EXILED Zimbabwe airmen Hugh Slatter and Philip Pile flew into freedom yesterday — and just missed a face-to-face meeting with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

Moments after the air force officers left Gatwick airport for London, the Zimbabwean leader flew in from Ireland on his way to the United States.

Mr Mugabe is having a rough ride on his three-nation overseas tour as his government faces mounting condemnation over its redetention of the six air force officers acquitted on sabotage charges.

By MICHELLE FAUL, who was on the freedom flight, and MARGARET SMITH in London

He has already quarrelled with British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, over the issue, accusing her of interfering in the internal affairs of Zimbabwe, and he faces a grilling in the United States today.

President Reagan is expected to raise the issue during their talks on Tuesday.

Penniless and jobless, Air Vice Marshall Slatter, 41, and Air Commodore Pile, 43, will this weekend begin picking up the pieces of their shattered lives.

Their families, left behind in Zimbabwe, are preparing to join them in Britain.

In a carefully worded statement on their arrival in Britain, Hugh Slatter and Philip Pile spoke briefly of their concern for the men still in detention.

"We are concerned for the predicament of our fellow officers who are left behind. But I hope that their situation also will be resolved very soon," Mr Slatter said on behalf of both men.

The two consistently refused to make political statements or speak of their torture ordeal for fear of jeopardising the release of the others.

Diplomatic sources in Harare have confirmed that the two senior men initially refused to go free unless their juniors were also released.

But they were eventually persuaded that their freedom could pave the way for the release of the other airmen.

There was cheerful atmosphere of aboard the flight that took the exiled officers to London.

Applause

Captain Tony Thomas won them a round of applause from the mainly white passengers when he announced shortly after take-off: "We have two important celebrities on board. We hope that they will enjoy their flight."

During the flight, Mr Slatter and Mr Pile received a stream of good wishes and congratulations from white passengers.

They spoke guardedly about their imprisonment, praising the guards who had watched over them at the red-brick Chikurubi maximum-security prison outside Harare.

"The prison staff were very good. They played by the rules," said Mr Slatter, who was tortured by police soon after his arrest in August last year.

"The prison government was excellent. They were doing an excellent job of what was their duty," said Mr Pile.

"They were formal but perfectly correct in their treatment of us."

They have arrived in Britain to very uncertain futures. With no money, and doubting that they will be paid out tens of thousands of dollars of pension owing to them, their first priority is to find jobs.

The officers described their miserable existence in the prison where, under no-exercise orders, they said they never once saw daylight and spent their time reading, studying, painting and playing bridge.

Confined to one narrow corridor and tiny, single

□ To Page 2

□ From Page 1

cells, they amused themselves for a few weeks with a mammoth bridge marathon, which Mr Slatter won.

"We played 210 rubbers, which was every possible combination of every partnership among all of us and two others," Mr Pile said.

"We had to draw up a monstrously large charge to keep account," said Mr Slatter. "It passed the time and was a handy objective to go for."

To keep their minds active, the men who "kept pretty much to our own group", quizzed each other from several books brought by their wives.

□ □ □

Painting also helped pass the time. Mr Slatter worked in oils and Mr Pile, who used to paint years ago, in water-colours.

"I studied architecture for a short while and have always had an interest in art," said Mr Slatter.

"We mainly did landscapes copied from magazines they did not always censor, like Phil's National Geographics."

Mr Pile's last work of art was a painting of an eagle — a birthday present for his son, Nicholas, taken from a postcard the boy sent him.

Keeping their bodies as active as their minds was more difficult in the confined space allowed them. "There wasn't enough room in the cells to do press-ups," said Slatter, "so we took up callisthenics."

Religion was a great solace to the men during their year-long ordeal — they and their wives have become born-again Christians as a result.

"Our religion was a great comfort — it was comforting and reassuring and we were helped by the padres (army chaplains who visited them regularly) and the knowledge that all over the world Christians were praying for us," said Mr Slatter.

He said he hoped his faith would remain strong now that he was free.

After take-off on Friday night the officers spent 10 minutes craning their necks for last poignant glimpses of the homeland from which they have been banished as "undesirable inhabitants".

"I'm sad about what happened, but bitterness is not in my nature," said London-born Mr Pile, who is flying to Guernsey with his mother, Hazel, and businessman brother Lester, who recently moved to the Channel Islands.

The men were visibly upset, face muscles contorting in agitation, when asked about Friday's emotional farewells to the comrades they left behind — Johannesburg-born Wing Commanders John Cox, 36, and Dublin-born Peter Briscoe, 36, and Air Lieutenants Barry Lloyd 31, from Manchester and Neville Weir, 24, born in Zimbabwe.

Airmen fly into London: Mugabe to face a storm



Mr ROBERT MUGABE
Having a rough ride

MUGABE SLAMS MRS THATCHER'S 'I



■ MUGABE

Foreign Service (362)

LONDON: Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, who has just ended a two-day visit to Ireland, has lashed out angrily at criticism of his government's handling of the case of the detained Air Force officers.

He accused Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of "interfering in his country's affairs" by demanding an explanation of why the six men were re-arrested minutes after being cleared in the High Court.

"Why is there so much concern about these men?" he asked in Dublin on Friday night.

"They are not the only ones in detention. There are others as well. Is it because they are white? Is it because they are Mrs Thatcher's kith and kin?"

Mr Mugabe said the four Air Force officers still being held after being cleared in court of sabotage charges had been re-arrested because of intelligence information about them.

The decision to take them back into custody 40 minutes after their acquittal had been taken by himself and his Minister of Security.

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Their brilliant careers in tatters

11/9/83



By BRENDAN SEERY Foreign Service

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He gained his wings and was an active flying officer when he decided to resign from the force in October 1965. The following month, when the UDI declaration was made, he withdrew his notice and stayed in the Air Force.

He rose rapidly through the ranks and, in 1972, attended a staff officer training course at the South African Air Force staff college,

the Air Force to the United States and later to Europe on trips to evaluate various aircraft types for the force.

It was largely on the recommendations of Air-Vice Marshal Slatter's team that the government decided to buy Hawk fighter trainer aircraft from British Aerospace. Three of these aircraft were badly damaged and one destroyed in the Thornhill sabotage.

He has been married for 16 years and has two children aged 14 and 12. His wife Jayn spent ten weeks in a Harare hospital during the sabotage trial, recovering from

Force in the Fifties, training first with the Royal Air Force in England as a technician and then eventually winning his wings and a commission.

Recognised by superiors as a well turned-out and meticulous officer, Mr Pile served for a time in the pre-UDI years as aide-de-camp to the then Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Humphrey Gibbs.

He also rose steadily through the ranks and was selected to be Zimbabwe's first air attache at the country's High Commission in London, shortly after independence in 1980.

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Mr Mugabe said: "The other cases will be reviewed and if we decide they should be released, they will be released.

"Those less involved will eventually be released — those more involved will take longer to be released."

He said his government made its judgment on the basis of intelligence information and not necessarily on what evidence was given in court.

It had discovered that "from those who served with Ian Smith during UDI there emerged elements that worked hand in glove with South Africa to destabilise our situation".

He rejected suggestions that his government's decision had amounted to dictatorship.

"There is no dictatorship in Zimbabwe. To tell you the truth, we have better justice than you think you might have in Britain."

Asked whether Irish Prime Minister Dr Gareth Fitzgerald had expressed concern, he said: "Unlike Mrs Thatcher, he does not interfere in the internal affairs of my country."



■ THATCHER



Flight to Britain — and freedom

□ From PETER GODWIN of the London Sunday Times (who flew to London with the two expelled officers)

LONDON: Passengers on Air Zimbabwe flight RH124 broke into spontaneous cheers when the pilot, Captain Tony Thomas, asked them to "bid a special welcome to two celebrities on board, Hugh Slatter and Philip Pile."

"I hope they enjoy their flight to the UK," he said.

The two men, who a year ago were second and third most senior officers in the Zimbabwe Air Force, left Chikurubi prison on the outskirts of Harare less than an hour before the plane took to the air.

Nine days before they, and their four colleagues still in jail, had been acquitted of sabotage charges which would almost certainly have carried a death sentence had they been found guilty.

Although legally innocent, they were all redetained under Zimbabwe's wide-ranging emergency laws.

The government's decision to release Slatter and Pile on condition that they immediately left the country, was made public on Friday morning.

Their wives, children and close relatives were at Harare airport, tensely waiting for the officers to arrive at the appointed time of 8 pm.

A full hour passed, though, before a white van pulled up and the men were hustled through a side entrance escorted by security men.

Air Vice-Marshal Slatter's mother, Dr Eve Slatter, voiced the general uneasiness: "I'm not counting my chickens before they hatch. When Hugh phones us from outside the country, only then will I relax."

Later, on the plane, Slatter echoed his mother's fears that he would not be really safe until he landed in Britain.

"A lot of peculiar things have happened," he said.

When the plane finally landed at Gatwick at 7,55 am yesterday, he visibly trembled with relief.

The nightmare started in the early hours of July 25, 1982, when a series of explosions at Thornhill, Zimbabwe's main airbase, destroyed seven Hawker Hunter fighters, one brand-new Hawk, and a Cessna spotter plane, and left several other planes badly damaged.

Most of Zimbabwe's predominantly white Air Force was questioned before six officers were accused of helping South African agents carry out the attack.

command Zimbabwe Air Force

Their brilliant careers in tatters

11/9/83

By BRENDAN SEERY Foreign Service

THE two airmen deported from Zimbabwe left behind them distinguished Air Force careers in the country both said they called home.

Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, were it it not for the devastating Thornhill air base sabotage, would in all probability have now been head of the Air Force of Zimbabwe, with the rank of air marshall. Air Commodore Philip Pile could well have been his second-in-command.

Air Marshal Norman Walsh told the trial that Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and President Canaan Banana had approved Air Vice-Marshal Slatter's appointment to the top post.

For both men, their arrests came as they were nearing the pinnacles of careers which began 20 years ago.

Originally planning becoming an architect, Zimbabwe-born Air Vice-Marshal Slatter (41) left university, accepting that his real love was flying and joined the then Royal Rhodesian Air Force in 1962.

He gained his wings and was an active flying officer when he decided to resign from the force in October 1965. The following month, when the UDI declaration was made, he withdrew his notice and stayed in the Air Force.

He rose rapidly through the ranks and, in 1972, attended a staff officer training course at the South African Air Force staff college, where his instructors were impressed by his ability.

A pilot with instructor's ratings in both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, Air Vice-Marshal Slatter revealed in his evidence in court that he was involved in the planning of cross-border air strikes from Rhodesia into neighbouring territories during the country's bush war.

After independence in 1980, he was chosen to head delegations from the Air Force to the United States and later to Europe on trips to evaluate various aircraft types for the force.

It was largely on the recommendations of Air-Vice Marshal Slatter's team that the government decided to buy Hawk fighter trainer aircraft from British Aerospace. Three of these aircraft were badly damaged and one destroyed in the Thornhill sabotage.

He has been married for 16 years and has two children aged 14 and 12. His wife Jayn spent ten weeks in a Harare hospital during the sabotage trial, recovering from injuries she received in a car smash on her way home from court. She is still hobbling with the aid of crutches .

Mr Slatter was the Air Force chief of staff at the time he was arrested — Air Marshal Walsh's number two man.

Air Commodore Pile (43) was born in London and came to Southern Rhodesia with his parents in the late 40s, and was educated in the country.

He joined the Air Force in the Fifties, training first with the Royal Air Force in England as a technician and then eventually winning his wings and a commission.

Recognised by superiors as a well turned-out and meticulous officer, Mr Pile served for a time in the pre-UDI years as aide-de-camp to the then Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Humphrey Gibbs.

He also rose steadily through the ranks and was selected to be Zimbabwe's first air attache at the country's High Commission in London, shortly after independence in 1980.

During this time at Zimbabwe House, Mr Pile made many friends among those in British military and aviation circles.

On his return to Zimbabwe, he was appointed as director-general of support services, then promoted to air commodore and given the post of director-general of operations — effectively the third in command of the Air Force.

He is married and has two sons.



Air Commodor the High Court in

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Most of Zimbabwe's predominantly white Air Force was questioned before six officers were accused of helping South African agents carry out the attack.

Slatter and Pile, the last of the group to be pulled in, were both arrested on August 31, 1982. Two weeks later, after being held incommunicado, they made confessions.

When the cases came to trial, these were thrown out by Mr Justice Dumbutshena as having clearly been obtained under torture.

Yesterday, as I flew with the two released men to London, they were unwilling to discuss that part of their experience.

"I really don't want to say anything," said Slatter, "not while our five fellow officers are still inside. We don't want to jeopardise them in any way."

He and Pile emphasised there were five others involved, not just the four who were acquitted with them at the trial.

Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker has never been formally charged but has been detained since the sabotage affair. The others are wing commanders Peter Briscoe and John Cox, and air lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville weir.

Slatter said on the plane: "The rest should be released soon. They are all innocent."



›dore Philip Pile and Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter after being redetained at rt in Harare. INSET: Mrs Liz Pile at the British Airways office in Harare buying tickets for her two sons to fly to London

(362) Apr 12/9/83

Released airman is reunited with his sons

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The two sons of Air Commodore Philip Pile, reunited with their father in London after his detention in Zimbabwe, are now settling in to their new life in Britain.

At Heathrow Airport, smiling after meeting their father for the first time in a year, Christopher (13) and Nicholas (11) said they had no regrets about leaving Zimbabwe.

"I'm looking forward to living in London," said Nicholas. "I don't regret leaving Zimbabwe, although we had a lot of friends there. But I expect we'll see them again."

Air Commodore Pile, who arrived the day before they did after being released with Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, said: "It's marvellous to be with them again.

"I saw them briefly at Harare Airport as I was leaving. I've not been with them for more than a year — since I was detained. All I had was brief glimpses of them."

The boys said their mother, Elizabeth, would be joining them in Britain in about six weeks.

Christopher, a keen squash player, walked from the aircraft carrying two squash rackets. He said: "We will be going to school here now. I don't know which one but I hope they've got squash courts because I'm a fairly good player."

After the reunion, watched by crowds of the public and reporters, the boys were taken to a waiting car.

The family is staying with relatives outside London while plans are made for a more permanent home in Britain.



Air Commodore Philip Pile, one of the released Zimbabwe Air Force officers, has an emotional reunion with his sons, Nicholas (11) left, and Christopher (13) on his arrival at Heathrow yesterday. They met for the first time in over a year.

Britons urge action on Mugabe's strong taunts

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, made an unexpected journey to London after leaving Ireland at the weekend for the United States.

He held talks at Heathrow Airport yesterday with the British Minister of State, Mr Richard Luce, on the re-detention of the five air force officers.

Both Governments insisted last night that there had been no attempt to put pressure on Mr Mugabe by threatening to suspend British economic aid or ending the military training mission now in Zimbabwe.

Both sides said the talks at Heathrow were a "normal courtesy".

Conservative anger is growing over the continued detentions in Zimbabwe with demands at the weekend for the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, to respond personally to Mr Mugabe's extraordinary taunts against her and Britain.

Leading Tory MPs are calling for an end to Britain's R30 million a year aid to Zimbabwe in retaliation at Mr Mugabe's undiplomatic outburst at a Dublin Press conference.

Sir Anthony Kershaw, Tory MP for Stroud, said: "I call on the Prime Minister to speak for the people of Britain. The aggressive remarks of Mugabe in Dublin really seem very sinister to me. I shall propose that we take a look at our aid for Zimbabwe."

Sir William Clark (MP for Croydon) said: "It really is time for the British Government to be more robust in dealing with violations of human rights, particularly against citizens who have British passports."

Mr Mugabe accused Mrs Thatcher of "interfering in his country's affairs" by demanding an explanation of why the six men were re-arrested minutes after being cleared in the High Court.

"Why is there so much concern about these men?" he asked at the Dublin Press conference on Friday night.

"They are not the only ones in detention. There are others as well. Is it because they are white? Is it because they are Mrs Thatcher's kith and kin ?"

Mr Mugabe said the four air force officers still being held after being cleared in court of sabotage charges had been re-arrested because of intelligence information about them.

Two were set free because they had been found to be "less involved" in alleged activities.

Mr Mugabe said: "The other cases will be reviewed and if we decide they should be released, they will be released."

He said his Government made its judgment on the basis of intelligence information and not necessarily on what evidence was given in court.

He rejected suggestions that his Government's decision had amounted to dictatorship.

"There is no dictatorship in Zimbabwe. To tell you the truth, we have better justice than you think you might have in Britain."

Asked whether the Irish Prime Minister, Dr Garret Fitzgerald had expressed concern, he said : "Unlike Mrs Thatcher, he does not interfere in the internal affairs of my country."

Right-wing newspapers here say Zimbabwe has "begun the slide into barbarism".

Call to US blacks: help build Zimbabwe

ATLANTA — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe yesterday invited black Americans to go to his country to help rebuild it.

"We invite you to join us in the building of a free country," Mr Mugabe told about 800 students at Atlanta's Morehouse College. He said students "who have energy, drive and resourcefulness" should go to Zimbabwe as teachers.

Mr Mugabe, who goes to Washington tomorrow on a three-day official visit, said Zimbabwean blacks had fought for independence because they could not tolerate "a society built on racial inequality".

Receiving an honorary degree from the college, Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe was on a path of "peace and progress" that included a plan for economic development and an adult literacy campaign.

Atlanta's mayor, Mr Andrew Young, praised Mr Mugabe for including whites and members of the rival Zimbabwe African Peoples' Union in his Cabinet. — Reuter.

Zapu men plotted coup and uprising—evidence

HARARE — Supporters of Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo planned a coup against the Zimbabwe Government in June last year and aimed to set up a military junta, it was alleged in the High Court in Harare yesterday.

An attack on the official Harare residence of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was to have triggered the uprising which would have been backed by armoured and artillery units of the army, alleged State prosecutor Mr Andrew Chigovera.

He was outlining the State case against 10 Zapu supporters — nine of them former members of the party's military wing, Zipra — who are charged with being involved in the abortive attack on the Prime Minister's house in the early hours of June 24 last year.

Mr Chigovera, addressing Mr Justice Wilson Sandura, called the plot a "diabolical plan" to overthrow a "democratically elected government".

The plotters hoped to establish a military junta in Harare after the attack, and planned to be reinforced by loyal Zipra troops from Matabeleland — the Zapu party power base. The eventual aim of the rebels was to set up a Zapu government," said Mr Chigovera.

Attacking the Prime Minister's house was to have been the "grand finale" to a "catalogue of violence" which had begun after the country became independent in April 1980.

The government's "open hand of reconciliation" had been met with "the mailed fist of violence" commented the prosecutor.

The 10 accused have all pleaded not guilty to the charges which could carry the death penalty in terms of the country's Law and Order (Maintenance) Act.

Some of them are claiming in their defence that they were assaulted by police and deprived of access to their lawyers. — SFS.

...were forced to accept ... way to cut ...

Zimbabwe expects to reduce current account deficit further

Star 13/9/83 362

LONDON — A combination of drought and lack of demand for mineral exports is likely to result in a current account deficit in Zimbabwe of R270 million to R350 million this year, says Dr Bernard Chidzero, the Minister of Finance.

The forecast would represent an improvement on the R570 million current account deficit recorded last year, and Dr Chidzero expects a further improvement next year as exports pick up.

But a major factor in the improved current account position this year is likely to be substantial cuts in imports, which have forced many manufacturing sectors to cut production.

Dr Chidzero, who was speaking in Dublin before his departure for the US with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, says the effects of the present foreign exchange crisis have been mitigated by the current international monetary fund programme.

Zimbabwe has so far drawn about R150 million out of total credits of R310 million. He says the drought has not only cut back production of traditional export crops like maize and cotton, but also forced the country to import more wheat.

Mineral exports have fallen in both volume and value, and Zimbabwe is having to finance substantial stockpiles until world markets recover.

But, he says, there are already "fairly good" orders for minerals and tobacco in 1984, and the foreign exchange position will improve.

"The measures we have taken on devaluation to make our export sector more competitive, and also the reduction of costs such as wages and salaries, and the budgetary measures to reduce government expenditure, should mean that we will be in a position to gear up the economy to a stage where we can recapture our traditional markets," he says.

Dr Chidzero says the Government is following a flexible exchange rate policy, with the Zimbabwe dollar now tied to a trade-weighted basket of currencies. This has resulted in a total devaluation against the US dollar of about 30 percent over the past year.

Efforts to promote exports are also being helped by a R62 million World Bank loan intended to finance necessary imports for the export-oriented manufacturing sector. — Financial Times

Harare appoints an atrocity commission

(362) 160 14/9/83

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwean Government has convened a four-man commission of inquiry to investigate alleged atrocities against Matabeleland civilians by the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade.

The Minister in charge of Defence, Dr Sydney Sekeramayi, told journalists yesterday the commission consisted of three Zimbabwean attorneys and the former commander of the Bulawayo-based First Brigade, Major-General Mike Shute.

The lawyers are Mr Simplicius Chihambakwe (commission chairman), Mr John Ngara and Mr P Machaya.

The commission was appointed at the end of June and had already taken evidence relating to the reported brutalities committed by the brigade after its deployment in early January to combat dissident activity in Matabeleland, the Minister said.

According to external media reports, thousands of innocent civilians were killed and maimed during the brigade's reign of terror.

Dr Sekeramayi said the commission's report would be presented to the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, before being made public.

He said the activity by dissidents loyal to Mr Joshua Nkomo's party, Zapu, was still a problem in Matabeleland but had lessened.

He said the dissidents were now being inflitrated from South Africa rather than from Botswana where the Gaborone Government was co-operating with Zimbabwe in an attempt to stop the trouble in Matabeleland. ■

Star 14/9/83 (362)

Court hears of Zimbabwe coup attempt

The Star Bureau

HARARE — A soldier from the Zimbabwe Army's presidential guard described in the High Court here yesterday how armed men attacked the official Harare residence of Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe in an abortive coup attempt last year.

Corporal Didymus Kanyongo, who was on duty at the gate to the residence near the city centre on June 24, told the court that a group of armed men travelling in an army truck had opened fire on the Prime Minister's gate guards in the early hours of the morning.

Some of the attackers jumped off the truck and continued firing from the ground. After a brief exchange of fire with the defenders, the attackers fled, said Corporal Kanyongo.

The guard was giving evidence at the trial of 10 supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party, who are charged with being involved in the attack.

The State alleges that the attack was to have been the signal for a greater uprising and overthrow of Mr Mugabe's government.

The rebels allegedly planned to seize key government buildings throughout Harare, including the one housing the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation transmitters.

All the accused have pleaded not guilty to charges under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act, which carry the death penalty.

Some are claiming that statements of guilt they made to police were extracted after assaults.

(362)

Teachers rally to support detainee

14/9/83

Education Reporter

As a gesture of support to the detained maths teacher Miss Jansie Lourens, maths teachers belonging to the National Education Union of South Africa (Neusa) have decided to mark her pupils' third term examination papers.

Before her detention on August 23, Miss Lourens taught maths to Standard Six pupils at C J. Botha High School in Bosmont, Johannesburg.

"As a dedicated teacher, we believe Jansie will be concerned for her pupils. By marking her papers we hope to show her our support," said Miss Rena Sherman, member of the Neusa maths workshop.

Neusa had condemned the detention of Miss Lourens as a "cruel system through which the State tried to suppress all attempts at opposition", she said.

Mugabe's talks in US confirm 'shared desires'

The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan said today that the ultimate responsibility for solving Southern Africa's problems rested with the countries in the region.

The president spoke to reporters at the end of a working lunch at the White House with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe.

After the wide-ranging discussions on bilateral and international issues, President Reagan said the talks had confirmed that Zimbabwe and the US shared a desire for peace and stability in Southern Africa.

"The ultimate responsibility for resolution of their problems, however, rests with the states of the regions themselves."

Turning to the Prime Minister, President Reagan said: "We have spoken very frankly and in an atmosphere of mutual respect. We didn't always agree, but have all gained much from hearing your views."

He said the US looked to Zimbabwe for leadership in Southern Africa. It was blessed with natural resources, and a hard-working multiracial population. And, in a spirit of national reconciliation, Zimbabwe could provide a foundation of economic viability and political stability and it served as an inspiration in Southern Africa.

In his reply, Mr Mugabe said: "We have discussed bilateral relations, the question of economic aid to Zimbabwe, the question of our original relations and the fact that South Africa continues to destabilise our region.

"We have discussed Namibia, we have discussed the apartheid system in South Africa, and there is a greater measure of agreement. There might be some differences here and there in respect of the method of bringing about change, positive change, to the area."

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe was a young country. It might make mistakes as it moved forward but it was prepared to correct itself and "get back to course".

According to a US official who attended the talks, Mr Mugabe told President Reagan that in spite of "negative reporting in the media" about human rights abuses in Zimbabwe, the country was still committed to democracy and the rule of law.

"These assurances were well received," the official said.

He said that in the discussion on South Africa, Mr Mugabe asked that diplomatic and political pressure be brought on Pretoria.

"He was not calling for economic sanctions or anything like that," the official said.

The Americans told the Prime Minister that they believed they were going about facing the region's problems the right way.

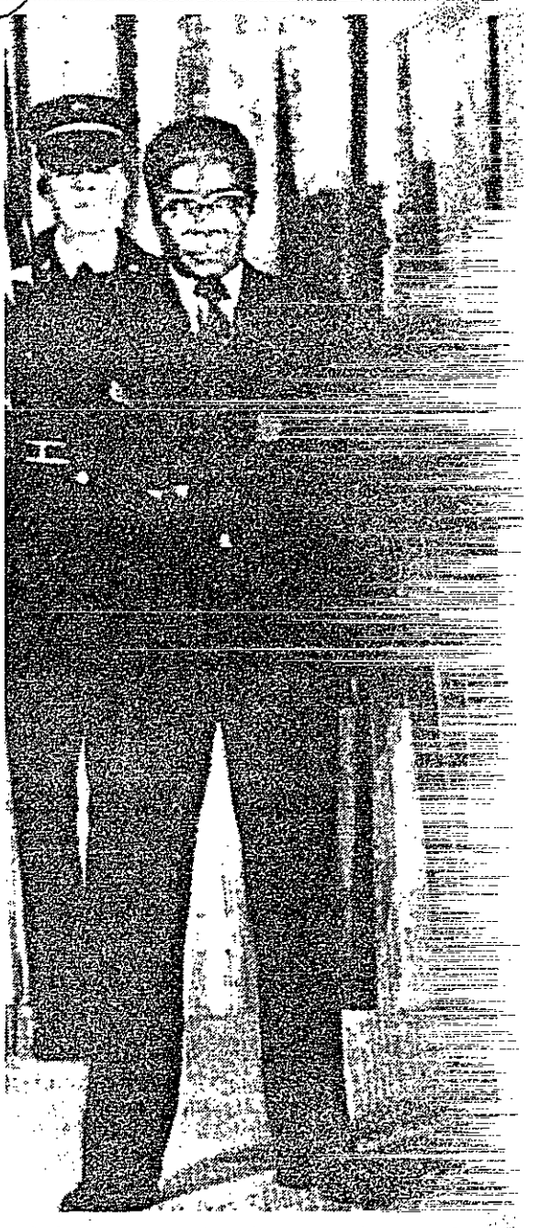
No progress was made in persuading Mr Mugabe that a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola was a necessary precursor to independence for Namibia and peace in Southern Africa.

But while Mr Mugabe remains adamant that there should be no linkage between the Cubans and Namibian independence, there was a hint from a senior Reagan official that the Americans may be making some progress in this area with the Angolans themselves.

American officials have had several meetings with the Angolans on conditions that could lead to a Cuban withdrawal, the most recent just over a week ago.

Officials have told Mr Mugabe that the United States was disappointed that Zimbabwe abstained from voting against the Soviet Union in the UN Security Council debate over the downed Korean Airlines 747.

In spite of the American disappointment, it was considered highly unlikely here that US would react by cutting back on aid to Zimbabwe, presently amounting to 75 million dollars a year — but there could be opposition to further aid by conservative members of the Congress, which has to approve such measures.



Zimbabwe premier Mr Robert Mugabe at the White House with President Ronald Reagan. On the question of South Africa, of agre... ods

'Prairie populist'

The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — A former senator — and Jane Fonda fan — Mr George McGovern, who failed in his first attempt to get to the White House, is to try again.

Mr McGovern yesterday formally launched a fresh bid for the presidency, shrugging off the memory of his defeat in 1972 and warnings that he might harm the Democratic Party by joining the growing crowd of candidates for the party...

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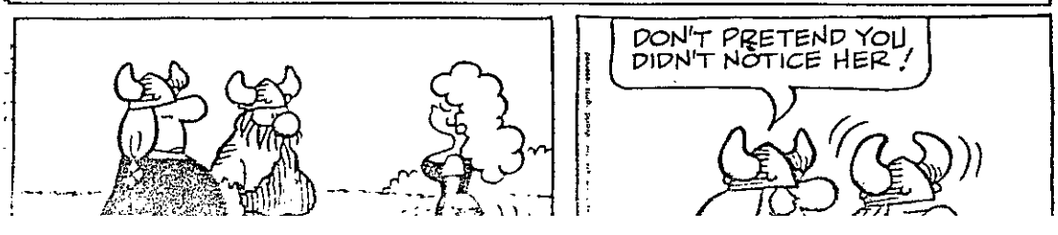
HÄGAR the Horrible ® By Dik Browne



13 die as

GRAZ — A bus full of Hung... off a mountain road near ... Austria today, plummeting 200...

At least 13 people were kil... police in Frohnleiten, about ... said everyone was accounted f...

Twenty ambulances and ...

Soldier tells court of his abduction

Northern Transvaal Bureau

MESSINA — In a dramatic start yesterday to the case of a man charged with assisting in the abduction of Corporal Steven Mutasa to Zimbabwe, the judge was told that Corporal Mutasa was back in South Africa and would be called as the State's first witness.

Mr Justice J W O de Villiers granted an application that Corporal Mutasa's evidence be heard in camera as it was of a sensitive nature.

Mr Daniel Mathiva (30), a worker employed at River Farm, Messina, is charged in the Messina Circuit Court with assisting two armed men to abduct Corporal Mutasa.

When the courtroom doors were reopened, Lance Corporal Christiaan Ndou testified that he saw three people fishing in the Limpopo River on the day of the alleged abduction.

The three spoke to Corporal Mutasa, and then grabbed him. Lance Corporal Ndou started to run away, and heard several shots. Looking around, he saw Corporal Mutasa also running away, but his hands were tied behind him.

The pursuers were speaking Shona.

Mrs Rosina Makhura, a domestic worker, said she saw Corporal Mutasa running away with his hands tied and pursued by two men.

She said Mr Mathiva caught Corporal Mutasa, helped put him on a tractor and drove the tractor to the river while the two men, who spoke "a strange language", subdued the captive.

The two men took Corporal Mutasa across the river, where "many soldiers" were waiting.

Mrs C Lambinon told the court Mr Mathiva had worked on her farm as a superviser for three years.

He had had access to the keys to security gates on the river bank, because one of his duties was to maintain a pump in the dry river bed.

Mrs Lambinon said that when she arrived about 15 minutes after the alleged abduction Mr Mathiva told her that the Zimbabwean soldiers had taken the keys.

Mr Mathiva denied saying this, and told the court he had not used the tractor to help abduct Corporal Mutasa.

Lieutenant A J Smit of the South African Defence Force said Mr Mathiva gave him a detailed account of the incident shortly after it took place, but later changed his story. He was unable to explain the discrepancies.

Mr Justice de Villiers, who is assisted by two assessors, is to deliver his judgment today.

Mugabe can be satisfied with his US visit

By Gerald L'Ange,
The Star's Foreign
News Service

WASHINGTON — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was sharply questioned by Congressmen about some of his Government's policies and actions when he met the Foreign Affairs committee of the House of Representatives today, according to Congressional sources.

For Mr Mugabe the meeting was an important one in that the amount of aid Zimbabwe gets from the United States depends partly on votes in Congress — and lining up more US aid is believed to have been one of the main purposes of his visit to Washington.

When he left today on his way to Canada, Mr Mugabe had reason to be satisfied with the warm reception given him by the Reagan Administration.

The Administration, which regards Zimbabwe as a key element in its regional policy on Southern Africa, was clearly prepared to tread softly on controversial actions by the Mugabe Government, including the re-detention of the air force officers and the alleged troop brutality and repression of political opposition in Matabeleland.

While the Administration is believed to have conveyed to Mr Mugabe its concern about these actions, it attached higher priority to encouraging the prospects it still sees of Zimbabwe becoming a stable bulwark against Communist expansion into Southern Africa.

But the disquiet felt in Congressional circles about some events in Zimbabwe was more forcefully expressed, according to sources, when Mr Mugabe fielded questions in a private session with the House Foreign Affairs committee.

Among the matters troubling the Congressmen was Zimbabwe's abstention in the UN Security Council on the resolution condemning Russia's shooting down of the Korean airliner.

Suspended for airmen welcome

The Star Bureau

HARARE — An Air Zimbabwe pilot, Captain Tony Thomas, who flew the two freed Zimbabwe Air Force officers to London on Friday night, has been suspended for welcoming the deported men aboard the aircraft, official sources here say.

Captain Thomas reportedly broadcast a welcoming message to Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter and Air Commodore Philip Pile over the aircraft's public address system.

After the captain's announcement, passengers reportedly broke into spontaneous applause.

To hell with justice, says Zimbabwe's Ushewokunze

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The Star Bureau

LONDON — Wing Commander Peter Briscoe of the Zimbabwean Air Force arrived in London early today after his release from detention, but kept his remarks to waiting journalists to a bare minimum.

His release from Harare's Chikurubi prison follows that of Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and Air Commodore Philip Pile last weekend.

Shortly after his arrival from Zimbabwe, a tense-looking Commander Briscoe (26) said he was very happy about his release, although this happiness was tempered by the fact there were four other officers still in prison and he was concerned about about them.

He said he had no idea when they might be released, but added that their health and morale was "pretty good."

He said he had made no firm plans for the future, but would stay with friends in London until his wife and two children joined him "when they are ready".

The three airmen who remain in Chikurubi prison despite their acquittal are Wing Commander John Cox and Flight Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir.

Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker is also still in jail although no charges have been laid against him.

Meanwhile, in a stormy debate in the Zimbabwe Parliament yesterday, Security Minister Mr Emmerson Munangwagwa said the three officers still held would remain in detention as long as the government thought fit.

During the debate, which was initiated by independent white members against strong objections from the government benches, Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze said that, by raising the matter, members were "guaranteeing the perpetual stay of the others in prison."

Dr Ushewokunze shouted: "You are sick in the head!" when Mr Bill Irvine said the officers should be freed, given compensation and their pensions.

And, when Mr E M Micklem said individual justice was a prerequisite for being civilised, Dr Ushewokunze shouted: "To hell with it!"

Video voodoo is latest scourge of 'evil spirits'

The Star Bureau

HARARE — A Zimbabwean traditional healer has taken the ancient practice of diagnosing medical, social and emotional problems through identifying "evil spirits" a step further — with video voodoo.

Mr Kazembe Jambo's clients see with crystal clarity on the traditional healer's video screen the events in their lives which are troubling them.

For example, distraught relatives may relive the events leading to the death of a family member — and also pick out the faces of the people allegedly responsible for the death.

Others may find lost relatives or friends by seeing on the screen what happened to them.

However, to the interested and impartial observer, the screen appears to be blank. More than that, it does not even appear to be plugged into an electrical socket or connected to anything else.

A potion at R10 a dose is at the root of the matter. It is concocted from a variety of herbs collected from all around Zimbabwe. The potion is swigged back by clients who are apparently unconcerned by its unappetising blue-black colour.

The drink induces drunkenness in the client, who then looks at the screen and sees whatever problem has been troubling him.

"Clients come back to us the next day when they have got over their drunken stupor to tell us what they saw on the screen", said Mr Jambo.

One man testified that after his car had been stolen he had swigged Mr Jambo's potion, gone first to his carport then back to the healer's screen.

After a while he began seeing plainly the events leading to the theft of the car, the faces of the thieves coming out clearly. After seeing where the thieves had taken the car, the man reported to police, who had no difficulty locating the stolen car and arresting the culprits.

MUGABE'S 'EXCELLENT RELATIONS'

362

Carter might as well still be president, for all the difference it made to Robert Mugabe's visit to Washington.

Not a word about one-party rule, no complaints about the torture of air force officers was allowed to darken the procession as Andrew Young's best friend in Africa avoided open press and other open meetings on his trek from Atlanta (where he picked up an honorary degree) to the White House.

One would have thought Ronald Reagan was the one who needed money and legitimacy, so warm was the welcome, reports the *FM*'s Washington correspondent. The Americans smiled through it all as Mugabe blamed the United States for impeding the process of Namibian independence and urged America to apply pressure on SA to speed up the independence talks.

During his first official visit to the US and President Reagan, Mugabe criticised the key American role in the United Nations' "contact group." The five-nation group — which is trying to resolve the Namibia problem — has linked a settlement in Namibia with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

"We feel that SA has been allowed to be intransigent and we naturally blame the contact group for not having exerted more pressure," Mugabe told the *Washington Post*.

Mugabe said he does recognise the US concern over the presence of Cubans in Angola but added: "That should not be allowed to interfere with resolving the question of independence for Namibia."

When the Zimbabwean leader arrived in Washington, there was speculation that the talks would centre around alleged violations of civil rights in Zimbabwe that surfaced last week when Mugabe's officials re-arrested six white air force officers previously acquitted of sabotage charges.

But State Department and administration officials took a hands-off approach to the affair.

"Zimbabwe has a strong set of legal precedents and a judicial system that we support," said a State Department official at a briefing. "Zimbabwe must make its own decisions, what they do is their business."

Mugabe met Secretary of State George Shultz and the President during his brief, two-day stay in Washington. While there, Mugabe and US State Department officials downplayed the differences between the two countries and both termed relations "excellent".

One administration official told reporters, at a background briefing, that the talks between Reagan and Mugabe would centre on the "Namibia problem," on Zimbabwe's new Security Council seat at the United Nations and on future economic prospects for the country.

In 1980, the US agreed to give Zimbabwe $75m a year for the first three years of the country's independence. So far US aid has totalled $223,1m and the initial pledge is almost complete. There is no doubt, one official said, that the President and Mugabe would discuss what form the "partnership between Zimbabwe and the US" should take.

Mugabe met with business leaders during his visit to the US capital. The Reagan administration has encouraged Mugabe to promote foreign investment in his nation, which the administration feels will transfer needed technology and expertise, as well as capital, to the country. US officials said that Mugabe's government had already taken politically unpopular but necessary steps to fight economic stagnation in the country, including raising prices on basic food commodities.

Hopes of an early release dim

Airmen may be detained 'indefinitely'

HARARE — Hopes for the early release of three white Zimbabwean air force officers, detained after being acquitted of sabotage charges, appeared to be waning yesterday.

Home affairs Minister Herbert Ushewokunze said earlier this week he had information convincing him Wing Commander John Cox and air lieutenant's Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir should be kept behind bars.

Under Zimbabwe's emergency laws, the men could be held indefinitely, although their detentions must be reviewed regularly.

UNDESIRABLE

Official sources said this might be done after the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, returned from an overseas tour next week.

Three other white officers were deported to Britain as undesirables, after they and the still-detained men were found not guilty of helping South African agents blow up war aircraft valued at ZD7,2 million last year.

The Zimbabwean High Court found the accused had been tortured, intimidated and induced by police to confess involvement. All six were then immediately redetained, but three were freed and expelled from Zimbabwe within the last week.

Diplomatic pressure for the release of the remaining three men continues.

A British diplomat has said his government would welcome their freedom while a United States diplomat said Washington remained interested in their release for humanitarian reasons.

EXPELLED

A fourth man held in Harare is believed to be the rarely-mentioned Nigel Lewis-Walker. He was originally detained with the others last year, then freed but redetained last April.

Those expelled were Air Vice-Marshall Hugh Slatter, former deputy air force commander, Air Commodore Philip Pile, former director of operations and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe. — Reuter.

Court hears of Zapu attack

Nkomo knew of coup plot, says witness

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By Brendan Seery, The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo was told beforehand of a planned attack on Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's official Harare residence in June last year, it was claimed at the high court here today.

A Zapu supporter, who may not be named and who is one of the accused in an alleged plot to overthrow the government, told the court a secret meeting was held in Bulawayo at which one of his co-plotters stated that the "old man" (Mr Nkomo) had been told there would be no bloodshed in the attack.

The witness added that the attack on the house was to have been the trigger for a wider uprising and coup against the government which would have led to the installation of a military junta and the eventual establishment of a Zapu government.

The Zapu man, who has turned State's evidence, was testifying at the trial of 10 supporters of Mr Nkomo, who are charged with being involved in the attack on the Harare house in the early hours of June 24 last year.

Warned by Mr Justice Wilson Sandura that he would be treated as an accomplice, the witness was also told that if the court was satisfied he had given honest evidence, the attorney-general would guarantee immunity from prosecution.

The witness told the court that several meetings had taken place in Bulawayo prior to the attack. The plotters had discussed assembling weapons and men and organising transport for the operation which, it was said, would be supported by loyal Zapu followers in Harare and by elements of a national army mechanised unit near the capital.

A figure of 70 men being involved in the military side of the operation was mentioned, the man recounted.

It was also foreseen that the uprising would be supported by loyal former members of Mr Nkomo's Zipra guerilla forces from the Matabeleland province, he added.

The State alleges that an army truck was used by the rebels who drove it past the gate of the prime minister's official residence, Zimbabwe House, and opened fire.

Soldiers on duty at the house gates told the court earlier that when they returned the fire, the attackers fled, leaving behind a quantity of military equipment, including rifles and rocket launchers.

The State claims that the rebels planned to attack and sieze various important government installations in Harare, including the prime minister's and president's houses, and the studios of the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation.

The prosecution has also introduced state evidence of the discovery of a body — which was found next to an AK rifle and dressed in a Zimbabwe Army camouflage uniform — in the vicinity of a cabinet minister's home in the affluent suburb of Borrowdale.

The man was earlier reported as having being killed by the minister's security guards later in the morning of the attack on Mr Mugabe's residence.

The trial is continuing.

Mugabe furious at UK threat over aid

By MARGARET SMITH
London

MR ROBERT MUGABE has been "in a towering rage", says a British report.

The reason: the prospect of British aid sanctions being imposed because of the detention of the airmen in Zimbabwe.

Writing in the London Daily Telegraph, David Adamson, diplomatic correspondent, said Mr Mugabe's rage was such that the release of the first of the three air force officers had to be delayed.

What is clear is that, whatever Mr Mugabe feels, Britain intends continuing to exert "strong but subtle" pressure until the remaining airmen are freed.

This has been made plain by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister responsible for Africa. His strong attack is another stage in Britain's campaign to secure the release of all the airmen.

Whitehall sources say, however, that Britain's difficulty is in assessing the degree of pressure that will bring results — without jeopardising the interests of British citizens in Zimbabwe.

Soundings show, however, Whitehall feels the time for exceptional caution has passed.

Difficulties

British aid to Zimbabwe is obviously vulnerable.

But a failure to secure assurances on the officers' release would not lead to any well-publicised cut off. It is believed aid would merely get "stuck in the pipe-line", as an official put it.

Mr Adamson wrote: "It is recognised in London that the Mugabe government faces difficulties over releasing white detainees while black ones remain in prison."

Meanwhile, Sunday Times correspondents in Harare report that two lawyers who first publicly disclosed that detained white air force officers were tortured by Zimbabwe police interrogators have won an appeal against a conviction for contempt of court.

Chief Justice Telford Georges reversed a magistrate's conviction and R120 fine against white attorneys Mr Michael Hartmann and Mr Rhett Gardener.

The West Indian-born judge ruled that a Press conference called by the lawyers to reveal the airmen were tortured was "not likely to



The new Mrs Wucherpfenning and her husband Picture: JAMES SC

Karen marries th

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The West Indian-born judge ruled that a Press conference called by the lawyers to reveal the airmen were tortured was "not likely to interfere with the due administration of justice".

The future of the white pilot suspended for publicly welcoming two just-freed detainees aboard a Harare-London flight remained in doubt yesterday.

Salvo

A three-member commission of inquiry has taken statements from the crew, but an Air Zimbabwe spokesman said Captain Tony Thomas "still had to explain himself".

Captain Thomas was the pilot of the scheduled Air Zimbabwe flight which took Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and Air Commodore Philip Pile to London just over a week ago.

Captain Thomas announced that there were "two celebrities on board — Hugh Slatter and Philip Pile. I hope they enjoy their flight to the UK"

The former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, said Captain Thomas's suspension was "incomprehensible".

While Zimbabwe has been under fire from all quarters for its detention of the air force officers, the acting Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, sent off a salvo of his own yesterday — on much the same subject.

His condemnation of detention was, however, reserved for someone else — ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Mr Muzenda, signing a memorandum for the world-wide campaign to free Mr Mandela, denounced his imprisonment as "racist, inhuman and unjustified".



The new Mrs Wucherpfenning and her husband Picture: JAMES SOULLIER

Karen marries the man of her dreams

By CHARMAIN NAIDOO

FIRST they lived together, then they had a baby girl called Tanya ... now they're married.

Miss South Africa of 1979, Karen Sickel, and the man of her dreams, Springbok show-jumper Errol Wucherpfenning, decided a few weeks ago to take the plunge and tie the knot.

They were married on Wednesday this week in Randburg's Rhema Bible Church by Errol's old friend, Pastor Ray McCauley.

Their three-week-old daughter was not at the wedding because "that would not have been the proper thing to do", says blonde beauty Karen.

Said Errol from his plush Morningside home: "We haven't been a good example so far and I am determined to put that right."

He said he and Karen had gone about things the wrong way, but were very happy with their decision to marry and were going to make it work.

A relaxed and smiling Karen said she and Errol had not wanted to rush into marriage just because they were going to have a baby.

"But we love each other very much and have always wanted to get married."

Sporting a 4,5-carat diamond ring Errol gave her two years ago, Karen explained: "That's how long we've been talking marriage for."

The bride wore a frothy cream creation — specially designed for her by Pasqual — and a wide brimmed summer hat.

It was a small, lunchtime wedding with about 30 guests.

It's been quite a week for Errol. He was also awarded the State President's merit award for showjumping.

Pup Pepe put on ice thieves loot

By EUGENE ABRAHAMS

A 10-WEEK old puppy was rescued from an icy death in a deep-freeze this week.

He was locked in the freezing tomb by burglars who ransacked the plush double-storey house in Sea Point, Cape Town, owned by Mr and Mrs Ezra Kastan.

The thieves stashed the mongrel pup — Pepé — alongside the frozen meat and vegetables.

Freezer

Then they systematically went through the house and made off with Mr Kastan's safe which contained about



'Criminal and shameful' food racket exposed in Zimbabwe

(362) Star 20/9/88

HARARE — fficials of the Ministries of Defence and National upplies have unearthed a racket involving two mpanies that have been short-supplying the armywith food. This cost the government more than R1 million, according to the Minister of National Supies, Mr Enos Nkala.

In an interiew published here, the Minister said his Ministry ad found that people behind the two companies we the same ones involved in a 1980 scandal. At tit time the government was cheated of about R7,8 mlion by a company supplying food rations to guera assembly points.

Describinghe activities of the two companies as "shameful a criminal", the Minister said the government wanow in the process of recovering the money lost to one of the companies supplying an army unit based near Kwekwe. The company would have to supply the army with an equivalent amount of food for which the government would not pay.

Mr Nkala named the companies involved during the interview — they are not published — and said officials of the Ministries of Defence and National Supplies were also assessing how much had been lost through the second company. Since that company supplied food to three army units, the government believed the losses would be more than R1,1 million.

Besides short-supplying the army and being paid in full, said the Minister, the companies had also substituted some of the commodities, supplying fish instead of rice and providing the army with "soiled salt, spoilt food and contaminated fruits".

Most disturbing, however, was the fact that the companies had presented themselves as being owned by blacks when applying for tenders to supply the army with food. It had now been found that they had used blacks only as fronts.

"They knew we had blacklisted them as they had cheated us before. So in order to win this new contract, they used blacks and quoted very low prices. We have got them again and we are making them pay back every cent," Mr Nkala said.

The companies would continue supplying food to the army, but under strict supervision "until every single ill-gotten cent has been recovered". — Sapa.

Accouts of PM criticised

The Star Bureau

HARARE — imbabwe Government accounting standards have llen so drastically in the past few years that the Autor General has refused to sign the accounts of ty Ministries.

In a repo tabled in Parliament by the Controller and AuditoGeneral, Mr J N Hilligan, the accounts of seven otheMinistries including that of the Prime Minister we criticised.

Mr Hillin said that too often loss of experienced staff was ed as an excuse for ignoring procedures.

Mugabe urges spending on Third World aid, not arms

TORONTO — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said here that wealthy nations must redirect funds from the arms race to development aid if they hoped to enjoy a peaceful world.

"Perhaps the most dangerous threat to peace and security today is the very nature of the unequal relationship existing between rich industrialised nations and the impoverished Third World nations," Mr Mugabe said.

"The great majority of mankind, who live in the South, will not agree to starve to death in peace while those in the North have so much to eat and even more to spend on armaments," he said.

The Zimbabwean leader said he believed a rechannelling of some of the funds currently spent on armaments toward development in the Third World would be a major step in the quest for world peace and security.

Mr Mugabe's speech, to a capacity audience of 1 800 at the University of Toronto on Tuesday, came at the end of a six-day visit to Canada which included talks with Prime Minister PierreTrudeau, one of the leading advocates of North-South dialogue.

At a news conference later, Mr Mugabe said he had discussed the possibility of North-South talks with Mr Trudeau "but like us he does not see how those who are not interested could be drawn into it."

Mr Mugabe told reporters that the idea that his Government was violating civil rights of dissenters in Zimbabwe was "completely erroneous."

He said his Government still hoped to create a one-party state because "Zimbabwe should view itself as one family."

But he emphasised that the move would be made democratically after a popular vote showed the people approved the idea. — Associated Press.

Skilled medical staff needed

HARARE. — Zimbabwe is short of a variety of skilled and professional personnel, especially in the medical field, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Manpower, Planning and Development.

The medical profession needed pathologists, psychiatrists, pharmacists, physicians, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dental technicians, hospital equipment engineers, and other medical technicians, the spokesman said.

Senior accountants, typists, stenographers and shorthand typists were required to supplement the commercial field.

Professional engineers, higher technical personnel and technical college instructors were also in demand.

In agriculture, the skilled workers needed were veterinary surgeons, extension officers, research officers, engineers, technicians and agricultural college lecturers.

The Manpower Planning Committee on Foreign Recruitment was consulted by the Immigration Department in the case of skill-based applicants, the spokesman said.

"In principle, the government would like to have all jobs in the country held by Zimbabweans." But, due to historical realities, the government found itself without the necessary skills required for certain jobs "since past governments did not wish to train all citizens," he said.

"The Government, having conducted an exhaustive manpower survey, is aware of the areas of shortages and all employers wishing to bring in guest workers in areas of non-shortage will definitely not be allowed to do so.

"So although the area at issue could be termed a manpower shortage area, if there are unemployed Zimbabweans in the area, no employer can bring a foreigner into the country. — Sapa

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WORLD WATCH

A country of graft and abuse

HARARE

NORMAN ELLIS on the vagaries of accounting in Zimbabwe

FOUR years after independence Zimbabwe is gripped by a wave of corruption, graft and abuse of public funds.

And tough new anti-corruption laws — including a stringent leadership code — have been promised by top Ministers, from Mr Robert Mugabe down, to deal with a situation that is causing more and more concern.

In a recent report, the Department of Customs' chief executive officer, Mr Richard Humphreys, noted that in the 20 years before independence his white-dominated department had only two cases of corruption — since July, 1980, there has been 15.

Rumours

Few top officials in Zimbabwe — and especially members of Mr Mugabe's 56-strong Cabinet — have been untarnished by rumours, or plain beerhall gossip, about accepting gifts for favours or stuffing their Ministries with family and friends.

And even some of those who have been charged with misusing public funds, or their positions, have gone largely unpunished.

The most celebrated case of misuse of public funds was that concerning the country's first High Commissioner to Britain, Mr Robert Zwinoira, who spent almost £600 000 on an official mansion in London against government orders.

He was recalled to Harare but still holds down a senior job in the foreign ministry.

Another noted case was that of the deputy Youth, Sports and Recreation Minister, Mr George Rutanhire, who pocketed a R6 000 backhander after his ministry approved the purchase of a Greek businessman's farm at R200 000 above its value. He is still in his post — effectively number two in a major ministry.

Then there was the mayor of Gweru, Mr Patrick Kombayi, whose tyranical reign has been well-documented.

These senior officials are but the tip of an iceberg, it seems.

In Matabeleland Province, where thousands of villagers are facing starvation after two years of devastating drought, eight government administrators are awaiting trial for diverting truckloads of relief food to line their own pockets.

The deputy Housing Minister, Mr Mudemeni Chivende, denouncing the new Zimbabwe as "a country of scandals damaging our reputation abroad", said of the two decades when many of today's leaders were in exile: "We are fortunate to have lived in countries where these scandals were rife, but we do nnot seem to have learnt anything from it."

Deterioration

Mr Mugabe, on record as saying repeatedly that he wants to avoid the errors committed in other African countries, vows that crooked Cabinet Ministers will be forced to resign their posts.

He has also promised to unveil a leadership code for his Ministers after attacking some of them for buying houses, farms and businesses while many of his 7,5-million people can scarcely afford to eat.



Mr Mugabe ... planning new anti-corruption laws

"Accumulation of wealth is not appropriate in a country geared to socialism," he said.

But both supporters and detractors alike fear Mr Mugabe has not moved swiftly and ruthlessely enough to remove the cancer of corruption at the very top, setting examples through all tiers of society.

The Zimbabwean Auditor General, Mr J N Hilligan, has also slammed overspending and unauthorised spending in a number of ministries, and in two cases refused to sign accounts as being correct.

There has been a visible deterioration in accounting standards in many ministries during the 1981/1982 financial year, despite an undesirably low level of audit coverage, he said in a report tabled in parliament.

Excuse

Mr Hilligan acknowledged that the loss of experienced staff since independence had contributed to a decline of the state of public accounts, but said this loss was "too often used as an excuse, when in fact the irregularities and inadequacies can be more properly attributed to a disregard for the laid-down procedures and effective monitoring and internal control within ministries".

He has also refused to sign the account of the ministry of Youth, Sport and Recreation, the Settlement Loan Fund administered by the Secretary for the Public Service, and also criticised the accounts of the Prime Minister's Office, the Cabinet Office, and the ministries of Defence, Trade and Commerce, Agriculture, Foreign Affairs and Manpower Planning and Development.

Angry Mugabe lashes out at Britain for 'interfering'

By Brenden Seery, The Star Bureau

HARARE — In a blistering attack on Britain yesterday, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe warned Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher that his Government would not tolerate interference in its internal affairs.

Speaking on his return to Harare from a two-week tour of Ireland, the United States and Canada, Mr Mugabe said he was "terribly unhappy" about the attitude of Britain to the recent re-detention of air force officers after their acquittal by the High Court on sabotage charges.

Thumping the table, a visibly angry Mr Mugabe told assembled diplomats, party officials and journalists: "We do not accept intimidation or manipulation from any quarter."

He added: "Britain should lay its hands off Zimbabwe."

If the British Government wished to dissociate itself from Zimbabwe then "we are willing that the dissociation occurs," he said.

Zimbabwe appreciated British aid, said Mr Mugabe, but added that if that aid was given so that "we do not exercise our sovereign right as a State in defence and protection of our own security, then that aid can clearly go".

Mr Mugabe said that the British Government's attempts to pressurise Zimbabwe directly and indirectly over the affair of the air force officers was a "very undesirable development" that had affected relations between the two countries.

He had passed on the disquiet of his Government to senior British officials, he said. Asked whether he would be writing direct to Mrs Thatcher on the subject, Mr Mugabe was roundly applauded when he said:" I am not accountable to Mrs Thatcher".

In one of his strongest attacks on the British Government since independence, Mr Mugabe said citizens of British extraction had for years supported the UDI government of Mr Ian Smith and rebelled against the crown.

Yet, when Zimbabwe arrested a "handful of air force men" the British Government had adopted them as "most precious citizens".

The Prime Minister said his tour of the three countries was "very, very rewarding indeed." The Zimbabwean delegation had cemented ties with Ireland, Canada and the United States during the tour.

While Zimbabwe and the US disagreed on a number of international matters, bilateral relations between the two countries were good, he said.

Although Zimbabwe had abstained from voting on a United Nations Security Council resolution condemning the shooting-down of a Korean airliner, this did not mean she was adopting an anti-US stance, and American leaders had realised this.

Nkomo appeals for national unity

By Robin Drew,
The Star's Foreign News Service

GWERU — Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of Zapu, yesterday made an impassioned plea for national unity and for wide-ranging talks, which would include people outside the main political parties, to solve Zimbabwe's problems.

At his first rally since his return nearly six weeks ago from five months' self-exile in Britain, Mr Nkomo devoted most of his 90-minute speech to his call for the people to come together.

Appealing for an end to political hatred, Mr Nkomo said: "Young people are being taught to hate and, in the end, the whole nation will be full of hatred.".

The Zapu leader said it was madness to divide the people. Neither colour nor tribe was important.

"We fought against racism because it was evil and its policies were evil. How can detention without trial be right now just because it is administered by blacks?" he asked.

Mr Knomo scoffed at the results of local government elections in Matabeleland in which Zapu was routed. He said the elections could not be said to have been held freely when, in the presence of soldiers, people had to line up and indicate their choice of candidate.

Of the dissident problem, he said killing was no solution and that it was the Government's responsibility to find out what had gone wrong.

Mr Nkomo was given an enthusiastic reception when he arrived at the rally, but the applause at the end of his speech was subdued.

Hopes dim for re-detained

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has dimmed hopes of an early release for the remaining three re-detained Zimbabwe air force officers.

Speaking at a Press conference at Harare airport yesterday, Mr Mugabe said: "The others, I'm afraid, we will have to keep for some time".

The Prime Minister was asked why the three men — Wing Commander John Cox and Air Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir — were being held after the release of Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, Air Commodore Philip Pile and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe.

The airmen who had been released, said Mr Mugabe, were "regarded as less culpable than the others".

The three men being held were directly connected with the South African agents who came to Zimbabwe to blow up the aircraft at Thornhill base, he said.

It was from information from the three men in detention that the other senior men had been implicated, said the Prime Minister.

Mr Mugabe commented that the authorities were "not acting in violation of our own laws" in re-detaining the airmen.



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RF goes all out to win crucial by-election

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Tomorrow's by-election for the white roll constituency of Makoni could be the most important for Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front since the party became the de facto opposition in Zimbabwe's Parliament at independence in 1980.

Mr Smith and other senior party members, including outspoken young rancher and MP Mr Donald Goddard, have been putting the finishing touches this week to an intensive campaign to win over voters in the large farming constituency. It covers the eastern districts of Inyanga, Marondera, Macheke, Nyazura, Wedza and Rusape.

If the Republican Front candidate, 50-year-old Marondera farmer Mr Francois Engelbertus Smit loses the contest then, for the first time since Mr Robert Mugabe's Government took power, Mr Smith's party will be in the minority among the 20 parliamentary seats reserved for whites under the Lancaster House agreement.

The challenge to the RF as being the sole voice of the white community materialised in March last year when nine RF MPs, led by the party's chief whip, Mr John Landau, defected to sit as independent members in the House of Assembly.

The "rebels" were joined in April this year by Bulawayo dentist Dr Bob Nixon, who was elected to the Bulawayo South seat, inflicting on the RF its first electoral defeat since coming to power in the early 1960s.

The "balance of power" among the white roll seats in the Assembly is crucial, for, quite apart from other considerations, all nominations for vacant white seats in the Senate have to be voted on by white MPs from the lower House.

This failure to have the majority "whip-hand" has meant that the RF has already lost three seats in the Senate.

In August last year Bulawayo businesswoman Mrs Esme Scott, who was sponsored by the independent MPs, was elected when the RF failed to have the necessary majority through the absence of two of their members — Mr Goddard, who was overseas on holiday, and Mr Wally Stuttaford, who was being held in detention.

Since then, the Republican Front has lost two more Senate seats — albeit through the luck of the draw.

Without one side having a clear majority in the Senate election votes lots were drawn, with the result that in April, farmer Mr Max Rosenfels entered the Senate at the expense of RF nominee Mr Des van Jaarsveld, and in May, independent nominee Mr Brian Grubb triumphed over Mr Smit, the present by-election candidate.

The tussle in Makoni will be between two farmers — Mr Smit, who is well-known in his Marondera area, and the independent-sponsored candidate Mr Maurice Kay (62), also well-known in his home district of Wedza.

The issues seem to be fairly clear-cut. The RF believes the white community should be united under one representative voice, moving constructively into the future, yet not holding back from strong criticism of the Government when it is warranted.

The independent stance is that the RF is a political dinosaur and anachronism in a black-ruled country. Pledging co-operation and a better working relationship with the Government, the independents have said they can achieve far more for whites in their softer way than the RF can with its hard, sometimes provocative attitude.

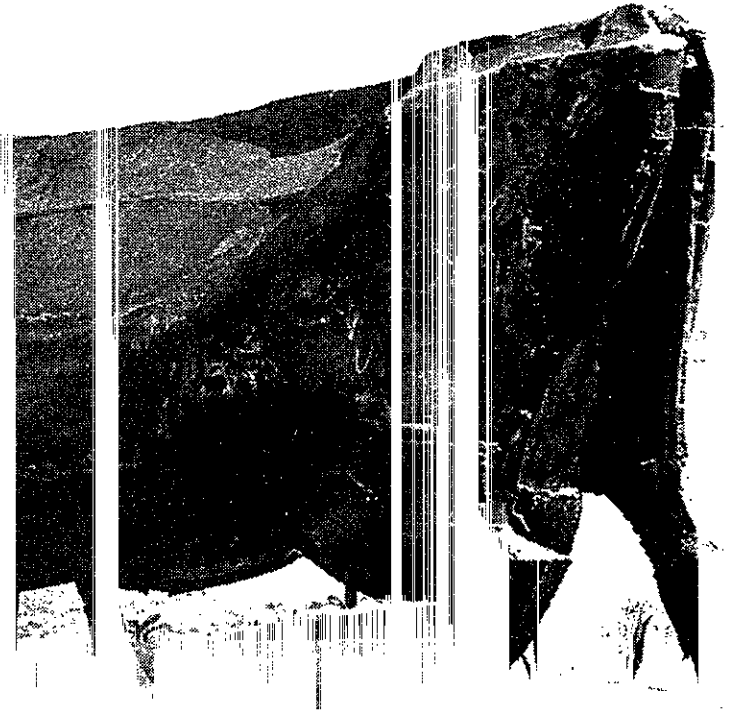
Although the constituency has just over 3 000 registered voters, records are likely to be out of date and a turnout at the polls of less than half that number is expected.

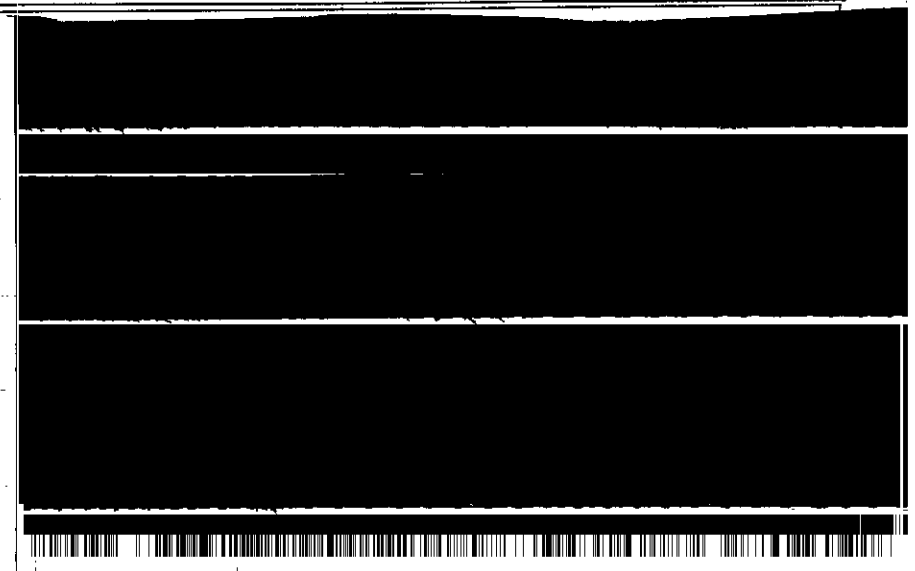
Whatever the extent of voting the election is being regarded by some observers as an indication of the trend in white opinion in Zimbabwe.

Will the Makoni people consider the independents have made progress on behalf of whites, or will they opt for what the RF calls the "tried and tested" way?

Mr Smith undoubtedly still has charisma when standing on an election platform, and rural communities have, by and large, tended to be more conservative in their outlook than urban communities.







'Boer' farmers forge a vital Zimbabwean link

Above: Commercial Farmers Union president Mr John Laurie examines the iron cow — a sheetmetal sculpture at the Chipinge milk factory.
Below: Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe roars with laughter at Chipinge. On the right is Senator Denis Norman, Minister of Agriculture.



By Robin Drew, The Star's Foreign News Service

CHIPINGE (Zimbabwe) — For the hardy farmers and their wives of Gazaland whose roots go back to the Orange Free State, it was a day to remember.

They were playing host to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and half a dozen of his Ministers at a luncheon in the little town of Chipinge which nestles in the mountains along Zimbabwe's eastern border.

The occasion was the opening by the Prime Minister of a R6,8 million sterilised-milk factory which has been built with aid from Holland.

But to observers the event was a striking example of the practical application of the Government's cornerstone policies of reconciliation and reconstruction.

Chipinge and the surrounding farmlands 150 km south of Mutare have a thriving Afrikaans community, peopled by descendants of the trekboers from the Free State.

They followed in the footsteps of Tom Moodie and his clan from Bethlependence.

Problems remain, in particular those concerning squatters and refugees who cross into the district to escape the fighting in Mozambique between government forces and the rebel MNR bands.

But on the day the milk factory opened, they were put aside. The farming community turned out in their best to welcome Mr Mugabe and his Ministers. The wives laid on a lavish spread and decorated part of the factory with proteas and home-grown flowers, drawing the comment from Mr Mugabe that it looked more like a hotel than a milk plant.

He congratulated the farmers on increasing milk production by 140 percent since independence and promised his government's continuing support for the agricultural industry.

The plant itself, the most modern in Africa, will initially produce 12 million litres of sterilised milk a year, most of which will be sold to consumers in the rural areas which have no refrigeration.

But the Dairy Marketing Board which operates the factory also has an eye on export to neighbouring countries.

It is also planned to supply milk for the factory from a resettlement scheme which is to be established with assistance from the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

Praise for the farming community came, too, from the Dutch ambassador, Mr A L Schneiders, who said it had provided the most stimulating, open-minded and constructive response to the challenges of the new Zimbabwe.

Present at the opening were men such as Mr "Cois" Joubert, a leading Chipinge farmer who was one of the driving forces behind the move to get the milk factory established.

"We are confident that things will go well here," he said. "We have had a talk to the Prime Minister about some of the main issues, such as squatters, and we hope they will be sorted out."

Present too was Dominee Wessel Roussouw of the Dutch Reformed Church who has been in Chipinge for just over a year from South Africa.

With a congregation of more than 100 adults — "the Anglicans only have about four at their services" — he is happy to be carrying out his ministry in Zimbabwe.

The milk factory is being managed and run by black Zimbabweans, some of whom underwent courses in Holland.

The manager, Mr Nigel Munyati, studied food science at Pennsylvania State University.

In itself the opening of a factory, modest by world standards, hardly rated as a major event.

But when added together and seen in the context of a country that was at war just a few years ago, the components do portray a remarkable example of cooperation, both internationally and across local racial barriers.

They also speak of black advancement at a pace which many would have thought impossible.

hem who opened up the area to white settlement in 1892.

Eight months of hard trekking preceded the establishment of the first settlement in the promised land.

The hillsides were green, game abounded and the cattle grew sleek and fat.

"In all my travels through the southern parts of Africa, I never saw a more beautiful area than north Gazaland. I have never regretted leaving the Free State, though the voortrekker's life is a hard one," wrote one of those early pioneers, Marthinus Martin.

Life was hard, too, in the days of the Rhodesian bush war for the families living close to the Mozambique border. Young and old died in raids on homesteads and in ambushes, in landmine explosions and in contacts between the security forces and the guerillas.

Some farms were abandoned but other farmers stayed on, growing coffee and raising the dairy cattle which thrive in the fertile valleys.

With the transition from Rhodesia to Zimbabwe in 1980, came the uncertainty of what to expect under the new government.

Difficulties, too, in coping with hordes of squatters who moved on to the land from the overcrowded communal areas in expectation of reaping quick benefits from inde-

Support for coup from Zambia: claim

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1/10/83

The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE — An anonymous witness told the High Court here yesterday that a group of disaffected soldiers plotting against the Zimbabwe Government planned to stage a coup which would have been supported by "aircraft from Zambia".

The witness, a soldier from the Zimbabwe national army, who may not not be named in terms of a court order, told the court that the coup was to have been triggered by an attack on the official Harare residence of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe over the Easter weekend last year.

He added that no attack took place on that occasion.

The witness was giving evidence at the trial of 10 supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo — nine of them former guerillas from Mr Nkomo's Zipra military wing — who are charged with an attack on Mr Mugabe's house on June 24 last year.

The State allegation is that the attack was planned as the start of a coup which would have seen the setting up of a military junta.

Among the targets were: the Prime Minister's and President's houses, government security establishments, and the studios of the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation.

The witness told the court that one of the accused, Mr Albert Moyo, a former Zipra fighter, had complained that ex-guerillas from Mr Mugabe's Zanla forces were given better promotions and postings in the new national army than those who had been loyal to Mr Nkomo during the war.

All the accused have pleaded not guilty to charges under the country's Law and Order (Maintenance) Act which can carry the death penalty.

Some of the men are alleging in their defence that they were assaulted and intimidated by police as a means of forcing confessions from them.

The trial is continuing before Mr Justice Wilson Sandura, who is sitting with two assessors.

Zimbabwe rations maize

HARARE. — For the first time, the supply of maize to all millers in Zimbabwe has been cut by 10%.

There has also been a further cut of 10% in the already reduced allocation of wheat to the milling industry.

The Grain Marketing Board notified the millers of these two cuts in the supply of grain last week. They came into force on Monday.

Wheat has been on allocation to millers for the past 18 months. Since May 1982, they have been rationed to certain percentages in relation to their past requirements. Now those reduced wheat supplies have been cut by another 10%.

But this is the first time that maize has not been supplied freely to the milling industry. They now face a cut of 10% in whatever quantities of maize were previously supplied to them by the Grain Marketing Board.

Several members of the milling industry this week agreed that the maize cut had come as a shock, in view of economic problems already being faced by the industry.

"It will affect millers financially as we shall have to cut back on the production of roller-meal, super-refined maize meal, samp and stockfeeds. It will also affect consumers who may find supplies a bit short," said one spokesman.

A second said that the cut in the wheat allocation might not be felt too seriously, as the demand for bread from bakers had fallen off since bread prices were increased last month.

"But the maize cut is a different kettle of fish. That could really upset consumers, because it is a basic foodstuff in this country."

The cuts are a result of the two-year drought.

Harare's claim over two young dissidents

'SA trained them'

By Brendan Seery, The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE — The Zimbabwe State Security Minister, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, yesterday produced to newsmen two alleged South African-trained dissidents, whose "operations" inside Zimbabwe included the murder of a white farmer.

Mr Munangagwa said that Spar Mapula (18) and Watson Sibanda (aged about 17), had been trained at a South African Defence Force camp at Ntabeni, near Louis Trichardt, and sent back to Zimbabwe to join other groups of armed dissidents operating against the government.

The men, part of a 26-strong gang, were involved in a number of incidents, said Mr Munangagwa, including:

- Destruction of roadmaking equipment in the Kezi area.
- Attacks on Zimbabwe National Army soldiers.
- Ambushes on government vehicles.
- Murder and mutiliation of two off-duty soldiers.
- Murder of Nyamandhlovu farmer Mr Ian Brebner last June 14.
- Contacts with the army's infantry Grey's Scouts unit, in which a number of horses were killed.
- Murder of a schoolteacher.
- Planning to murder the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Dr Eddisison Zvobgo, when he addressed a rally in the Gwanda area.

When arrested, both men had been sent, on the orders of their superiors in South Africa, to carry out a reconnaissance of the important fuel depot at Beitbridge, prepatory to an attack, said Mr Munangagwa.

Spar Mapula, questioned by newsmen, described the killing of Mr Brebner. His group, led by a section commander known as "Tsholotsho", had come upon the farmer as he was fixing a water pump. "Tsholotsho" had ordered his men to spread out into battle formation, then had shot Mr Brebner, killing him instantly. The farmworkers nearby fled, said Mapula.

Sibanda told the newsmen that a white South African officer, a Captain Calloway, had told them that their mission would include the killing of white farmers, because they were "the ones growing the food to feed the dogs of Mugabe".

Mr Munangagwa disclosed that Captain Calloway was a former member of the Zimbabwe Central Intelligence Organisation who had emigrated to South Africa after independence. "I know him myself" added the Minister.

The two captured dissidents said that they were trained by black and white instructors at Ntabeni, and were told that they would not be paid "until your country is liberated".

Some dissidents were not happy with the South African connection and just made use of it to get arms and ammunition, while others appeared to be willing parties to the arrangement, said Mr Munangagwa.

Incoming groups from South Africa were identified to resident bands through the rifles they carried, said the Minister, displaying an AK rifle.

The South Africans were acquiring AK rifles, removing original serial numbers and placing their own ones in different postions on the weapons, he said.

Such rifles had also been found on Mozambican bandits of the Mozambican national resistance operating around the Beira-Mutare oil pipeline.

Pamphlets printed in South Africa, had been found on members of the dissident gangs.

A copy of one of the pamphlets read out to newsmen was headed "People's power/Zipra", and was in English.

The pamphlet said that the "objective is to free the people from the atrocities committed by the Zimbabwe Government" and added that whites who did not take up arms against Zipra would be safe and would be protected from the government's "killer bands" who went around the country posing as dissidents.

Zimbabwean troops deep in Botswana

By NORMAN CHANDLER

AT least two platoons of soldiers, believed to be from Zimbabwe's feared Fifth Battalion and numbering more than 40 men, have been dropped by helicopter in northern Botswana to search for dissidents fleeing from Mr Robert Mugabe's government.

This was confirmed in Gaborone yesterday by a spokesman for the Botswana Department of Information and Broadcasting, who said: "They have attacked villagers in the North-East Province and are 50km or more inside Botswana. The men said they were looking for dissidents."

Last night a spokesman for the Zimbabwean Government denied in Harare that any of its troops were in Botswana or had crossed into Botswana.

"We have established that our troops were not involved," he said.

There was no immediate Botswana reaction to the denial.

The invading force, claimed by Botswana to have been led by a white officer, attacked Buthale's village, situated in dense bushland north of Francistown, at about 4pm on Sunday.

It is understood that the men have been steadily progressing south. They were brought into the area by helicopters.

First news of the incursion was received in Gaborone mid-week.

The message said that several villagers were beaten up. It is not yet known whether any were killed.

Units of the Botswana Police and the Botswana Defence Force have been moved into the remote area, but have apparently not yet made contact with the Zimbabwean troops.

Reinforcements, according to sources in Gaborone yesterday, are being drafted into the province, which is bordered on two sides by Zimbabwe.

The sources fear that the Fifth Brigade troops may be heading for the huge Dukwe camp where 3 300 "official" Zimbabwean refugees have been housed after fleeing their country in the past few months. There are also many South African refugees in the camp.

The refugees — mostly members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party — have refused to return to their homeland for fear of reprisals.

Row looms over possible cut in US aid to Harare

WASHINGTON — A battle of wills is shaping up between black congressmen and the Reagan administration on whether cuts should be made to the United States' R66-million foreign aid to Zimbabwe.

By GHERHARD PIETERSE

White House sources said this week President Reagan was "more or less in favour" of at least a symbolic 15% to 20% cut in the package to convey his administration's anger and dismay at Zimbabwe's abstention on the United Nations Security Council vote to condemn Russia's shooting down of an Korean passenger airliner.

One White House source said: "The President made it clear to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe during his visit that the United States was unhappy over Zimbabwe's failure to support the Security Council vote on the issue."

He said President Reagan hinted to Mr Mugabe at the time of his visit that a more tangible form of this "unhappiness" might be forthcoming later in the year during deliberations on the foreign aid package.

Drawing the battle lines on the other side of the fence is the National Black Caucus, a group of black congressmen and senators who have made it clear they will oppose any proposed cuts that the President may seek.

A spokesman for the caucus said that while most black Capitol Hill politicians felt unhappy with Zimbabwe's failure to support South Korea and the United States, they would nonetheless oppose any proposed cuts suggested by the President.

"Zimbabwe is going through an extremely tough time right now and slashing aid to that country is one sure way to drive Mr Mugabe and his country deeper into the arms of Moscow," a spokesman for the caucus said.

He said the US foreign aid contribution made up a substantial part of Mr Mugabe's available foreign currency and that even a 15% cut could have serious consequences.

"We hope the issue will not reach the house and that the President will see that a cut in aid to Zimbabwe is not the answer."

Asked what he thought a proper response to Zimbabwe's actions would be, the spokesman said a "more realistic" approach towards Zimbabwe's southern neighbour — South Africa — would be helpful.

"Mr Mugabe has remained friendly with the US despite President Reagan's love affair with apartheid South Africa."

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billowing cloud of smoke and engulfing most of the South Korean delegation.

Dozens of South Korean security guards and Burmese buglers assembled to honour the visitors were seen running away in panic, their shirts soaked in blood.

The Chun motorcade immediately wheeled around and left the area.

It was not clear what type of explosive was used but South Korean news agencies said it may have been a time bomb planted in the ceiling of the one-story memorial compound north of the Burmese capital.

So far, there has been no comment from North Korea's State-run Press.

SIGNIFICANT

The blast came at the start of what had been described as a significant journey for Mr Chun. His itinerary had included stops in India, Sri Lanka, Australia, New Zealand

Zimbabwe airmen held on whites' evidence, says Zvobgo

LONDON — Authorities in Zimbabwe had affidavits by white citizens which persuaded the Government of the guilt of six white Air Force officers accused of sabotage, a Zimbabwean Government Minister claimed yesterday.

Mr Eddison J Zvobgo, Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, said in a statement that the officers were kept in detention despite their acquittal in the High Court because the Government "believed they were responsible for the crippling of our air force."

Thirteen planes, one-third of the country's air force, were blown up.

The Minister said the Government decided not to call the whites supporting its case because they had given their affidavits in "complete confidence."

If they had taken the witness stand their social life, businesses and future white collaboration with the Government would have been endangered, the Minister said.

The six officers were acquitted after a black judge ruled that some of their confessions were extracted under torture.

Their continued detention provoked international criticism of Zimbabwean Premier Mr Robert Mugabe and demands that Western aid to his Government be stopped.

Mr Zvobgo said the decision to free three of the officers, who were deported last month, was a humanitarian move by Mr Mugabe.

He said the British Press misread it and concluded that a "campaign of invective would compel us to release the rest."

The Minister's statement appeared in a full-page advertisement headed "Zimbabwe on trial" in London's Sunday Observer newspaper.

"We feel that the lack of respect and understanding given to our view could sever relations between Britain and Zimbabwe and, sadly, between blacks and whites in Zimbabwe," Mr Zvobgo said.

He added, however: "We believe all this tempest will blow over and British-Zimbabwean relations will be back to where they were — solidly based on sovereign equality, mutual trust, and respect and non-interference in the domestic affairs of each other."

Mr Zvobgo said that his Government could have simply detained the officers under emergency powers approved by the Lancaster House conference which led to independence for Zimbabwe in 1980.

But it decided to go to trial "armed only with tainted confessions...and lost, as we knew we would."

Mr Zvobgo denied allegations in the West that the rule of law has "collapsed in Zimbabwe."

"The Government of Zimbabwe believes, totally, in the rule of law" and has no quarrel with the country's courts, he said.

The three released officers, Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter (44), Air Commodore Philip Pile (43) and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe (36) arrived in Britain in mid-September.

The three still in prison are Wing Commander John Cox (36), Flight Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd (31) and Flight Lieutenant Neville Weir (24).



Sect followers' beliefs cause headaches for Mugabe govt

(362) Star 10/10/93

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — In a gleaming, white-painted log cabin on top of a koppie in a remote Zimbabwean tribal area is an unusual tomb.

About 500 steep steps lead up from the dusty fields of the Gandanzara communal lands, northeast of the farming community of Rusape.

The grave inside the cabin looks like a four-poster bed, and is surrounded by white, embossed-satin curtains. Several thick candles flicker around the grave, which is guarded by white-robed "sisters" who maintain a round-the-clock vigil.

The tomb is that of "Baba Johane" Masowe, the founder of a remarkable sect which has drawn followers from throughout Southern Africa and even as far north as Kenya.

His "Gospel of God Church", whose followers are known as the "Vapostori" (apostles) has been in the news in Zimbabwe recently.

Its members have refused to go against church teaching to let their children be inoculated by government health workers against such killer diseases as measles.

Children of the sect's members dress in long, flowing robes and carry crooks and the men shave their heads. The younger members have been more susceptible than usual to measles because of the drought of the past two seasons, which has lowered health and resistance generally.

Numbers of sect children, particularly in the church's strongholds in the eastern highlands of the country, have died from the disease and medical men and government Ministers have been up in arms.

After threats of dire action, some of the Vapostori have grudgingly brought their children to government clinics for vaccinations, but church elders have been on hand afterwards to "ritually cleanse" the youngsters, absolving them from "sin" and allowing their re-admittance into the church.

One unhappy elder put the Vapostori position clearly: "We are here because we have to follow government wishes. Being here is acting against our faith and we are not not happy with it."

The man, who joined the sect in 1942, said neither he nor any of his children had received medical care.

Several had died, because "it was God's will". Only God has the power over life and death, he said.

The church was founded in 1932 by "Baba Johane", who was born in the Rusape area of Zimbabwe in 1914.

The following, in his words, is what happened to "Baba Johane" when he was 18. His followers testify to this.

"In the year 1932, I was a shoemaker at Norton. When I had finished mending a pair of shoes I took them to the owner, and on the way I met a dazzling light and I fell down unconscious.

"When I was still unconscious I saw an old man with grey hair and a young man who told me that I had been chosen by God to go and tell all the people in the world to pray."

Church members, who live in isolated communities, tend to be parochial. Polygamy is common, with young girls being "married" off when they have barely entered their teens to begin producing children.

Vapostori not only frown on taking their children to hospitals and clinics, they have also on occasion maintained there was no need to educate children.

Although the sect members are now accepting the need for education and are even building their schools, the church is still a problem for Zimbabwe's socialist government.

While some Cabinet Ministers promised the introduction of legislation which would render liable for prosecution parents who refused to let their children have medical attention, Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, warned that the authorities would "step in" if any church's teachings were detrimental to the well-being of the nation.

A barefoooted Mr Muzenda, speaking recently from the shade of an awning near the tomb of "Baba Johane", told the Vapostori elders that the government would not let a section of the population spread communicable diseases.

He also quoted extensively from the Bible to show that using medicines was not not un-Christian.

His words were met with a stony silence — but nevertheless, as he left, he was bid farewell by sect members who sang their melodic, haunting hymns.

Masire heads north to probe border invasion

(362) (12) RDM 11/10/83

By NORMAN CHANDLER

THE President of Botswana, Dr Quett Masire, has gone to his country's North East Province to personally investigate a Zimbabwean troop incursion — in its ninth day — in the area.

He is accompanied by Botswana Defence Force and Police officials, including the country's highest-ranking officers, amid strong indications that Botswana troops may have made contact with the invasion force.

The visit was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman in Francistown for the Officer Commanding No 1 District, Botswana Police.

The President's visit is scheduled to last three days and he is due back in his office in Gaborone on Thursday.

This is believed to be the first time President Masire has personally visited areas where across-border violations, particularly involving Zimbabwean troops, have taken place.

According to information given to the Rand Daily Mail yesterday, the visit is "indicative of the concern with which the Botswana Government views the incident".

The Zimbabweans' last known position, on Saturday, was in dense bush country 30km south of Buthale's village, about 75km from the Botswana-Zimbabwe border, according to sources in Gaborone.

Buthale's village is on the main "refugee road" to Dukwe camp, near Francistown, where 3 300 refugees — many from Zimbabwe — are housed.

The Mail was told yesterday that contact "had probably been made" with the Zimbabweans but, because of poor communications, there was no indication that fighting was continuing.

The Zimbabweans are believed to be heading for Dukwe. Refugees there have consistently refused to leave the camp and return to their homeland for fear of reprisals by Zimbabwean officials.

On Friday, the Zimbabwe Government claimed to have no knowledge of a border violation and said its troops were not involved.

However, reports reaching Francistown said Zimbabwean troops were dropped by helicopters near Buthale's village on Sunday afternoon, October 2, and entered the village at 4pm that day. The helicopters returned to Zimbabwe.

Villagers were beaten up but so far it has not been possible to ascertain whether anyone was killed. The troops — numbering about 40 — are understood to have entered other villages as well.

According to villagers, the invading troops — thought to be members of the North Korean-trained 5th Brigade — have told them they are looking for dissidents who have fled Zimbabwe.

The dissidents are members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party.

Government officials in Gaborone were unable to give any information as to President Masire's whereabouts yesterday.

Botswana troops on border alert

By NORMAN CHANDLER

FRANCISTOWN. — Botswana troops are this morning in position on the two-strand fence border with Zimbabwe in the wake of a border violation by a group of mystery troops.

The identity of the troops who crossed the border in three helicopters is being hotly disputed and three versions of the incident have emerged.

● An official Zimbabwean Government spokesman has denied that any Zimbabwean troops crossed into neighbouring Botswana.

● The secretary of the Botswana Cabinet, Mr Festus Mogae, yesterday released a statement saying there were no Zimbabwean troops in Botswana but admitting that residents of Buthale's Village were assaulted and harassed by soldiers who landed in helicopters which came from the Zimbabwean side of the border.

● A Mail team at the scene of the incident interviewed villagers who consistently claimed the soldiers had been wearing the uniforms of the Zimbabwean National Army, had identified themselves as members of the Zimbabwean army and had crossed into the territory from the Zimbabwean side.

The confrontation is very low key at the moment but the troops have warned villagers they would be back in strength by October 21 to wipe out both the village and Zimbabwean dissidents they believe are hiding in the area.

The soldiers crossed the border 11 days ago in search of dissidents who were badly injured in a clash in southern Matabeleland between the Fifth Brigade and supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The dissidents are now undergoing treatment for their wounds in Francistown Hospital but no one has been allowed to interview them.

The Botswana President, Dr Quett Masire, has so far not yet visited the area even though he is presently touring the militarily sensitive North East and Central provinces.

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US considers a huge cut in aid to Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — Reagan Administration officials are considering cutting America's economic aid to Zimbabwe next year by as much as 50 percent. The move comes in the wake of Zimbabwe's abstention on the United Nations Security Council resolution condemning the Soviet shooting down of the Korean airliner.

The move has brought sharp protests from Congressmen who say it would seriously harm United States relations with black Africa.

Extracts from a confidential memorandum disclosing the proposal for a 50 percent cut in Zimbabwe's scheduled R75 million payment from the US Agency for International Development were published yesterday in the Washington Post.

State Department and agency officials who were asked about the Post report insisted that no final decision had been taken but did not deny that the cut was being considered.



Mr Robert Mugabe



President Ronald Reagan

According to sources here the Reagan Administration has been offended not only by the abstention on the Korean airliner resolution but also by other Zimbabwean votes in the Security Council, by the redetention of the acquitted Zimbabwe air force officers and by the treatment of Zanu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Although Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's recent visit to Washington appeared to have gone off well, some sources say there was friction behind the scenes between Reagan Administration officials and the Zimbabwean leader.

The differences have been suppressed because Reagan Administration officials consider Zimbabwe a key state in the Administration's Southern African policy.

The disillusionment felt in some official quarters has, however, been revealed by the extracts of the memo published in the Washington Post.

The memorandum, dated October 3, was sent to Undersecretary of State Mr Lawrence Eagleburger by the head of US aid, Mr Peter McPherson.

Mr McPherson said he was responding to a request from Mr Eagleburger on September 20 "seeking reaction to a proposed 50 percent reduction in the aid levels for Zimbabwe" for fiscal 1984.

"I believe that it is in our interest that a strong, clear American response be quickly forthcoming to Zimbabwe's abstention," Mr McPherson wrote.

He went on to say a cut of up to 50 percent immediately would be "appropriate".

There is believed to be scepticism in the Reagan Administration at Mr Mugabe's explanation that Zimbabwe was voting not for itself but on behalf of the African bloc it represents in the Security Council.

The Reagan Administration pledged in 1981 to give Zimbabwe R225 million in aid over three years.

Botswana sends back Nkomo's dissidents

By NORMAN CHANDLER

FRANCISTOWN. — Botswana is returning dissidents fleeing from Zimbabwe's North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade in Matabeleland.

This emerged yesterday as more Botswana Defence Force soldiers dug in along the Zimbabwean border in the wake of a border violation by Mr Robert Mugabe's troops 13 days ago.

The Botswana men are strung out along a 30km stretch of the border close to Buthale's Vilage, where the incursion took place on October 2.

Since the beginning of October dissidents — who are said to be supporters of Zimbabwe's oppositon leader Mr Joshua Nkomo — have been getting through the two-strand wire fence which serves as the boundary. It is understod that there was a major battle in southern Matabeleland on September 30 and October 1.

Botswana police have been picking up dissidents in dense bushland in the area north of Francistown. If they are injured the dissidents have been taken to Jubilee Hospital in the provincial capital.

A number are in the wards there at present, but Botswana authorities are refusing permission for any to be interviewed or photographed.

Construction workers on the Francistown to Zimbabwe tarred road said yesterday five dissidents were picked up in the bush on Thursday.

One worker said: "They have been avoiding the main road and trying to get into the country via the bush. Police patrols have been active on the road as well as in the bush."

The Mail was able to establish yesterday that Botswana has been returning fleeing dissidents, but the number is unknown.

The information came from local officials who were reluctant to be identified.

The Mail was told by police that "these Zimbabweans are giving us a lot of trouble . . ."

A marked increase in border tension is apparent in this part of the country. Ever since Buthale's Village, 70km north-east of Francistown, was invaded by troops said to be of the Zimbabwe National Army, the Botswana Defence Force and Botswana police have trucked in men and equipment.

Every day this week the Botswana troops have patrolled through the village, according to Chief Ntima Buthale.

"They are in position just over there," he told the Mail, pointing to the nearby border visible through scrubland.

Tracks made by many vehicles are clearly visible in the bush.

Mystery as SADF soldier gets asylum in Zimbabwe

By NEIL HOOPER

RUNAWAY national serviceman Candidate Officer Ronald Woods, who disappeared from the army last month, has surfaced in Harare, Zimbabwe, where he has been granted political asylum.

The former welfare officer — who disappeared mysteriously on September 11 — has told friends and relatives that he has been given a job by the Zimbabwe government.

His arrival in Zimbabwe was confirmed this week by his brother Eric and Pastor Paul Ras of the Apostolic Faith Mission in Harare, who spoke to the young academic after a church service last Friday.

American-born Pastor Ras, who has known Mr Woods since 1979 when he was ministering in South Africa, said that the former Witwatersrand University honours student was "well" and sharing accommodation in Harare with several bachelors.

"When I spoke to him Ronald said that his application for political asylum in Zimbabwe had not been finalised, and that he had to speak to the authorities again this week.

"I didn't have much time to speak to him, and didn't ask him why he had was seeking political asylum here.

Mystified

"I expected to speak to him again last Sunday, but he didn't show up for the service," Pastor Ras said.

However, brother Eric says that Mr Woods had since telephoned a close friend, Gordon Smith, in Durban to say that he had arrived safely in Zimbabwe and had been granted political asylum and given a job by the Zimbabwe government.

"He also telephoned his father-in-law in Johannesburg to give him the news. He in turn contacted my mother in Bloemfontein. I was on leave and heard about the calls only on Tuesday.

"It is a tremendous relief to hear that Ronald is well, although I am still mystified about him applying for political asylum in Harare."



RONALD WOODS
Phoned family

Job and home for runaway

Mr Woods said that he had been able to make contact with friends and relatives in South Africa only during the past week because he had been held in prison while Zimbabwe authorities checked his application for asylum.

The telephone calls are the first confirmation that Ronald Woods did in fact travel to Zimbabwe after disappearing on Sunday, September 11, when he told his friend that he intended applying for political asylum in Zimbabwe.

Earlier Eric told the Sunday Times that the Defence Force — for whom Ronald was working as a welfare officer during his two-year spell of national service — had not been able to throw any light on his brother's whereabouts and that he was "extremely worried".

Two weeks ago a spokesman for the SADF confirmed that Candidate Officer Woods has been absent without leave since September 19.

A senior police officer said this week the police had no official information about the missing social work graduate, but believed he was in Zimbabwe.

The Sunday Times has been unable to obtain any official comment from the Zimbabwe authorities about him.

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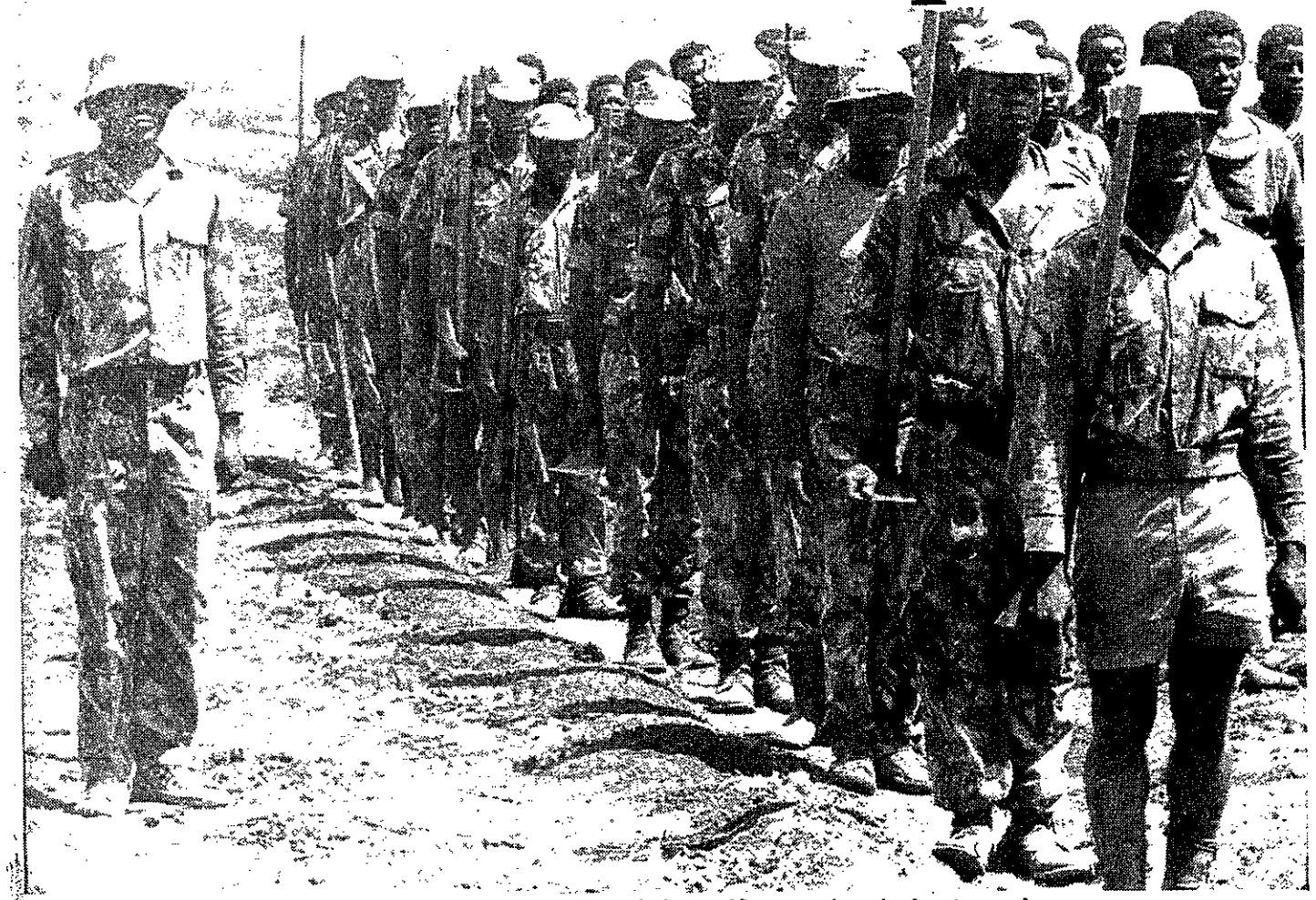
Zimbabwe's troops turn in rifles for rakes to raise crops



With spades and hoes instead of guns, Zimbabwe soldiers march to the farming settlement.

By Robin Drew,
The Star's Foreign
News Service

MASVINGO, Zimbabwe — Former Zipra guerilla fighter Abdul Nyathi, now a lieutenant in the Zimbabwe National Army, is doing the job he trained for before he went to war — growing crops and raising livestock.

He is a key figure in an experiment in self-reliance in which soldiers of the Army's 4th Brigade exchange their rifles for hoes for a spell down on the farm.

The 4 300 ha farm south of Masvingo on the road to Beitbridge was bought by the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement two years ago and handed over to 4 Brigade to see if the soldiers in Zimbabwe's 40 000 strong army could contribute to the peaceful development of the country.

"Our first task is to fight," said tough-talking Brigadier Tshile Nleya, commander of the four battalions based at Masvingo whose members are divided fairly equally between former members of the Rhodesian African Rifles and ex-guerillas of Mr Mugabe's [illegible] and Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zipra army.

"But," he told newsmen at a briefing on the farming operation, "we cannot all fight at the same time. Even in Lebanon they don't do that. But instead of sleeping when we are in reserve, we try to do something for the benefit of the nation."

Lieutenant Nyathi who gained an agricultural diploma before leaving the country in the mid-1970s to become a Zipra guerilla, was given the job of farm manager. A committee was appointed to oversee operations.

Every member of the Brigade from the rawest private up to the Brigadier contributed to a fund to buy farm equipment. In three months, R25 000 was raised, ordinary soldiers giving 50 cents a month with the contribution rising by rank up to the Brigadier's R27 a month.

All the work on the farm is done by the soldiers who are deployed there in company strength for varying periods sometimes lasting up to three months.

On farm duty, they work in the fields where maize and vegetables are grown under irrigation, tend the pigs, herd the cattle, look after the rabbits and once the poultry houses are complete, will look after the chickens.

The objective is to grow food to feed the brigade but in the initial stages of developing the farm, produce is being sold to raise money for the day-to-day running of the property.

The committee is still feeling its way with technical advice from agriculture officials. One of the main snags is a shortage of ready cash to maintain the tractors and equipment in working order.

Some servicemen have volunteered to go on farm courses and Brigadier Nleya says no difficulties have arisen in getting the men to work on the land.



Former Zipra fighter, lieutenant Abdul Nyathi, farm manager and key man in 4 Brigade's self reliance experiment.

"You must remember," he said, "they are the sons of peasants who have been ploughing all their lives."

The brigadier refused to discuss the military training side, saying the visit by newsmen was purely to look at the farming operation.

It was men from a 4 Brigade battalion currently working on the farm who were involved in the engagement a year ago with a group of South African soldiers who crossed into south-eastern Zimbabwe on what was said to be an unauthorised mission when three ex-Rhodesian servicemen were killed in a clash in the Sengwe area.

But whether it is fighting or farming, these soldiers seem to take it all in their stride.

If the experiment is successful, other brigades in the national army are expected to swop their rifles for rakes and march to the fields.

ZIMBABWE

Holding the reins

The collapse of the "unity talks" between Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF Party and Joshua Nkomo's minority Zapu was hardly a surprise. Still less surprising were the accusations levelled against Nkomo by Maurice Nyagumbo, organising secretary of the governing party and Minister of Mines.

Nkomo's extravagant demands were responsible for the collapse, according to Nyagumbo, who accused the Zapu leader of seeking not only to become deputy premier but also of demanding more Cabinet posts for Zapu politicians, the immediate release of Zapu detainees and an investigation into the conduct of the national army.

There was no way that the ruling party could — or would — swallow these terms. Zanu leaders point out that it is Nkomo who is in a weak bargaining position. His party is in disarray while he lost face when he fled the country in February, claiming that there was a plot to kill him. To make matters worse, the Zapu leader's performance since returning from London has been lacklustre. In Parliament he failed to make the major policy speech that he had promised and in debate he is overshadowed by the agile, wittier, incisive style of PM Mugabe.

Furthermore, when Zimbabwe goes to the polls — either next year or in 1985 — all the signs are that Nkomo will be doing well if he manages to hang on to the 20 seats that he currently holds in the House of Assembly. Since Zanu-PF is likely to win the remaining 60 seats contested by black politicians, Zapu seems destined to play the uncomfortable role of a minority opposition at a time when the government is committed to establishing a one-party state.

There are no signs that Nkomo is yet willing to throw in the towel. True, there is bound to be some disaffection at grassroots levels within the ruling party. The drought, the recession, government spending reductions, the recent steep rises in food prices and increased indirect taxes must all have left their mark on party loyalty.

But the numbers likely to switch regional-tribal allegiances from Zapu to Zanu and the other way around are likely to be small. All of which means that Mugabe is sitting pretty despite his economic problems and the politicking within the ruling party that is becoming increasingly evident.

Next May, Zanu-PF is scheduled to hold its first full-scale congress in 20 years and already the party hopefuls are jockeying furiously for position. The most sought-after post is that of secretary general, once held by Edgar Tekere, but now vacant. The two leading contenders are said to be the Karanga-supported Eddison Zvobgo, Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, and Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister of Information, who reportedly has Zezuru and Manyika backing, plus that of Mugabe himself.

The party congress elections could turn out to be significantly more important than those for Parliament in 1985, since it is increasingly evident that the crucial policy decisions are made in the party rather than in Parliament.

For their part, white politics have little relevance these days. Much has been made of the fact that Ian Smith's once all-powerful Republican Front has now lost two successive by-elections and today holds only nine of the 20 white seats in Parliament.

Zimbabwe will help to resist SA

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October 1983
Star

HARARE — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has pledged to support Mozambique in any measures it takes to defend its borders.

In a message to President Samora Machel after Monday's South African commando attack on Maputo, Mr Mugabe expressed revulsion at "yet another barbarous and cowardly attack against defenceless civilians in Maputo by forces of the racist Pretoria regime.

"Be assured of Zimbabwe's fullest support for any measures you may take in defence of Mozambique's territorial integrity," Mr Mugabe said.

Zimbabwe already has about 2 000 troops in Mozambique to protect the Beira oil pipeline against guerillas of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR).

Zimbabwe's leading newspaper, the Herald, said the raid highlighted the need for tighter security measures by the States bordering South Africa.

"We should be capable of inflicting unacceptable casualties on those who have the audacity to launch attacks in our very city centres. We have the soldiers and the equipment. All possible enemy targets must be heavily guarded 24 hours a day," the Herald said. — Reuter.

drops to 11

By HOWARD PREECE
and GERALD REILLY

SOUTH AFRICA'S inflation rate as measured by the official Consumer Price Index (CPI) dropped to 10,9% at the end of September — the lowest level in five years.

It was 12,2% in August.

Even more important is that the underlying rate of inflation in the economy now seems less than 9%.

The rise in the cost of living, however, for 1983 is still likely to be over 10% — albeit only just.

If so this will mean South Africa will have undergone a full 10 years with annual inflation levels in double figures.

But Mr Owen Horwood, the Minister of Finance, will be rightly encouraged by the evidence that the country is at last showing signs of getting the ever-soaring cost of living under much better control.

The debit side, though, is that this process has been inevitably accompanied by a severe economic recession with industrial production declining and unemployment rising.

The overall CPI increased by 0,6% in September this year.

That was way under the 1,8% rise in September 1982 — after General Sales Tax had been pushed up from 5% to 6% — and so the annual rate eased from 12,2% to 10,9%.

In October last year the CPI went up by 1,2%, again influenced by the GST increase.

The rise should be less this month so a further fall in the CPI annual rate — for the 12 months to the end of October — should be announced in November.

The CPI, however, rose by a modest 0,6% in November 1982 and by a minimal 0,3% in December last year.

It will be difficult to improve on that record and thus inflation for 1983 as a whole may well stay above 10%.

But the CPI index figure at the end of March this year was 255,9. By the end of September it had risen only to 267,3.

That represents a six-month increase of 4,45% — or an annual rate of just under 9%.

That is probably a fair reflection of the underlying inflation trend in the economy.

The food only index during September this year rose by 1,3% — mainly because of drought-created scarcities.

For the 12 months to September the jump in food prices was 11,8%.

But the full effects of the drought have far from been felt yet.

Barclays Bank chief economist Dr Johan Cloete said last night all the indicators pointed to the inflation

Army alert over raid

By NORMAN CHANDLER

THE deputy commander of the Botswana Defence Force, Brigadier Ian Khama, has taken personal charge of his country's troops on the border with Zimbabwe in the face of a possible new attack by units of Mr Mugabe's Zimbabwean National Army.

Brig Khama — son of the late President of Botswana, Sir Seretse Khama — is with the troops in the area near Buthale's Village, in the north-east of the country; where Zimbabwe troops crossed over on October 2, the Rand Daily Mail was informed yesterday.

After assaulting and abusing the village headman, Chief Buthale, and villagers, the Zimbabweans — believed to be members of the 5th Brigade — threatened to return on October 21 to burn the village.

But until late last night there had been no confirmation that a second cross-border incursion had taken place.

Botswana Government officials were not available for comment last night.

Reinforcements of Botswana troops arrived after it was disclosed that some of the Zimbabwe soldiers had not returned to their country despite a statement by a spokesman in Harare that no Zimbabwean soldiers had even been in Botswana.

A Rand Daily Mail investigation in the area last week showed that this was incorrect. A statement by the Botswana Government also said that eight soldiers had entered the country but had left after searching Buthale's Village.

The Mail's investigation found that three helicopters had landed 36 soldiers, with a white lieutenant in charge, and that they had searched the village — which houses some 720 people — for several hours in a bid to find dissidents who had fled fighting between Zimbabwe's army and themselves in southern Matabeleland on September 30 and October 1.

It was also established that most dissidents have been entering Botswana close to the national road from Francistown near the border



Three young visitors to the Ideal ... Yolander Kretzmer played at the pool

Crowds to Ideal Homes

Mail Reporter

THE last two days — today and tomorrow — at the 25th Rand Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition are expected to attract some 16 000 visitors through the gates.

This will take this year's overall attendance to well over 40 000 people.

The eight Johannesburg construction companies taking part in this year's exhibition at Sunninghill Park are Hestia Homes Ltd, LBS Construction, M R Duff Construction, Renou Homes, Dacon struction, Heron Construction, Montagu Homes and Dallas Construction. All have built spectacular homes.

● Report — Page 3

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Prisoner found hanged

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To increase the courts' accessibility, they would sit outside of normal office hours.

There would be no appeal against the judgment and legal representation would not be allowed in court, but litigants would be entitled to get legal help in preparating their cases.

The total cost of such claims would not exceed R25, including legal aid and court registration and messenger's fees, he said.

As part of the State's judiciary system, these courts would be entitled to impose fines or jail sentences for contempt of court or perjury. The normal punishment for contempt was a fine of R100 or three months' jail.

Mr Seales said the Johannesburg Attorneys Association totally supported the proposed introduction of the small claims courts, but he felt the R750 limit was too low.

"The object of such courts is to relieve the clogged-up situation in the judicial system. If the jurisdiction of the Magistrate's Courts in civil matters was increased to R10 000 and the limit in the small claims courts set at R1 500, the load on the Supreme Court would be far lighter," he said.

A Bill providing for the establishment of the courts is expected to be gazetted early next year.



...a loses its appeal

Zimbabwe bans Israeli passport holders

HARARE — Israeli passport holders have been barred from Zimbabwe, informed sources said yesterday.

They said a directive from Home Affairs Minister Herbert Ushewokunze decreed that no one travelling on an Israeli passport could enter or transit through the country.

No official announcement has been made and a Government spokesman refused to comment.

Zimbabwe has no diplomatic relations with Israel, which recently renewed ties with several African countries.

Government announcements, radio and TV usually refer to "Zionist Israel". The only other countries given such treatment are South Africa and Morocco.

A number of joint Israeli-Zimbabwe passport holders are believed to be in the country but no figures are available.

At a religious conference in Jerusalem on Thursday, Bishop Abel Muzorewa said Zimbabwe should establish diplomatic links with Israel to take advantage of its technological and agricultural knowhow.

However, a Government spokesman was quick to dismiss his remarks yesterday saying: "No comment. He is talking as a private citizen. We don't want to give credence to that kind of talk." — Reuter.

It's time for you to watch out . . .

The Star Bureau

LONDON — If you wear a watch in bed, watch it — it can tell more about you than the time.

If you're a lover it could mean half your mind is somewhere else. Or perhaps you're worried about missing out on something at work.

On the other hand, psychologist Jane Firbank has warned that if you never wear a watch you're sadly lacking in self-discipline, in affairs of business as well as of the heart.

But the sexes see things differently when it comes to punctuality.

Price of a place in sun adds to gloomy outlook

S. Express 23/10/83

(362)

PHIL Anderson watched a Zimbabwe prison guard snap handcuffs round the wrists of his air force friend in the courtroom where he had just been acquitted of capital treason charges and made a decision he had been agonising over for a year: to leave the country of his birth.

"If they can do that to an innocent man, they can do it to me. And I'm not hanging around waiting for it to happen," said Mr Anderson, a 32-year-old communications technician.

It's a decision that is being made by hundreds of other whites in Zimbabwe, belatedly following in the footsteps of 50 000 compatriots who have fled the country since black rule came three-and-a-half years ago.

The drama of the trial and redetention of six high-ranking white officers of the air force— three of whom have since been deported to Britain — may not be the breaking point, but it has certainly added impetus to the exodus of whites, now running at more than 1 500 a month.

Whites who stayed after independence to grasp the "hand of reconciliation" extended by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe seriously doubt the model of racial harmony promised will materialise.

They were promised "a place in the land of sunshine".

"If this is the price of the sunshine, you can keep it," Mr Anderson retorted.

He is heading for South Africa, the most popular destination of emigrating whites. Britain and Australia are next on the list.

High-ranking and middle rank whites in Zimbabwe's air force, army and police have taken the same route, either in anger over the detention of people acquitted by courts, or disillusioned by a policy of Africanisation they feel leaves no scope for career advancement.

"They want us to do the work, but the Africans get the promotions and the money," a policeman complained.

Whites are reeling from abuse by Mr Mugabe since he returned from what was to have been a tour of Ireland, the United States and Canada to polish Zimbabwe's tarnished image.

An angry Mr Mugabe returned home to a table-thumping Press conference where he declared that perhaps he had been wrong to let whites stay in the country.

"Have we done wrong by encouraging these people to remain in our country?" he asked.

He accused some whites of being saboteurs and spies in the pay of the South African government.

He tore open barely healed scars of the bloody seven-year bush war, in which whites fought to stave off black rule, by saying: "They massacred our people, fought against us yesterday and still continue to work with the enemy to destroy us."



● Mr Mugabe ... on short fuse

ZIMBABWE'S WHITE EXODUS

Sunday Express Correspondent: Harare

Whites watched fearfully the next day as a 2 000-strong demonstration stopped traffic in central Harare, brandishing placards declaring: "Hang the airmen" and "Expel all British passport holders".

Strict foreign currency regulations which prevent people taking out more than R5 000 per family and only one second-hand car are a sore point among would-be emigrants and undoubtedly stop many others who would like to quit the country.

"People go out not as emigrants but as refugees," a white Republican Front MP said.

But the Draconian restrictions have not stemmed the flow of whites.

"It's a vicious circle," said former Rhodesian leader Ian Smith.

"The biggest single problem facing this country is a lack of confidence in its future.

"So emigration will continue at a fairly high rate and the drain of white skills has an unfortunate effect on efficiency in running the country which lessens confidence even more," he said.

Whites also complain that they no longer enjoy the same standard of living — a key incentive to remain in the country.

Compulsory increased wages for domestics have led many to cut down from two or three servants to one — a move which ironically adds to the overcrowded unemployed market.

Sky-rocketing prices and inflation running at 20% has forced many to cut down on their traditional diet of steak, steak, and more steak.

They've been hard-hit by a 'soak-the-rich-to-pay-for-the-poor' budget, which even Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero admits makes Zimbabwe one of the most highly taxed countries in the world.

They are also concerned about falling standards of education which they fear will deteriorate to unacceptable levels prevalent.

As thousands of black children previously deprived of education flood overcrowded state schools, parents get nervous of repeated government threats to shut down private schools catering mainly for whites and the children of a few wealthy blacks.

But they fear most for their safety.

There have been spiralling increases in thefts and burglaries which observers say will escalate hugely in the next few months as thousands of ex-guerillas stop being paid monthly demob cheques. With no prospects for jobs, they will turn to crime, experts say.

Such incidents as last month's shooting of a young white man who drove down the blocked-off road passing Prime Minister Mugabe's official residence, are blown out of all proportion as whites ponder the agonising question: to leave or not to leave.

Zimbabwe industry adapts to new socialist norms

(362 RPM 25/10/83)

By SIMON WILLSON
Industrial Editor

ZIMBABWE business is keen to show the world that it is on good terms with Harare's socialist Government and confident of economic prospects.

Mr Frank Mills, president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, said he wanted to dispel any thoughts that there was confrontation between the private sector and the Government of Mr Robert Mugabe.

"There are differences, but we in industry are committed to the aims and objectives of our national devlopment plan and have attempted to create an atmosphere where differences of opinion can be exchanged without acrimony or ill-feeling."

Mr Mills, speaking at the Federated Chamber of Industries annual conference in Cape Town, gave the impression, however, that Zimbabwean entrepreneurs faced the task of convincing their Government that they had a role to play in the nation's future.

Proof of Zimbabwe industry's commitment to and confidence in the future was its investment in the manufacturing sector since independence in 1980.

"In 1980 and 1981 investment was at levels higher in real terms than any year during the 1970s. A recent survey by CZI indicated that last year less than 2% of manufacturers failed to engage in investment expenditure. Subsidiaries of foreign companies invested in excess of Z$100m in manufacturing."

The biggest challenge to the manufacturing sector was posed by the fundamental change in political philosophy that accompanied independence.

"With majority rule and a Government committed to a policy of socialism, the onus is now on private-sector entrepreneurs to prove that we have an essential role to play in the future of Zimbabwe," Mr Mills said.

The structure of Zimbabwean manufacturing was undergoing a fundamental change, moving from a mainly import-substitution and foreign currency-absorbing industrial structure towards a more export-oriented form.

"During the days of UDI the operative word was survival. The word is now leadership — in innovation, export promotion, industrial relations and in both investment and attracting investment."

Zimbabwe cops in clash over squatters

(362)
5 Times 30/10/83

By MIKE WILLIAMS
Harare

THE Zimbabwean judiciary clashed with the country's police again this week — this time over the politically sensitive issue of squatters.

In a test case, a High Court judge in Harare ordered police to help court officers evict 19 squatter families from a commercial farm they have been living on illegally in Shurugwi (formerly Selukwe) since December 1980.

Ignored

Warrants of eviction were first issued against the squatters in July last year, but police refused to give an armed escort to the court messenger serving the warrants and nothing came of them.

In January a crowd of squatters "screamed and danced" around a court messenger's truck when he tried to serve summons on them in a damages suit filed by the farm owner. The messenger served the warrants, which were ignored.

In February a magistrate issued warrants of execution against 11 of the squatters, but court messengers refused to go back to the farm without police assistance.

The officer commanding Zimbabwe's Midlands province said police were restricted by a government directive from prosecuting any squatter without written permission from the Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development.

The situation is typical of several over the past few years in light of contradictory signals from government on squatters.

Officials from the Ministry of Lands often speak in support of commercial farmers against squatters.

Illegal squatting flies in the face, they say, of the government's plans for orderly resettlement.

Warned

But that public position does not always follow through to eviction.

Commenting on the Shurugwi case, High Court Judge Waddington warned that police refusal to help court officers could lead to "anarchical results" in which people could take the law into their own hands.

Mugabe sells his socialist soul

CP Reporter:
HARARE

MARGARET is 25 and unemployed. For the moment, courtesy of two white liberals, she has a roof over her head in the "khaya" at the back of one of the classy homes in the Harare suburb of Highlands.

Officially her rent is supposed to be two dollars a month – just enough to cover the water and lights she uses. But Samson, the house servant and former Muzorewa supporter, has been charging her 16 dollars a month. And, when she refused to sleep with him, he assaulted her and concocted various schemes to have the two white liberals kick her out. But, as it happens, Samson was fairly clumsy about these attempts, so the "baas" has decided Margaret can stay.

It may be a fairly innocuous story, a common tale of profiteering and sexism. But it has a certain importance – Margaret is a former guerilla in Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's Zanla forces. She is one of 20 000 former guerillas recently demobilised from the army who have been unable to find work.

She fought and risked her life for a better society – not one in which she would depend on the kindness of white liberals, be subjected to profiteering by those who took the easy way during the war, be humiliated because of her sex, and find herself without a political liberation she fought for.

It is around the situation of people like Margaret – and there are many – that left-wing criticism of the Mugabe Government has reached an unprecedented pitch in recent months. People don't hide their scorn anymore.

Former guerillas from both Zanla and Zipra, some trade unionists and intellectuals say quite openly that the Mugabe Government has "sold-out" on its promise to build socialism.

The "national democratic revolution" – as it is called – shows no signs of becoming a "socialist revolution", but instead seems likely to remain "burgeois" under the current government, these left wingers charge.

For its part, the Mugabe Government accuses the left-wingers of being "unrealistic", and called in its secret police in the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) to investigate and give some very direct threats to these critics.

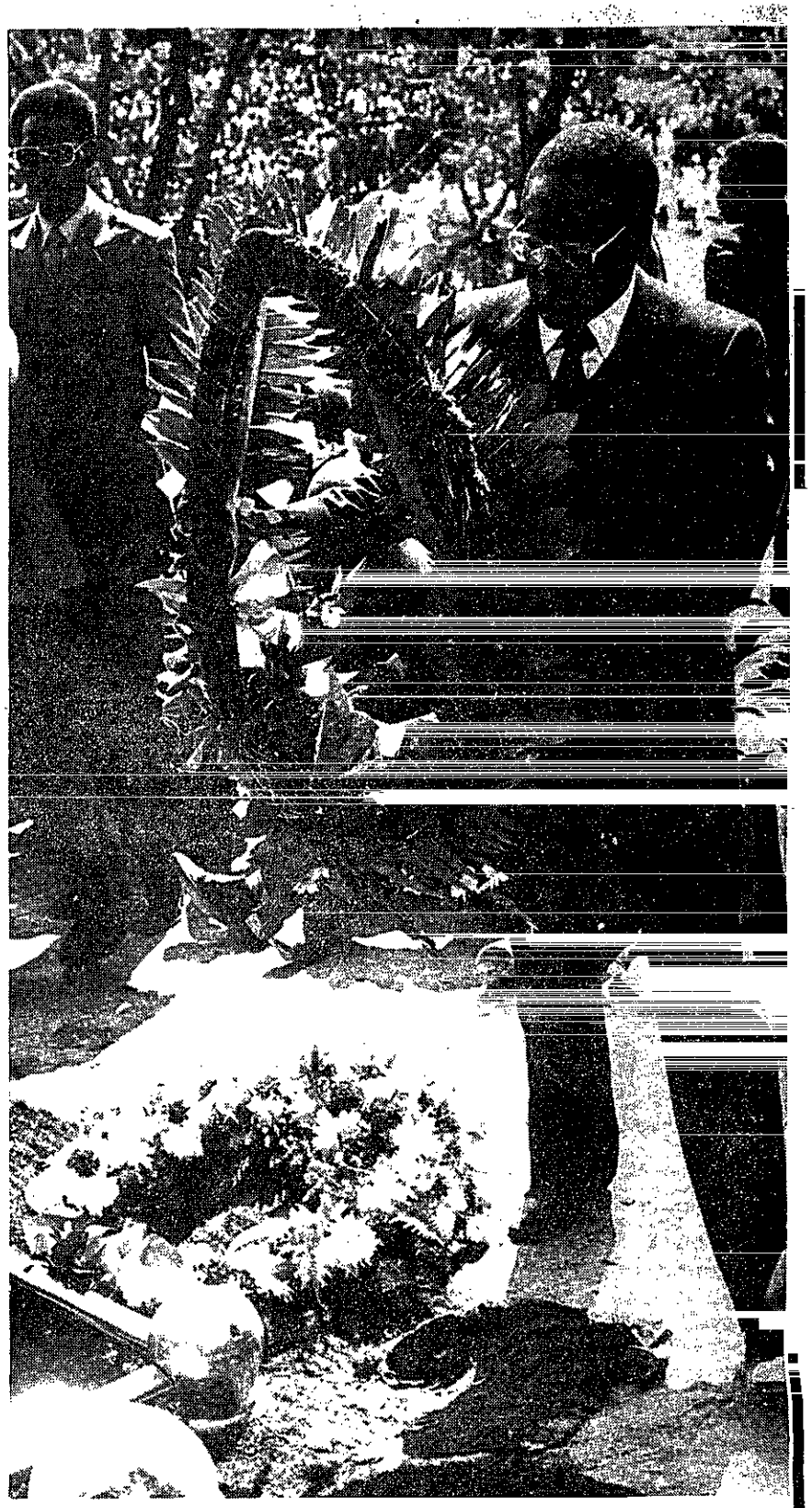
Among the critics are a group of economists and intellectuals at the university in Harare. They have started a magazine, "Social Change and Development", and used its latest issue to pull the Zimbabwe Government to pieces. This is linked to the recent budget in which several increases were announced: the price of bread by 25 percent, the price of milk by 50 percent, the price of mealie meal by 40 percent and the price of beef by more than 30 percent.

The basic charge is that the Mugabe Government has failed to take concrete steps to alter the economic structure the company inherited from Ian Smith and Abel Muzorewa. Instead, they say, the Government has become a puppet of the International Monetary Fund, which is dictating Zimbabwe's economic policy to suit the developed countries of the capitalist West.

In the current serious worldwide economic depression, these critics argue, the Mugabe Government has shifted the greatest burden onto the poor in the factories and fields – contrary to the socialist consciousness the Mugabe Government has claimed for itself.

Sales tax – which affects everyone regardless of how much they earn – is now 18 percent on foodstuffs and basic toileteries and 23 percent on other goods. The land resettlement scheme, in terms of which hundreds of thousands of Zimbabweans were to be resettled on land bought back from white farmers, has come to a halt as a result of government cutbacks in spending.

"Where is our socialist egalitarianism if the budget throws the burden of the international recession and drought on the shoulders of the lower income groups in our society?" asks "Social Change and Development".



● **ROBERT MUGABE . . . laying the wreath on his promise to build a socialist state?**

Muzorewa detained by Zimbabwe police

The Star Bureau

362

Star 1/11/83



Bishop Muzorewa ... arrested at his home in Harare yesterday.

HARARE — The former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, was arrested at his home late yesterday afternoon and is being held in Harare.

Zimbabwe's Minister in Charge of Security, Mr Emmerson Munangwagwa, confirmed this morning that the leader of the United African National Council had been arrested. He would not say why he was being held.

Bishop Muzorewa returned to Zimbabwe last week from a visit to Israel and vigorously denied accusations that he had been plotting to overthrow Mr Mugabe's Government with the help of Israel.

Close associates of the bishop said this morning the UANC leader was picked up at his home in Borrowdale and taken to the central police station.

Bishop Muzorewa, who is leader of the United Methodist Church, told newsmen at the weekend that he had gone to Israel for Bible studies.

He denied any political motives behind his visit and said he had not campaigned for diplomatic links between Zimbabwe and Israel.

The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, recently warned Bishop Muzorewa not to try to start another war and said the Zimbabwe Government would investigate the reasons behind his visit to Israel.

A remark reported to have been made by the bishop that Zimbabwe should establish ties with Israel, caused an outcry in Zimbabwe and he was heavily criticised by the Press and the State radio.

The Herald called on the government to "use the fist" against the UANC leader.

Bishop Muzorewa, who holds one of the three UANC seats in Parliament, said the accusations were "political mud" being smeared on him.

At a news conference last Saturday, Bishop Muzorewa angrily denied he was conspiring against the Zimbabwe Government.

He accused the administration of political harassment and oppression which, he said, was as bad as during white minority rule in the former Rhodesia.

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van der Velden, Barclays Bank Church Square, Pretoria).



The winner of the 1983 Rediffusion contest to find Britain's number one chorister, 10-year-old David Clegg of Bassett, Southampton, leapfrogs over second-placed Laurence Pittenger (13), from Baltimore, USA and third-placed Oliver Dracup, (12) from Bexley, Kent (front) in London recently. David wins for himself a colour TV set and for his church, Romsey Abbey, £2 000 for choral improvements.

Muzorewa is linked to SA rebels: claim

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who has been detained here for questioning about alleged links with South African-based dissidents, had planned to travel to the United States later this month, a Government Minister said last night.

The Minister of State Security, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, said Bishop Muzorewa's trip to the US for a meeting of the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church would have included a few days in South Africa.

He said Bishop Muzorewa had been picked up in an operation code-named "Chinyavada", which means scorpion — "designed to check on subversive elements connected with South African bandits".

The bishop's few days in South Africa would have seen him "re-united with his intimate friends in the leadership of the South African Government".

A church associate said this morning that as far as he knew Bishop Muzorewa did not have a visa for South Africa and was to have gone straight to the US.

He said the council of bishops meeting was held twice a year in California and Bishop Muzorewa usually stopped off in New York to meet church officials there before going to San Francisco.

A lawyer managed to see the bishop yesterday but would not comment on what steps were being taken to secure his release.

He said he was not able to say anything about the matter.

The bishop was arrested at his home on Monday afternoon by officers of the Central Intelligence Organisation and taken to the main police station here.

● See Page 11, World section.

Catholic Church leader held incommunicado in Ciskei

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference has established that its general secretary, Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa, is being held incommunicado in the Ciskei in terms of section 26 of the territory's National Security Act.

The conference has still not found out where Father Mkhatshwa is imprisoned, the associate general secretary, Sister Bridget Flanagan, said in Pretoria today.

She added that the president of the SACBC, Archbishop Dennis Hurley, and Bishop Murphy of Port Elizabeth were engaged in "round-the-clock" attempts to contact the Ciskei authorities.

Father Mkhatshwa, who is also a patron of the United Democratic Front, was held on Sunday after joining in a prayer service with Catholic students at Fort Hare University.

Shot in cold blood, says survivor

Northern Transvaal Bureau

The two men shot dead in Botswana last weekend were enjoying a day's fishing when they were ordered out of their boat and gunned down in cold blood, Mr Stephen Visser, the surviving member of the party, said at his Pietersburg home yesterday.

When his friends were shot dead without warning he jumped into the river to swim to safety, Mr Visser said.

Mr Visser (28), a Pietersburg businessman, strongly denied that he and Mr Ron Visser (34), of Bandolierkop, and Mr Bertie Bekker (29), of Francistown, were poaching when they were challenged by Botswana forces from the banks of the Chobe River, near Kasane, last Friday evening.

According to Mr Visser, the two men were shot after they had obeyed an instruction to leave the boat from which they were fishing.

The three men left the boat and, when they reached the river bank, Botswana troops opened fire on them.

Mr Visser said he and his friends were unarmed and that there was no question of poaching.

He returned to Pietersburg yesterday after being questioned by Botswana Security Police.

His business partner in Pietersburg, Mr Lulu van Tonder, criticised what he termed "one-sided Press reports" about the incident which, he said, assumed that the men were guilty of poaching.

The families of the two dead men are expected to announce funeral arrangements today.

Mugabe men swoop on Muzorewa

HARARE — The former prime minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, was arrested at his home late on Monday afternoon and held overnight in the central police station in Harare.

Zimbabwe's Minister in charge of security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, confirmed yesterday that the UANC leader had been arrested but would not say why he was being held.

Bishop Muzorewa returned to Zimbabwe last week from a visit to Israel and vigorously denied accusations that he had been plotting to overthrow Mr Mugabe's government with the help of Israel.

Close associates of the bishop said yesterday that the UANC leader was picked up at his home in Borrowdale and taken to the central police station.

Bishop Muzorewa, who is leader of the United Methodist Church, told newsmen at the weekend that he had gone to Israel for Bible studies.

He denied any political reason behind his visit and said he had not campaigned for diplomatic links between Zimbabwe and Israel.

Prime Minister Mugabe warned Bishop Muzorewa not to try to start another war and said the government was investigating the reasons for his Israel visit.



BISHOP MUZOREWA: Smear campaign, he claims.

Mr Mugabe said Israel had trained South African commandos who had been used by the Rhodesian Government and by the Zimbabwe-Rhodesia regime.

A remark reported to have been made by the bishop that Zimbabwe should establish ties with Israel caused an outcry in Zimbabwe and he was heavily criticised by the Press and the state radio.

"The Herald" called on the government to use the fist against the UANC leader.

Bishop Muzorewa, who holds one of the three UANC seats in Parliament, said the accusations that he was plotting to overthrow the government were political mud being smeared on him and his party.

He said that on his return from Israel he had been harassed at the airport and his luggage had been thoroughly searched.

Bishop Muzorewa held office as Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia for nine months before his regime came to an end after the Lancaster House agreement in December 1979.

His party suffered a crushing defeat in the elections which saw Mr Mugabe swept to power.

(76) Xtra 2/11/83

Forgotten man of Zimbabwe

Muzorewa: scapegoat of internal discontent?

The recent Zimbabwean announcement that it is detaining Bishop Abel Muzorewa has focused the spotlight once more on the former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia who, since independence under Mr Robert Mugabe, has become a very quiet man.

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who was taken into custody by the Zimbabwean security authorities on Monday, received massive South African backing in his ill-fated election campaign in 1980.

But not even the R1 million which former Information Secretary Dr Eschel Rhoodie admitted was made available to assist the bishop, could block the crushing defeat inflicted on his United African National Council (UANC) by Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF).

The former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia held office for a little over six months before the Lancaster House agreement. This led to the birth of an internationally recognised independent Zimbabwe and the death of the first black-led Government of the country which Mr Ian Smith had sworn would not see black rule for 1 000 years.

Bishop Muzorewa took office on June 1 1979, promising peace.

But he could not deliver it. The black electorate, who in April of that year had given solid backing to his party, turned instead to Mr Robert Mugabe.

In the 1979 election Bishop Muzorewa took 51 of the 72 black parliamentary seats. A year later, his party could hold only three.

One of those was occupied by Bishop Muzorewa — and the dimunitive figure of the leader of the United Methodist Church has regularly taken his seat in the House of Assembly, though his contributions in debates have been infrequent.

He has never been able to shake off the tag that he was a puppet of Mr Ian Smith and at best a stopgap leader while the heavyweights were in detention or outside the country directing the guerilla war.

Bishop Muzorewa came into political prominence in 1971 when he led the united organisation which successfully opposed the settlement proposals drawn up by Mr Smith and Sir Alec Douglas-Home.

But after the release of the detainees, the squabbling over leadership and control of the nationalist movement continued and the bishop found himself leading his own group.

During his tenure of office in both the transitional Government and the subsequent Zimbabwe-Rhodesian Government of which he became Prime Minister, bitter fighting against the guerilla forces continued.



Bishop Muzorewa

In the 1980 election campaign his voice was the most strident in predicting doom and hell on earth should the Marxist forces of Mr Mugabe come to power.

In an eleventh hour bid to gain support, he switched from his bitter denunciation to an appeal for absolute reconciliation.

But it was too late and the small fortune which had been spent on his lavish campaign went to waste.

Since independence, Bishop Muzorewa has occasionally lashed out at the Government and its plans for a one party state, usually in response to threats against him.

Two years ago Mr Mugabe threatened to have Bishop Muzorewa and his wife kept in detention. The bishop's reply was that he was being treated as a scapegoat because the ruling party was losing support.

The latest warning from Mr Mugabe came last month when the Prime Minister told the UANC leader he would be "dealt with" if he tried to start another war.

He was referring to suspicions that the bishop's six week long visit to Israel had sinister connotations.

Information Minister Dr Nathan Shamuyarira said the liberation war had been fought against an Israeli-South African-Rhodesian triumvirate and added: "We are not surprised that Bishop Muzorewa is in Israel today".

On his return to Harare at the end of last week, the bishop strenuously denied that there was any political motive to his visit.

But he did admit to saying that Zimbabwe was being foolish by not using Israeli expertise to develop its agriculture.

He told reporters that the people of Zimbabwe were being oppressed "not by Smith, not by Israel, not by South Africa and not by any persons with white skins, but by our ruling party and Government with black skins."

"These people," he said, "seem to think of nothing but being overthrown, probably exactly as they could be doing if they were not in power themselves."

Two days after these remarks came his arrest.

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(362) Star 4/11/83

Muzorewa conspiring against us, says Mugabe

HARARE — Bishop Abel Muzorewa, former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, was detained because the Government had evidence that he was involved in clandestine activities against the State, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has alleged.

Mr Mugabe told a British television correspondent in Harare yesterday that the bishop was not playing a "fair political game".

Bishop Muzorewa was arrested at his Harare home on Monday and is being detained at the Goromonzi interrogation centre, about 30 km from the capital.

His arrest came shortly after his return from a visit to Israel and just before a planned trip to the United States for a bishops conference of the United Methodist Church, of which he is the head in Zimbabwe.

The time the bishop was to have spent in transit at Jan Smuts Airport has been given in Harare as evidence that he wanted to be "reunited with his intimate friends among the leaders of the South African Government".

In his first public reference to the arrest of Bishop Muzorewa, Mr Mugabe said the leader of the United African National Congress still had links with "our opponents and enemies".

Mr Mugabe said the bishop's recent visit to Israel was proof that he was involved in clandestine activities.

At a Press conference after the furore over his Israeli trip, Bishop Muzorewa denied he had been plotting to overthrow the Zimbabwean Government.

● In Jerusalem, an Israeli institute at which the bishop studied last month said in a statement yesterday that he was a research student and denied that he had contacts with Israeli Government officials.

Muzorewa 'not playing a fair game' — Mugabe

ARGUS 4/11/83 (362)

Argus Africa
News Service

HARARE. — Bishop Abel Muzorewa was detained because the Government had evidence he was involved in clandestine activities against the State, Mr Robert Mugabe has alleged.

Mr Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, told a British television correspondent in Harare yesterday that the bishop was not playing a "fair political game".

Bishop Muzorewa, former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, was arrested at his Harare home on Monday and is being detained at the Goromonzi interrogation centre about 30 km from the capital.

US visit

He was arrested soon after his return from a visit to Israel and just before a planned trip to the United States for a bishops' conference of the United Methodist Church, of which he is the Zimbabwe head.

A four-hour stop the bishop was to have made in transit at Jan Smuts Airport, Johannesburg, was given here as evidence that he wanted to be "reunited with his intimate friends in the leadership of the South African Government".



Mr Robert Mugabe



Bishop Abel Muzorewa

In his first public reference to the arrest of Bishop Muzorewa, Mr Mugabe told the TV correspondent that the leader of the United African National Council still had links with "our opponents and enemies."

The Prime Minister said the bishop "had worked under a regime which was responsible for many atrocities and murders of Zimbabweans".

Mr Mugabe said his recent visit to Israel was proof that the bishop was still involved in clandestine activities.

The Prime Minister did not clarify this remark, though government spokesmen have been critical of remarks the bishop made during his trip over the reasons for Zimbabwe's continued refusal to have ties with the Israelis.

Mr Mugabe emphasised that the bishop was not "under unlawful arrest".

"He was arrested under definite grounds which are being investigated at the moment."

At a Press conference following the furore over his Israeli trip, Bishop Muzorewa denied he had been plotting to overthrow the Zimbabwe Government.

RAND DAILY MAIL, Satur

New order foils bid to free Muzorewa

362 RDM 5/11/83

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — An attempt to secure a Zimbabwean High Court order for the release of the former Prime Minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, failed yesterday after the state withdrew its original detention order and issued a new one.

Mr Justice Waddington, who heard the application on behalf of Bishop Muzorewa, said the reasons for detaining the bishop recorded on the original detention order did not appear to bear any relation to subsequent public explanations by the government.

The original order stated the United African National Council (UANC) and United Methodist Church leader was being detained because of allegedly derogatory statements he made about the Zimbabwean Government on Israeli Radio and Television.

Since the arrest on Monday afternoon the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has said the action was taken because of the bishop's alleged involvement in "clandestine activities against the state".

The government has also said that while in Israel Bishop Muzorewa had plotted a South African and Israeli-backed coup.

Mr Simbarashe Muchechetere, who represented the state in yesterday's urgent application, acknowledged there were irregularities in the original police detention order but said it had been replaced with a valid Ministerial order.

Relatives and political associates of Bishop Muzorewa claimed yesterday he has been on a hunger strike since his arrest.

His son, Mr Philemon Muzorewa, 29, claimed his father was sick because of not eating but was being denied medical treatment. He said no family members had been allowed to see him.

The first vice-president of the UANC, Mr Walter Mthimkulu, said at a Press conference yesterday that the government allegations were tantamount to playing "with the intelligence of our people" and showed "the government is scared out of its pants".

He dismissed repeated government allegations that since independence Bishop Muzorewa had sent 5 000 armed supporters to South Africa to train for operations against Zimbabwe.

But in an interview with a British television journalist in Harare this week, Mr Mugabe was adamant that Bishop Muzorewa was not "under unlawful arrest" but was arrested "under definite grounds which are being investigated at the moment".

Muzorewa stays on hunger strike and in jail



Star 7/11/83
(962)

HARARE — Former Zimbabwe-Rhodesian Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa, now on the fifth day of a hunger strike after his arrest here on Monday, could face a lengthy stay in detention.

A spokesman for the Zimbabwe Government disclosed yesterday that Bishop Muzorewa has been imprisoned under Zimbabwe's emergency laws, which allow for indefinite detention.

Bishop Muzorewa, who is at Goromonzi Detention Centre about 30 km from Harare, is reported to be in reasonable health although he is weak from not having eaten since the time of his arrest. He is taking water.

State attorneys told the high court that the 58-year-old cleric was being held under Section 17 of the Emergency Powers Act under which a person can be held for 30 days before the case is reviewed by a secial tribunal.

However, regardless of the tribunal's findings, the section permits indefinite incarceration if the government decides that it is of "paramount necessity for public order" that the detainee continue to be held.

The bishop's lawyers yesterday asked the high court to order his release.

The State admitted an initial detention order was invalid because it had not been properly made out, but said that it had been superceded by the Section 17 order. This ended the appeal.

The judge ruled the first detention order "invalid" after asserting that the stated reasons for Bishop Muzorewa's detention "were just not reflected" by the explanation that appeared in the Zimbabwe Press.

Court sources said later that the new order cited Mr Robert Mugabe's reasons for the continued detention of the bishop.

The Zimbabwe premier claimed that Bishop Muzorewa, his predecessor as national leader, was involved in subversive activities.

In Lagos, Nigeria's State-owned Daily Times yesterday criticised the move and called on Prime Minister Mugabe to stop harassing his political opponents.

In a statement released in Harare yesterday, Bishop Muzorewa's United African National Council (UANC) party said: "To expect a great man like Bishop Muzorewa to be subjected to the ignominious experiences of detention is indicative of the fact that the government is scared out of its pants."

The Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, a former prominent black nationalist leader, who still heads a small party called the Zimbabwe African National Union (Sithole), has hit out at the Zimbabwe Press and radio for their treatment of the arrest of Bishop Muzorewa.

The day Mugabe turned the NOBODY little Bishop into a political SOMEBODY



ABEL Tendekayi Muzorewa was pottering around his small farm in the posh Harare suburb of Borrowdale when two plain-clothes security police officers drove up in a yellow saloon.

Within an hour the former Prime Minister of the ill-fated, short-lived Republic of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia became the latest in a long line of opposition politicians to be detained without charge since Africa's newest nation won its independence from Britain on April 18, 1980.

Sunday Times Reporter: Harare

Bishop Muzorewa, 58, respected head of the American-backed United Methodist Church and leader of the smallest opposition party — three legislators — in the 100-member National Assembly, was an unlikely target for the Central Intelligence Organisation.

Hunger strike

At first, the government told Muzorewa's wife, Maggie, relatives and lawyers he was held at Harare Central Police Station.

But the family later learnt he was whisked directly to Gormonzi Prison 30 kms east of the capital — a onetime detention centre for many of the politicians in power today.

Neither Maggie Muzorewa nor members of the family nor lawyers were allowed to visit the Bishop.

More ominous, the prison authorities barred doctors from seeing the cleric after family complained that he had fallen ill. But in fact he had gone on a hunger strike from the time he was detained.

And it was learned that he was being held under Zimbabwean emergency laws that could allow for indefinite detention.

An appeal in the Harare high court on Friday resulted in red-robed Judge Charles Waddington ruling that the Bishop's detention was illegal.

Judge's wrath

But before he heard the plea authorities had slapped a second order on the Bishop — and that was not an issue for the court.

The judge criticized the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, for saying, in an interview, that the police had evidence of "clandestine activities" by Bishop Muzorewa.

The judge said the Bishop's case was sub judice and courts should not be influenced by public statements on it.

His incarceration must have come as a rude shock to the Bishop.

Since losing out to Mr Mugabe's avowedly Marxist Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front) in British-supervised elections two months before the Union Jack was hauled down for the last time, the diminutive Bishop has discreetly maintained a low profile.

He led church services on Sundays and sat with his two United African National Council colleagues in Parliament during sessions.

More mileage

He addressed the occasional political rally on rare occasions when permission was granted by the police.

But mostly he withdrew behind the high walls of his 'Hawadi" farm ("They don't want him" in the local Shona language) on the outskirts of the capital with his family, friends and his books.

But the detention has suddenly turned the political nobody into a somebody.

"The Bishop's got more mileage out of this than he could have hoped to clock up himself," a Western diplomat observed after the government admitted Muzorewa was "picked up" for alleged links with South African based anti-government subversives.

Scorpion 1

"Most people had forgotten he existed. Now he's back in the limelight," the diplomat said.

Many observers were puzzled as to why the government bothered to move against the cleric at all.

But Mugabe's own popularity has faded lately in the face of record inflation, food shortages, an unprecedented wave of unchecked top-level curruptiion and dismal failures in land redistribution — the burning issue that triggered a seven-year guerilla war.

Only 30 000 families of the 162 000 promised before independence have been resettled.

There has been much speculation that Mugabe's government is seeking to defuse any fresh political threat that might arise from the ashes of electoral disenchantment.

The next elections are due in April, 1985.

As explained by the Minister of State for Security, Emmerson Munangagwa, who is also Mugabe's CIO chief, Bishop Muzorewa was "picked up" as part of 'Operation Chinyavada'

"Most people had forgotte existed. Now he's back in t limelight."



ROBERT MUGABE
Livid with rage

("Scorpion 1"), which was mounted by security forces "to check on subversive elements connected with South African bandits".

More specifically, Munangagwa said the government learnt the Bishop was intending to visit South Africa next week "to be reunited with his intimate friends in the leadership of the South African Government".

The "subversive elements" include 5 000 former black auxiliary soldiers recruited by Muzorewa's white-backed government which bridged the 12-month transition from white-governed Rhodesia to independent Zimbabwe.

While on a recent visit to Israel for biblical studies he told an Israeli television reporter that Zimbabwe should establish diplomatic relations with the Jewish state and benefit from its sophisticated technology.

Unrepentent

Mugabe was livid.

Like most African leaders, he refuses to recognize Israel until the Palestinians are granted the right to self-determination.

He accused Muzorewa of going to Israel to drum up support against his government.

And when the Bishop flew home last week his passport was consfiscated.

But Muzorewa, unrepetent, summoned a news conference three days after his return to put the record straight.

He hadn't gone so far as to urge diplomatic links, he insisted, but he had said Zimbabwe could benefit a lot from ties with that country.

And leaders who suggested he had gone on a sinister mission were "pathologically insane".

More significant, he concluded with one of the most acid public criticisms levelled against Mugabe's leadership from within Zimbabwe:

"I continue to hope and pray that God can somehow help us to be delivered from the oppression imposed upon us, not by former Prime Minister Ian Smith, not by Israel, not by South Africa and not by persons with white skins — but by our ruling party and Government of Zimbabwe."

Mugabe tells of secret dealings with SA

Sunday Times Reporter

PRIME MINISTER Mugabe, addressing Zanu (PF) Mashonaland Central Women's League district officials at Bindura, said the Government was aware of two Opposition parties' secret activities in their dealings with South Africa which were all aimed at undermining the Government.

Mr Mugabe warned that the Government would take action against both the Zimbabwe African People's Union of Opposition leader Joshua Nkomo and the Zimbabwe African National Union led by the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, who was the founder of the Prime Minister's own ruling party.

"Therefore we say the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole and people like him watch out," Mugabe said.

At a later meeting he said auxiliarties had been arrested by authorities. It was the first time that the Government had said that they had captured dissidents loyal to Mr Muzorewa. In the past, all those anti-government infiltrators captured had been said to be loyal to Mr Nkomo.

Star 8/11/83

Harare tightens security censorship

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The promulgation of designated areas covering the western half of Zimbabwe in last week's Government Gazette means a return to the bad old days of censorship of news relating to security.

Three months ago, Mr Robert Mugabe's government re-enacted emergency legislation introduced during the war by the Rhodesian Government to control security information.

However, until last Friday, it had refrained from designating specific areas where the control was to be enforced.

Under the Rhodesian regulations, the entire country was under the ban on reporting terrorist incidents or government measures to counter them until official authorisation had been obtained.

The new censorship rules closely follow the wording of the old regulations but apply only to designated areas such as Matabeleland, Gokwe, Gweru and Kwekwe.

The new regulations require that the ban be renewed every two months.

They cover news published within or outside the country. Reporters have to get clearance from the Ministry of Information for any stories relating directly or indirectly to "any measures or act of any description whatsoever of the security forces or the government for the purpose of combating or suppressing terrorism or reducing the incidence thereof in any designated area, or any act of terrorism or sabotage or other terrorist activities in any designated area".

Exceptions are government media statements or communiques or information revealed in court proceedings or in Parliament.

The regulations also state that when stories are authorised the Minister of Information may impose any conditions "relating to the manner or form of publication as he thinks fit" and it will be an offence to publish any information about such conditions.

Penalties for contravening the regulations are a fine of up to R1 000 or imprisonment for a year, or both.

The last major reported incident in Matabeleland, which has been troubled by dissident activities for the past two years, was the killing of Chief Mabhikwa Khumalo last month.

Chief Khumalo, who had ruled for 54 years, was the leader of the chiefs in Matabeleland and was a direct descendent of Mzilikazi.

At his funeral, a Deputy Minister said he had been killed in an ambush by bandits sent from South Africa.

Last month, Zimbabwe troops were also reported to have staged a raid across the Botswana border in pursuit of dissident gangs.

The Botswana Defence Force moved troops into the area.

In September, the Minister of Defence, Dr Sidney Sekeramayi, said activity by South African-backed Zapu dissidents was still a problem but had lessened.

A commission of inquiry is investigating allegations of atrocities by troops against civilians during anti-dissident operations.

In Matabeleland, hundreds of people — some reports say several thousand — have died at the hands of dissidents or in security force operations since the start of 1982.

Zimbabwean Govt and judiciary clash again

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The Star Bureau

HARARE — A High Court judge in Harare has ordered the immediate release from detention of Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, one of Mr Joshua Nkomo's top aides.

In April, Mr Dabengwa was acquitted by the High Court on a charge of treason but was later redetained under an indefinite detention order signed by Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze.

Mr Justice John Pittman has ruled that the order detaining Mr Dabengwa — former Secretary for War in Mr Nkomo's Zapu party — was illegal and of no force or effect.

He also ordered the Director of Prisons to produce Mr Dabengwa before the deputy sheriff of the High Court by noon tomorrow.

Mr Simbarashe Muchechetere, of the attorney-general's office, said that the State would lodge an immediate appeal against the judgment.

Last year, Dr Ushewokunze ignored a similar judgment by Mr Justice Pittman ordering the release of Matabeleland farming brothers Noel and Alan York. This provoked fears of a confrontation between the Government and the judiciary.

During the hearing of the application for the release of Mr Dabengwa, the State said his case was due to come before the detention review tribunal this month.

But Mr Adrian de Bourbon, appearing for Mr Dabengwa, argued that his client was entitled to a review of his case "forthwith" and that the Government had been "dilatory" in not doing so.

The backlog of cases due to be heard by the review tribunal had risen from 17 to 70, the court heard during the application.

Other senior Zapu members, including the former chief of the organisation's military wing, Zipra Lieutenant-General Lookout Masuku, who were detained together with Mr Dabengwa in April, are still in detention.

Zimbabwe aid cu 'still on the cards'

WASHINGTON. — Officials say the US administration is still considering cutting aid to Zimbabwe because of its failure to back US positions in the United Nations, and other actions.

In September some administration members — citing Zimbabwe's refusal to vote with the US to condemn the Soviets for shooting down the Korean airliner — proposed cutting in half Zimbabwe's annual aid of R75-million.

The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, overruled his staff and decided the administration would seek the full R75-million for Zimbabwe aid in the coming year.

Since then, however, Zimbabwe has taken the lead in the UN General Assembly criticising the US-led invasion of Grenada.

One senior State Department official said: "If their idea of democracy is Grenada and Nicaragua, and they don't object to the shooting down of a civilian airliner, then to hell with them."

The official said that Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe "was very eloquent when he was in Washington (in September) about US-Zimbabwe relations being very cordial".

"What he meant was that he was continuing to receive US aid, but we think there is a lot more to a relationship than an aid programme."

The senior official described the current state of US relations with Zimbabwe as "somewhat distant".

The State Department also issued a statement this week expressing concern about Zimbabwe's detention of former Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa and said the US "will be following events very closely".

The official said: "We are going to hold them very closely to the Lancaster House agreement."

In terms of the agreement Mr Mugabe and other black leaders promised they would follow a democratic, non-aligned course when they took power.

The official said a cut in aid to Zimbabwe could come about either in the course of congressional action cutting all US aid world-wide, or by the administration exercising its discretion in the light of Zimbabwe's behaviour towards the US.

In contrast to US irritation at Zimbabwe's actions, the official expressed quiet satisfaction and hope about the trend of events in South Africa, where the Government won overwhelming white approval in the referendum.

The official said: "The substance of the referendum is not as important as what the vote says about the white electorate in South Africa."

The official said the vote could be seen by the South African Government as a mandate for further change.

He said "it would be wrong to walk away from a country trying to make progress" and he was bitter about congressional anti-apartheid resolutions which would further cut US ties to the Government of South Africa.

"Those resolutions are the philosophic opposite of what we are trying to do," he said. "The resolutions would distance ourselves from the South Africans without doing anything positive."

The administration has been following a "constructive engagement" policy towards South Africa. — UPI.

Botswana in urgent bid to stop clashes

Star 9/11/83 (362)

The Star's Foreign News Service

GABORONE — Botswana has asked for an urgent meeting with the Zimbabwe Government in the wake of yesterday's cross-border strike in which Zimbabwe soldiers bombarded a Botswana patrol with rifle fire, handgrenades and mortars.

"We are ready to meet anywhere with the aim of stopping this kind of thing," the administrative secretary in the Office of the Botswana President, Mr Lebang Mpotokwane, said today.

He said the Botswana Government had applied thorough the normal channels for an urgent ministerial meeting but had not yet heard from Zimbabwe officials.

Although no casualties were reported in the clash, which occurred yesterday morning, soldiers of the Zimbabwe National Army destroyed six huts causing villagers in the Maitengwe area of eastern Botswana to flee.

According to Mr Mpotokwane the villagers had returned by early today. He denied allegations by Botswana opposition parties that Botswana and Zimbabwe had entered a pact whereby Zimbabwe forces were allowed to operate in Botswana in search of dissidents.

The incident was sparked off when a five-man Botswana patrol picked up a trail on the border. The unit followed it for about 4 km and came upon 30 Zimbabwe soldiers who had been ferried in by two helicopters.

The Commander of the Botswana Defence Force, Major General Mompati Merafhe, said the soldiers exchanged fire until the BDF called in reinforcements and the Zimbabweans retreated.

It was the second such incident in just more than a month. Earlier, Zimbabwe soldiers assaulted the headman at Butale and demanded to know dissidents' whereabouts.

Botswana has denied harbouring Zimbabwe dissidents and said it kept a tight check on refugees at the Dukwi camp.

10/11/83 The Star Thursday N

Botswana rejects Harare version of border incident

The Star's Foreign News Service

GABORONE — Botswana has bluntly rejected Zimbabwean claims that South African-backed Zapu dissidents and not its national army bombarded a Botswana Defence Force patrol from two helicopters this week.

Officials of the two governments met today to discuss the growing border tension as details of a third incident, in which three Batswana men were allegedly abducted to Zimbabwe, were made public.

In the Botswana Parliament yesterday, the Minister of Public Service and Information, Mr Daniel Kwelagobe, condemned the incursion and warned of the deteriorating relations between the two governments.

He said that about 30 Zimbabwean troops caught in Botswana on Tuesday called in two helicopters which opened fire 4 km inside Eastern Botswana, near Maitengwe.

No-one was injured but the troops destroyed six huts in the area.

The Zimbabwean Government has categorically denied the incursion. A Ministry of Defence spokesman claimed yesterday that the BDF had clashed with South African-backed Zapu dissidents. He did not say where dissidents might have obtained helicopters.

The Minister of State for Defence, Dr Sidney Sekeramayi, claimed that the Zimbabwean army had repulsed a "sizeable" gang of dissidents who crossed from Botswana.

He said the army was under strict instructions not to cross into Botswana.

But Mr Kwelagobe was adamant that no dissidents were involved.

In another incident at the weekend three brothers, Mr Hasi Makubunga (53), Mr Mafuku Makubunga (45) and Mr Nogwa Makubunga (26), were abducted by five men in camouflage uniforms near Francistown. Helicopters had been reported over the area shortly before.

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Zimbabwe in drive to woo back US tourists

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — The American travel agents bubbled with enthusiasm for the country they had seen on a whirlwind nine-day tour.

The people were friendly, the hotels of a high standard, the climate beautiful, and the wildlife, well ... amazing.

But the heard-headed businessmen and women, looking at Zimbabwe through the eyes of the US tourists they would be selling to, did not miss much.

Ms Anne Spilsbury, a leading Los Angeles travel agent who has seen the best that Africa, the East, Europe and China have to offer, was not impressed by the anti-American rhetoric on the radio.

Mr Paul Carlton, of Chicago, who has been organising big-game safaris to Zimbabwe since the mid-70s, said Americans, riding high on the wave of a strong dollar, would not be impressed by the unfavourable exchange rate in Zimbabwe.

The travel agents airing their frank views were part of a group of 25 of the most influential people in the US tourist industry who were invited here recently by the Zimbabwe Tourist Board (ZTB).

The board is mounting a drive to bring the tourist dollars back to the country.

Tourism, always a strong foreign currency earner during the UDI years, took off immediately after independence in April 1980.

However, with the deteriorating security situation in the troubled Matabeleland province — highlighted by last year's kidnapping of six foreign tourists — tourism figures slumped during the latter months of last year and are still dropping.

South African tourists, the lifeblood of the Rhodesian industry during Mr Ian Smith's days, and who still spend the most money in Zimbabwe, are being wooed by the ZTB with an intensity which belies the vitriolic condemnation of apartheid in the news media.

Flame Lily package tours are again being pushed with vigour.

The ZTB has concentrated a major part of its promotion, however, on the American market, which has been avoiding Zimbabwe after the avalanche of bad publicity.

Border row is resolved

GABORONE. — Botswana and Zimbabwe have resolved their problems amicably following a border incident earlier this week, a Botswana Government statement said yesterday.

An emergency ministerial meeting in Bulawayo on Thursday also decided that communications between the two countries should be improved to avoid friction in the future.

Botswana demanded the meeting after it said a border patrol was attacked on Tuesday by Zimbabwean troops supported by helicopters, who had crossed into northern Botswana.

Zimbabwe denied any involvement and suggested the Batswana had encountered Zimbabwean rebels backed by South Africa.

"Discussions at the meeting were frank and cordial and all issues discussed were resolved amicably," the statement said.

It said Zimbabwe had reassured its neighbours that its army and air force were under strict orders never to cross into Botswana on operations.

The clash occurred near Maitengwe, about 4km inside Botswana. Botswana said a five-man patrol was fired on by 30 Zimbabwean troops.

Zimbabwe is fighting rebels in its south-western province of Matabeleland which adjoins Botswana. It accuses South Africa of supporting the rebellion and of infiltrating insurgents into Zimbabwe, sometimes through Botswana.

People in northern Botswana have for some time accused Zimbabwe of "hot pursuit" raids against Matabeleland rebels fleeing across the border. Zimbabwe has denied this.

The incident was potentially serious as both countries are key members of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference.

The statement said the meeting was attended by the Botswana Foreign Minister, Mr Archie Mogwe, and the Information Minister, Mr Daniel Kwelagobe.

The Zimbabwean delegation included the Foreign Minister, Mr Witness Mangwende, the Security Minister, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, and the Defence Minister of State, Mr Sydney Sekeramayi. — Sapa-Reuter.

ZIMBABWE

Unleashing inflation

Consumer prices rose nearly 16% for Zimbabwe's low-income groups during the month of September as a result of the Mugabe government's decision to substantially reduce food subsidies. Official figures just released show that in September prices for low-income familes were 33% higher than a year previously. The main culprit was food prices which showed a 46% hike, of which 27% took place in one month.

At the beginning of September, the Zimbabwe government announced swingeing food price increases for meat, milk, maize meal, bread and vegetable oils as part of a programme to reduce food subsidies by some Z$150m. The result was a 27% jump in food prices for low-income groups while the higher income food prices index showed a much more modest 15% increase.

Despite these sharp increases in food prices, the overall inflation position is not as bad as might have been expected. In the first nine months of 1983, the low-income index showed a 22% rise while for higher income families the increase was 15%, giving an average on the two indices of just below 19%. Zimbabwean economists expect the year-end rate to average out at around 20%. This is less than forecast, but far too high for government policymakers ruefully contemplating the lost competitiveness that this inflation represents in the first year after devaluation.



Zimbabwe's Mugabe ... inflation out of the bottle

The fact is that the Zimbabwe dollar has now fallen by an estimated 27% in the past year, and far too substantial a margin of this devaluation benefit has been lost in the increased inflation rate. The good news though is that there are at least some signs that the authorities are getting a grip on the money supply, which has shown negligible growth in 1983 after growing more than 20% last year. This points to a reduction in inflation in the latter half of 1984, although the timing of the food price increases will maintain a high inflation rate through the first half of 1984. Indeed, there could be a further inflationary jolt next April when the new producer prices for farmers come on stream. And if government sticks to its anti-subsidy stance, there will have to a be a further round of food price increases by mid-84.

But with domestic demand falling at a really astonishing rate, and with government keeping a firm rein on public sector spending, the inflation rate could well fall from around 20% in 1983 to below 15% next year. The joker in the pack is exchange rate policy. The further the Zimbabwe dollar slips, the greater will be the impact on domestic prices of escalating import prices.

The price index figures had been widely anticipated, but economists in Zimbabwe have been taken aback by the depth of the slump in domestic consumer spending. Delta Corporation, whose interests include National Breweries, the Coca-Cola franchise, the OK Bazaars retailing activities in Zimbabwe, the Zimbabwe Sun Hotels and Springmaster Furniture Manufacturers (formerly part of Afcol), announced a 9% fall in turnover in the half-year to September 1983. National Breweries says its sales have fallen 24% and — for the first time just about in living memory — it is now operating at a loss. Consumer resistance to higher prices for soft drinks is increasing and sales volumes are falling. Delta says the downturn is also affecting its OK Bazaars retail outlets, while losses are mounting in the hotel and furniture divisions.

Among other factors, the sharp rise in the cost of living is obviously taking its toll of discretionary consumer spending on non-essentials.

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WAGES HAVE DOUBLED, BUT THE COST OF LIVING ROCKETS

Zimbabwe's money monster



Sunday Express Correspondent

HARARE — Wages have doubled, just as Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's socialist government promised when it took power.

But so have prices.

As one black domestic worker complained: "What's the use of higher wages when we have to pay twice as much for food?"

The argument is one being heard more and more often around the country, particularly in the last six months.

Zimbabweans — particularly poorer blacks — are reeling under the weight of hefty price increases in basic food, fuel, personal and sales tax and — what many consider necessities rather than luxuries — alcohol and cigarettes.

White and black complain alike, but it is the blacks — still generally much poorer than whites — who feel the pinch most.

And, as one white Zimbabwean, Mr R P Moore of Harare, wrote to the local, state-controlled Herald newspaper, wages frozen a year ago have not matched spiralling inflation of more than 20%. It is expected to soar further as a result of recent price hikes.

Mr Moore wrote: "A guard dog will earn a minimum of $65 (R63) a month — better remuneration than most farm workers, domestic workers and gardeners."

Wages for most have doubled, particularly for servants who earned as little as $12 a month before independence in April 1980.

They should now be paid a compulsory minimum of $50 a month.

But some employers retaliating against the minimum wage regulations have stopped supplying food rations to their servants.

And domestics who were earning $30 or more a month before minimum wages were introduced have found that, far from being better off, they are poorer now than they were before independence.

To offset the new prices, Zimbabwe's govenment told employers they had to give domestic and agricultural workers another $5 a month and workers earning less than $300 in other sectors another $10.

CHRONIC RISE IN PRICE OF STAPLES

AMONG recent price hikes which have stunned Zimbabweans are:

- Mealie meal: the staple food, nearly doubled from 55c a kilogram to Z$1,06.
- Bread: up from 25c a loaf of white to 35c.
- Milk: A 50% hike from 16c a pint to 24c.
- Petrol: Up 27c to 97,5c a litre.

A night on the town is infinitely more costly. Nightclubs which charged Z$4 a couple at independence now rake in at least Z$10 a couple.

The cost of a beer — 48c for 350ml before independence — is now 75c in an average bar.

A brandy and soda that cost 65c then, now sets you back about Z$1.10 and a tot of scotch goes at Z$2.30.

- The Zimbabwe dollar exchanges at a rate of Z$0,91 to one SA rand.

Subsidies cut — inflation soars

ZIMBABWE'S annual rate of inflation rose steeply, from 14,4% in August to 26% in September, according to official figures released yesterday.

The sharp rise followed a government decision to cut food subsidies and increase retail prices of meat, milk, bread and maize meal, the staple food of the 7 500 000 population.

Between August and September food prices rose 31% for lower income groups and 27% for the higher paid. — Sapa-Reuter.

Mills

ZIMBABWE

ARGUS 14/4/83 (362)

Mugabe the 'destabiliser'

The Rev Ndabaningi Sithole has thrown down the gauntlet to Mr Mugabe, reports ROBIN DREW, Argus Foreign Service

THE most vocal critic of the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, to emerge in recent weeks has been the first leader and founder member of the Zanu Party, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole.

Hardly a day has passed since the arrest on October 31 of the UANC leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, without some biting comment from Mr Sithole.

He has labelled Mr Mugabe a "mere witch-hunter" whose socialist policies have been rejected by the people.

After he had been accused by Mr Mugabe of organising secret meetings to bring about the downfall of the Government, he challenged the Prime Minister to bring him before the courts.

He described the allegations against him which Mr Mugabe made when giving him a last warning as "baseless and wild" and he demanded that he be given time on television and radio and space in the newspapers to answer the attacks.

Mr Sithole said the chief de-stabiliser of Zimbabwe was Mr Mugabe himself and he called on the Government to refrain from pronouncements and acts that provoked external and internal hostility, antagonism, resentment and retaliation.

"National leaders," said the 63-year-old Congregational minister, "can ill afford to behave like cheeky schoolboys who have nothing to lose when they have everything to lose."

"Our military strength is nothing to speak of when the chips are down," he said. "Our economic strength is largely dependent on external factors. Unnecessarily hostile pronouncements against our neighbours near and far can only advance the destabilisation of our country."

Mr Sithole was once a close associate of Mr Mugabe's. He was the militant intellectual who was chosen to to lead the breakaway from Mr Joshua Nkomo in 1963 when Zanu was created and adopted the policy of armed confrontation to achieve self-rule.

But he fell from grace six years later when he dissociated himself from any form of violence in a plea to the court which sentenced him to a jail term for advocating the murder of Rhodesian Government leaders in a letter smuggled from prison where he was a political detainee.

Fellow detainees including Mr Mugabe voted to oust him as leader and finally in 1976 after the detainees had been released and were in exile, he was overthrown when he lost the support of the guerrilla commanders.

Back home, Mr Sithole took part in the negotiations with Mr Ian Smith which led to the transitional multi-racial Government in 1978 of which he was a leading member.

But his party was soundly defeated in the 1979 internal settlement elections which saw Bishop Muzorewa take office as Prime Minister and Mr Sithole sulked for several months before finally joining the shortlived government of national unity.

He took part in the Lancaster House conference which led to the birth of an independent Zimbabwe as a member of Bishop Muzorewa's delegation.

In the independence elections, however, the veteran nationalist who clung to the Zanu name despite objections by Mr Mugabe (whose party was termed Zanu (PF) was eclipsed and he failed to win a seat in Parliament.

Political observers believe he still commands some support particularly in his home area in the Chipinge district along Zimbabwe's eastern border with Mozambique.

Earlier this year he urged the Government to follow a pragmatic line and deal with South Africa regardless of ideological differences.

"No amount of slogan shouting will save this country from destruction," he said. He said proposals for a one-party state held dark prospects for Zimbabwe and he condemned the concept as one which had brought misery in Africa.



The Rev N Sithole

Mugabe says what he means — Welensky

(362) Star 15/11/83

By Joao Santa Rita

People fail to understand the political situation in Zimbabwe because they do not take Prime Minister Robert Mugabe at face value, the former Prime Minister of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Sir Roy Welensky, said today.

Speaking at a Press conference in Johannesburg to mark the world launch of "The Welensky Papers", Sir Roy said he had not changed his opinion of Mr Mugabe.

"He is a very able man. He is also a very honest man. He has said many times he is a Marxist and intends setting up a Marxist state in Zimbabwe.

"I don't understand why people don't take him at his word."

Sir Roy also said: "There is no case for the Cubans to be in Africa."

Accompanied by Lady Welensky, the veteran statesman spoke about many of the significant events in the history of Central and Southern Africa that are covered in the book.

He dismissed allegations that the UN Secretary General during the Congo crisis, Mr Dag Hammarskjold, had been murdered when his plane crashed at Ndola during a mission to seek a solution to the civil war.

He said the plane could have not been shot down as had been suggested, and there was no evidence of bombs on board.

"The truth is that there was misjudgement by the pilot.

"He misjudged the altitude at which he was travelling," said Sir Roy.

The author of the book, Dr J Wood who lives in Harare, said "The Welensky Papers" was the product of 13 years of research and was based entirely on Sir Roy's private papers.

"Few historians have written a book on a great man and then produced him at its launch," said Dr Wood.

Sir Roy is expected to return to his home in England on Saturday.

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Zimbabwe judiciary shows impartiality

Courage in face of criticism

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — In the face of virulent criticism from some official quarters, the Zimbabwe judiciary has again demonstrated its impartiality and courage in handing down a decision unpopular with the Government.

On Friday in the High Court in Bulawayo, Ghanaian-born Mr Justice Roger Korsah ruled that Home Affairs Minister, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze's order seizing the property of Bulawayo businessman Mr Colin Lancaster Bickle was illegal as it contravened the clause in the Lancaster House constitution protecting property.

Mr Justice Korsah's judgment will affect the other 10 or so whites who have also had their property confiscated under the same regulations, and could legally prevent the Minister from using the legislation again.

The defeat for the Government is the latest in a string of sensitive cases.

There was the politically important trial of six of Mr Joshua Nkomo's senior supporters, who were charged — in the wake of discoveries of massive arms caches around the country — with plotting the overthrow of Mr Mugabe's Government.

One of the men was the former Zapu Secretary for War, Mr Dumiso Dabengwa.

After a long and complicated trial, the judge — former Rhodesian Justice Law and Order Minister Mr Hilary Squires, threw out all the charges.

In arguably the most important post-independence trial, the Government again lost.

Six white air force officers, accused of complicity in the Thornhill air base sabotage last year, were all found not guilty and discharged when Mr Justice Enoch Dumbutshena ruled their confessions had been extracted by means of assaults, intimidation and electric shock torture.

The courts have also shown their fearlessness in rulings on a number of important detentions in security cases.

A Supreme Court ruling that detainees be allowed access to their lawyers that they be informed immediately of the reasons for their detention and are entitled to have their cases reviewed by a tribunal, had far-reaching consequences.

A number of detentions have since been successfully challenged on the guidelines which were laid down by the Supreme Court in accordance with the Bill of Rights of the constitution.

Prominent among them was the case of Matabeleland farming brothers Noel and Alan York who were ordered to be freed by the High Court after they had been re-detained after their acquittal by a magistrate on charges of illegally possessing arms of war.

Other important rulings against Government detentions of what it terms "subversives" have included the cases of Zapu MP Mr Vote Moyo, arrested in connection with last year's abortive raid on Mr Mugabe's official Harare residence, and UANCE Leader Bishop Abel Muzorewa.

In both these cases, however, the Government rectified its mistakes by issuing detentions which were in accord with the emergency regulations and which could not be set aside by the courts.

In Bishop Muzorewa's case, Judge Charles Waddington used the opportunity to warn prominent Government members against commenting on matters which would be sub-judice.

In the week before the hearing, both Prime Minister Mugabe and Security Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa had commented about the reasons behind the detention of the Bishop.

The other recent ruling against the Government was a High Court judgment ordering that Mr Dabengwa be freed from indefinite detention on the grounds he had not had a review of his case "forthwith" as guaranteed by the Constitution.

The State is to appeal against the ruling and until the matter is heard, Mr Dabengwa remains behind bars.

The court's decisions have raised ire in many official circles, particularly from Dr Ushewokunze, who has gone on record with bitter, angry criticism of the judiciary.

Last year, he accused the legal profession and judges of being involved in an "unholy alliance" against the Government.

After the acquittal of Mr Dabengwa and General Masuku and their co-accused, he issued a statement implying Mr Justice Squires was still motivated in court by his "colonial mentality".

After the Air Force officers' acquittal, he alleged Mr Justice Dumbutshena had dispensed "class justice" in believing educated white witnesses against unsophisticated, little-educated black policemen.

In each case, Justice Minister Dr Simbi Mubako has jumped quickly to the defence of the judiciary and to assure them that the Government is satisfied with the impartial way they are carrying out their duties.

So far the feared clash between the Government and the judiciary has not materialised.

Remote camp for Zimbabwe 'undesirables'

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — An estimated 2 000 to 3 000 men, women and children, rounded up in a nation-wide crackdown on social outcasts, are being kept behind barbed wire in a heavily guarded military camp in a remote Zambesi River valley district in north-eastern Zimbabwe.

So far the government has not explained exactly what it is doing with its prisoners and has refused to say under what legal authority they are being held, but the indications are that it has embarked on a massive social experiment similar to those tried out in Mozambique and Tanzania.

The inmates of the mystery camp at Nyambudzi, near Mushumbi Pools, include squatters, beggars, prostitutes, and mentally deranged people. There is one white — a hobo pensioner who is reported to be suffering symptoms of alcoholic withdrawal.

Since the rounding-up, officially called "Operation Clean-up", started, the Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, has declared that prostitutes would be rehabilitated and the Minister of Local Government and Town Planning, Mr Enos Chikowore, has said squatters would be resettled. He said some had already been resettled voluntarily and others were being screened.

This week a government spokesman said there would be no further official comment on the operation until it had been completed. Apparently even senior officials in some of the six ministries involved in the exercise have not been informed of its details.

According to a medical source in the area, the population in the camp 2½ weeks ago, after the first 3 000 "undesirables" were rounded up in Harare, was about 1 000. This week police in Mvurwi, on the route to Nyambudzi, have seen about 50 truckloads of about 25 to 30 women each, rolling northwards.

The first two journalists to visit the camp this week were politely but firmly turned away by a man who identified himself as Major Moyo.

The officer confirmed that squatters and prostitutes were being housed in the rows of asbestos and brick buildings inside the security fence, but refused to say how many there were or how they were occupied.

That was the business of the Ministry of Labour and Social Services and had nothing to do with the army, he said.

Medical sources in the area said the inmates had an adequate supply of fresh water. Everybody was being given prophylactics against malaria, and infants were being vaccinated against measles and other diseases. Food was mainly the national staple of maize meal and beans. A psychiatric nurse was attending to the needs of deranged inmates.

The medical spokesmen either could not or would not say how the prisoners were spending their time. They did confirm that some screening was going on in the camp and some people had been set free.

There is some speculation in the area that some candidates for rehabilitation might be employed on a nearby state cotton plantation and that an attempt could be made to resettle squatters in the underpopulated and underdeveloped valley.

The Ministry of Community Development and Women's Affairs, which took the unprecedented action of denouncing the first swoop on suspected prostitutes in Harare, is apparently not involved in the exercise.

The government has apologised to the victims of last weekend's nation-wide round-up in which police and soldiers picked up a number of innocent women.

Zimbabwe whites tense over warning to schools

362
Star 19/11/83

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government's ultimatum to private schools to step up their proportion of black pupils and to hold fees down or face closure next year has sent a wave of uneasiness through the white community here.

These schools were warned to employ at least 60 percent of black teachers, with fees held held to a maximum of R540 a term.

White independent and Rhodesian Front members of Parliament say they have been bombarded with calls from parents and business leaders, who report growing feelings of insecurity among their white staff.

Informed circles consider it unlikely, however, that the government will refuse to allow schools to re-open in January if they have not met the requirements.

Many private schools have already closed their lists for next year's intake of pupils, and meeting the required ratio of black to white pupils would mean turning away some pupils already admitted.

The association representing the 29 independent schools affected by the warning has not commented so far.

But the tone of remarks made by the Minister of Education, Mr Dzingai Mutumbuka, who accused private schools of becoming white citadels and deliberately blocking black pupils by increasing fees, has led people to ask if Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe's government really wants whites to stay.

Observers recalled, however, that while the minister's announcement was the strongest warning of impending action, the government's attitude has been made abundantly clear in the past.

As long ago as last February Mr Mugabe said private schools had to increase their ratio of blacks to whites to 60 percent.

He said then: "At every one of these schools there must be a racial complexion that reflects our society.

"It is repugnant that in a country where the majority of the citizens are black and exceed whites by a ratio of 36 to one, there should continue to be schools and other institutions which deliberately seek to close their doors to the average black child."

Mr Mugabe said that Zimbabwe's independence had brought about a democratic order in which neither race nor colour was a criterion for determining rights or privileges.

All social institutions had thus to be open to all, and it was for this reason that the government was opposed to private schools and hospitals.

Observers here note that while none of the private schools bars pupils on grounds of colour, in practice most have a much higher proportion of whites.

Anxiety about the standard of teaching in government schools has led to the increased popularity of private schools, despite the higher fees they charge.

2 schools to close in Namib

Zimbabwe torturers train in Britain

POLICE who tortured innocent airmen in Zimbabwe are being trained in Britain . . . by British coppers.

While two Englishmen are still in the jails of Mr Robert Mugabe, his officers have been nipping over for courses at a top police college — and at British taxpayers' expense, says the Sunday newspaper, News of the World.

Men condemned by a judge for their "brutality and dishonesty" have been enjoying British hospitality and cash handouts under the guise of overseas aid.

They belong to a team of interrogators who beat up the airmen — some of them British subjects and some still locked up long after being acquitted of the charges against them.

Rantings

A shock dossier compiled by the News of the World shows that the interrogators:

USED electric shocks to force confessions to "crimes".

BURNED one captive on the buttocks with a red-hot wire brush.

ATTACHED electrodes to another man's private parts and big toe.

THREATENED to shoot, maim and burn their victims alive.

Yet, senior members of the terror squad have been attending "Overseas



Air Commodore Pile and Air Vice-Marshal Slatter at Heathrow Airport.

Sunday Times Reporter, London

Command Courses" at the Police Staff College, Bramshill, Hampshire.

The newspaper named three of them as Deputy Commissioner Govati Mhora, Chief Superintendent Richard Muremba, and Assistant Commissioner (Crime) A M Mureverwi.

Mhora and Muremba, named by a Zimbabwe judge as the men behind the torture campaign, were granted places on courses run by the British Council and Overseas Development Agency.

Mureverwi, who has openly boasted of his role in the interrogation of British police officers, is regarded as a "bit of a joke" at Bramshill for his Marxist rantings.

But he and his henchmen are no joke to two Britons and an Irishman languishing in Chikurubi prison.

The men, all Zimbabwe Air Force officers, are being held prisoner although cleared of sabotage accusations. One has still not been charged after 15 months in custody.

The three are Flight Lieutenants Neville Weir, Barrington Lloyd — all Britons — and Wing Commander John Cox, an Irishman.

Horrifying

Three officers released after international protests are Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, Air Commodore Philip Pile and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe.

Another, Flight Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker, was released this week after 15 months. He is still in Zimbabwe and it is not yet known whether he will leave.

Air Commodore Pile, who returned to Britain with Slatter in September, described Mugabe's torturers as "quite beyond the pale" and said he was worried for his colleagues still in custody.

He went on: "The fact that these people are being sent here on courses does not surprise me — I can only hope they learn something."

Pile was lucky he was merely hooded, threatened with shooting and laughed at when he asked for a lawyer.

But the horrifying plight of his comrades was described by Judge John Dumbutshena, who threw out the charges against them.

The judge told how SLATTER was given electric shocks and thought he would be burned alive or have his feet chopped off.

BRISCOE was beaten up, made to do physical jerks naked and had an electrode attached to his navel.

COX had a burning-hot brush put between his buttocks and LLOYD was given electric shocks in the genitals and foot.

The torturers also chained WEIR to the floor and beat him near senseless to make him "confess".

The News of the World's correspondent in Harare, Tom Mason, reports: "The white community here is horrified at the treatment of these men.

"The knowledge that their torturers are being trained in Britain is sickening and infuriating."

Cape Times 21/11/83

White farmer shot by guard

362

From ANDRE VILJOEN

HARARE. — A teenage militia guard shot dead a Zimbabwean farm manager, Mr Peter van der Walt, 43, "in cold blood" at the weekend, an angry Umniati district farmer, Mr Keith Mannix, said yesterday.

He said a group of about 20 to 30 militia guards had been "harassing" civilians in the district. They were sent there to guard the local power station and railway bridge.

He said Mr Van der Walt, manager of a farm about 200km south-west of Harare, went to the militia camp late on Friday to negotiate a vegetable sale.

There were several guards at the camp. After talking to some men, Mr Van der Walt left on his motorcycle.

About 300m away, a guard stopped him.

Eye-witnesses reported that the guard slapped Mr Van der Walt and threatened to shoot him, Mr Mannix said.

They said Mr Van der Walt told him to go ahead. The guard thrust the barrel of his rifle against the farm manager's mouth and pulled the trigger.

A government statement issued yesterday said a man was being held in connection with the killing.

Two US lawyers barred from seeing Muzorewa

(362)

The Star Bureau Star 21/11/83

HARARE — Two American lawyers have been refused permission to see the UANC leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who enters his fourth week of detention today.

Professor Albert Blaustein, founder and president of the New York-based Human Rights Advocates International, and his executivedirector, Mr Charles Printz, said today they had been told they could not see the former Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Prime Minister.

"We communicated with people in government at various levels but the final answer refusing permission came from the Central Intelligence Organisation," they said.

Professor Blaustein, who was Bishop Muzorewa's legal adviser at the Lancaster House conference, said he had been asked by the bishop's brother, the Rev Farai Muzorewa, who lives in America, to do what he could for his brother.

Zimbabwe farmers angry over murder

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The white farming community in Zimbabwe is fuming over the cold-blooded murder on Friday of Kwekwe farm manager Mr Peter van der Walt by a teenage member of the para-military People's Militia.

Local farmers and representatives of the Commercial Farmer's Union (CFU) are to meet soon to discuss the incident, which occured on Friday evening at the Electricity Supply Commission's power station at Umniati.

The MP for the area, Kwekwe rancher Mr Henry Elsworth, called the killing "alarming" and an indication of the "general breakdown of law and order" which was taking place across the country.

The killing is the first reported incident of violence involving members of the militia, who were trained as a "home guard" force by instructors who in turn received their training from North Korean tutors.

Farmers in the area say since the militia was moved to guard strategic installations, such as the power station, railway lines and bridges about a month ago, there has been a wave of intimidation of the residents of the district — both black and white.

ARGUS 22/11/83 (362)

AFRICA

Zimbabwe railways go electric

Argus Africa
News Service

HARARE. — With a blast of its hooter, the big, bright yellow electric locomotives moved slowly forward under the control of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, propelling Zimbabwe into a new era.

The tandem 3 100 kw locos, manufactured by a European consortium and assembled in Bulawayo, surged quietly out of Gweru station on the inaugural run on the electrified line to Harare.

The trip was the culmination of decades of dreaming and then years of detailed planning and construction, making Zimbabwe the second country in Southern Africa (after South Africa) to go electric.

A long way from the beginnings, at the turn of the last century and the early 1900s, when rail lines snaked their way into the new colony of Southern Rhodesia from the port of Beira and the northern Cape settlement of Vryburg.

50 years

For more than 50 years steam power reigned supreme throughout the system, which included lines north of the Zambezi in Zambia.

The monster, black ironclad Garrat class steam locomotives belched thick smoke and hauled heavy loads through the hot bush as the country developed.

In the 1950s came the introduction of the first diesels on to the system, with the attendant comments about "progress".

It was only in the early 1970s, however, that the management of the then Rhodesia Railways decided that the system's 229 "Iron Horses" would be eventually phased out by the 1990s, and replaced by diesel and electric locomotives.

Bush war

The spiralling costs of fuel, coupled with the bush war which made obtaining parts difficult, led to a review of this decision and meant that many of the steam engines would remain on the country's lines for years to come.

Traction power has always been a critical factor in the operations of the national railways.

Never was this more painfully clear than in the years immediately after independence in 1980, when the National Railways of Zimbabwe was unable to move all the traffic on offer, and long delays in shipping goods in and out of the country became the order of the day.

When South African Railways withdrew a number of their locomotives which had been on hire to the NRZ, and the fuel shortage — which resulted from the destruction of the Mutare-Beira pipeline — hit the country in late 1981, the situation looked desperate and there were fears the railway system would grind to a complete halt.

Refurbished

Both long and short term strategy was directed at increasing tractive power. Numbers of steam engines were refurbished by a Bulawayo heavy engineering firm and put back into service hauling both passenger and goods trains.

About 60 new diesel-electric locomotives were bought from the United States and Canada, the purchase price being covered by various loan and aid agreements.

The R140-million electric system should see an additional 30 of the electric locos hauling trains on the busiest Gweru-Harare section.

Traction power has not been the only obstacle in the way of the NRZ achieving its goals.

Manpower losses, particularly in the skilled artisan sections, proved so critical that the NRZ was forced to bring in hundreds of Indian and Pakistani expatriate technicians to keep services running.

Training

Training programmes for local Zimbabweans to fill the vacancies left by emigrating white railwaymen are well advanced and, by the end of the decade, the country should be self-sufficient in these skills.

The efficiency of the rail system has not been helped by the widespread feeling among black railmen that racism still exist[illegible] and that the changed circumstances, they could "get hanced the efficiency of the system.



[illegible] Minister Mugabe in

UNIVERSITY OF [illegible]
EXAMINATION [illegible]

All answer books must be numbered

Number of books handed in	2	2
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Book 2

they are being held back by whites who basically still hold the reins of power in the organisation.

Fiery Transport Minister Mr Farai Masango, himself a former railway engine driver and victim of past discriminatory promotion policies, pledged, when he took over the portfolio of transport last year, to turn the NRZ around and make it more in tune with the "needs of the people".

He systematically promoted blacks into positions of responsibility throughout the railways and, for the first time, appointed a predominantly-black NRZ board.

Echoing the sentiments of many of his Cabinet colleagues, Mr Masango warned white railwaymen that if they did not want to adapt to

Undoubtedly the Minister's comments, with a temporary freeze on white promotions, accelerated the white exodus from the organisation.

However, at the electrification ceremony in Gweru, it was a quietly confident Mr Masango who told the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, that the NRZ was able to move 2-million passengers and 14-million tons of freight last year and had the capacity to move even more.

The Zimbabwe rail system, he said, was ready to play its crucial part in becoming the lynchpin in the SADCC nations' transport network and strategy.

Already, apart from the electrification, there have been a number of developments — both before and after independence — which have en-

ern, computerised control centre and advanced "hump" marshalling yard at Dabuka near Gweru. The NRZ has also been building up the number of container transport wagons in its fleet to cope with container traffic which increased from 2 400 in 1978/79 to 21 000 in 1981/82.

Container terminal planning is at an advanced stage and there are also plans to upgrade major export lines, such as the one to Maputo in Mozambique via Chicualacuala.

Electrification will also eventually be introduced on to all the main lines.

The electrification scheme led directly to the construction of a new coal-fired power station at Hwange, and the colliery company's open-

powerful electric locos move forward, cutting the tape on the inaugural trip.

cast mining expansion project.

The railways are, however, vulnerable to sabotage and the violent actions of armed dissidents and a number of railwaymen have been killed and locomotives and trains have been damaged in dissident attacks.

But, for the people who gathered in their thousands along the line or rail to witness the passing of the "Freedom Train", as it was dubbed by Mr Mugabe, the NRZ is a powerful symbol that Zimbabweans can themselves implement the development plans which would make the country a better place to live for all.



Maputo line sabotaged

The Star Bureau

HARARE -- The railway line from Zimbabwe to Maputo through Chicualacuala is virtually unusable because of repeated sabotage in Mozambique, an official source said yesterday.

Asked to elaborate on the statement last night, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Witness Mangwende, said the railway line was being blown up two or three times a week.

"We have stopped using it," he said, "Because of the continual attacks by MNR rebels."

Mr Mangwende accused South Africa of backing the MNR rebels as part of its destabilisation of Frontline states. He said the attacks on the railway line were part of the programme by South Africa directed at economic targets.

Zimbabwe forces are helping to protect lines of communication to the port of Beira, but are not involved in protection of the Maputo/Zimbabwe line.

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Inkatha wants UDF despite v

Own Corr

DURBAN -- Inkatha leaders still Democratic Front movement, de of the two organisations in the Mp marsdale on Sunday.

Between 200 and 400 people, dent Mr Archie Gumede, were in when about 300 Inkatha supporter

They were allegedly armed w from leaving the hall. Police had

Dr Oscar Dhlomo, secretary-ge movement, said that if UDF ai "then what happened does not thr isations to hold discussions at lea

Dr Dhlomo said today the ball

Amputees a

RANGOON -- Two suspects, both with limbs amputated, staggered into a courtroom today and were charged with murdering 19 people in a terrorist bombing against the South Korean leadership.

Security was tight as authorities brought in the two men, identified as North Korean army officers Major Zin Mo and Captain Kang Mim Chul. Both are accused of involvement in a bombing attack on October 9 at the Martyr's Mausoleum in Rangoon, where top South Korean leaders were gathered for a wreath-laying ceremony.

Six charge sheets were rea

When children cripple a nation

(362) Star 22/11/83



Dr Herbert Ushewokunze. . .got Govt to take over birth control.



Mr Joshua Nkomo . . . plenty of room for more people.

By Brendan Seery, The Star Bureau

HARARE — The recent spate of newly born babies being dumped here has brought birth control into the spotlight.

Zimbabwe, with an annual population increase of 4,3 percent, has one of the highest population growth rates in the world — outstripping many other African countries.

Experts predict that by 2000, the country will have to find space for about 17 million people — up from the present 7,5 million.

Zimbabwe's health services, better than most, keep down mortality rates and help fuel the population boom. Experts also said a baby boom was to be expected after the civil war.

Birth control programmes have not kept pace with society.

Three years ago, the Zimbabwe Population Control Programme, run by the Family Planning Association, won worldwide admiration.

Headed by Mr Peter Dodds, it ran a national education campaign which had thousands of rural women accepting birth control and managed to cut the population growth.

The association's fatal mistake — in the eyes of the then Health Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze — was to make the injectable contraceptive Depo-Provera the mainstay of its programmes.

Dr Ushewokunze said the drug, which can prevent pregnancy for up to three months, had not been licensed for general use by the United States Food and Drugs Administration. He claimed it caused cancer, birth defects and menstrual problems.

Mr Dodds said there was no positive proof about its side-effects and then resigned.

After banning the use of the drug, the Government took over the birth-control programme, renaming it the Child Spacing and Fertility Association.

Having for years said that birth control could not be effective in the hands of Government bureaucracy, Mr Dodds left for a similar post "elsewhere in Africa".

The affair demonstrated what a political hot potato birth control is in a country struggling to find its feet.

Dr Ushewokunze claimed the use of Depo-Provera was racist, and that it was only given to black women by uncaring family planners.

Other Marxist intellectuals used "class analysis" to conclude that birth control was a plot by the capitalists to prevent the lower classes from burgeoning and threatening their life style.

One writer claimed that wherever "wealth was concentrated in the hands of a few" there was also a "vicious population control programme".

Birth control supporters also have to contend with the traditional African view that the more children a man has, the more fortunate he is.

Mr Joshua Nkomo said in 1981 that he could not see what all the fuss was about and why there was a need for birth control.

Zimbabwe was still big enough to take many more people, he said, adding: "I have flown all over Africa and I have seen that there are no people on this continent."

However, unwanted and frequent pregnancies keep women — the mainstay of the continent's labour force — more or less run-down and put a brake on much-needed development.

Zimbabwe is having to tackle those problems now and the new, disturbing social phenomenon of baby-dumping. The Registrar of the Drugs Council of Zimbabwe, Mr Dimitrius Galletis, said recently the rise in baby-dumping may have been caused by the withdrawal of Depo-Provera.

Tough new law on Zimbabwe vagrants

362 ROM 23/11/83

HARARE. — Prostitutes and other vagrants will be held in rehabilitation centres or barred from urban centres for three months after a nationwide blitz on alleged prostitutes, beggars and squatters.

Under new emergency powers regulations published yesterday, suspected vagrants can be detained for up to five days.

Then they have to appear before a rehabilitation officer who decides whether they are vagrants, but he can postpone a case for up to 28 days to get further information.

Rehabilitation officers can order the detention of vagrants at rehabilitation centres for up to three months, or bar them from all or some urban areas for the same period.

Vagrants have the right to appeal against the "sentence" to the Minister of Labour and Social Services.

The new law comes in the wake of swoops by soldiers and police who have indiscriminately arrested thousands of people — most of them innocent married women, single career women and even teenaged schoolgirls.

There has been a national outcry as women have simply disappeared in raids on more than a dozen towns and cities in Zimbabwe.

A weekend promise from the Minister of Parliamentary and Legal Affairs, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, that his government would respect the rights and dignity of women appeared to have little effect as police and men from the Central Intelligence Organisation in the southern town of Gwanda on Saturday night jailed women who just the week before had been arrested and later released.

At the same time Dr Zvobgo instructed people trying to find missing relatives to report to the local media.

Yesterday the state-controlled Herald newspaper carried reports of husbands, brothers and employers saying they had failed in frantic efforts to trace arrested women.

Mrs Bibian Machima, who has eight children, was last seen shopping in a supermarket at Chitungwiza, a suburb bordering Harare, her brother Paul said.

Women have been forced to leave children untended and employers wondering whether they have quit their jobs.

Raids have included door-to-door searches, snatches of women from their beds and arrests in broad daylight of women window shopping, waiting at bus stops and even in supermarkets.

A Harare policeman's wife, Mrs Primrose Taruvinga, was arrested in her home while her husband was out jailing other men's wives. She was eventually freed.

A soldier was driving a truckload of women to Harare's Chikurubi Prison when he heard his name called. He looked back to find that his wife was among the alleged prostitutes arrested. — Sapa.

Zambian wage freeze melts

361

RDM 23/11/83

Mail Correspondent

LUSAKA. — The Government and the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) have finally solved the crisis over a 10% wage freeze imposed nearly two years.

Mr Frederick Chiluba, outspoken chairman-general of the ZCTU, confirmed yesterday that an agreement was reached at a recent meeting at State House.

However, Mr Chiluba warned that the agreement was only an interim solution which would block free wage-increase bargaining only for the period between now and April next year.

He explained that the labour movement agreed to maintain the 10% wage freeze until that time because they understood the restriction was one of the conditions imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for its R250-million loan.

But Mr Chiluba warned that the labour movement would not accept restrictions on free bargaining after April 1984.

"Our acceptance is not a forgone support from us. We shall resume free bargaining immediately after April because it embarrasses us to see a farm worker who produces maize fail to buy a bag of mealie meal," he said.

Fury over Mugabe vice blitz: 500 freed

By NORMAN ELLIS: Harare

IN the face of a mounting public outcry against the nationwide detentions of hundreds of suspected prostitutes, army trucks yesterday ferried more than 500 women and girls back to Harare from a rehabilitation camp in the bush — and freed them.

A Social Services Department official said the blitz would continue.

The blitz against vice, beggars and squatters was launched as Operation Clean-Up on October 28 in a bid to stamp out crime in the capital and in other cities and towns.

Several thousand people, including hundreds of women and girls, were detained for vagrancy — a minor offence for which violators in the past were usually fined by magistrates.

But this time many of the detainees were crammed at gunpoint into army lorries and driven to the remote far northeast of the country and interned in a former military camp called Mashumbi Pools in the steamy Zambezi Valley.

Most of the detainees were innocent married women, career women and even teenage schoolgirls rounded up by over-zealous troops, police and youths of Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe's ruling Zimbabwe African National Union.

Most were freed after being screened by the Department of Social Services.

But some were included among those held at Mashumbi Pools where they were instructed in cooking, gardening, dress-making and other domestic skills.

Unofficial reports said that three women died in the wire fenced camp, but this could not be immediately substantiated by authorities in Harare.

"Conditions were terrible and there was scarcely any food," said one 19-year-old secretary who escaped from the camp.

She would not divulge her name for fear of official reprisals.

Operation Clean-Up, ordered by Mugabe's Cabinet, raised an outcry from outraged Zimbabweans of all walks of life including husbands, boyfriends, parents, relatives and employers.

The Women's Affairs Ministry, which was not consulted on the blitz, issued a statement saying it approved of the crackdown on prostitutes but insisted that their male customers be detained as well.



ROBERT MUGABE
Under pressure

Among those detained were five British women teachers stationed in the Midlands town of Gweru and six white Zimbabwean teenage girls from a school in the nearby town of Kwekwe.

The release of the 500 detainees appeared to signal the end of the operation.

Government sources said they expected the remaining few hundred detainees at Mashumbi Pools would be freed in the next few days.

Operation Clean-Up triggered the biggest anti-government reaction in Zimbabwe since independence from Britain on April 18 1980.

Prime Minister Mugabe, who was regularly briefed on the operation by his aides, has made no mention of it.

But sources close to the Prime Minister's office said the crackdown was ordered for two reasons:

- Escalating crime including armed robberies, burglaries and pick-pocketing that was alarming influential Zimbabweans, foreign businessmen, tourists and diplomats.
- Complaints from foreign governments, mainly African, that their official envoys were being distracted from diplomatic duties by prostitutes, call girls and masseuses in Harare's infamous red-light district — 100 or more old houses and apartment blocks ringing the centre of the city.

NOW ZIMBABWE RUNS OUT OF CASH FOR DROUGHT RELIEF

The starving old man who fed on newspapers

(362) S. Express 27/11/83

AN old man in Zimbabwe's remote north-east Rushing district has died after struggling to survive by eating old newspapers, plastic packets and unripe fruit.

The report of his death came from a horrified headmaster in the district, Mr David Mushayabasa, who also revealed that children at his school regularly fainted from hunger.

Others he found sleeping on rocks complained that they had no energy for classes because they had not eaten for two days.

Reports are also coming through of babies in the eastern Mutare district dying of drought-hastened malnutrition as well as an unprecedented increase in the Vitamin B deficiency disease pellagra, attributed to thousands trying to live on maize meal alone.

Earlier this year Zimbabwe's Minister of Water Resources and Development, Mr Cephas Msipa, vowed that nobody would die of starvation in the drought that has ravaged the entire sub-continent.

But, for lack of money, Zimbabwe's government has been forced to renege on that promise.

In a shock announcement recently it said it could no longer afford to pay some R200-million a year in food subsidies and hiked the price of maize by 50%.

That shock was shortly followed by another — that the government did not have R120-million that it had budgeted for drought relief.

Only a quarter of the money had "come through", Labour and Social Services Minister Mr Kumbirai Kangai announced.

Mr Kangai said that although the government was giving drought relief food to more than two million people, it was only feeding those it considered "utterly destitute" who would die without the food.

No rain this year will be disastrous for Zimbabwe.

Thanks to a record two-million-ton maize meal crop in 1980, the first year of independence, Zimbabwe's storage silos are still comparatively full.

Sunday Express Correspondent: HARARE

But crops have slumped since then and this year the crop is estimated to be a mere 600 000 tons.

White farmers, mainly responsible for maize production, were in "the biggest spin since independence" last week following a government announcement that all private schools must have a 60% black enrolment by January, or shut down.

Under the new ruling schools will not be allowed to charge more than R500 a term, including boarding.

The government argues that high school fees of more than R1 000 a term are "racism clothed in economic robes" to keep black faces out of private schools.

Ironically, blacks who are at the schools already are children of Zimbabwe politicians, Cabinet Ministers, senior civil servants and businessmen.

One farmer said: "It's just going too far. Not only are we under pressure to produce food and fight dissidents, but now this last reason to stay here has been removed."

Zimbabwe can't shake off trade shackles

South Africa remains a major trading partner of Zimbabwe in spite of Zimbabwe's determination to ease its economic dependence on its wealthy neighbour and seek other markets, both in Africa and overseas. ANDRE VILJOEN reports from Harare.

SOUTH Africa is still Zimbabwe's biggest single trading partner.

But last year, for the first time, the value of Zimbabwe's trade with the combined European Economic Community exceeded the value of trade with South Africa.

Trade between Zimbabwe and its eight South African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) partners, whose key political objective is to decrease economic dependence on South Africa, has remained fairly static at about 9% of its total foreign trade.

But as Zimbabwe's Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Dr Bernard Chidzero, has pointed out, the SADCC is not yet a trading area but a development-oriented association preoccupied with building an infrastructure which would eventually ease mutual trade. A key SADCC development priority is Mozambique's ports and rail links.

Before Rhodesian UDI in 1965, more than 75% of the country's imports and exports went through Mozambican ports. Now about 75% goes through South African ports. A freight exporter in Harare says that in spite of signs that the Government is becoming more determined to promote Mozambican ports, there has been no significant change in trade-route patterns since independence in 1980.

The most significant change in the trade between South Africa and Zimbabwe since independence has been the drop in the proportion of imports from South Africa.

In 1980, an estimated 36% of Zimbabwe's imports came from South Africa. This dropped to 27,5% in 1981, 22,1% last year and was 22,2% at the end of April this year.

The value of imports from South Africa dropped from about R302m in 1981 to about R259m in 1982. In this period, total Zimbabwean imports increased by about R37m.

Zimbabwean exports to South Africa initially increased from 18,5% of total exports in 1980 to 21,6% in 1981.

Since then, the proportion dropped to 17,1% last year and was 15,3% after the first four months of this year. There was an R87m fall in Zimbabwean exports from 1981 to 1982.

Last year, the EEC accounted for 31% of Zimbabwean imports and 27% of exports. According to the quarterly review of the RAL Merchant Bank in ZImbabwe, the EEC will probably account for about 35% of Zimbabwe's foreign trade this year.

The chief economist of the Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries, Mr Roger Riddell, says important factors in the drift from South African imports are expanding commodity aid from developed countries, which will constitute more than R160m in imports this year, and the foreign-currency allocation system in which factory costs of imports and not transport costs are the determining factor.

Other factors are a decrease in the number of South African subsidiaries in Zimbabwe and the greater range of alternative trading partners in the post-UDI era.

The recession in South Africa, uncertainty in 1981 over the future of the South African trade agreement and an initially overvalued Zimbabwe dollar contributed to the decline in exports to South Africa.

Mr Riddell said in an interview that the SADCC objective of decreasing economic dependence on South Africa made economic as well as political sense. The present level of dependence on South Africa was unhealthy because it made the Zimbabwean economy too reliant on political and economic fluctuations in South Africa.

The CZI supported the Government's wish to increase trade with the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) countries, which included the SADCC partners as well as nine other sub-Saharan African countries.

Other Harare economists expressed concern at the declining trade between Zimbabwe and South Africa. One said the pattern of trade between the two countries was probably evening out largely due to factors such as a depressed consumer market in Zimbabwe and last year's devaluation of the dollar, which favoured Zimbabwean exports.

But the downward trend could continue later although he doubted it would ever drop below 10% of Zimbabwe's total foreign trade.

"We were locked into the South African market but, unlike the Government, I do not believe it was an unhealthy relationship. South Africa is a nearby supplier, is dependable and has a good range of goods at fairly competitive prices,"

He believed business opportunities had been lost for political reasons.

Although the Government and some businessmen were wary of South Africa because they believed it was destabilising the region militarily and was capable of resorting to economic blackmail, he said most businessmen thought Zimbabwe should expand its business with South Africa and prosper and so prove to South Africa that its apartheid policies were wrong.

He said a new US and EEC agreement, whereby those countries would pay Zimbabwe in foreign currency for aid-related goods it supplied to African countries, promised to boost exports to countries which would normally not be able to pay for them. The success of the scheme would depend on Zimbabwe's ability to contain its beleagured industrial base.



MR BERNARD CHIDZERO

A survey of trade and investment in Zimbabwe by a private development agency, the Whitsun Foundation, says there is little or no prospect of finding alternative markets for most of Zimbabwe's manufactured goods, which in 1981 constituted more than 40% of exports to South Africa.

Most of these manufactured goods depended on preferential access to the South African market.

The survey says Zimbabwe's economic lifeblood depends on boosting exports. Prospects of increasing exports to sub-Saharan Africa are negligible in the short term and these countries are not a major alternative source of supply of manufactured goods which, except for mineral fuels, constitute most of South African imports.

"South Africa presents something of a dilemma for trade policy," the report says. "If the advent of a more accommodating system for that country is imminent, the resource costs of effecting what will then be only a temporary diversion of trade would be out of all proportion to any effect it is likely to have precipitating events.

"If, on the other hand, no early change in the South African political system can be expected, trade diversion may turn out to be a largely ineffectual but nonetheless painfully self-damaging gesture."

A spokesman for the South African Trade Mission in Harare said economic stability in Zimbabwe was in South Africa's interest and he expected no major change in trade between the two countries "for at least 10 years".

Although trade with Zimbabwe represented only a fraction of South Africa's foreign trade, trade and transport links through Zimbabwe were "very important in a regional context".

Economists agree that South Africa would lose considerable revenue from trade traffic of landlocked countries in the region if the SADCC succeeded in diverting most of this traffic through Mozambique.

A freight expert in Harare said there were limited prospects of a voluntary switch to Mozambican trade routes. Even the Yugoslavian company, Energoprojekt, which is building a R69m hotel and conference centre in Harare, chose to pay more to import building materials through Durban instead of risking falling behind schedule by importing through unpredictable Mozambican ports.

Zimbabweans could pay 20% to 50% less by using Mozambican routes. With the expected completion of Western-financed SADCC harbour and rail projects from 1986 to 1988 and if there were an improvement in cargo handling efficiency and an end to allegedly South African-backed bandit activity in Mozambique, that country could take another 35% to 40% of Zimbabwean trade traffic, he said.

Zimbabwe 'repels investors'

29/11/83 362

The Star Bureau

HARARE — A leading Zimbabwean economist has had some harsh words for the Governemnt's Foreign Investment Committtee — accusing it of being a barrier rather than a magnet for outside investment.

Mr John Robertson, chief economist for the RAL merchant bank, said that private sector investment opportunities were best identified by businessmen themselves, and not by speech-makers, bankers or civil servants.

The Financial Gazette newspaper quoted Mr Robertson as commenting that companies here which were struggling provided "disturbing object lessons" to outside firms which would, in addition, have to face the Foreign Investment Committee before being accepted in Zimbabwe.

Asked Mr Robertson: "What can we hope to achieve by being so grudging in our acceptance of foreign investment?"

The investment policies and the investment climate to which they gave rise were not compatible with the needs of the investor.

"We are offering him a near-certainty that he won't make money.

"We've told him that we don't want to see him getting rich and our legislation tells him that we have every intention of interferring with everything he does," said the economist.

Some of the Government's negative policies he cited were: High wages as against low, controlled prices; high productivity against state protection for disruptive or lazy workers; high investment against low profits; and hopes of saving to invest almost destroyed by high taxation.

It was not not surprising that some investors were asking for guarantees that some profits would at least be made and that they would be fairly compensated in the event of nationalisation of their interests.

Many of those considering Zimbabwe could readily find other lands in which to invest their money, and would give this country a miss, he said.

ETYMOLOGY

Argus 28/11/83 (367)

'Shona' not derogatory

DR CYRIL A HROMNIK, visiting historian at the University of Cape Town, looks into the Indian Buddhist origins of the designation applied to 80 percent of Zimbabwe's population

AFRICAN names, whether pre-colonial, colonial or post-independence in their origin, are a frequent source of confusion, irritation and misunderstanding. The chief causes seem to be that many of these names have many different spellings and meanings, were imposed by foreigners, or have been modified and changed, often arbitrarily, by the locals.

Recently-independent Zimbabwe has had more than its share of this kind of problem and recently-published histories and textbooks have done little to alleviate it.

A key name in newspaper reports on Zimbabwe is Shona or Mashona, which designates some 80 percent of the country's population. But few people know anything about the origin of this name, and the most commonly accepted derivation can hardly be pleasing to the Mashona themselves.

According to this derivation, which was produced by European writers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the name Mashona is a denigrating name which the Matabele (Ndebele) gave to the hapless local Karanga/Kalanga when they invaded their country north of the Limpopo river in 1836.

Tripe-cleaners

Meanings ascribed to the name Mashona range from servants, slaves and baboons to dirt, dogs, tripe-cleaners, pigs. No wonder that the Karanga-/Kalanga people were not too eager to accept the name when it was given to them officially in 1931 when its use was justified in C M Doke's Report on the Unification of the Shona Dialects.

Doke had his misgivings about the name which he perceived as being "uncomplimentary", but he endorsed its application, reasoning: "It is pretty certainly a foreign name and as such is very likely to be uncomplimentary . . . but in point of etymology is extremely uncertain and no one can dogmatise about it."

Today, 50 years later, nobody dogmatises about its origin, and historians imply that Shona is simply the name of an historical people like any other. The unpleasantness of the meanings attached to the name by Europeans is such that recent writers do not even speculate about its origin.

Skilled

In reality, the name Shona or Mashona has no connection with the derogatory meanings ascribed to it and owes nothing to the Ndebele.

The British learnt about the name for the first time in 1820 (16 years before Mzilikazi's Ndebele invaded Mashonaland) when John Campbell was told by the Hurutse Tswana about the "Massoona", whom later travellers described on the basis of the local intelligence as skilled craftsmen and traders in Indian and other foreign goods who lived north of the Limpopo river and made regular trading visits to the tribes south of that river.

In 1849 David Livingstone first referred to the "gold-washings of the Mashona," and during the gold-rush that followed the discovery of gold in the Tati river (in the southern Matabeleland portion of the historical Mashonaland) by Karl Mauch and Henry Hartley in 1867, the name Mashonaland became a campfire (later household) word among the mostly British prospectors.

The name Mashona was later imposed by the Government of Southern Rhodesia on the majority of the Bantu-speaking Karanga/Kalanga (including also the Manica, Zezuru, Korekore and Ndau), who accepted it only with reluctance. These people are presently known as the Mashona or Shona although only some chiefly lineages and some communities of traders, skilled metalworkers and other craftsmen are the true historical Mashona.

Pali word

The use of the word *shona* in Mashonaland (present-day Zimbabwe) dates, in fact, to the ancient quest for gold in Africa. *Shona* or *sona* is a Pali (the language of the early Indian Buddhists) word for "gold" and was brought to Africa by ancient Indian goldseekers before or shortly after the time of Christ.

These Indian prospectors and traders called the land which produced gold — Shona — Sonabar, meaning the "Land of Gold", which the Portugeuse translated as Bar do Ouro and the British learnt to know as Mashonaland. The early Indian goldseekers became known to the later-arriving Negroid Bantu-speakers as Ma-Shona — the "People of Gold." *Ma-* is a Bantu prefix often affixed to foreign words and names an indicates plurality.

Land of Gold

The work of the early Indian MaShona in the gold regions of Africa is well attested by more than 1 200 gold mines (1 267 workings have been recorded by Roger Summers), ranging from shallow surface diggings to deep and sophisticated mine shafts.

These mines bear clear signs of having been worked by miners who used the technology and mining techniques which had been developed in the ancient Indian gold mines in the state of Karnataka. Medieval Muslim records speak of Indian gold traders and mention Indian settlements in the Land of Gold. And as a confirmation of this visible and written evidence, most of the gold-, trade-, and metal-related terminology in the local language derives from Indian and other Asian languages.

Historically speaking, the name MaShona had originally designated only the Indian, Persian, Arab and mixed Afro-Asiatic goldseekers. These Ma-Shona were the founders of a significant number of chiefly lineages, some of which still bear Indian names.

Uplifting

Their crafts form the base of the highly-respectable and much admired image that the MaShona enjoyed among their near and distant neighbours and clients until recent times. The historical MaShona never formed a nation, not even a tribe, although their elites ruled many Karanga/Kalanga and other tribes and their craftsmen lived scattered in practically every village.

Far from being "denigrating", the name Shona or Mashona is in the light of the history outlined here, uplifting and respect-giving, and it was and still is understood as such by the surrounding tribes and nations.

Recognition of the historical meaning of the name Shona or Mashona and acknowledgement of the historical people whom it designated at various stages and who are indelible from the present-day Shona, is the only way to place the new nation of Zimbabwe on a secure historical footing.

FAR EAST

300 held in camp freed

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29/11/83

Mail Correspondent

HARARE. — About 300 people arrested during "operation clean-up", the government's notorious month-long crackdown on prostitutes, squatters and vagrants, were released at the weekend from a detention camp in northern Zimbabwe.

At least 10 army trucks brought the group back to Harare from the sweltering camp, enclosed by barbed-wire, near the Mushumbi pools in the Zambesi Valley to which an estimated 2 000 to 3 000 had been sent.

Government officials in Harare would not give details yesterday on those released, except to say the releases were part of an "ongoing process". But most of those released are understood to be women who had been sent to the camp as suspected prostitutes.

The police campaign began on October 27. More than 1 000 men, women and children were taken into custody in Harare squatter camps.

At least 1 000 suspected prostitutes and beggars were also picked up. Hundreds of women, many of them married and with children, are believed to have been arrested simply because they were on the street alone or accompanied by other women.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mr Eddison Zvobgo, later admitted that "overzealous" police had arrested innocent people without cause and promised that everyone would be screened within five days of their arrest.

Many of those arrests apparently were illegal at the time, as Zimbabwean law only made it a crime to solicit for prostitution. The government changed that last week by using its emergency powers regulations (left over from the Rhodesian UDI state of emergency days) to pass a sweeping law against vagrants and prostitutes.

In effect, anyone found in an urban area without a job can now be arrested as a vagrant and shipped to a camp. The law was made retroactive to include the entire "operation clean-up" period.

The allegedly wrongful arrests of women brought protests from the Ministry of Women's Affairs, newspaper columnists and private citizens in Harare.

The government's tough stand on urban squatters and vagrants is at odds with its actions in some rural areas. The day Operation Clean-up began a month ago, the Harare High Court ordered police to help court officers evict squatters who had been on a white-owned commercial farm near the midlands village of Shurugwi for two years.

But police refused to carry out the order and the Minister of Home Affairs has now appealed against the High Court decision.

Zimbabwe hotel crisis worsens

The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE — The crisis faced by Zimbabwe's hotel industry deepened last week with the financial collapse of three top hotels, two of them at Victoria Falls, the country's main tourist resort.

The Rainbow Hotel at the Falls closed after its operating company was placed in liquidation in a High Court action last week.

LIQUIDATORS

Another Falls hotel, the a'Zambezi River Lodge, has been forced to close, along with its sister hotel — the Ambassador in Harare — after their operating company was handed over to liquidators last week.

A spokesman for Penta (Pvt) Ltd, operating company for the Rainbow — a recently renovated Moorish-style building — said there were too few visitors to Victoria Falls. At the same time, the hotel's wages and other costs had risen to the point where it was feared that the liquidation would leave creditors with "heavy losses".

Built for just over R1 million 10 years ago, the Rainbow opened in early 1974 only to close a year later when a tourism slump, caused by the spreading bush war, hit the industry.

It stood empty until last year when it was renovated and re-opened at a cost of about R500 000. Optimism then that tourism would expand has proved unfounded.

The hotel company appealed in vain to the country's Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism for aid although the Government said the matter was being investigated.

The a'Zambezi River Lodge, which has been running at an occupancy rate of 10 percent this year, last year showed losses amounting to almost R300 000. Like the Rainbow, the Lodge was closed but re-opened in 1981 to take advantage of the expected upswing in tourism and has been losing steadily over the past two years.

The liquidation action was started by the trustees of the pension fund of the National Railways of Zimbabwe, which holds a R1 million mortgage on the hotel.

The Lodge's sister hotel in Harare, the Ambassador, operated at a profit until about two years ago but, with a bed occupancy rate of around 30 percent and rising overheads, its losses stand at present at about R60 000.

Ironically, the closures come at a time when the tourist industry in general is showing signs of picking up.

In September, 22 770 people visited Zimbabwe — an increase over the same period last year. This is the first time this has happened since tourism slumped in the wake of dissident activities in Matatbeleland last year.

TOURISTS

The Zimbabwe Tourist Board has mounted an all-out programme to attract tourists to the country, particularly those from South Africa and the US.

The independent Financial Gazette commented in an editorial that the industry's predicament was likely to worsen when two new hotels — one wholly government-owned and the other partially owned by the State — opened in Harare.

Zimbabwe turns its attention to the farming battle front

MASVINGO (Zimbabwe) — Former Zipra guerilla fighter, Abdul Nyathi, now a lieutenant in the Zimbabwe National Army, is doing the job he trained for before he went to war — growing crops and raising livestock.

He is a key figure in an experiment in self-reliance in which soldiers of the army's 4 Brigade exchange their rifles for hoes for a spell down on the farm.

The 4 300 ha farm south of Masvingo on the road to Beitbridge was bought by the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement two years ago and handed over to 4 Brigade to see if the soldiers in Zimbabwe's 40 000-strong army could contribute to the peaceful development of the country.

"Our first task is to fight," said tough-talking Brigadier Tshile Nleya, commander of the four battalions based at Masvingo whose members are divided fairly equally between former members of the Rhodesian African Rifles and ex-guerillas of Mr Mugabe's Zanla force and Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zipra army.

"But," he told newsmen at a briefing on the farming operation, "we cannot all fight at the same time. Even in Lebanon they don't do that. But instead of sleeping when we are in reserve, we try to do something for the benefit of the nation."

Lieutenant Nyathi, who gained an agricultural diploma before leaving the country in the mid-1970s to become a Zipra guerilla, was given the job of farm manager. A committee was appointed to oversee operations.

Every member of the brigade from the rawest private up to the brigadier contributed to a fund to buy farm equipment. In three months, R25 000 was raised, ordinary soldiers giving 50 cents a month with the contribution rising by rank up to the brigadier's R27 a month.

On farm duty, the soldiers work in the fields where maize and vegetables are grown under irrigation, tend the pigs, herd the cattle, look after the rabbits and look after the chickens.

The objective is to grow food to feed the brigade but in the initial stages of developing the farm, produce is being sold to raise money for the day-to-day running of the property.

The committee is still feeling its way with technical advice from agriculture officials. One of the main snags is a shortage of ready cash to maintain the tractors and equipment in working order.

Some servicemen have volunteered to go on farm courses and Brigadier Nleya says no difficulties have arisen in getting the men to work on the land.

"You must remember," he said, "they are the sons of peasants who have been ploughing all their lives."

The brigadier refused to discuss the military training side, saying the visit by newsmen was purely to look at the farming operation.

It was men from a 4 Brigade battalion currently working on the farm who were involved in the engagement a year ago with a group of South African soldiers who crossed into south-eastern Zimbabwe on what was said to be unauthorised mission when three ex-Rhodesian servicemen were killed in a clash in the Sengwe area.

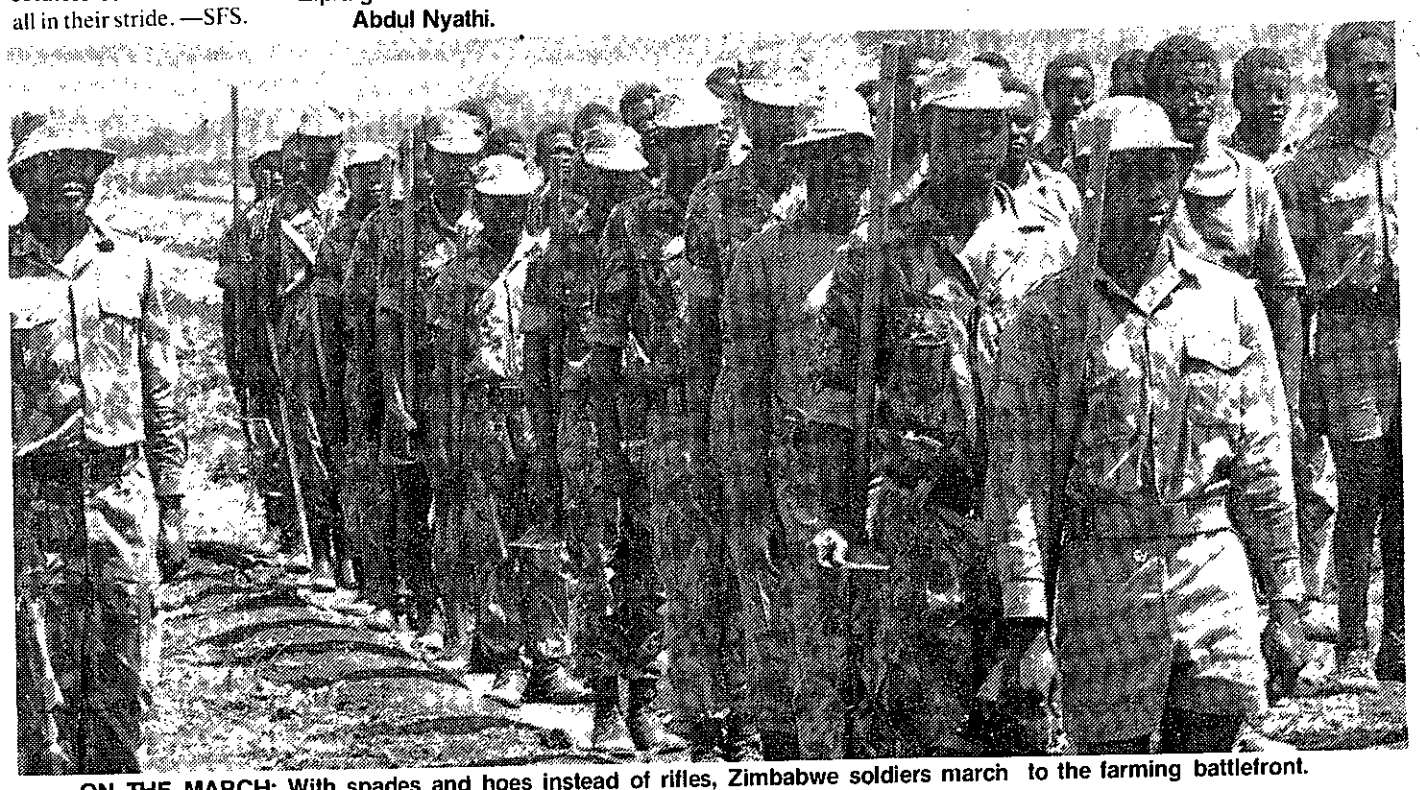
But whether it is fighting or farming, these soldiers seem to take it all in their stride. —SFS.



WAR VETERAN: Former Zipra guerilla Lieutenant Abdul Nyathi.



GREEN REVOLUTION: Soldiers at work in the maizefield.



ON THE MARCH: With spades and hoes instead of rifles, Zimbabwe soldiers march to the farming battlefront.

Sudan begins to feel the imposition of Islamic law

KHARTOUM — Repercussions from the sudden imposition of strict Islamic law in Sudan are being felt throughout the Nile valley, from Cairo to the Ugandan border.

President Nimeiry has released 13 000 common criminals, and ordered R5-million worth of liquor to be poured into the Nile at Khartoum. He also said adultery will be punished by stoning, and theft by the cutting off of hands.

This "new page of Islamic justice" for Africa's biggest country will bolster fundamentalist groups in neighbouring Egypt. Some of these underground groups, more extreme than the hardline Muslim Brothers, look approvingly towards Iran and Ayatollah Khomeini.

Three thousand kilometres to the south, in Sudan's predominantly Christian regions where rebellion is festering, there is anger at this tightening of Islamic ties. Symbolically the airport at Juba, the southern capital, is still selling duty-free drink: Khartoum airport has gone "dry", in obedience to Nimeiry.

While Sudan's criminals enjoy freedom (each with a R50 "golden handshake"), Nimeiry has been arresting his critics and rivals. Among these is Sadiq el-Mahdi (48), a former Prime Minister and leader of the widespread Ansar religio-political body.

ARRESTED

He was arrested at his home in Omdurman, across the Nile from Khartoum, after Ansar youths staged a military-style march. Others taken to the State Security headquarters included ex-Ministers and judges. Nimeiry has ordered that opponents arrested in the provinces be flown to Khartoum.

Sadiq, who became Prime Minister at the age of 30 in 1966, was jailed for two years after Nimeiry's military takeover, then went into exile. After an unsuccessful coup attempt, Sadiq was sentenced to death in absentia but returned to Sudan from his home in Britain to be publicly reconciled with Nimeiry.

Later they disagreed over the Camp David agreement. Nimeiry had supported the Egyptians, in defiance of the rest of the Arab world.

Nimeiry's motives for the gamble with Islamic law — a system shunned by Egypt — are twofold. Abroad he wants to gratify Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Emirates, from which he desperately needs money and free oil. (Khartoum was totally without power throughout last month).

At home he wants to appease the Muslim Brotherhood. Its secretary-general, Dr Hassan el-Turabi, is his legal adviser and Attorney-General, as well as being Sadiq's most formidable intellectual opponent and his brother-in-law.

Before the latest round-up, according to Amnesty International, there were 200 to 300 political detainees in Sudan.

The arrest of Sadiq el-Mahdi and his associates at the head of Ansar carries a threat of anarchy among Sudan's 20-million people. Although a devout Muslim, he has dismissed Nimeiry's imposition of religious law as irrelevant at a time, when the country is bankrupt and divided.

STARVING

Shortly before his arrest, Sadiq addressed 500 000 followers at Aba island, his movement's spiritual focal point, 150 miles south of Khartoum. He has said: "If a man's family is starving and he steals to feed them, we cannot rule that his hand should be cut off."

Sadiq is a great-grandson of the first Mahdi, whose followers conquered Sudan and killed General Gordon in 1885. Tall, courteous and eloquent, he studied at St John's College, Oxford, and in recent years has been a visiting fellow at St Anthony's.

The latest arrests have not been mentioned by Khartoum radio. Nor has the jailing of 12 army officers a fortnight ago on suspicion of planning a coup.

At any clear sign of disintegration, the Egyptian army could be called in by Nimeiry. He has been assiduously strengthening his relations with President Hosni Mubarak.

The United States might also give help, if there seemed any risk that its bête noir, Colonel Qadhafi, could seize an advantage from Sudanese civil conflict, perhaps in alliance with the Marxist-inclined Colonel Mengistu of Ethiopia.

Sadiq el-Mahdi has always resisted the idea of violent opposition to Nimeiry. In 1970 about 3 000 Ansar rebels on Aba island were killed by government troops. The Imam, Sadiq's uncle, was shot trying to escape.

After his arrest last Sunday, Sadiq was taken for interrogation to a new security block, run by the President's brother and set up by the Egyptians and the CIA. — Own Correspondent.

ZIMBABWE (362) FM 2/12/8:

Row over schools

At last week's industrial symposium organised by the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, the loudest applause of the day was reserved for the speaker who urged the Robert Mugabe government to rethink its policy on private schools. Business leaders say that no previous single act of government policy has upset the white community as much as Education Minister Dzingai Mutumbuka's threat to close the privately-owned schools if they fail to comply with State policy by January next year.

The demands made on the schools are obviously totally unrealistic and it was no surprise when, at the weekend, the Minister announced a compromise which gives the schools time to meet certain quota demands. But business leaders fear that the damage has been done. The writing is on the wall for the private schools and many whites with young children are likely to conclude that it is time to move on.

The row erupted at the end of October when Mugabe sharply criticised the private schools for seeking to maintain white elitism in a socialist society. Mutumbuka followed this up with three unattainable demands. He said the private schools must, when they re-open in 1984, have a majority of black pupils — 60% of total enrolments must be black. He called, too, for a similar majority of black staff in the schools and added that the fees in the private schools must be reduced to a maximum of Z$500 a term, inclusive of boarding fees.

The schools, which cater for some 10 000

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ago barely exceeds Z$25m. Industrialists at the Harare meeting hammered away at the need to improve the investment climate, with economist John Robertson delivering an outspoken paper in which he called for substantial deregulation of the economy and a return to reliance on market forces.

Unfortunately, no government ministers were there to hear the private sector economists — and representatives of the Central Bank and the Ministry of Finance — calling for export-led growth. Too much of the discussion was bogged down over how Zimbabwe might attract foreign investment. It was difficult to avoid the conclusion that Zimbabwean industry is naively unrealistic in its expectations that the US cavalry, in the guise of foreign investment, will arrive in the nick of time to pull its chestnuts out of the fire.

The good news, though, was the dialogue between private and public sectors — the second such session in only a week, reflecting what business hopes is a more pragmatic attitude within the government. But on the economic front itself, there was little immediate optimism.

As Harare sweltered in the November sun, farmers' faces grew longer at the late start to the season with little rain having fallen in the main crop areas. University economist Tony Hawkins predicted an upturn in the second half of 1984 "provided there are good rains and the fragile and pedestrian world economic recovery remains on course" — two very big provisos.

in my opinion

Muzorewa's activities being probed by Mugabe

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government is investigating the activities in foreign countries of detained United African National Council leader Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the House of Assembly was told yesterday.

The Minister of State (Security) in the Prime Minister's office, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, told the House that should investigations prove the Bishop was involved in "wrong-doing" he would be charged.

Mr Munangagwa was replying on behalf of the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, to a question raised by Mr Tony Berkhout (RF Central), who wanted to know when the cleric would appear in court.

He said it was not in the State's interest to say when the Bishop would appear because "inquiries involved incidences which took place in other countries".

However, the Bishop's detention would be subject to review by the detentions review tribunal and the government would abide by the tribunal's decision.

Asked by the Republican Front leader, Mr Ian Smith, why the government had not left the cleric alone until investigations were complete, Mr Munangagwa said: "We were aware of his intentions on the trip he wanted to undertake to South Africa."

Asked why the government did not confiscate the Bishop's passport instead of detaining him, the Minister replied: "The passport does not travel. It's the person who travels."

Brigadier John Probert (RF Borrowdale) said the Bishop's continued detention was doing the country a lot of harm.

He claimed that by detaining the Bishop, the government was being more "oppressive" than South Africa.

Bishop Muzorewa was arrested on October 31 in Operation Chinyawada (Scorpion) which Mr Munangagwa said was to check on subversive elements connected with South African bandits.

The cleric's arrest came soon after a six-week tour of Israel.

The Bishop was later accused of plotting a coup, but the cleric denied the charge at a Press conference. He claimedhe was being harrassed by the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union. —Sapa.

SUNDAY TRIBUNE, DECEMBER 4, 1983

Blunt talking in Harare

Secretary for Finance takes Zimbabwe Government to task

Harare Correspondent

STARTLING admissions of Government shortcomings have been made at a business conference in Harare by none other than the Secretary for Finance. The 200 industrialists present heard that many of their problems had been caused by official policies.

Mr Tom Mswaka said overspending, price controls and very little attention to increasing capital resources were part of the reason for the troubles of the private sector.

And, as if aware of how far removed his thinking was from the accepted official line, he said some listeners would think "I should be sent to Chikurubi" — the notorious maximum security prison.

The secretary warned that the country would not benefit automatically from a world economic recovery. This would depend on how wisely it was managed — virtual heresy in the light of most public statements by politicians.

Then he said the level of government expenditure after independence had been unsustainable because of the world recession. The combination of the recession and price controls had contributed to industry's plight.

He hinted that spending had been wrongly channelled, towards consumption rather than production.

"Zimbabwe has been eating away its capital base as neither the public nor private sector has done any replenishment investment of any magnitude.

"Price control has most probably seriously affected profitability to the point where industry has not been able to generate investable surplus."

As if that were not enough, he said price control should now aim to help industry and the economic recovery.

Actually saying that the Government could help the private sector rather than the other way around is a complete about turn of the official line.

Another contentious issue has been official policy towards foreign investment. Considerable criticism has been directed at the Government about its attitudes and this too Dr Mswaka acknowleged, while saying that the committee responsible for deciding on investment applications was going to be overhauled.

That was another welcome surprise for the conference. The delegates were expecting another defence of policy and a routine attack on the private sector's attitude.

But he also showed a good grasp of the background of industry, a background which has led to many of its problems.

"Over the period of UDI the economy was not only closed to the world and insulated from external buffeting, but was internally orientated, heavily protected and in a number of areas producing at a high cost."

This is a diplomatic way of saying it must be more efficient and outgoing to compete on world markets.

"It is my fear that we have not wisely used the period of recession to obtain a measure of transformation of our economy from a high to low cost producer or from a closed to an open one. We could well find ourselves lagging far behind in the recovery when it comes."

In the context of Zimbabwe today this was an astonishing and brave speech. There can be no doubt it will have caused something of a stir in the corridors of power.

SHORTAGES I

Panic buying and fights in Zimbabwe's rush for meal

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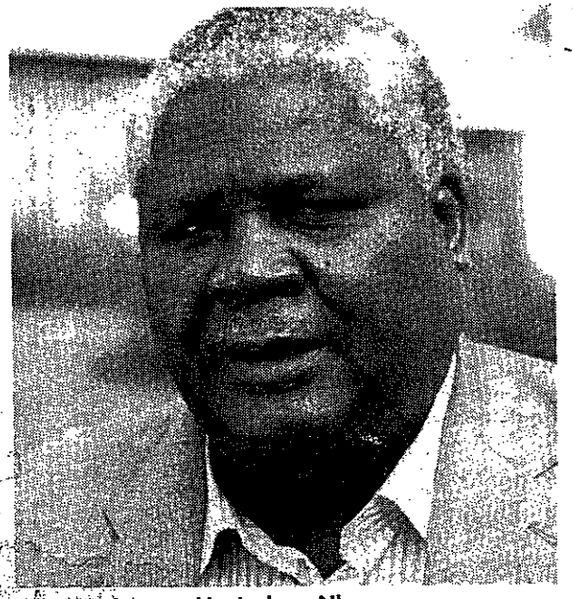

Mr Joshua Nkomo

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Shopkeepers have reported panic buying and even fights as a mealie meal shortage grips parts of Zimbabwe.

And at some garages there were queues for petrol as rumours of an impending shortage or petrol rationing flew around the cities.

The maize shortage comes after the country's grain marketing board cut back on supplies to the millers.

In Beit Bridge, a businessman, Mr Raymond Roth, told a newspaper reporter that the situation was "extremely critical".

He added: "People are fighting for the mealie meal."

A supermarket in the mining town of Zvishavane reported that people were sleeping overnight outside, hoping to get meal when the doors opened in the morning.

At Victoria Falls, 64 tons of meal were sold in "record time", according to a local shopkeeper.

The cuts in the maize deliveries come at a time when demand is rising as the Christmas season approaches.

In Parliament, the Zapu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, ignoring other pressing national issues, said the meal shortage had "reached crisis point".

He said there was a crisis in Hwange when workers refused to go to work because they had not obtained their supply of meal.

The outspoken Zanu (PF) Manicaland MP, Mr Edgar Tekere, agreed with Mr Nkomo and said he, too, had received a delegation of commercial farmers who had a strike on their hands when they could not get food for their labour forces.

Mr Tekere also said that some Zimbabwean maize was being smuggled across the border into drought-stricken Mozambique. A truckload of Zimbabwean maize had been stopped by police 2,5 km inside Mozambique, he added.

The Agriculture Minister, Senator Denis Norman, told the House of Assembly that dealers were hoarding meal and speculating that there would be a price increase.

The Minister said the country had enough maize to feed at least five million people until the harvest next year. But problems of distribution would have to be solved.

The queues at petrol stations were worst in Bulawayo where lines of up to 45 cars were seen, bringing back memories of last year's Christmas-New Year season fuel drought when huge queues were the order of the day.

Rumours doing the rounds said petrol rationing was imminent, there was to be a 50 percent fuel price increase, and there was only about four days' petrol left in the country at normal rates of use.

The Bulawayo Chronicle claimed a South African radio broadcast saying there would soon be rationing in Zimbabwe had started the panic.

"There has been no official mention of a petrol shortage or rationing and it is believed the rumours and the SABC broadcast are totally unfounded," said the Government-controlled paper.

SA's neighbours 'can't curb ANC'

From NEIL LURSSEN
Argus Foreign Service

WASHINGTON. — An American expert on security says that, even if they want to, Mozambique and Zimbabwe would find it very difficult to meet South African demands that they curb the activities of African National Congress activists.

Professor Michael Clough, of the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, was speaking at a seminar held by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University.

Professor Clough, a specialist on Mozambique and Zimbabwe, said South Africa was making demands on those countries in return for reducing "SA support for their insurgents" and reducing "destabilisation".

"Little problem over bases"

One was that Mozambique and Zimbabwe give no active support for ANC guerrillas, such as permitting bases and helping logistically.

There was little problem in reaching an agreement here. Zimbabwe had never provided such support, and it was clear that Mozambique was complying, too. Sabotage carried out in South Africa did not require large-scale bases.

But South Africa was also demanding efforts to ensure that ANC activities did not extend through Mozambique and Zimbabwe into South Africa.

In almost all the talks between the countries, South Africa had demanded direct communication between its security officials and security officials of Mozambique and Zimbabwe on ANC activities.

"It is going to be very difficult for Mozambique and Zimbabwe to ever fully meet the South African demands at this level — even if they make the commitment," Professor Clough said.

"Border request is naive"

It was not a question of closing down bases. It was naive to think that Mozambique and Zimbabwe could control their long, "porous" borders with the Republic.

Also, South Africa was asking them to prevent what they saw as the liberation of South Africa, and this caused them severe political problems.

Yet another serious problem was compliance with an agreement. "If a bomb explodes in South Africa, how do you demonstrate that there has not been a violation of the agreement?"

Another South African desire could not be met by either country — that they reduce their level of anti-South African rhetoric.

"For these reasons, there was a very serious problem in trying to achieve "rules of the game" between the countries in the region, as envisaged in US policy towards Southern Africa, Professor Clough said.

detente dilemma

ZIMBABWE

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US scenario threatened

Zimbabwe needs America's monetary aid; the Reagan adminstration needs Zimbabwean stability in Southern Africa. But relations are deteriorating and in the middle of both points of view are Capitol Hill and Congress.



Argus Foreign Service

WASHINGTON. — The deteriorating relations between the United States and Zimbabwe threaten a key element in the Reagan administration's regional plan for stability in Southern Africa.

Amid a relatively sudden worsening in their relations over the past year, both countries have tried to keep alive some of the high hopes they had of each other when Zimbabwe became independent in 1981.

Zimbabwe, facing enormous economic problems, hopes mainly for a continuation of the huge amounts of aid — more than R200-million so far — it has received from America since independence.

But the Reagan administration is finding it increasingly more difficult to justify parting with this kind of money as shifts in Zimbabwe's domestic politics push it further away from the Western democratic and economic ideals that Washington would like to see followed in Africa.

Interests

Washington nevertheless retains some hope that Zimbabwe will at least come close to fulfilling the important part envisaged for it in the Reagan administration's grand plan for Southern Africa.

Asked at a lunch with foreign correspondents here last week whether the administration was planning to cut back its aid, Dr Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, said: "We are not going to walk away from our interests (in Zimbabwe)."

In various statements over the past year the Reagan administration has outlined a policy of encouraging the states of Southern Africa to submerge their political differences and work together to promote mutual progress and stability.

A positive move away from apartheid in South Africa is seen as an essential element for the plan to work.

Zimbabwe's role in the Washington scenario appears to be to build on the relatively strong economy and free-enterprise system it inherited at independence to provide an encouraging example to other states, including apartheid South Africa and Marxist Mozambique.

In a keynote speech last June outlining the Reagan administration's Africa policy, the Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, said that while Zimbabwe faced serious difficulties "its leadership has committed itself to the principles of political reconciliation and a mixed economy".

"Because of its key geographic position and relatively strong economic base, it is important that Zimbabwe not fail as a new nation."

The Reagan administration's ideals, however, have increasingly conflicted with the harsh realities of tribal politics in Zimbabwe and with the Mugabe government's extreme socialist ideals and its loyalty to the politics of the Third World.

Non-aligned

"We are non-aligned and we shape our own direction," Zimbabwe's Deputy-Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, told an American reporter in Harare recently.

But the United States, according to opinions expressed by some officials, believes that foreign relations cannot be "compartmentalised" and that Zimbabwe cannot expect to continue receiving substantial aid from the US while opposing American interests, not only in Southern Africa but in other parts of the world.

Support for retaliatory cuts in the aid has been generated in Congress as well as in the Reagan administration by a series of acts by Zimbabwe that were regarded as hostile in Washington.

In 1981 Zimbabwe angered Washington by supporting a harsh condemnation by the non-aligned movement of American policy in the Middle East and America's alleged "colonisation" of Puerto Rico.

US diplomats are reported to have again raised the issue of aid when they warned Zimbabwe against supporting a Cuban move to raise the Puerto Rico issue at the United Nations General Assembly.

In the UN Zimbabwe has repeatedly chosen to stand with its Third World allies in taking positions against the United States on issues including Nicaragua and Chad.

US diplomats made a count of votes at the UN that showed Zimbabwe exceeded even the Soviet Union in voting against the US.

Relations between Harare and Washington deteriorated sharply this year in spite of a visit by Mr Robert Mugabe that appeared to be aimed at defrosting the situation.

Even while Mr Mugabe was in the US his country abstained in the Security Council on an American-sponsored resolution deploring the Soviet downing of the Korean airliner.

The State Department was able to stifle a move in Congress to halve US aid to Zimbabwe in retaliation for the abstention.

But indignation rose again when Zimbabwe co-sponsored a resolution condemning the US invasion of Grenada.

Relations soured further when the Zimbabwe Foreign Ministry boycotted a memorial service in Harare held by the American and French embassies to commemmorate the soldiers killed in the lorry-bomb attacks on the barracks in Beirut.

Provision

Congress recently voted to grant the full R75-million in Zimbabwe aid requested by the Reagan administration for 1983 but tacked on a provision for cutting off aid to countries consistently opposing US foreign policy.

It remains to be seen whether the warning will be heeded in Harare, where there is thought to be a widespread failure to understand that the allocation of foreign aid is decided ultimately by Congress and not by the White House.

The Reagan administration appears to be willing to go to some lengths to maintain good relations with Zimbabwe to preserve its Southern Africa strategy.

But the administration's options are limited by the current mood on Capitol Hill.

Zimbabwe's poor maize stocks provoke rioting

IN THEORY there is enough maize in Zimbabwe to last until the next harvest time in June, but in practice something has gone horribly wrong.

In some areas people have gone without their staple maize meal for weeks, farm and industrial workers have threatened to strike because they didn't receive their meal rations and shops with the precious commodity have been mobbed.

An exasperated Bulawayo shopkeeper said this week that he didn't want to stock meal any more. Most of his last consignment was either stolen or ripped open and his shop was damaged in the pandemonium.

The ever-optimistic Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, has assured parliament there are "ample" stocks of maize and that the government would shortly be announcing a new national maize distribution plan.

The chief villain is undoubtedly the past two years of drought which has seen the national maize harvest slide from a record two-million tons in 1981, to 1,4-million tons last year and a miserable 620 000 tons this year.

The latest harvest is the lowest in more than a decade



IAN SMITH ... query on cuts



DENIS NORMAN ... "ample" stocks

From ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare

(during which time the population has increased by more than 1,5-million) and is well below the average of about 89 000 tons for the past two decades.

But thanks to the bumper crop in 1981 and the reasonable one last year, there was still a stockpile of about 600 000 tons which could last until next harvest, provided the offtake was controlled, Mr Bill Long, general manager of the parastatal marketing authority — the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) — said in an interview.

To this end millers were currently being allocated 95% of what they had received on average from April to July this year.

This inevitably led to suffering in some areas, partly because of distribution difficulties and partly because of hoarding by consumers who feared a shortage, he said.

Another big strain on the supply problem was the smuggling of maize meal into Mozambique and consumption by thousands of hungry Mozambican refugees, which together could have accounted for as much as 50 000 tons this year.

Peasant farmers far from distribution points — who, like the bigger commercial farmers, had unwisely sold all their maize to the GMB because they could buy back subsidised meal at a lower price — were now stranded without carry-over stocks. The subsidy was scrapped in September.

A rural shopkeeper in the south western province of Matabeleland said he had recently sold five tons of maize in two hours ... more than his normal weekly sales.

It would be clear in a week whether it was just panic buying or whether there was a real shortage.

But from the difficulty many businessmen had getting meal from millers in Bulawayo he found it hard to believe their allocation had been cut only 5%.

The Republican Front party leader and former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, said in parliament it appeared that the cut had been 5% in some places and 100% in others.

According to an informed source, [illegible]

Zimbabwe has, in fact, assumed the regional responsibility of supplying grain to its poorer neighbours.

In general there has been a mixed reception from farmers of the 1984 pre-planting producers' price for maize of R153 a ton. Some say that, if weather conditions permit only one planting, the price would be quite profitable.

It was last increased in 1981 from R93 to R131 a ton.

The ideal weather and big price hike in 1981 were rewarded with a record crop.

The government's immediate priority, however, remains the pressing meal distribution problem.

A truck driver in the eastern province of Manicaland, who was recently mobbed by an impatient crowd which demanded to buy the meal he was delivering to stores, put it quite bluntly. "Somebody is going to get hurt if this shortage continues because no-one is going to stand by and starve while mealie meal is being delivered somewhere else," he said.

named, the cutback was closer to 15% in real terms because the GMB had based its allocation on a percentage of a four months period during which demand from millers had been unnaturally low because of government maize meal handouts in the peak of its drought relief programme.

He said GMB allocations should have been reduced six months ago but now he believed — since the government clearly did not want to import maize — the best way to get a more equitable distribution would be to ration meal to individuals.

Some parliamentarians have expressed concern at alleged favouritism in meal distribution, which has resulted in some people having plenty while their neighbours went hungry.

The GMB says it just supplies millers who, in turn, say they are sending more meal to rural areas than ever before but have no control over it once it leaves their premises.

Other MPs have expressed fears about the next harvest. Late planting, no guarantee that the drought has broken and a maize price insufficient to spur farmers to plant more, have been named as factors portending a bleak harvest.

But Sen Norman says available indications persuade him there is a good prospect of attaining a 1,5-million ton harvest which would feed the country and allow for a small stockpile.

Mugabe threatens to nationalise millers

(362) Mercury 12/12/83

HARARE—Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, Robert Mugabe, said his Government might nationalise milling companies if investigations showed they were responsible for a current shortage of maize meal.

He told a rally at Gutu, about 220 km south of Harare, that Zimbabwe had sufficient maize supplies and the shortage amounted to sabotage.

Zimbabwe's newspapers have published reports that parts of the country, especially the south western province of Matabeleland, faced serious shortages of the staple food.

Speaking in Parliament on Wednesday, Mr Mugabe accused the millers of being unreliable and said a five-man ministerial committee had been set up to investigate the meal shortage.

Privately-owned milling companies have blamed the shortages on cuts in their maize allocations from the parastatal Grain Marketing Board. The board says that while there have been cuts there should still be enough maize-meal.

Mr Mugabe told the rally his Government had political power but that the economy was still largely controlled by whites, some of whom he accused of trying to discredit his socialist administration. — (Sapa-Reuter)

CAPE Times 15/12/83 362

Jobs, homes, marriages lost after 'prostitute' blitz

HARARE. — Women have lost their homes, their jobs, their pay or had their marriages destroyed as a result of the recent mass round-up of suspected prostitutes, says the new Women's Action Group in an interview published in Harare.

The Women's Action Group, formed in response to the first police round-up, has spoken to women who suffered during and after the exercise, collecting numerous cases of ill-treatment.

In one case a woman was arrested and her baby left at home unattended. Two days later neighbours heard it crying and rushed it to Parirenyatwa Hospital where it recovered after 48 hours without food or liquid.

There were also instances of women being used as police informers, which left people wide open to score-settling. The group believes the use of plainclothes police in the swoops also left women open to abuse. It cited one report of a house being ransacked by men who refused to give their identity.

The group, which is compiling a dossier of grievances, has been told by some women that on their release they were warned not to press any charges.

A seminar is being organized by the group to discuss prostitution, its myths and its social and economic causes.

The group asked the government to be more open about recent events surrounding the blitz to remove the "rampant rumours" and the fear that all women, whether they had been picked up or not, still feel.

It wants to know why the Ministry of Community Development and Women's Affairs has been so quiet and why it has not offered support. — Sapa

Botswana steps up security along border

By NORMAN CHANDLER

BOTSWANA has tightened security on its border with Zimbabwe, the government announced at the weekend.

It was disclosed in Gaborone that Botswana Defence Force (BDF) patrols in the remote border area had been increased as a direct result of across-border incursions into north-east Botswana by units of the Zimbabwe National Army.

The country's Minister of Defence and Information, Mr Daniel Kwelagobe, said "the patrols were insufficiently manned to cover the 600km-long border".

He said their inadequacy was exacerbated by poor communications, and he urged people living near the border to inform the police or the BDF of the presence of strangers in their villages.

Mr Kwelagobe said it was important to have the co-operation of citizens in the efforts to provide maximum security for the nation.

The Minister's statement comes several weeks after Zimbabwe soldiers crossed the border by helicopter and entered Buthale's Village, 80km north-east of Francistown.

The village headman was assaulted, and villagers warned that if they harboured alleged dissidents, fleeing Zimbabwe, their village would be razed.

When the helicopters came, villagers — including more than 130 school-going children — fled into the surrounding bush.

Botswana rushed reinforcements to the border and stationed platoons of soldiers at a number of makeshift camps in the area.

Soon after, Zimbabwe troops again crossed over in the same area.

After that raid a high-ranking Botswana delegation held talks with Zimbabwe officials, in Zimbabwe, to resolve the issue.

The north-east district has been a popular haven for Zimbabweans fleeing from Mr Robert Mugabe's government. Refugees usually keep to the dense bush alongside the national road linking Francistown with the border, and if detected are taken to the Dukwe refugee camp near Francistown.

Some have been returned to Zimbabwe.

Alleged dissidents injured in recent fighting with the army in southern Matabeleland have had their wounds treated at Jubilee Hospital in Francistown.

We're let down by US aid cut — Mugabe

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24/12/83 RDM

Mail Correspondent

HARARE. — Zimbabwe felt let down by the Reagan administration's decision to cut its aid, but relations with the United States had not been adversely affected, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe said in Harare yesterday.

"We still regard the United States as a friend. We are not going to quarrel with a donor or benefactor who decides to withdraw aid to us. We were not entitled to that aid in the first place as a matter of right," Mr Mugabe told a Press conference.

However, Zimbabwe felt let down because it had planned its land resettlement programme with US aid guarantees in mind. The aid reduction would force the government to consider acquiring land for resettlement on a credit basis rather than the cash basis required at present by the country's British-inspired constitution.

"Very few countries have carried out resettlement programmes after decolonisation in the same way as we have had to do — requiring cash all the time. In Kenya, they have had to resort to land bonds. We might have to think about that, a kind of IOU on land," he said.

US State Department officials announced this week that the 1984 aid to Zimbawe would be cut to about R40-million — a reduction of about R35-million.

Since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980, the US has committed about R234-million to Zimbabwe — the largest contribution of any single nation.

Mr Mugabe said he found "extremely objectionable" US State Department suggestions that the aid reduction was linked to Zimbabwe's condemnation of the US invasion of Grenada and its failure to support a US-sponsored United Nations resolution condemning the Soviet Union for shooting down a South Korean airliner.

"Let them reduce their aid to us on more honourable grounds than that," he said.

It would have been preferable if the US had said it did not have enough aid money to go round and explained that recipients would have to suffer, Mr Mugabe said.

But he denied any intention of refusing other US aid.

"Why should we reject it? We are a beneficiary and whatever aid comes to us, provided it has no strings attached, we will accept," he said.

In response to a question, Mr Mugabe said the security situation in Matabeleland province was improving, but that the Botswana Defence Force (BDF) was not co-operating with the Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA) and so there were dissident bases in Botswana.

He denied that ZNA soldiers had fired at a BDF unit during an incident inside Botswana on Tuesday in which a ZNA soldier was killed and said efforts were being made to improve border co-operation between the two armies.

UPI reports that Mr Mugabe denied that the release on Thursday of three detained white air force officers had resulted from his recent talks with the British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, whose government had been quietly lobbying for their release.

"I can assure you that they were released because the detainees review tribunal conducted a review of their cases and recommended their release," he said.

"We are releasing them in good faith, not because we are not convinced that they are wrongdoers but because we do not want to go against the tribunal," he said.

Gloom in Matabeleland after dissidents slay farm family

Argus Africa News Service

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

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HARARE. — A Matabeleland farmer, Mr Charles Loxton, and his wife and daughter were gunned down by dissidents in an attack on their Kezi ranch 100 km south of Bulawayo over the weekend.

Charles's brother, Tony, was killed in a shootout later.

The killing at the start of the Christmas weekend cast a deep gloom here as once again a holiday period became a time of terror and death.

Mr Charles Loxton, aged about 50, his wife, Rose, and their daughter, Julie, aged about 19, were killed when dissidents attacked their farmhouse on Friday evening.

Before they died they got a message through on the police radio to say they were under attack.

18 killed

Mr Tony Loxton, who was staying with a neighbour, was shot dead when farmers went to try to rescue the family. One dissident was killed and the others fled.

Last year at Christmas and New Year, seven whites were killed in Matabeleland and at Easter Senator Paul Savage, his daughter and a friend were killed by dissidents.

The deaths of the Loxton family brought to 18 the number of farmers and members of their families killed in Matabeleland this year alone.

Last month another member of the small Kezi farming community, Mr Joseph van Vuuren, was killed by a gang when he came upon them skinning one of his cattle.

Two days later Mr Trevor Smith, a farmer in the Figtree area, was shot dead on his farm when he went to investigate a report of dissidents in the compound.

Three days later a priest, Brother Mathias Sutterluety, was beaten to death south of Plumtree.

secluded retirement.

Begin's successor, former Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, has not yet shown his full colours. His premiership has so far been characterised by caution and carefulness, and by a continued hard line in foreign and defence policy.

The past year has seen a marked improvement in Israel's key relationship, with the US, which in 1982 was far from enthusiastic about the IDF invasion of Lebanon. The turning point came midway in 1983, when the American contingent in Beirut came under increasing military pressure from the Syrian-aligned anti-Israeli forces — Druse, Shi'ites and Iranians. The mutuality of Israeli-American interests in Lebanon — to clear out the Syrians from Lebanon, reduce Soviet influence in the area and frustrate the anti-government Lebanese internal forces — became crystal clear, and the Israeli-US strategic connection began to take on flesh.

Economically, the country passed through a major crisis in the second half of 1983. Share prices plunged, with bank shares — until then considered the safest popular investment, short and long-term — tumbling by some 40%. This opened the public's eyes to the basic fact of overspending and over-extension. This had resulted in a great deal of popularity for the Begin government and in considerably increased private consumption. The result was unprecedented foreign debt and BoP deficits.

The October crisis, when everything came to a head, forced the resignation of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor, who in his 2½ years in office had overseen an increase of real term wages by some 20% and a slightly higher increase in private consumption. The foreign debt, at the same time, grew annually by more than US$1 billion, reaching by the end of 1983 some US$22 billion.

Aridor's successor, Yigal Cohen-Orgad, has promised austerity, to the extent that the Cabinet will back him (knowing the cost in votes) and the public and trade unions will go along. Cohen-Orgad, who intends slashing the coming fiscal year budget,



US Marines ... caught in the cross-fire

wants to force a 6% drop in real wages and consumption in both 1984 and 1985.

The government has already cut (in 1983) some US$500m from the government budget (this year about US$21 billion) and drastically reduced government subsidies of basic goods and services (bread, milk and electricity prices have risen by 50%, for example). The gnp for 1983, according to Treasury estimates, will amount to US$22 billion, representing a growth of some 2,5% (compared with zero growth in gnp in 1982).

While Aridor focused his unsuccessful efforts on curbing inflation (currently running at about 160% annually), Cohen-Orgad hopes to tackle Israel's basic economic problems by slashing the BoP deficit. Israel's total exports of goods and services (civilian and military) in 1983 stood at US$10,5 billion and its imports (civilian and military) amounted to some US$15,5 billion. The exports were up in real terms by about 2% over 1982.

Discounting military imports (but not Israeli military exports, which are classified among "industrial exports"), the BoP deficit stood at US$3,7 billion in 1983, something less than the US$4 billion originally feared by the Treasury. Israel's total industrial exports stood at around US$5 billion; polished, cut diamonds at about US$1 billion; and agricultural exports at US$500m. Tourism rose in 1983 by 10%-15%, reversing the 1982 (a war year) decline of 5%-8%.

To make up at least part of the deficit, Israel has traditionally received large amounts of aid from Washington and from world Jewry. In 1983, American aid amounts to just over US$2,6 billion — US$1,7 billion of it in military aid (half grant, half loan). Israel is asking Washington for a slight increase in the aid and a conversion of the loan part also into an outright grant.

The conversion is required, according to Israeli officials, because of the country's major debt servicing problem. Some 35% of the US$21 billion government budget is spent in this way. In 1983, Israel paid some US$3,8 billion to service its foreign debt, an amount expected to rise to US$4,2 billion in 1984.

Military expenditure in 1983 amounted to 27% of the annual budget. Education, by comparison, cost US$1,4 billion.

Unemployment stood in 1983 at 4%, which economists consider negligible, meaning that almost everyone who really sought a job found one. Cohen-Orgad's budget-slashing, consumption-cutting austerity policies are expected to push up unemployment in 1984 to 5%-6% and to lead to at least a "minor recession," according to government economists.

Another major government projection for 1984 is that the gnp will grow by 1%-1,5%, mainly because of the expected 5%-6% decline in private consumption and the decline in military expenditure (because of the completion of construction of the new Awali line in southern Lebanon). Exports are expected to increase by 10% to close to US$12 billion, and imports (civilian) to decrease by 1%-1,5%. It is unclear whether military imports will increase or decrease, but the civilian BoP deficit will amount to US$3,1 billion. There is hope that industrial exports will go up by some 15%.

Government officials were unwilling to offer any projections on inflation next year, stressing a hope that it can be kept at "present levels." So far, Cohen-Orgad's policies have pushed up the inflation rate, as expected. The hope is that inflation, at all events, will not exceed the psychological shock barrier of 200%.

ZIMBABWE

Politics retards recovery



Danger is that in an election year sensible economic austerity will be sacrificed in an attempt to gain electoral popularity, writes TONY HAWKINS, the *FM's* Harare correspondent.

Next year promises to be a year of major political developments in Zimbabwe, against a background of economic austerity. In terms of the Lancaster House constitution, Zimbabwe is scheduled to hold a general election by February 1985, but the signs are that — the security situation in Matabeleland permitting — Mugabe will go to the polls in the last quarter of 1984.

Before the elections, though, there will be the crucial congress of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) — the first it will have held in more than 20 years.

This combination of a party congress in May 1984, followed by general elections towards the end of the year, suggests a period of intense political activity, particularly within Zanu-PF itself. White politics are increasingly irrelevant as the white population, currently estimated at 130 000 and forecast to fall to around 100 000 by the end of 1985, dwindles. Republican Front leader Ian Smith is most unlikely to remain in politics after the elections and his party is expected to quietly disintegrate after his

retirement. The so-called independent MPs have attracted little support and no electoral enthusiasm. White voters are increasingly disenchanted with their representatives and increasingly apathetic.

Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu) is likely to keep most of the 20 seats it currently holds in Parliament, assuming that free and fair elections are possible in Matabeleland next year. Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Council (UANC) is expected to be wiped out at the polls, losing its three seats in parliament.

The main focus of interest is Mugabe's party: who will win the all-important position of secretary-general and who will emerge as the man most likely to succeed the Prime Minister. At present, there is no obvious successor. Also vital is what direction party policy will take. Observers in Harare expect the next five months, before the congress, to be dominated by left-wing rhetoric as the combatants jostle for position and canvass popular support.

If this interpretation is at all accurate, then it is economically discouraging. A sustained period of electioneering by hard-line socialists and Marxists seeking to win popular support by shifting the party leftwards can only further damage Zimbabwe's prospects for a lasting economic upturn. Already there are reports that US aid to Zimbabwe will be cut by a third next year while official estimates put the total of private foreign investment in Zimbabwe since independence nearly four years ago at no more than R30m.

Drought effects

Unofficial estimates suggest that real gnp fell at least 3% during 1983, due mainly to a 25% slump in agricultural output caused by last season's severe drought. Hopes of economic resurgence in 1984 are pinned to the arrival of plentiful rains over the next three months and a continuing international economic recovery.

The current farming season has started badly. Farmers say that Zimbabwe is now into a late season, which means that if good crops are to be realised, the rains must last into April along with high temperatures. If plentiful rains do arrive between now and April, then the economy should bottom out as farm incomes recover and agricultural exports increase. This implies that real income will continue to fall during the first half of 1984 but that — weather and the world economy permitting — there could be a modest upturn towards the end of the year.

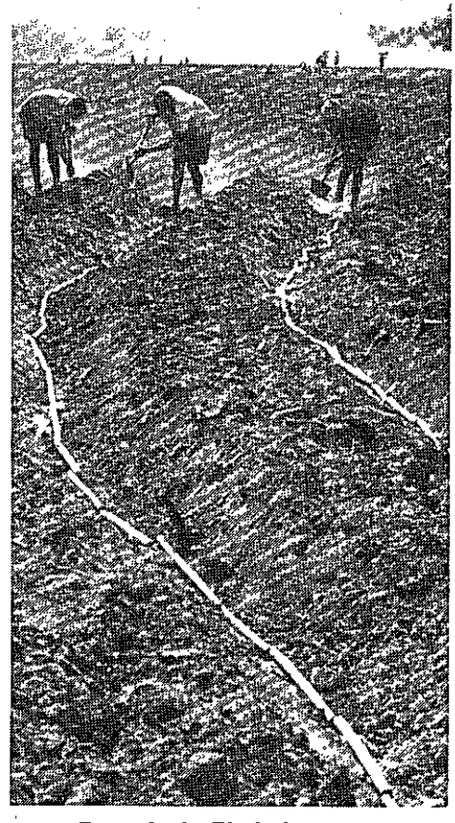
Much will depend on what happens to commodity prices. Zimbabwe is heavily dependent on a handful of metal and agricultural exports spearheaded by tobacco, gold, cotton, ferrochrome, steel, asbestos, beef, nickel and sugar. Prospects for beef, cotton and tobacco look reasonably good, but the outlook for gold, sugar and asbestos is not bright.

In recent weeks there have been some signs of a recovery in the ferrochrome market and there is optimism over Zimbabwean steel exports in 1984. If the weather is kind and metal markets maintain their gentle recovery, then exports, estimated at Z$1,2 billion in 1983 — could rise by as much as Z$200 million or about 16%.

Industrialists say that they detect an increased demand for exports too, but manufactured exports from Zimbabwe — with the exception of steel and ferrochrome — are of relatively minor significance. Major snags for industrial exporters are the relative strength of the Zimbabwe dollar against the rand and the very weak external payments position of neighbouring Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (Sadec) countries, with the notable exception of Botswana.

While the Zimbabwe dollar has depreciated some 30% against major currencies since November 1982, the fall against the rand has been less than 25%, which means exporters continue to face tough competition both within the SA market and from SA exporters.

Industrial output is estimated to have fallen some 4%-5% during 1983, while mining production rose more than 20% in value, reflecting devaluation and higher metal prices, but continued its gentle decline in terms of volume. In 1984, economists expect manufacturing production to continue to decline through the first half of the year,



Drought in Zimbabwe . . . hitting the economy

but they predict a small recovery towards the end of 1984. Mining is expected to reverse its volume decline but value growth will be slower — possibly materially so — than in 1983. Much depends on what happens to the bullion price though.

Agricultural output is expected to be significantly higher — depending on the weather — and this should ensure a substantial rise in farm exports. The tobacco crop target has been raised 16% to 110 000 t, and so has the cotton target. Latest reports suggest that cotton plantings will be at least 30% higher than last year, but maize plantings are estimated to have fallen by 15%.

This year was a bad year for the retail sector, with consumer demand falling sharply in the second half of the year in the wake of higher taxes and substantially increased food prices. The retail sector is likely to remain depressed at least until mid-year, when the assumed boost to farm incomes should result in higher consumer spending.

The signs are that the balance of payments position will remain very tight. In 1983,the current account deficit is estimated to have fallen from Z$530m in 1982 to Z$450m. This is largely the consequence of savage reductions in import quotas on the one hand and reliance on commodity aid programmes to finance imports on the other. No improvement in import quotas can be anticipated at least until the second half of 1984 and probably not until 1985.

Inflation is estimated at 20% for 1983 but there are signs that the worst is now past and that the inflation rate will be falling sharply by the end of 1984. The high inflation rate in the last year is explained by the devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar, higher sales and import duties and increased taxes on fuel, exacerbated by the steep increase in food prices at the beginning of September. A further hike in food prices is forecast by mid-1984 as the government further reduces food subsidies, but in the second half of the year inflation should be falling, with the result that in 1984 the rate should be no more than 15%.

All of which tends to suggest that 1984 will be a difficult year economically as well as politically. In addition to these problems, Mugabe will have to cope with the dissident crisis in Matabeleland, exacerbated, the Zimbabwe government says, by a deliberate policy of destabilisation master-minded from Pretoria.

What makes Mugabe's task so difficult is the need to maintain austerity policies at a time of high inflation and when his political colleagues are anxious to relax wage, fiscal and monetary policies in an attempt to boost their electoral popularity. This too is a worrying aspect for foreign lenders, bankers and businessmen, anxious to see the government maintain its policy of restraint. The danger is that premature politically inspired relaxation will dissipate the hard-won gains of the past 18 months of economic restraint.

secluded retirement.

Begin's successor, former Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, has not yet shown his full colours. His premiership has so far been characterised by caution and carefulness, and by a continued hard line in foreign and defence policy.

The past year has seen a marked improvement in Israel's key relationship, with the US, which in 1982 was far from enthusiastic about the IDF invasion of Lebanon. The turning point came midway in 1983, when the American contingent in Beirut came under increasing military pressure from the Syrian-aligned anti-Israeli forces — Druse, Shi'ites and Iranians. The mutuality of Israeli-American interests in Lebanon — to clear out the Syrians from Lebanon, reduce Soviet influence in the area and frustrate the anti-government Lebanese internal forces — became crystal clear, and the Israeli-US strategic connection began to take on flesh.

Economically, the country passed through a major crisis in the second half of 1983. Share prices plunged, with bank shares — until then considered the safest popular investment, short and long-term — tumbling by some 40%. This opened the public's eyes to the basic fact of overspending and over-extension. This had resulted in a great deal of popularity for the Begin government and in considerably increased private consumption. The result was unprecedented foreign debt and BoP deficits.

The October crisis, when everything came to a head, forced the resignation of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor, who in his 2½ years in office had overseen an increase of real term wages by some 20% and a slightly higher increase in private consumption. The foreign debt, at the same time, grew annually by more than US$1 billion, reaching by the end of 1983 some US$22 billion.

Aridor's successor, Yigal Cohen-Orgad, has promised austerity, to the extent that the Cabinet will back him (knowing the cost in votes) and the public and trade unions will go along. Cohen-Orgad, who intends slashing the coming fiscal year budget,



US Marines ... caught in the cross-fire

wants to force a 6% drop in real wages and consumption in both 1984 and 1985.

The government has already cut (in 1983) some US$500m from the government budget (this year about US$21 billion) and drastically reduced government subsidies of basic goods and services (bread, milk and electricity prices have risen by 50%, for example). The gnp for 1983, according to Treasury estimates, will amount to US$22 billion, representing a growth of some 2,5% (compared with zero growth in gnp in 1982).

While Aridor focused his unsuccessful efforts on curbing inflation (currently running at about 160% annually), Cohen-Orgad hopes to tackle Israel's basic economic problems by slashing the BoP deficit. Israel's total exports of goods and services (civilian and military) in 1983 stood at US$10,5 billion and its imports (civilian and military) amounted to some US$15,5 billion. The exports were up in real terms by about 2% over 1982.

Discounting military imports (but not Israeli military exports, which are classified among "industrial exports"), the BoP deficit stood at US$3,7 billion in 1983, something less than the US$4 billion originally feared by the Treasury. Israel's total industrial exports stood at around US$5 billion; polished, cut diamonds at about US$1 billion; and agricultural exports at US$500m. Tourism rose in 1983 by 10%-15%, reversing the 1982 (a war year) decline of 5%-8%.

To make up at least part of the deficit, Israel has traditionally received large amounts of aid from Washington and from world Jewry. In 1983, American aid amounts to just over US$2,6 billion — US$1,7 billion of it in military aid (half grant, half loan). Israel is asking Washington for a slight increase in the aid and a conversion of the loan part also into an outright grant.

The conversion is required, according to Israeli officials, because of the country's major debt servicing problem. Some 35% of the US$21 billion government budget is spent in this way. In 1983, Israel paid some US$3,8 billion to service its foreign debt, an amount expected to rise to US$4,2 billion in 1984.

Military expenditure in 1983 amounted to 27% of the annual budget. Education, by comparison, cost US$1,4 billion.

Unemployment stood in 1983 at 4%, which economists consider negligible, meaning that almost everyone who really sought a job found one. Cohen-Orgad's budget-slashing, consumption-cutting austerity policies are expected to push up unemployment in 1984 to 5%-6% and to lead to at least a "minor recession," according to government economists.

Another major government projection for 1984 is that the gnp will grow by 1%-1,5%, mainly because of the expected 5%-6% decline in private consumption and the decline in military expenditure (because of the completion of construction of the new Awali line in southern Lebanon). Exports are expected to increase by 10% to close to US$12 billion, and imports (civilian) to decrease by 1%-1,5%. It is unclear whether military imports will increase or decrease, but the civilian BoP deficit will amount to US$3,1 billion. There is hope that industrial exports will go up by some 15%.

Government officials were unwilling to offer any projections on inflation next year, stressing a hope that it can be kept at "present levels." So far, Cohen-Orgad's policies have pushed up the inflation rate, as expected. The hope is that inflation, at all events, will not exceed the psychological shock barrier of 200%.

ZIMBABWE

Politics retards recovery



Danger is that in an election year sensible economic austerity will be sacrificed in an attempt to gain electoral popularity, writes TONY HAWKINS, the *FM's* Harare correspondent.

Next year promises to be a year of major political developments in Zimbabwe, against a background of economic austerity. In terms of the Lancaster House constitution, Zimbabwe is scheduled to hold a general election by February 1985, but the signs are that — the security situation in Matabeleland permitting — Mugabe will go to the polls in the last quarter of 1984.

Before the elections, though, there will be the crucial congress of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) — the first it will have held in more than 20 years.

This combination of a party congress in May 1984, followed by general elections towards the end of the year, suggests a period of intense political activity, particularly within Zanu-PF itself. White politics are increasingly irrelevant as the white population, currently estimated at 130 000 and forecast to fall to around 100 000 by the end of 1985, dwindles. Republican Front leader Ian Smith is most unlikely to remain in politics after the elections and his party is expected to quietly disintegrate after his

Resettlement plans in trouble

31/12/83

(862) Star

The Star's Foreign News Service

LONDON — Zimbabwe's resettlement programme, crucial to satisfying the post-independence expectations of the black population, is running into trouble.

Writing in the Observer, Mr Allister Sparks, former editor of the Rand Daily Mail, says this was exacerbated last week when the United States cut its aid to Zimbabwe by nearly half, reducing the already inadequate funds needed for the programme's implementation.

Land, rather than the right to vote, was the main driving force behind the war which ended white minority rule and gave Zimbabwe its first black government, he adds.

Mr Mugabe drew support for his guerilla forces by promising the black peasants that he would give them back their land when independence was won.

His political future could hinge on how far he can deliver on that promise.

Mr Mugabe's economic advisers have warned him that if too much farmland is transferred from the whites to the black peasants, not only will Zimbabwe soon cease to be one of the few countries in Africa that can feed itself, but its population, which is one of the fastest-growing in the world, could be headed for famine before the end of the century.

At the same time his political advisers have warned that if too little is transferred, the Government could soon run into a crisis of unfulfilled expectations.

A Land Acquisition Bill, due to be law in February, has been drafted giving the Minister of Lands power to confiscate "under-utilised" land, either whole farms or portions of farms.

Thornhill saga is over, but saboteurs may never be known

(362) Star 31/12/83

The Star Bureau

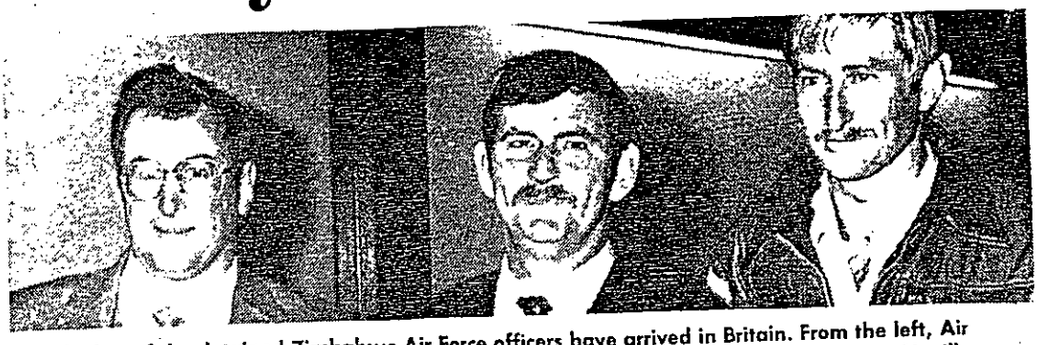
LONDON — The identity of whoever was responsible for placing explosives in a dozen fighter aircraft which blew up at Zimbabwe's main air base in July last year may never become public knowledge.

The release of the last three air force officers detained in connection with the Thornhill sabotage arrived in Britain yesterday — and is the closest thing to an admission that they were innocent of complicity — scapegoats in an investigation which went disastrously wrong.

Speculation has revolved around diverse theories - that the operation was carried out by embittered former Rhodesians, by South Africans or by members of the minority Zipra faction in the armed forces.

But Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, former Deputy Commander of the Zimbabwe Air Force, was not convinced by these theories although he said he had no idea who was responsible for the sabotage.

"I wish I did. There are various theories and various possibilities and I suppose it could be one of them. But they are convenient theories, I think."



The last of the detained Zimbabwe Air Force officers have arrived in Britain. From the left, Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd (32), Wing Commander John Cox (36) and Air Lieutenant Neville Weir (24). They said they had been tortured in prison, one man subsequently having nightmares over the incidents. All were overjoyed to be free again.

But the evidence which might have proved the case one way or another has been lost, abandoned in an investigation by incompetent police officers who decided at an early stage, for reasons which remain unclear, that they had to prove a conspiracy by senior white officers and tortured convenient suspects until they "confessed".

Evidence gathered by the Air Force board of inquiry, which was abandoned after the arrest of two of its members, could have proved crucial if followed up in the police investigation.

It includes threads of fabric found at a spot where a hole had been cut in the security fence around Thornhill, which was ignored by forensic investigators. This and other aspects of the case, such as the behaviour of some ex-Zipra personnel at the base, remain unexplained.

With the release of the last airmen, the affair can be expected to pass into history, which will please both the British and Zimbabwean governments, troubled by the strain it has imposed on their relations.

They will find that all has not gone smoothly for the freed airmen. Air Vice-Marshall Slatter, his wife and two children have been living with friends for more than three months, his only income being from social security payments.

It is understood he has been offered a job in the New Year.

Air Commodore Philip Pile is still without a job and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe left Britain for the United States, having failed to find work.

All three men are still waiting for their pension entitlements, understood to run into "tens of thousands" of rands.

The long-term effect of the Thornhill sabotage on the ZAF has also been little short of disastrous. The treatment of the officers has provoked a mass exodus of skilled administrative, flying and maintenance personnel,

Machel honours Mozambican troops

The Star's Foreign News Service

MAPUTO — Troops of the Mozambican contingent which fought in what was then Zimbabwe-Rhodesia with Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanla guerillas were honoured by President Samora Machel yesterday.

Eighty-one members of the 500-strong Frelimo force which, in Mr Machel's words, "faced the shrapnel and bullets of the Smith regime's troops", have just returned from military training courses overseas.

The official Mozambican news agency, AIM, said the men received promotions to commissioned and non-commissioned officer rank in a ceremony held in Maputo Stadium.

The Mozambican force was sent into Zimbabwe-Rhodesia in the closing stages of the war.

Several of its members are believed to have been killed by security forces while fighting with Zanla units and at least 30 were captured and repatriated to Mozambique after the ceasefire.

A second Mozambican contingent, this time of artillery, was sent to Uganda to help the Tanzanian army and local forces topple Idi Amin.

Cameraman filmed Pope's Agca visit

The Star's Foreign News Service

ROME — An Italian television cameraman succeeded in filming the entire meeting on Tuesday between the Pope and Mehmet Ali Agca, the man who tried to kill him, according to Milan's Corriere della Sera.

Cameraman Tommaso Pinini apparently placed his lens against the spyhole in the door to Agca's cell, even though a guard was standing nearby.

Some words, mostly those of the Pope, were also recorded on the video tape but appear to be of little interest, and were made more fragmentary by other sounds which the microphone picked up. The two men spoke in Italian.

It is assumed by those who heard the tape that Agca inquired about his visitor's health, because the Pope is heard replying: "Not too bad ... different ... I can work ... your Mother ... may the Lord give you His grace ... Happy New Year ... a small gift".

The last was said as the Pope gave Agca a box believed to contain a rosary in silver and mother-of-pearl.

After his 25-minute visit, the Pope said that what they had talked about would remain secret. — Associated Press.

Murder of Alcock, five tribal elders: 13 men remanded

As they passed in Mr Alcock's bakkie into the

Chimp might be named ET

By Stuart Flitton

Names ranging from Desmond

ZIMBABWE — GENERAL

1984

JANUARY — DEC,

Will Zimbabwe recover early promise?

Star 4/1/84 (362)

The Harare government desperately needs a respite from the kind of activity which has placed a heavy strain on its inexperience, says Robin Drew of The Star's Foreign News Service.

Zimbabweans were glad to turn their backs on 1983. It was a terrible year for the young country which in April will celebrate the end of its fourth year as an independent state.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe described it as year of immense problems, the most difficult since independence. No one will disagree with that.

Overshadowing the hardships brought about by the worst drought in memory and the depressed state of the economy has been the dreadful loss of life in Matabeleland. The harsh methods adopted by the Government to crush support for rebellious dissidents in the early months of the year have left indelible scars.

No one will ever know how many perished when the army was let loose on the civilian population and there are no great hopes in Harare that the official inquiry into alleged atrocities will shed real light on this unhappy episode.

Mr Joshua Nkomo's flight to Britain in fear of his life focused international attention on Matabeleland. Mr Mugabe came in for harsh criticism in the Western media and his international standing suffered even among organisations genuinely sympathetic to his aims.

The aftermath of the sabotage of a quarter of the Zimbabwe Air Force in mid-1982 carried through to the end of 1983 when the last of the air force officers who had been detained, acquitted and then redetained were finally freed.

Their release closed a chapter which saw relations with Britain dip sharply, though they have since recovered, but leaves unanswered the burning question of who did organise the blowing up of the aircraft.

South Africa-based agents were held to be responsible for the actual act of sabotage which followed earlier devastating threats to stability by Mr Mugabe's enemies.

Acts such as this and the discovery of arms caches on Zapu property, which led to Mr Nkomo's dismissal from the Cabinet in February 1982 and to the continued detention of some of his top lieutenants, are sometimes forgotten in the haste to take Mr Mugabe to task for repressive measures.

Mr Mugabe defends the tough action in Matabeleland with the argument that if it had not been taken, dissident activities would have spread far wider. But the best he could say about the security situation was that it had not worsened.



Mugabe . . . most difficult year since independence.

The murder last month of another white farming family by dissidents was a brutal reminder of the fact that peace is a long way from being established.

A major disappointment of the year was the failure to make any progress in getting to grips with the core of the problem which led to the growth of violent opposition to the Mugabe Government.

The suspicion and distrust between the Shona-dominated ruling Zanu (PF) party and Zapu, which has its power base among the Ndebele people, has hardened.

Mr Nkomo's efforts to convene a national indaba to thrash out differences fell flat and since his return from Britain he has stayed well back in the shadows.

More signposts on the road to a one-party state emerged with the detention of the UANC leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who is still being held on suspicion of plotting the overthrow of the government in some form of conspiracy with Israel and South Africa.

Zimbabwe desperately needs an interval of rest from the kind of activity which has placed such a heavy strain on the ability of a young government and a largely inexperienced administration to handle.

It needs restoration of confidence among the business community and a good rainy season to produce the food and the cash crops for export.

It needs a respite from ill-considered political statements and a greater appreciation of the need to temper demands for an early transformation of society in the light of the realities of a complex and changing pattern of relations both within the country and in the world outside.

Impatience with the rate of change is understandable. The people in power fought hard against the system which they eventually overthrew. They are a long way from achieving the kind of society which in the years in detention and exile they talked of and dreamed about.

There is disillusionment among many at the apparent ease with which the masters have slipped into the same habits of which they were so critical when they were fighting for power.

The new year, with its important congress of the ruling party now scheduled for August, will be a watershed in determining whether Zimbabwe will be able to recover the early promise shown when the prophets of doom were forced to eat their words.

(362) D. Dispatch 4/1/89

Mugabe drops six ministries

HARARE — Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, announced a surprise reshuffle of his cabinet yesterday, dropping six ministries and demoting the controversial Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze.

Only 10 ministries were left untouched out of 32 portfolios. Mr Mugabe cited "financial developments" as one reason for the more streamlined cabinet. He denied that outside pressure, as from the International Monetary Fund, had been a factor.

Dr Ushewokunze, who has been outspokenly critical of the country's judiciary in a number of major court cases that went against the government, clearly lost power in a transfer from Home Affairs to the transport ministry.

The prime minister appointed the legal and parliamentary affairs minister, Mr Eddison Zvobgo, to head a merged ministry containing his department and the previous justice ministry.

He added: "The financial burden is too heavy and we just can't bear to go on doing things as we are doing at the moment. It means there will be some slackening in the reform programme."

Mr Mugabe said seven deputy ministers out of 24 were being dropped as part of a rationalisation programme in which the civil service would also have to be cut in size.

Zimbabwe has been suffering severe financial problems, including an inflation rate of up to 20 per cent, over the past two years exacerbated by a crippling nationwide drought.

The changes, which involved mergers among six ministries and appointment of two ministers without portfolio, concentrated more power in the prime minister's own office.

Mr Mugabe, already defence minister, will also have a new Ministry for Political Affairs and Provincial Development Co-ordination, headed by the former mines minister, Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, working in the prime minister's office.

Mr Mugabe said there would soon be a major restructuring of the country's eight provinces, in which each would be headed by a governor representing the central authorities, to ensure greater development in the rural areas.

Some, but not all, of the deputy ministers axed yesterday would be appointed to those positions, he added.

Key ministers retaining their portfolios included the finance minister, Mr Bernard Chidzero and the foreign affairs minister, Mr Witness Mangwende. — SAPA-RNS.

SA apologises after envoy's arm broken

Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — The South African Government has apologised to Zimbabwe after Harare's deputy trade commissioner in this country was assaulted and his arm broken by a traffic officer.

Mr David Buyanga was assaulted by a Transvaal Provincial Administration officer after being stopped at a roadblock near Louis Trichardt on December 29.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today he heard of the incident that evening with "deep regret and disappointment".

He immediately instructed the Director-General of Foreign Affairs to investigate and asked the head of protocol and desk officer for Zimbabwe to visit Mr Buyanga to offer his and the Government's apologies. This was done on December 31.

South Africa's representative in Harare was told to pass on the South African Government's regret to the Zimbabwe Government and to inform them that a full investigation had been launched by the South African Police and the Administrator of the Transvaal.

Very serious

Mr Botha also said the Administrator had asked that his sympathies be conveyed to Mr Buyanga.

The South African Government regarded the incident very seriously. Not only were representatives of foreign governments entitled to courteous treatment but so too were the South African public regardless of their colour.

After the incident Mr Buyanga was apparently taken to the South African Police post at Louis Trichardt and Mr Botha thanked them for their help.

Mr Buyanga had also asked the Department of Foreign Affairs to thank the police.

Mr Botha said he had ordered that every assistance be given Mr Buyanga on travel arrangements and medical attention.

Resist arrest

The Transvaal's deputy Provincial Secretary, Mr Schalk Brits, said today he was aware of the incident in which Mr Buyanga's arm was broken "between the shoulder and elbow".

From statements before him, Mr Brits said it seemed the Zimbabwean had refused to allow officers to search his car when stopped at the roadblock.

"He also apparently refused to give his particulars to the officials," and had resisted arrest.

Mr Brits said he was still studying the statements of his officials.

A police spokesman, Major H A P Nel, said Mr Buyanga was taken to Louis Trichardt police station but had refused to lay a charge pending advice from his mission in Johannesburg.

ZIMBABWE

Argus 5/1/84 362

Many heave a sigh as Ushewokunze goes

ROBIN DREW of the Argus Foreign Service reports from Harare on the fear with which the former Minister of Home Affairs was regarded by a considerable section of the public

DR Herbert Ushewokunze who has been moved from the powerful post of Minister of Home Affairs to take charge of the Ministry of Transport did more to destabilise Zimbabwe in the past two years than many of its enemies did.

There were shudders when the Minister who had been chopped from the Cabinet in October 1981 for defying the Prime Minister was brought back in February 1982, this time to Home Affairs instead of Health, his previous portfolio.

During his term of office as Health Minister, he was widely blamed in medical circles for the mass of resignations that plagued the health service.

He lost his post then for twice challenging Mr Mugabe's authority by open criticism of the Public Service Commission, which falls under the Prime Minister, for blocking his candidates for top medical jobs.

But it was as Minister of Home Affairs with responsibility for the police and the maintenance of law and order that the Durban-educated doctor really made his presence felt, provided as he was with sweeping powers of detention under the state of emergency.

A series of blistering attacks on the judiciary, including an accusation that the judges were sowing the seeds of revolt against the Government; defiance of court orders; and his issue of a string of detention orders made Dr Ushewokunze's name one to be feared.

His flair for the dramatic was given free rein in Parliament when he spoke on law and order matters.

There was the occasion, for example, when he was asked about the numbers of people in detention. Pretending to go through half a dozen thick box files laid on the table of the House while he kept Parliament in suspense, he eventually drew a single sheet of paper from his pocket and in measured tones declared that it was not not in the public interest to make this information available.

Dr Ushewokunze is given to dressing for the part. Soon after his appointment as Minister in charge of the police, he appeared in public in a sub-inspector's uniform which he said was the highest rank to which Africans could attain during colonial days.

Orderd arrest

On a number of occasions he took part in police operations, including a car chase through the suburbs.

He established a branch of the police force to deal with political matters, a branch which some observers regarded as a rival to the Central Intelligence Organisation run by the Minister responsible for security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa.

In one incident at Harare Airport he ordered the arrest and detention of a senior white immigration official after an altercation with the official over a 10-minute delay in the departure of an aircraft carrying the Prime Minister on an overseas trip.

The official was lucky. He spent only four nights in detention. But a railwayman, Mr Herbert Moll, spent eight months in prison in terms of various detention orders signed by the Minister for allegedly making derogatory remarks about Mr Mugabe and President Banana. Charges against him in court were withdrawn but he stayed in detention for months.

Revolution talk

When Mr Moll was finally released, Dr Ushewokunze declined to explain to Parliament why he had been kept in prison and said: "He was given his due time in the cooler".

As a member of the ruling party's central committee and a member of the Cabinent, Dr Ushewokunze will no doubt have plenty of opportunity to continue to talk on a variety of subjects, including the need to press ahead with the socialist revolution.

But now he is no longer running one of the ministries concerned with security and is stripped of his powers of detention, many people will feel a sense of relief.

UNITED STATES

ZIMBABWE

Moderates advance

Although the headline writers have understandably focused public attention on the demotion of the controversial Herbert Ushewokunzwe in this week's Zimbabwean Cabinet reshuffle, there are other critically important aspects to consider.

Ushewokunzwe, sacked from the Cabinet in October 1981 for publicly criticising the Public Service, was brought back and promoted to Minister of Home Affairs with responsibility for the police five months later. Now, two years later, he has been demoted to the still important, but politically less sensitive, post of Minister of Transport.

His job as Police Minister goes to the moderate Simbi Mubako, formerly Minister of Justice. It was Mubako who publicly defended the High Court Bench from Ushewokunzwe's angry criticism, especially after the acquittal last year of the six white air force officers accused of sabotage. PM Mugabe's decision to demote Ushewokunzwe and replace him with Mubako will be welcomed by the white community and the legal profession alike.

Also demoted is former Industry Minister Simba Makoni, blamed by some for last year's petrol crisis and, more recently, for the maize shortage. He moves to the altogether less sensitive post of Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture.

Besides these two changes, there are some significant trends in the reshuffle. First, there is the concentration of power in the Prime Minister's Office. The Ministry of Industry and Energy Development has been abolished and replaced with two new ministries, one of Industry and Technology within the Prime Minister's Office and one of Energy and Water Resources within the Deputy Premier's Office.

Promotion

A very significant development, too, is the promotion of Maurice Nyagumbo from his position as Minister of Mines to head a new Department of Political Affairs and Provincial Co-ordination Development also within Mugabe's Office.

Four ministries have been abolished altogether or merged with existing departments, which will help the government's programme of curbing public spending. Mugabe was at pains to tell a news conference that the Cabinet changes were his idea and not those of the International Monetary Fund, which has urged the government to reduce the number of departments.

Just how significant the financial savings are likely to be, remains to be seen, especially as Mugabe is talking of using some of the displaced ministers and deputy ministers in a new role as provincial governors.

Nyagumbo's promotion has fuelled speculation that he will be Mugabe's nominee for the vital vacant post of secretary-general of the ruling Zanu-PF. Elections for this post will be held in August, and now that Nyagumbo has been given a ministerial post of co-ordinating political policy, he would seem to be the logical man for the job. This may well upset two other ministers who have been tipped for the post — Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarariira, who remains in his old job, and Eddison Zvobgo, outspoken Minister for Legal and Constitutional Affairs who has been promoted, his ministry having been merged with the former Justice Department.

Its not possible to read into this reshuffle a directional shift in government. There are bound to be those who will see the Ushewokunzwe demotion and the centralisation of power in the Premier's Office as a move towards the centre. But against that, all the signs are that in an election year — at party congress level if not at national level — policy is likely to lean left, at least rhetorically.

Businessmen will be reassured by the fact that Bernard Chidzero is remaining at the economic helm, but disappointed that Richard Hove stays on as Minister of Trade and Commerce.

SA apologises for assault on envoy

PRETORIA — The South African Government has formally apologised to Zimbabwe over an incident in which Harare's deputy trade commissioner in South Africa was assaulted, and apparently had his arm broken by a Transvaal Provincial Administration traffic officer.

The Zimbabwean envoy, Mr David Buyanga, was assaulted after being stopped at a roadblock near Louis Trichardt on December 29.

In a statement yesterday the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information, Mr Pik Botha, said he had heard of the incident on the eve of December 30.

He had received the news with "deep regret and disappointment."

The Transvaal's deputy Provincial Secretary, Mr Schalk Brits, said yesterday he was aware of the incident in which Mr Buyanga's arm was broken between the shoulder and elbow."

From statements before him, Mr Brits said it seemed Mr Buyanga had refused to allow officials to search his car when stopped at the roadblock.

"He also apparently refused to give his particulars to the officials," said Mr Brits.

Mr Buyanga had resisted arrest.

Mr Brits said he was still studying the statement of the officials involved.

A spokesman for the South African Police in the Northern Transvaal, Major A. P. Nel, said Mr Buyanga was taken to Louis Trichardt police station but had refused to lay a charge pending advice from his mission in Johannesburg.

A spokesman for the mission refused to confirm or deny the incident yesterday.

Mr Botha said he had given instructions that the Director-General of the Department of Foreign Affairs investigate the matter and the Head of Protocol and the department desk officer responsible for Zimbabwe, visit Mr Buyanga to offer the minister's and the government's regrets.

This had been done on December 31.

Instructions were also given to South Africa's representative in Harare to pass on the South African Government's regrets to the Zimbabwe Government and inform then that a full investigation had been launched by the South African Police and the Transvaal Administrator.

Mr Botha said he and the South African Government regarded the incident in a very serious light. Not only were representatives of foreign governments entitled to courteous treatment, but so too were members of the South African public regardless of their colour.

After the incident Mr Buyanga was apparently taken to the South Africa police post at Louis Trichardt and Mr Botha's statement tendered his thanks to them for their help.

Mr Botha said he had ordered that every assistance be tendered Mr Buyanga with regards to further travel arrangements and medical attention. SAPA

Closer ties for Cuba, Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Co-operation between Zimbabwe and Cuba is to be strengthened, the Zimbabwe Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende, has announced.

At a function to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Cuban revolution, the Minister said technical assistance provided by Cuba since Zimbabwe's independence four years ago had been greatly appreciated.

He said Zimbabwe and Cuba had consistantly opposed colonialism in Namibia, apartheid in South Africa, the destabilisation of Southern Africa by Pretoria, Zionism in the Middle East and imperialism world-wide.

The acting head of the Cuban mission in Harare, Mr Ramon Alonso, said the unconditional withdrawal of South African troops from Angola and the end of aggression and threats against Angola should be the only linkage leading to Namibian independence.

Industrial development conference in Zimbabwe

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HARARE — More than 130 delegates will gather in Harare next week to discuss industrial development projects in Southern Africa.

The three-day meeting of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) and its donor agencies will review recent progress in planning and arranging finance for proposed industrial projects in SADCC countries.

Delegates from donor countries and agencies will meet with project managers, which are generally governments or private companies.

They will arrange pledges of financial assistance to be announced at the SADCC Donors Conference meeting in Lusaka in February.

New and viable projects requiring investment will be discussed at the workshop.

The projects are concentrated in nine industries identified as the most important for development in the region: textiles, chemicals, mohair, pesticides and insecticides, pharmaceuticals, fertilisers, pulp and paper, and steel.

Zimbabwe, for example, has proposed projects involving plastics, polyester fibre, blankets, increased newsprint capacity, an integrated chemical pulp and paper plant and an expanded sulphuric acid plant for fertilisers and textile chemicals.

Several donor agencies and countries have already shown interest in the projects.

The workshop, which is expected to be opened by the Tanzanian Minister of Industries, will start with a one-day meeting of officials followed by two days of discussions between donors and officials.

It has been organised by the SADCC's industrial co-ordination unit in Tanzania and by the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The three-day "Industrial Projects Implementation Workshop" will be a follow-up to the Maseru donors' conference in January last year and a run-up to the next donors' conference in Lusaka in February. — Sapa.

Support for PLO from Mugabe

HARARE — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe sent a message to Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yassar Arafat pledging continued support for the PLO on Thursday.

The message, sent to mark the 19th anniversary of the founding of the PLO, reaffirmed Zimbabwe's "unflinching support for the struggle for self-determination not only in Palestine but in Southern Africa, Latin America and elsewhere".

Mugabe led his country to independence from Britain on April 18 1980 after waging a seven-year guerilla war against nine decades of white minority rule. — Sapa.

Matabeleland 'atrocities' probe begins

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BULAWAYO. — A four-man committee of inquiry began hearing evidence behind closed doors yesterday of alleged atrocities by members of the Zimbabwe Security Forces.

Only one witness, a middle-aged black man, was waiting when the committee opened its session at the Bulawayo Municipality's Housing and Community Services Centre.

"We know many people who witnessed brutalities, but who are too frightened to come before the committee," said Bishop Robert Mercer, Anglican Bishop for Matabeleland.

"Other witnesses have gone missing. There's also been a certain amount of cynicism for this exercise because it is a committee not a commission, it is not headed by a judge and its makeup does not suggest total impartiality," he said.

The committee, set up by the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, in June last year to probe widespread charges that troops killed and brutalised hundreds and perhaps thousands of civilians, comprises three black lawyers, including a legal adviser in the Prime Minister's office and a retired white army major-general.

The committee, which will present its report to the Prime Minister, has taken testimonies from soldiers, policemen and civil servants in Harare.

It has also interviewed some witnesses in the Matabeleland district. Yesterday's sitting was the first formal session to hear witnesses.

Bishop Mercer and the Roman Catholic Church are to produce dossiers of alleged atrocities on Friday.

Catholic missionaries were among the first people to publicly disclose details of alleged atrocities by troops, mainly of the North Korean-trained Five Brigade, after they had been deployed in Matabeleland during January last year to hunt down armed gangs of anti-government rebels.

Missionaries, aid agencies, relief workers and foreign journalists alleged the troops of Mr Mugabe's dominant Shona tribe went on a bloody rampage against local people of the minority Ndebele tribe — traditional supporters of opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Teenage girls and elderly women were reportedly raped and some murdered.

Men, women and children were marched into the bush and shot, beaten to death or bayonetted. Others were robbed and assaulted. Mud and grass huts were burnt down.

The dissidents are said to be loyal to Mr Nkomo, whose dismissal from the coalition government in 1982 for allegedly plotting a coup, led to mass desertions by supporters from the army to become brigands in the bush.

"We haven't been asked to present evidence," Mr Nkomo said in an interview at his Bulawayo home. "We don't expect much from it. Soldiers are still beating people as we speak."

Mr John Ngara, secretary of the committee, said he expected the members would hear all testimonies within a week.

"People in Matabeleland are just too terrified to speak out about what they have seen," said Senator Max Rosenfels, a white rancher who lives in Matabeleland. — Sapa-AP.

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Aid blow to business

While the United States' decision to almost halve its aid to Zimbabwe to US$40m in 1984 from the $75m previously pledged was no surprise, it remains bad news for the country's hard-pressed business community.

The main impact of the cuts will be felt in the valuable commodity import programme. In the last year, this programme provided US$59m of foreign exchange to finance imports from the US. Aid sources in Harare say the programme in 1984 is unlikely to be much more than US$30m. To make matters worse, Zimbabwean industrialists, whose foreign currency allocations have already been cut more than 30% in the past two years, had been warned to

expect reduced allocations even before the aid axe fell.

The aid cutback is also likely to have an adverse effect on US private sector sentiment about Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe's record in attracting new foreign investment since independence almost four years ago is dismal — estimates put the figure at no more than US$25m. The fact that the US is cutting aid can only further deter new investments while last week's Nigerian military coup will also discourage new private sector foreign investment anywhere in black Africa.

There are two main reasons for the aid cutback — the need for the US to reallocate an already trimmed aid budget to cover the Caribbean, Lebanon and Latin America and Zimbabwe's political unpopularity in the Reagan administration. Robert Mugabe's response to the move has been far less militant than was expected. He has adopted a generally moderate attitude — suggesting that the cooler heads in his cabinet are calling the shots.

The US is Zimbabwe's leading aid donor having provided US$234m since independence — 95% of which has been in outright grants. Aid officials in Harare believe that the actual cutback this year may yet turn out to be less than some anticipate. One reason is that Zimbabwe may receive increased food aid from the US while the second is the US$25m housing loan, pending for almost a year, may soon be paid. The Americans have committed the funds but the Zimbabweans have yet to come up with an agreed programme that would allow the loan to be paid over.

What remains to be seen is whether the US aid cut will influence Zimbabwean foreign policy along the lines that Washington would like to see. In an election year and a year in which there will be three Zanu-PF party congresses — one for the youth, one for the women and finally the all-important party congress itself — the signs are that far from moderating its foreign policy stance, Zimbabwe will adopt a tougher line. If the Reagan administration thinks it is influencing policy by cutting aid, it is likely to be disappointed.

Internal political pressures will probably prevent any public change of attitude.

Refugee camp for Mozambicans entering Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Department of Social Services is proposing to set up a camp to house about 25 000 Mozambican refugees fleeing the fighting between Frelimo and the Mozambique National Resistance.

The Zimbabwe news agency, Ziana, reported the plan after a visit to the Chipinge border area by the country's Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Robson Manyika.

A government source said the proposed camp would be securely guarded to prevent infiltration by the MNR.

There are thousands of Mozambicans in Zimbabwe. In the Chipinge area alone the government is feeding 8 000 refugees.

Many of them walked hundreds of kilometres to get to Zimbabwe, having either fled Mozambique because of the activities of the MNR, or because of the critical food shortage which followed a disastrous drought.

Many of those inside Zimbabwe were malnourished and emaciated, said the government source, who added that social services officials were expecting more than the 25 000 Mozambicans they had planned to cater for in the camp.

Other fact-finding missions by the department have visited the north-eastern border areas of Zimbabwe, where Mozambicans are known to have crossed in their hundreds.

Zimbabwe plans crisis task force

HARARE. — Zimbabwe will soon set up a task force capable of dealing with crisis situations or acts of international terrorism, State Security Minister, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, said yesterday.

He told senior security officers from various government departments attending a five-day crisis management course, that Zimbabwe needed such a force because of international terrorism and kidnappings.

"The political content and repercussions of some of the crises envisaged necessitates the participation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in this course."

If an airliner were hijacked to Zimbabwe, he pointed out, the fate of foreign nationals would be in Zimbabwe's hands and the government would want to resolve the crisis without bringing in special forces from outside.

Six foreign tourists were abducted by rebels in Zimbabwe's troubled south-western province of Matabeleland in July 1982 and there has been no news of them since. — Sapa-Reuter.

Zimbabwe-Soviet ties strengthened with trade pact

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — The signing of a trade agreement yesterday between the Soviet Union and Zimbabwe represents one more cautious step along the road to closer relations between Harare and Moscow.

The fact that it has taken nearly four years since Zimbabwe became independent to reach this stage is an indication of the wariness with which Zimbabwe views the Soviet Union.

It took almost a year for diplomatic relations to be established and that came about only after Moscow finally agreed to Zimbabwe's terms which spelt out clearly that relations would be on a government-to-government basis.

This was seen as a direct warning to Moscow to cut its special links with Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party.

Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu party, on the other hand, moved quickly to establish firm and friendly relations with Peking, its long-standing ally.

Mr Mugabe has yet to visit Moscow.

Last May it was announced that the Zimbabwe leader would visit the Soviet capital later in the year, but nothing came of it.

Instead Mr Mugabe went to Washington where he met President Reagan and also paid visits to Canada and Ireland.

Up to now Soviet links with Zimbabwe have been at the cultural level, with the highlight being last year's tour by the Bolshoi Ballet.

The Moscow State Circus has also paid a visit and there have been film festivals and displays of Russian literature.

A delegation from the Soviet Women's Committee toured Zimbabwe last year and about 90 young Zimbabweans went to the Soviet Union last year on various study courses.

The Soviet ambassador in Harare, Mr Gheorgy Ter-Gazariants, has said he is satisfied that successful relations in the economic, social, political and cultural spheres are being established.

The Soviet Embassy has 17 people listed as those entitled to diplomatic immunity and it is possible that after the signing of the trade agreement this number will increase.

The Russians were keen on establishing a separate trade mission in the country, but this was not looked on with any enthusiasm by the Zimbabweans.

It is somewhat ironic that Mr Mugabe, a proclaimed Marxist, has allowed the United States to maintain a much bigger embassy here with double the number of listed diplomats.

The embassies of the two super-powers are virtually back to back and no doubt spend a fair amount of their time watching one another.

The Americans who have been Zimbabwe's biggest aid donors, recently cut this year's allocation by 46 percent.

But their trade with Zimbabwe in both directions is worth about R180 million against the Soviet Union's R6 million.

The leader of the Soviet trade delegation visiting Harare, Mr Guennady Zhuravlev, the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, said the trade agreement should result in purchases of tobacco, maize, sugar and other food products. Russia, he said, was interested in supplying oil to Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe stuck to strict protocol in the arrival ceremony and sent Mr John Landau, its Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, to meet the Soviet delegation. Two years ago he was Chief Whip of Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front Party but quit the party to sit as an independent and was given a government post by Mr Mugabe.

Dissidents have killed 75 people in six months

The Star Bureau

HARARE — During the last six months, 75 people have been murdered and 284 armed robberies committed in Zimbabwe's troubled Matabeleland and Midlands provinces, the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Simbi Mubako, told Parliament here yesterday.

During the same period, there were 537 sightings of armed dissidents, and 175 "contacts" between government forces and the bandits.

The Minister's disclosure was the first time the government has revealed the extent of the dissident problem in the south of the country.

Dr Mubako was speaking on the renewal of the state of emergency which has existed since UDI in 1965, and which has been extended at six-month intervals since the government of Mr Robert Mugabe took office in April 1980.

Dr Mubako, recently appointed to the Home Affairs post to replace controversial Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, said he "deeply regretted" that almost four years after independence he had to come before the House and ask for an extension of the emergency.

There had been an overall improvement in the security situation in the country, he said, but the improvement had not been such that the government could dispense with the powers which the state of emergency gave it.

"There is no doubt that these bandit groups are being assisted and encouraged by South Africa, which provides them with bases from which to operate and with weapons and funds with which to carry out their nefarious activities — calculated to disrupt the peaceful conditions which should exist in Zimbabwe."

The government needed the extra powers to combat the problem, said the Minister.

He added, however, that he would be urging his ministerial colleagues not to abuse the emergency powers where normal legislative procedure could be used.

Since independence, the emergency powers have been used by the government to bring in a number of regulations on minimum wages, salary freezes, and the changing of street and place names.

A total of 67 MPs, including members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party and independent white MPs, voted for the extension of the emergency.

Only the eight Rhodesian Front MPs under Mr Ian Smith voted against the motion.



The wife of jailed Soviet dissident Anatoly Shcharansky staged a lonely protest in Stockholm yesterday to celebrate her husband's 36th birthday. Mrs Avital Shcharansky sat silently in a wooden cage outside European ing place spying

Dead soldier MP gets government praise

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The young Zimbabwean MP, Mr Donald Goddard, who died when he fell down a waterfall during a New Year's Day picnic, was yesterday praised for his courage and dedication by the Minister of Justice, Dr Eddison Zvobgo.

Speaking in Parliament on behalf of the government and associating himself with a tribute to Mr Goddard paid by Republican Front leader, Mr Ian Smith, Dr Zvobgo said Mr Goddard had fought for Rhodesia and lost.

However, he had remained in Zimbabwe and had dedicated himself to the success of the country, said Dr Zvobgo, who, bers, had many clashes in the house with the outspoken MP.

"We will miss him," he said while extending his condolences to members of Mr Goddard's family.

Mr Smith said his former colleague had been well known, loved and respected within and outside Zimbabwe.

Mr Goddard (32), a Selous Scout during the war, had fought for Rhodesia with loyalty and distinction and worked for Zimbabwe with the same loyalty.

Mr P K van der Byl, making one of his rare appearances in the House of Assembly, described Mr Goddard as a "splen-

Harare buys control of Kingstons

By Brendan Seery
The Star Bureau

HARARE. — South African groups CNA Gallo, Gordon and Gotch (Investments) and Argus Printing and Publishing have sold their shares in Zimbabwe's largest books and periodicals distributor.

The buyer of the 62,8 percent shareholding in Kingstons is an investment firm belonging to Zimbabwe Mass Media Trust, which owns that country's main newspaper group.

The chairman of the state-appointed Mass Media Trust, Dr Davidson Sadza, told Ziana news agency the trust would make offers to minority shareholders for the remaining shares.

NO INTIMIDATION

Shareholders are being offered Zim$1,11 for ordinary shares and Zim$1,30 for prefs — representing premiums of 85 and 136 percent respectively over quoted market prices.

Dr. Sadza said the deal was concluded on a "willing buyer will seller basis" with no one having been intimidated.

He said the trust was going ahead with policies in the Kingstons group which it did not want "impeded or slowed by minority shareholders".

The main aim would be to serve as many people as possible through Kingstons outlets, and expansion to smaller centres and rural areas was planned.

"Initially, we may make very little profit, or even lose money, but that will not not be our main concern," Dr Sadza said.

We want you alive, said the kids, not the farm when you're dead. So we've quit the land, like the rest...

MARAUDING gangs of rag-tag anti-government rebels have achieved in peacetime what two communist-backed guerrilla armies failed to do in the seven-year war for Zimbabwe's independence.

They have driven most of Matabeleland's white farmers off the land. "This is the biggest crisis we have ever faced in the area," says Mike Wood, president of the Matabeleland branch of the all-white Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU), of mounting attacks by the dissidents against civilians in the western Zimbabwe province.

More than half of the 500 CFU ranchers and farmers in the province, a battlefield for thousands of government troops and the armed gangs, have abandoned their properties to flee Zimbabwe and start afresh in safer parts or retire to the peaceful suburbs of Bulawayo and Harare.

By NORMAN ELLIS: Bulawayo

Butchered

Most of those remaining behind high wire fences rarely move anywhere without shotguns, automatic rifles and pistols and live in fear of their lives from the dissidents — mainly former guerrillas loyal to opposition leader Joshua Nkomo.

The rebels, believed to number 5 000, began a reign of terror in Matabeleland two years ago after bolting from the national army barracks in anger and humiliation over the dismissal of their leader from the fragile coalition government for allegedly plotting a coup.

Thousands of civilian men, women and children have been murdered, maimed, raped and robbed in a bloody rampage by gangs who tell frightened villagers they see no future in post-independent Zimbabwe under Prime Minister Robert Mugabe — a member of the dominant Shona tribe which is the historical foe of the minority Ndebele people of Matabeleland.

At least 40 whites, mainly farmers, their wives and children who survived the bloody seven-year war, have been butchered by the rebels in an escalating campaign to wreck the four-year-old republic's agriculture-based economy.

Zimbabwe's 5 500 white farmers — who collectively employ the biggest labour force, produce most of the country's food and generate the bulk of its export income, are prime targets in Matabeleland.

The last victims — Charles Loxton, his wife Rosemary, their 19-year-old daughter Julie and Mr Loxton's brother Tony — were slain by a gang that cut through the security fence of their Kezi ranch, slaughtered their watchdogs and then raked the homestead with automatic weapons fire.

The Kezi block, a mere 80km south of the Matabeleland provincial capital of Bulawayo, had 41 white farmers in 1980 — the year of independence. Now there are none.

"I thought after independence that we had everything we could ever want," Mrs Kay van Vuuren, 59, said through tears as she and her 62-year-old pioneer rancher husband, James, bolted the door on their solid wood-and-concrete homestead near the Loxtons' deserted ranch for the last time on Wednesday this week.

Worse

"Now it's worse than the war days because then you knew the enemy."

The Van Vuurens, who like most white farmers carved their 6 000 cattle ranch out of the thick bush, got into a bakkie piled high with furniture and drove off to a cottage 17km north of Bulawayo.

They were the last whites in the Kezi block, birthplace of Nkomo whose ex-guerrillas are blamed for the attacks.

Arriving at the cottage — its lounge decorated with a wall plaque of the 23rd Psalm "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" and a bust of Winston Churchill — pipesmoking Mr van Vuuren said: "I'm glad it wasn't to the city. The city would kill me after the farm. It really would kill me."

Mr van Vuuren's cousin, Joe van Vuuren, was murdered on his ranch on November 5.

Fear

After that the last white die-hards of Kezi became increasingly worried.

"Our children begged us to get out," said Mrs van Vuuren.

"They said: 'We want you, mum and dad, not the farm when you're dead'."

The state-controlled Zimbabwe Press, unsympathetic to the plight of the whites who largely refused to budge from their properties in the war, was reflected by an editorial in the Harare Herald when the Loxtons were murdered.

"... The bandits may be achieving their limited goal of scaring whites out of the area," the paper commented. "The whites must also understand that they are being singled out because of the publicity bandits get for killing them."

It added: "By giving them guns and deploying more troops in the area the government is certainly doing its best."

Few white farmers agree. "We're the jam in the Zimbabwean sandwich," muttered one white farmer who like most of those remaining on the land fears being quoted because of possible reprisals.

Frightened

"We are just sitting on the land waiting to be murdered."

Most farmers lash out at the failure of the government troops and paramilitary police to ensure their safety.

They say the security forces are frightened to patrol the countryside while the rebels roam freely in daylight, cutting fences and camping in kraals.

They also complain that the military doesn't disclose information on a daily basis, like the Rhodesian forces did in the war. And they cynically believe that security forces are suffering more casualties than the rebels.

Senator sticking — on his ranch — but how much longer?

MAX ROSENFELLS, one of 10 white senators in the parliament in faraway Harare, remains on his ranch in the Marula district near Kezi — but for how long he doesn't know.

"Not so long ago we were on a party (phone) line of 11 people," he said. "Now we are the only ones."

Senator Rosenfells is grimly aware of how dangerous life can be for farmers in Matabeleland. He and his son, Tony, were ambushed last year by a gang of rebels on a dirt track on their 2 000ha ranch.

At least 200 bullets were fired, but the senator escaped without a scratch.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has refused Matabeleland farmers' pleas for a meeting to discuss their security, telling aides that the situation is not as grave as painted.

But Home Affairs Minister Simbi Mubako, arguing in Parliament this week for a renewal of the state of emergency to combat the rebels, offered a rare insight into just how serious the problem is.

In the previous six months, he disclosed, there had been 537 sightings of "bandits".

Security forces and rebels clashed 175 times. The dissidents killed 75 people, raped 16, robbed 284 and mounted "a number" of attacks on defenceless farmers.

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Fighting to free his people again

By Andrew Walker

In 1963 young Chris Sakala fled the then Rhodesia to fight for freedom for his people.

In 1984 Chris Sakala has again fled Zimbabwe — to fight for freedom for his people.

For the veteran nationalist life has turned full circle, 21 years after he first "took up the struggle" and devoted himself to the fight for an independent Zimbabwe.

Aged 44, he finds himself once again a political refugee campaigning in exile.

But this time he is not fighting against white minority rule.

He is fighting against the rule of Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) majority-rule Government — after devoting his life to the battle for one-man, one-vote.

His story is as old as African politics.

As a young man he was "called to the cause". He was one of the first black guerillas to take up arms in the fight for Zimbabwe.

He was also one of the first communist-trained guerillas to be caught, and for this he spent 12 years behind bars at the "hell on Earth" Khami maximum security prison outside Bulawayo.

He was finally released in 1977, and saw his dream come true.

He became a senior official in Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Council (UANC) and in 1979 became Deputy Speaker of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia's House of Assembly after Rhodesia's internal settlement led to Bishop Muzorewa's election win.



Mr Chris Sakala

But his happiness was short-lived — in fact it lasted only months.

Branded as a "sellout", a "puppet" and a "turncoat", along with his fellow UANC officials after Mr Mugabe's sweeping election victory in April 1980, Mr Sakala found himself firmly on the wrong side of the fence in black-ruled Zimbabwe.

Now fearing for his life he has fled to London, claiming his aim is to campaign for the same ideals he has paid for so dearly for in the past — the release of political detainees, an end to oppression and the holding of free and fair majority-rule elections.

More than two decades after he left Rhodesia for military training in China, Chris Sakala seems to be right back where he started.

Except that this time round his campaign is not likely to be received with the same enthusiasm by the nations which rallied to help bring an end to the rule of the Rhodesian Front.

For Mr Sakala made the worst possible mistake in independent Africa — he joined the wrong party.

Formerly a member of Zanu, the party now run by Mr. Mugabe, Mr Sakala changed allegiances in 1974 and, while still in prison, joined the UANC.

Now he is in exile, having left behind his wife and two children, his home and his import-export business.

This time he cannot count on the support of black Africa, the communist bloc and much of the Western world.

He feels his cause has not changed — but times have.

Envoy's broken arm: no action

Pretoria Correspondent

No action will be taken against Transvaal provincial traffic inspectors who were involved in an incident in which a Zimbabwean envoy's arm was broken.

This was confirmed today by the deputy provincial secretary, Mr Schalk Brits.

He said no action would be taken against the provincial traffic inspectors on duty at the roadblock near Louis Trichardt last year when the Zimbabwean Deputy Trade Commissioner, Mr David Buyanga, had his arm broken.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has been sent a copy of a report dealing with the incident.

The Administrator, Mr Willem Cruywagen, forwarded the report to Mr Botha after an investigation by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Mr Brits refused to reveal the contents of the report.

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Detention of top Zapu leader 'under review'

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — A detained former Zapu guerrilla commander, Lieutenant-General Lookout Masuku, had appeared before a review tribunal which would recommend whether or not to continue holding him, the Zimbabwean House of Assembly heard yesterday.

Gen Masuku was deputy-commander of the Zimbabwean army when he, former Zapu intelligence chief Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and other former guerrilla leaders were detained early in 1982.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, told the House that Mr Dabengwa's detention would be reviewed shortly. He, Gen Masuku and four other men were all acquitted in April last year of treason, but they were immediately detained again.

Mr Mubako also disclosed that a former Zapu MP, Mr Vote Moyo, who was detained early in 1982, had not yet appeared before a review tribunal.

He said police were still conducting investigations against the former Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Prime Minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who was detained last October in connection with alleged "clandestine activities against the State".

Commenting on the fact that on the strength of review tribunal recommendations late last year, the Government had released redetained white air force officers who had not been behind bars as long as the former Zapu guerrilla leaders, Mr Mubako said each case was treated according to its merits and some matters took longer to investigate than others.

During the Prime Minister's question time yesterday, Mr Robert Mugabe said dissidents in the south-western province of Matabeleland continued to commit murders and other acts of lawlessness, but the situation was not worsening.

"Whether they (dissidents) are nurtured by Zapu, as some are, or by South Africa, as others are, their aim is to sustain Zapu and lead it into power under its leadership," he said.

Private school subsidises 35 needy pupils

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — Some of Zimbabwe's lowest-paid workers are sending their sons to one of the country's most exclusive private high schools this year.

And the privilege of their sons' admissions to Peterhouse will cost the black farm and domestic worker parents no more than places in ordinary government schools.

According to Dr Alan Medagahey, rector of the school in the affluent Marondera farming district about 75km south-east of Harare, about 35 sons of poor parents are being admitted. Their fees will be heavily subsidised from the school's bursary fund and cheap uniforms will be available from the school's second hand shop.

By day, the lucky 35 will share modern, spacious educational and sporting facilities with about 400 other boys — whose parents will be paying more than R1 000 a term this year. But unlike their richer chums who are all boarders, they will spend their nights with their families in huts nearby.

The new move by Peterhouse follows a private schools scare late last year when the government threatened to close down private schools unless at least 60% of their pupil intake was black, and if they charged more than R540 a term.

The predominantly white schools were accused of constantly raising their fees to maintain white exclusiveness.

But following a flurry of discussions between private sector chiefs and Cabinet Ministers, the private schools were apparently given more time in which to get their houses in order.

Dr Medagahey refused to say what proportion of black pupils he had admitted to the school this year, but it is reliably understood to be small.

However, he stressed that like some other private schools which pioneered non-racial education before independence in 1980, Peterhouse had never excluded pupils on racial grounds.

The new deal for poor parents as well as plans to expand an existing inexpensive night school for both adults and children, were "part of our attempt to share our facilities with the less privileged," he said.

But because of high running costs, it would essentially remain a school for those parents who could afford to pay more than most.

Harare/SA contact being maintained

(362) Star 26/1/84

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Contacts between Zimbabwe and South Africa on trade and security matters were being maintained Mr Robert Mugabe said today.

The Zimbabwe Prime Minister had been asked if he envisaged talks with South Africa along the lines of the recent consultations between Maputo and Pretoria in an endeavour to bring peace and security to the region.

CONTACT MADE

He told Parliament that trade contacts had been maintained in an open manner and when matters of security arose officers had been sent to confer with South African officials to try to secure conditions of peace and law and order.

"We have had relations in the sphere of trade and law and order so there has already been contact," he said.

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe's army was small and ill equipped but was developing and the people of Zimbabwe were determined to repulse acts of aggression from South Africa.

"We remain vigilant and feel we have the capability to defend ourselves," he told a questioner.

When commando units had been sent into Zimbabwe they had lasted only a few days.

"In the event of an invasion we will do our best, but I hope South Africa will think twice before resorting to such ill-conceived action," he said.

Mr Mugabe said some dissidents operating in Matabeleland were nurtured by South Africa and others by Zapu. But they all fought for one cause ... to lead Zapu to power.

He said the security situation still gave rise for concern. It was not worsening and was in fact under greater control. But murder and lawlessness continued and the government was taking steps to strengthen security.

Zimbabwe COL rockets

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Star

26/1/84

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The cost of living for lower-income urban families in Zimbabwe shot up by nearly 32 percent from October 1982 to October last year. Steep food price rises were the main cause.

Lower-income families were estimated to spend nearly 55 percent of their income on food.

The cost of living for higher-income families was estimated to have risen by 18 percent, according to the latest figures.

Cape Times 30/1/84

Mugabe 'reign of terror' charge

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Own Correspondent

LONDON. — Many thousands were now believed to have died, with women bayoneted and corpses left unburied in bush villages during a "reign of terror" conducted by government forces to suppress dissidents across Zimbabwe's Matabeleland, the Sunday Telegraph reported here yesterday.

Reports that the death toll has exceeded 20 000 and that the purges, which began 18 months ago, have started up once more are likely to prove deeply embarrassing to Britain as a staunch supporter of the Mugabe government.

Evidence of the alleged atrocities and protests from leading Zimbabwe politicians in London are being aired as Mr Mugabe's Information Minister, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, spends a week here as guest of the government. His trip has been planned partly to try to improve Zimbabwe's tarnished image.

A state of emergency has been renewed in Zimbabwe as 3 000 men of the notorious North Korean-trained 5th Brigade move through drought-stricken areas of Matabeleland.

Zimbabwe needs urgent rain to save maize crops

By Robin Drew
The Star Bureau

Zimbabwe needs rain — lots of it and soon. The key question facing the country is whether it has enough maize stockpiled to feed its people before the next harvest. And, despite expectations of good tobacco and cotton crops, these too might fail if rain does not fall soon.

HARARE — The grim spectre of a third successive year of drought hangs over Zimbabwe with large areas of the country already facing a desperate situation.

But in the major cropping areas, where the bulk of the staple diet, maize, is produced, there is still hope that the rains will save the day.

Mr John Laurie, leader of the 4 500 commercial farmers in Zimbabwe, said: "The situation in the cropping areas is very serious but can be retrieved if we get rain within the next 10 days and if they continue into April."

Mr Laurie, who has made extensive tours of the country, said the situation north of Harare was not too bad, though there were dry parts in this area which were in a critical state.

To the south of Harare, however, the overall picture was grim with the situation deteriorating rapidly.

"In the Masvingo, Mweneze and Buffalo Range farming districts, farmers, particularly cattle ranchers, are facing a disastrous situation. It is as bad as it was this time last year when Zimbabwe experienced its worst drought in living memory."

Apart from a few pockets, ranchers are under extreme pressure with cattle already turning to browsing to stay alive.

This is in spite of the fact that in the Mwenezi district, for example, ranchers have destocked to 50 percent of the animals they had at this time last year.

Mr Laurie said that in Matabeleland the situation in the Gwanda and west Nicholson districts was critical. Very little rain had fallen and there was practically no grass.

There was a deteriorating picture west of Bulawayo in the Marula ranching area.

Mr Laurie had recieved reports of a potentially very serious situation from the midlands of Zimbabwe where crops are drying up.

The bright spots on the agricultural scene are tobacco and cotton with crops looking good at the moment. But rain is needed if the expected increased yields are to be realised.

The key question here at the moment is whether the country has enough maize in stock to feed the people until the next harvest.

Mr Laurie agreed that the question of adequate stocks seemed it could develop into an "11th-hour situation.

"Hopefully we will have enough to carry us through to the end of April. Drying maize which was planted early can be a costly process, but we should be able to start delivery by the middle of April," said Mr Laurie.

Farmers are hoping for incentives to help cover the costs of early deliveries, but no announcement has yet been made.

He did not know of any plans to import maize at this stage. The government has given assurances that stocks will last, but has declined to reveal the current size of the stockpile.

There were chaotic scenes in December when maize supplies to the millers were cut in an effort to conserve stocks and mealie meal ran short in many areas of Zimbabwe.

The government was then forced to increase allocations to the milling companies.

Drought relief feeding schemes which had been stopped were also resumed.

Temperatures soaring into the 30s have added to the concern about dwindling water supplies.

Matabeles tell of corpses left to rot

'20 000 massacred in reign of terror'

London Bureau

LONDON. — Many thousands are now believed to have died during a "reign of terror" conducted by Zimbabwean Government forces to suppress dissidents in Matabeleland.

The Sunday Telegraph reported in Britain yesterday that in the campaign against the dissidents women were bayoneted and corpses were left unburied in bush villages.

Reports that the death toll has exceeded 20 000 and that the purges, which began 18 months ago, have started up once more are likely to prove deeply embarrassing to Britain as a staunch supporter of the Mugabe government.

Evidence of the alleged atrocities, and protests from leading Zimbabwe politicians in London, are being aired as Mr Mugabe's Information Minister, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, spends a week in Britain as guest of the government.

His trip has been planned partly to try to improve Zimbabwe's tarnished image and he will defend his leader's policies at a news conference tomorrow.

A state of emergency has been renewed in Zimbabwe as 3 000 men of the notorious North Korean trained 5th Brigade move through drought-stricken areas of Matabeleland, backed up by thousands of national army militiamen and several hundred policemen.

In an attempt to counter the disquiet both inside and outside the country, a government committee of inquiry has been set up to examine the accusations against the 5th Brigade but has been overwhelmed by crowds of witnesses with stories of killings, rape and torture.

A letter sent to London by one of the white residents of Matabeleland, who asked not to be identified, said: "Mr Mugabe is trying to set up a one party state at any price and destroy opposition.

"There are countless people who have witnessed the terrible wrath of the 5th Brigade. I have verbatim reports of pregnant women who were bayoneted in the stomach, and multiple deaths.

"People were refused permission on pain of death to bury their dead or leave after the victims had been shot down in cold blood.

"Throughout Matabeleland corpses lay rotting in the middle of busy villages. People had to turn their eyes away from the bloated carcases of their relatives as the dogs fed upon them. Meanwhile Matabeleland remains sealed off from the Press."

The Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, a veteran political leader and founder of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) party, said in London yesterday: "All political opposition is now being crushed and I expect Mr Mugabe to set up his one party state by the middle of this year, the instrument of dictatorship and tyranny.

"Between 20 000 and 25 000 people have been killed in Matabeleland so far and hundreds of people are in detention under the special security powers. The judiciary is being undermined and both whites and blacks are streaming out of the country."

Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu), has also been in London writing a book. Before leaving for home last week he protested at the continued killings. His party estimates the toll could have topped 30 000.

Mr Mugabe's spokesmen were repeating last week that the Matabeleland operations were to put down armed dissidents and that only small numbers had been killed.

Foreign representative: incident at Louis Trichardt

*4. Dr W J SNYMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(1) Whether a charge was laid with the South African Police against provincial traffic inspectors roundabout January 1984 in consequence of an incident at Louis Trichardt involving a foreign representative; if so, what was the nature of the charge;

(2) whether the charge has been investigated; if so, what was the result of the investigation?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Although the incident had been reported to the Police at Louis Trichardt, no formal complaint had been lodged.

(2) Falls away.

Foreign representative: incident at Louis Trichardt

*5. Dr W J SNYMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(1) Whether a charge was laid with the South African Police roundabout January 1984 in connection with the conduct of a foreign representative during an incident at Louis Trichardt:

if so, what was the nature of the charge;

(2) whether the charge has been investigated; if so, what was the result of the investigation?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) and (2) My reply to the previous question also applies to this question.

Airman tells of Harare torture

Mercury
7/2/84
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London Bureau

WING-CDR John Cox, among the last of the white Zimbabwe Air Force officers to be released after their clearance on sabotage charges last year, spoke for the first time yesterday about torture he suffered in detention in Harare.

Wing-Cdr Cox said, however, that in spite of his arrest and torture he had kept a 'naive faith' in Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

From his home near Bristol Wing-Cdr Cox spoke of beatings, blindfold interrogation, a 450 km drive through the bush in leg-irons and handcuffs. A mock execution and finally severe electric shock treatment with an instrument which 'felt as if it was a red-hot hedgehog or wire brush'.

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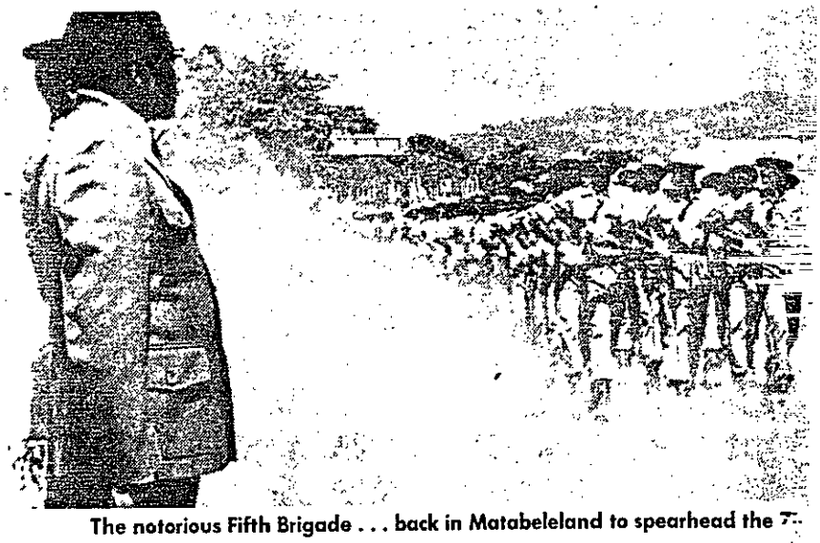
Government troops and dissidents accused of atroci

By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Foreign News Service



The notorious Fifth Brigade . . . back in Matabeleland to spearhead the 7

Rural people flee new reign of terr hits Matabelelan

BULAWAYO — Being trapped "between the rock and the hard place" is a fact of life for people in rural areas of Zimbabwe's Matabeleland province.

Last week, in the latest phase of its continuing anti-dissident campaign, the Zimbabwe Government slapped a severe dusk-to-dawn curfew on the worst dissident-infected areas of Kezi, Matopos and Gwanda, south-west of here.

The curfew — which restricts movement and commerce — was implemented, according to the authorities, to help combat the influx of allegedly South African-trained dissidents into Zimbabwe. The dissidents were accused by the Government of being responsible for a number of atrocities against innocent civilians in Matabeleland.

The dissidents' campaign of violence, and the Government's offensive against them, have been continuing, and the civilian population appears to be squeezed in the middle suffering brutality from both sides.

For some months now — a year after the deployment of Fifth Brigade troops in the province and resultant international publicity about alleged brutalities and atrocities against civilians — church organisations here have been receiving reports of killings, beatings and kraal burnings by security forces in remote areas.

Father Hebron Wilson, a worker for the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in the city, is continuing to compile a dossier on recent alleged security force acts.

Among those he has recorded, and forwarded to the commission's offices in Harare are:

- November 24 — 20 people, most of them members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party, were reported beaten and shot to death by soldiers near an army camp on the Mlambuzi river in the Plumtree area. The victims were, according to informants, buried in a single grave.
- November 24 — in the Wana ward in the Plumtree area, three Zapu members of the district council — Mr Magangeni Dube, Mr Loyi Ndlovu and Mr Fanyana Moyo — were reported to have been shot dead by soldiers.
- January 17 — in the Lupane area, soldiers allegedly burnt down the huts of local businessman Mr Daniel Ndlovu and his brother, Samson. Three cows and a calf were also shot by the troops, who allegedly told the Ndlovus: "You will not cook for dissidents again."
- January 19 — Mr Ngundlu Ndlovu was beaten to death by soldiers in the Sihobo district of Plumtree. The beating was witnessed by a rural council worker who was also beaten by the troops and later had to be treated in hospital.

One of Father Wilson's co-workers on the commission, a black man who did not wish to be identified, has also compiled similar dossiers and sent them to the commission in Harare.

His records of the brutalities include:

- December 2 — six homes burnt in the Kezi area.
- December 2 — two women shot and wounded during "crossfire" between the army and dissidents. In the same district — Gwalali — 24 kraals were burnt to the ground by troops who followed dissident spoor into the area.

An official Government statement this week said there was concern about the "marked increase" in killings, torture and maimings of innocent people by dissidents in Matabeleland.

The statement said that since January 1983 more than 120 people had been killed, 23 mutilated and 47 raped in parts of north Matabeleland and the Midlands.

Most of the victims were government supporters, government employees or officials of Mr Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) party.

One man was buried alive, a man and his wife were herded into their hut, which was then set alight, and one man was ordered to club his neighbour to death.

Other atrocities which, claimed the statement, bore the "hallmark of the Selous Scouts tactics employed during the war", included the hacking-off of ears, lips and noses, and there were instances of victims being burnt with plastic.

Certainly, whether due to the activities of dissidents or government troops on counter operations, there has been an influx of refugees into this southern city from outlying areas — particularly the Nkayi district.

Father Wilson estimated that the latest movement of people was "upwards of 200" and said that the Catholic Church Council for Social Services and Development was helping to feed at least 130 people who were hiding with relatives in black townships.

Various reports continue to filter back to the church investigators. In the Nkayi area, for instance, people report that a Fifth Brigade colonel who calls himself "Black Jesus" or "Black Moses" has set up road blocks to turn back those trying to flee to Bulawayo, and warned those who leave that their kraals will be burnt down.

Other refugees speak of soldiers burning kraals after accusing residents of harbouring or feeding dissidents.

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and dissidents accused of atrocities in troubled area



The notorious Fifth Brigade . . . back in Matabeleland to spearhead the Zimbabwe Government's latest anti-dissident drive.

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Other refugees speak of soldiers burning kraals after accusing residents of harbouring or feeding dissidents.

The latest violence allegedly committed by the government forces is at nothing like the level it was said to have reached this time last year, when the justice and peace commission was inundated with reports of brutal incidents of indiscriminate killings and atrocities by soldiers — notably members of the Fifth Brigade.

A government-appointed three-man committe of inquiry into last year's alleged atrocities was swamped by members of the public who arrived to give evidence when it sat in Bulawayo last month.

Such was the response that the members, even sitting through the lunch hour and on into the evening, could not deal with all those who arrived. The committee then arranged to return to the city later this month to hear further evidence.

According to Father Wilson, the violence by government troops reached a peak in February and March last year, but continued until at least July, when he personally met the minister then responsible for defence, Dr Sydney Sekeramayi, to plead for a halt to the killings.

The priest's comments were widely reported in the international media at the time, and units of the Fifth Brigade were withdrawn with a consequent decline in violence.

The reports of violence started coming in again during the latter half of last year, according to Father Wilson, and informants are still coming forward to describe alleged brutalities by security forces in a number of districts in the province.

Father Wilson has been interrogated by the country's Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) on three occasions concerning his work for the justice and peace commission and his statements to reporters. Last November, he was warned, he said, by his questioners, that he could face a stiff fine or jail sentence for "passing information which would damage state security".

Security Minister Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa said this week that security forces had killed or captured 459 bandits since operations began. He made no mention of government dead or wounded.

White farmers in the province, whose morale has slumped after the recent murders of the Loxton family in Kezi and the subsequent complete evacuation of that area by the remaining farmers, appear to be adopting a "wait and see" attitude.

After a weekend meeting with farmers, Mr Mnangagwa promised that the Government would do its best to try to improve the security siaution.

Mr Mike Wood, chairman of the Matabeleland branch of the Commercial Farmers' Union, said that no mass exodus of farmers from the province had taken place despite the Kezi withdrawals.

Some of his members had become "weekend farmers" — living in Bulawayo and visiting their farms regularly to keep things running — because of the security situation.

Zimbabwe plans to clamp down on the foreign exchange drain

Sunday Tribune 12/2/84 (362)

CUTBACK ON THE CARDS

HARARE: As Zimbabwe's foreign debt grows worse the authorities are thinking of new ways to cut down on the unceasing flow of foreign exchange.

Measures due to be announced within two weeks could be the worst news since 1980 on the remittability of money abroad.

For a start, it seems that annual dividends for companies abroad will be slashed from the present maximum of 50 percent of the total amount owed, with the possibility being that it could be stopped entirely.

In its place will come the queue system, well known in Nigeria and Zambia, with companies applying for money to be remitted and then having to sit back and wait.

Accompanying this will probably be reductions in allowances for former residents, such as total annual income which could be reduced to $10 000.

Finance Correspondent

The earlier predictions of cuts in the settling-in allowances for elderly people seem to be on the cards. Although the Government says holiday allowances will be the last payments to be touched these might be shaved to lessen the foreign currency pressure.

However, pensions and annuities will definitely not be affected; come what may, these are going to be honoured. Enough friendly words of advice have been given to officials to make them realise just how serious such a move would be.

The financial struggle being waged by Treasury Minister Dr Bernard Chidzero is really on two fronts — domestic and foreign expenditure.

Internally the rate of official spending continues to rise unabated and the recent civil service pay rise adds to the pressures. So, new tax measures are being contemplated.

They include yet another rise in the petrol price. The theory, bizarre though it may seem, is that motorists can save only a certain amount of fuel and would have to use a minimum amount no matter how high the price. This of course does not take any account of the effect on the national inflation rate of 30 percent a year.

Controls on the price of beer are being discussed. This is probably the largest single sales tax earner but sales have gone down because the price is so high — more than R1 in some cocktail bars — and it has been suggested revenue would pick up if the selling price was fixed or even lowered.

In a rare example of inter-country co-operation, Zimbabwe and Zambia are talking about setting up bank accounts in the two countries to pay off debts to each other. Zambia desperately needs goods unavailable there while Zimbabwe owes millions in foreign exhange for buying electricity.

The two have come to the conclusion, although little has happened as yet, that business would improve if goods were traded rather than hard currency.

Zimbabwe this year is going to be spending huge sums on maize imports and drought relief. It has been calculated that foreign maize will have a landed cost of R300 a ton and will mean the equivalent of R120 million being spent in foreign currency.

On top of this will be drought relief and food aid to tribal areas costing another R60 million, which is a huge proportion of the national budget in terms of the extra money needed.

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SWA farming union on visit

WINDHOEK — A five-man team from the SWA/Namibian Agricultural Union (Swalu) leaves for Zimbabwe on invitation for a five-day visit.

Public relations officer for the SWA/Namibian delegation, Mr Gys Reitz, said the invitation had been extended by the Zimbabwe Commercial Farmers' Union.

He said the Swalu delegation would make contact and build up relations with their Zimbabwean counterparts, as well as studying the state of agriculture in independent Zimbabwe.

Those in the delegation are the president, Mr Johnny Kirsten, Swalu director, Mr Hennie Snyman, the vice chairman of the Meat Producers' Association, Mr Paul Smit, and Swalu public relations officer, Mr Reitz. — SAPA.

Collective co-operatives are a new phenomenon in Zimbabwe. Their proponents, mostly former guerrillas, believe they can make an important contribution towards an envisaged socialist transformation of the economy. ANDRE VILJOEN interviewed leaders of the movement and visited three very different collective co-operatives in and around Harare

Zimbabwe's former guerrillas now fight economic warfare

RDM 22/7/84 362

FORMER Zimbabwean guerrillas are spearheading what Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has dubbed "the second liberation war . . . the war for economic independence".

Their "army" is called Occzim, short for the Organisation of Collective Co-operatives in Zimbabwe.

And with its first major victory under its belt — a two-year battle to become registered and recognised as official representative of collective co-operatives — Occzim is in a militant mood.

"Whoever thinks we are a soft egg to crush will find we are as hard as stone," Occzim chairperson Mr Cephas Muropa said in an interview published in the organisation's forthright monthly publication Vanguard.

"We will run our co-operatives as efficiently as the capitalists run their businesses, but we will be serving the people, not exploiting them.

"In this way we can play our role in the development of our country," he said.

Such fighting talk is easy to dismiss in Harare, where most black and white residents of the city's park-like suburbs have come to regard official socialist rhetoric as silly but harmless background noise.

But, says Occzim administrator Mr Humphries Runowa, the majority of Zimbabweans — who still live in crowded, infertile and drought-ravaged communal lands — are hungry for land and economic independence.

Mr Runowa — who, like the entire Occzim executive, is a former guerrilla — says former combatants are the best-qualified to build the foundation for a national collective co-operative movement, which he believes could maximise production and eradicate unemployment.

Many former guerillas received co-operative training overseas during the war, and all of them had learnt the value of co-operative effort in overcoming serious food shortages and health and education problems in refugee camps in Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana.

Most of the approximately 18 000 former guerrillas demobilised since the end of 1981 had received all their demobilisation pay and, for the remainder, the last R203 monthly payout was looming ever closer.

The war had cost them heavily in lost education and job training.

For many of these ex-combatant men and women, the prospect of pooling their demobilisation pay and energy in collective co-operatives presented a much more attractive prospect than competing for scarce jobs in a depressed economy.

According to Mr Runowa, nearly half of the demobilised ex-combatants were now active in the array of agricultural, commercial, industrial and transport co-lective co-operatives that have become part of the new Zimbabwe.

"Co-operatives have failed everwhere else in Africa, but we have studied the mistakes and I am sure we will be the first to succeed.

"Unlike Tanzania, for example, where people were forced into co-operative villages, here co-operatives are established in response to a felt need,' he said.

However, he anticipated a long and arduous struggle before the many sceptics shared Occzim's view that collective co-operatives are the key to national development.

The vast majority of collective co-operatives were seriously short of cash (some agricultural co-operatives, in fact, faced ruin unless they received emergency drought aid soon) and there was a serious shortage of management skills.

Occzim was taking practical measures to meet the challenge head on.

It was enlisting the financial support of donor agencies — notably in Canada and Scandinavian countries — and had so far disbursed R99 000 worth of drought relief aid and R95 000 for other co-operative projects.

With help from the University of Zimbabwe, it was conducting a major survey to identify strengths and weaknesses of the national collective co-operative movement in order to facilitate planning.

It has established a dozen district offices providing a link between the headquarters in Harare and more than 200 affiliated collective co-operatives throughout the country.

It hoped to establish more district offices and to set up district transport, health and marketing pools.

If funds permit it would also employ qualified field officers to co-operate with district office committees in budgeting, market strategies, marketing and other technical areas.

It has already sent some members to training workshops and enrolled 20 others in a state co-operative studies and management course.

It also plans to establish its own training programme.

The organisation also has its eye on hundreds of traditional co-operatives, which it does not recognise as true collective (producer) co-operatives but sees as potential recruits.

The Occzim headquarters is one of the busiest offices I have visited in Harare, and after several recent sessions there — and visits to three Occzim-affiliated collective co-operatives — I was left in no doubt that the "second liberation war" is being waged as earnestly as was the first.

TOMORROW: Where the money goes to fund co-operatives



SUPERMARKETEERS . . . former guerrilla fighters pooled their army demobilisation pay to buy this Harare store, which they run as a co-operative

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One-party state after next polls, says Mugabe

HARARE. — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, said yesterday if his ruling party won the next General Election it would find ways of circumventing the British designed constitution and create a one-party state.

Replying during his monthly parliamentary question session, Mr Mugabe reiterated his pledge that his ruling Zanu PF (Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front) would not allow "constitutional rigidity" to frustrate moves towards a one-party state.

"We will fight the next election on a platform which will include the one-party state proposition and if the party wins these elections then the party would not allow the will of the people to be foiled by the rigidity of our constitution," he said.

"We will have to seek ways and means of ensuring that the will of the people is given full expression by the creation of a political order which is based on the one-party system," he said.



MR ROBERT MUGABE
people's will paramount

The will of the people was paramount and once they had decided to have a one-party state it would be introduced, he said.

"We will come to Parliament and confer with everybody here on the possibility of creating a one-party state.

"One would want to see here opponents to the will of the people, opponents to democracy when the time comes. And if there are opponents to democracy we will not allow it to suffer detriment. We would rather the opposition suffered detriment," he said amid laughter from government members.

Mr Mugabe's statement — his second in five days on the one-party state plans — is seen by observers to be a harder line in preparation for the General Election, scheduled for late this year or early next.

The constitution's specially entrenched clauses — including guaranteed white representation in Parliament — was introduced at independence in 1980 for 10 years or the life of two parliaments, whichever is the shorter. A parliamentary term is normally a maximum of five years.

Asked about the fate of detained former Prime Minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Mr Mugabe said the detainees' review tribunal was still working on his appeal for release and had not reported to the government.

Bishop Muzorewa was detained in November for allegedly plotting against the government.

Asked why opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo had not also been locked up when he was "invariably linked with dissidents", Mr Mugabe said the government was trying to be accommodating but warned that Mr Nkomo was not immune from arrest.

The burly Mr Nkomo listened impassively as Mr Mugabe complained that the opposition leader and his Zapu party had failed to mount a concerted campaign to persuade its supporters to stop helping dissidents. — UPI.



Four Wits students, Gina Lee, 21, left, Penn
day, fuelling up for Wits Rag Dynamics, w
be sold from March 10 and the float pr

RJM 23/2/84 (362)

Harare's fight against cholera

BY ANDRE VILJOEN

HARARE — Health authorities in Zimbabwe have adopted tough measures to confine a cholera outbreak in the eastern border region but have refused to disclose the scale of the problem.

According to an informed but unofficial source some 2 000 cholera cases have been confirmed in the Chipinge and Chisumbanje districts since the outbreak last year.

A health official at a roadblock on the outskirts of the affected area said this week many people had died.

An official in the eastern city of Mutare, about 150km north of the quarantine area, this week expressed optimism that the worst of the outbreak was over and had been successfully contained.

But there is concern after a single cholera case was reportedly confirmed at Rusape, northwest of Mutare, last week.

Health officials and policemen continued to man roadblocks on all roads leading to the quarantine area this week. People leaving the area are required to take preventive medicine and are not allowed to take out any fresh produce or water. Those entering are warned of the health risks.

Cholera is thought to have been introduced by starving Mozambicans.

Police and health department officials in Mutare recently persuaded 500 people at an annual church meeting to disperse after it was learnt that some of the crowd had come from the cholera area.

The Mutare Health Department has imposed a ban on all meetings requiring communal sleeping and temporary pit latrines and has also ordered that funerals take place only after consultation with health authorities and be attended by "essential people" only.

Health teams in Mutare are lecturing and distributing pamphlets on how to prevent the spread of cholera and residents have been advised not to encourage visits from relatives and friends from cholera areas.

Now former enemies help black farmers get best from the land

ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare RDM 23/2/84 (362)

Concluding a two-part feature on Zimbabwe's co-operative movement

THE Harare South Farmers' Association still meets on the last Thursday of every month.

But there is a difference. The meeting of prosperous white commercial farmers in the local country club is also being attended by black ex-guerillas who have bought a 4 000ha spread which they are farming collectively.

"They didn't seem too happy when we arrived at our first meeting, but we told them that, although we were enemies yesterday, today we are no longer interested in politics but in farming," the deputy chairperson of the Simukai Agricultural Co-operative, Mr Richman Nkolomi, told me during a conversation in the farm office.

"They accepted that and now they are really helping us to do the right things and plant crops which will give us the best return. They say if we continue as we have started we should succeed."

Simukai, about 40km from Harare, is the most prosperous of the three co-operatives I visited recently.

But it clearly faces many problems, not the least of which is how to lay hands on the substantial amounts of money needed to keep it running.

It is the aim of the 57 former guerillas and 24 civilian men and women running the collective to maintain levels of production comparable with commercial farms.

The ex-combatants pooled R66 000 in demobilisation pay towards the cost of the farm and were met halfway by an Agricultural Finance Corporation loan.

Ironically, while the collective has been accepted by white farmers it has inspired little enthusiasm among 56 former farm labourers who are still living on the land.

"At first we tried to involve them in projects, but they are used to monthly wages and were put off when we told them none of us would get any money unless we worked very hard.

"We offered them the same small (R33) monthly soap and cigarette allowances we currently receive but they said they would rather sit back and see how we work out.

"A few have recently told us they have noticed some improvement and I think in time they will join us," said Mr Nkolomi.

He said although all 81 co-operative members did the work of labourers without receiving the wages, they ate their own good produce, owned the land, stock, buildings and machinery and were motivated to succeed.

In Harare I visited what on the surface looks like a perfectly ordinary, well-stocked suburban supermarket and bottle store.

Mr Weston Shawarira, one of 14 former guerillas who run the complex collectively, told me they had not advertised their real nature because they did not want to antagonise anyone.

"But by now, most of our regular customers — about half of whom are white — know about us and there are no hard feelings."

The men, who were together in the war and did not regard each other "as friends but as brothers" each put R2 640 of their demobilisation pay towards the purchase of the complex a year ago.

Although their venture has a monthly turnover of about R27 000, so far none of them has drawn any salary and none of them expects to do so before another two year's hard work.

"Because we are a co-operative, millers, bankers and manufacturers refuse to give us credit facilities. We have to buy all our stock on a COD basis and what little of our earnings are not needed for running costs, we put into expansion projects, such as our new poultry unit."

Mr Shawarira said they were all committed to their venture and determined to promote self-reliance.

The other collective co-operative I visited was run by 10 remarkably patient women who, after nearly three years of collective dressmaking, are not even earning enough extra money to pay for their bus fares to work.

This cost is carried by their factory-worker husbands.

Mrs Eunnath Kawondera, chairperson of the Shingirai Co-operative — which operates from a small, dingy rented room — said, however "things are a bit improved now, but we don't have enough sewing machines".

In fact, the former housewives — who make school uniforms by day and attend adult education classes in the evenings — have only two industrial machines which were donated to them by Occzim (the Organisation of Collective Co-operatives in Zimbabwe) and three loaned domestic machines which they have to return at the end of this month.

They earn about R1 100 a month from uniforms they sell to schools with which they have contracts. All the money is absorbed in buying more material and paying rent.

"We could make much more if we had more machines," said Mrs Kawondera.

Despite the little progress, she said they were better off, thanks to their decision to take the collective plunge after attending a co-operatives meeting in 1981.

"We were doing nothing before. Now we are doing our best to help our children and develop our country and we are mixing with different people and sharing ideas with others."

It was heartwarming to hear from an Occzim official later the good news which had had not yet been conveyed to the industrious women: that the organisation had decided to give them another two industrial machines.

"We constantly monitor all collective co-operatives and try to give material assistance to those we believe deserve it," the official said.

Matabeleland shudders, but the Government denies wave of killings . . .

New terror in Zimbabwe

By Robin Drew, The Star's Foreign News Service

BULAWAYO — They came in the night, kicking on the doors and shouting at them to hurry. The trucks were waiting nearby to take them for questioning.

The people of Phakama kraal in the Plumtree district of Matabeleland were about to experience interrogation at the hands of some of Zimbabwe's feared "Mutswairo", the soldiers who had come to "sweep away" the dissidents from this troubled area currently under strict curfew.

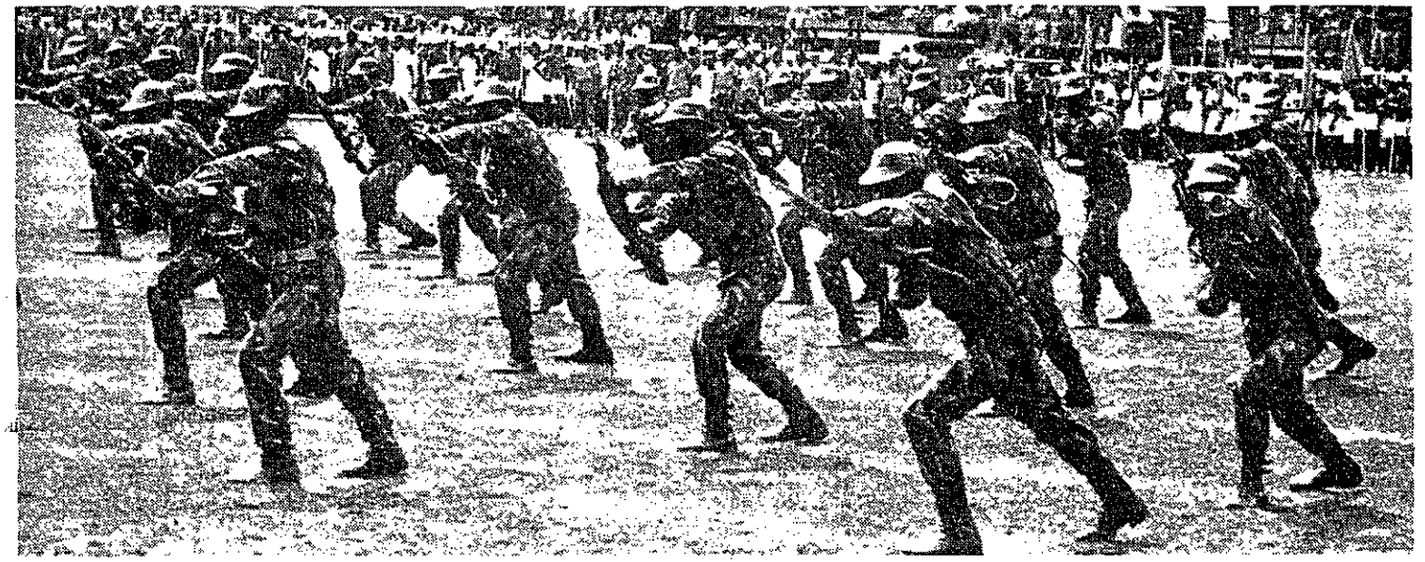
Seventeen-year-old Nomsa Ngwenya from the village told me of the events which followed the round-up on the night of Saturday, February 11.

She was speaking from the safety of Bulawayo to where she had fled after undergoing a severe beating.

Nomsa, a pretty girl who said her "husband" was working in Johannesburg (it appears he was the man to whom she had been promised in marriage) told her story matter-of-factly through an interpreter.

She described how the women and girls had been separated from the men and kept in a wired-in enclosure at a place which she called "Hama".

Near them the men were made to stand with their arms up as the soldiers beat them on the back with sticks, while the women were [illegible]



The feared soldiers of Mr Mugabe's Fifth Brigade — again accused of violations of human rights in Matabeleland — demonstrate their skills.



Such are the men who are on a new drive to seek — and kill —



Fifth Brigade soldiers demonstrate their interrogation techniques.

in the Bulawayo district, has a list of atrocities alleged to have been committed by soldiers in Kezi and elsewhere in the south-western corner of Matabeleland which was placed under curfew on February 3.

The Government has denied that it has any information about the killing of civilians, following claims in parliament by the Zapu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, that an eye witness had told him of the execution of six young men, also in the Kezi district, on that same Sunday.

Father Wilson, a quietly spoken Bulawayo-born coloured priest, says the allegations should be made public "because the truth must be told".

He said he had been informed of a number of killings by soldiers in chief Sithole's area on February 5.

The most horrific, which was in the form of a verbal report from an informant who had been in the area, was the killing of 13 people near the Donkwe secondary school.

The informant had told him that the men had been beaten unconscious, their bodies thrown into a disused well which had logs covering it, and hand grenades had been tossed in afterwards.

In other alleged incidents that Sunday, a Mr Kumbini Philip Mlalazi and his wife Esther Mophosa, had been shot in the fields, and soldiers had fired on a group of people at the Shashane River store.

Six men who were shot had been buried in knee-deep graves three to a grave.

inc. chant pro-government and ruling party slogans.

Later, questioning of individuals started. When her turn came she was taken from the enclosure, and made to lie down with her face to the ground.

Two soldiers held her arms, two her legs and a fifth lifted her dress and beat her across the buttocks with a stick.

Another man asked questions and made notes. They asked her about dissidents, if she had seen them, cooked for them or slept with them.

All the time they beat her. She cried and screamed but could tell them nothing, she said.

Her buttocks started to bleed.

After a time, she could not remember how long, she was sent back to the enclosure.

The interogation went on for the next two days. Some of the young men were taken away and she had not heard of them again. They included her relatives Peter Moyo, Robert Moyo and Moffat Ndhlovu.

Some of the women were taken back for questioning and were beaten again, but she was not. At times the soldiers came and made them sing and chant "Forward with Mugabe", "Down with dissidents". Nomsa said they were given tea and bread while they were at the camp. On Monday afternoon she was released and ordered to return on Thursday.

This time she went with her mother, but the soldiers sent her mother away. Some people who had been left at the camp were no longer there and she was told by other women that they had been killed.

She was asked again if she had seen dissidents, but this time she was not beaten.

She was told she could go and she caught up with her mother. On Saturday, February 18, her mother told Nomsa that she should leave home and to go to Bulawayo with her 12-year-old sister-in-law, Nadia Nyoni. There were no other young people left in the village and there was no food.

She and Nadia, who has a deformed leg, walked through the bush in the direction of the main road from Plumtree to Bulawayo. They walked for several hours and crossed two rivers before they came to the road. They asked if they could spend the night at a house and the next morning the bus came and took them to Bulawayo where Nomsa is staying with her sister.

Her sister treated the wounds on her buttocks because she was frightened to go to to hospital or a clinic.

I asked her if she would go back to her home. She replied: "Yes, when the buses run again."

● The people of Kezi, 100 km south of Bulawayo, will also recall February 5 as "Bloody Sunday" if the reports which have been made to churchmen are to be believed.

Father Hebron Wilson, a 39-year-old Roman Catholic priest who represents the Zimbabwe Justice and Peace Commission [illegible] South three weeks ago and thousands of troops and police were moved into the area between the Botswana border and the Bulawayo-Beitbridge road.

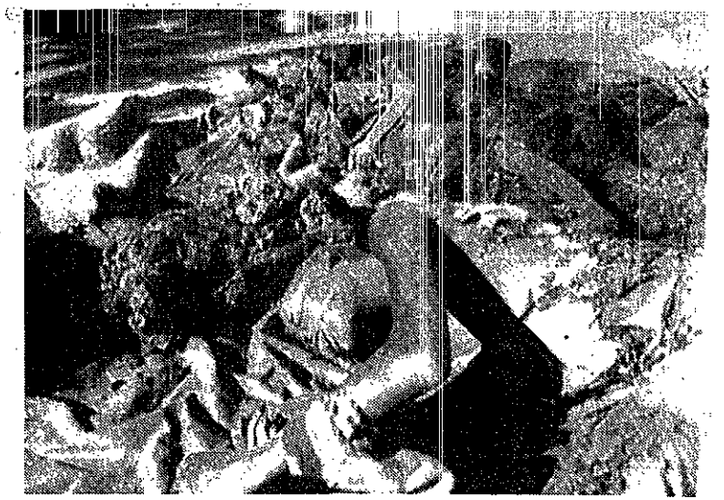
The action was taken to flush out dissidents who, Home Affairs minister Dr Simbi Mubako said, had crossed into Zimbabwe from South Africa. They were said to be harassing the civilian population.

All stores in the area were closed and only limited supplies of food have been allowed into the area, mainly to ranches and mission stations.

There are grave fears in Bulawayo that the tough action to deny the dissidents food will lead to mass starvation.

The government says food is being allowed in but checks this week revealed that supply depots on the outskirts of the curfew area were full of mealie meal stocks which have not gone into the controlled area.

Last year it is believed that hundreds, possibly thousands, of civilians lost their lives when Fifth Brigade soldiers were let loose in an operation against suspected dissident supporters. A committee is currently investigating alleged security force atrocities.



The Government of Zimbabwe denies claims that its forces kill people in the Matabeleland area recently placed under curfew.



A woman stands in the doorway of a burntout hut. Zimbabwe's troops are accused of razing villages while hunting for dissidents.

Security forces guilty of atrocities — US report

The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE — All three branches of Zimbabwe's security apparatus have been guilty of human rights violations during the past year, according to a US government annual report on international human rights.

The report, which was submitted to Congress on January 31, said the Zimbabwe police, Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) and armed forces had all "to some degree" violated human rights during the past year.

Since mid-1982 there had been widespread "credible" reports of "organised killings of civilians" in the Matabeleland province, which put the number of deaths at between 500 and 700.

Also during 1983, an "undetermined" number of people were arrested or detained by official security forces without public announcement.

The US report said that there had been accusations against the Zimbabwe authorities of torture and cruel punishment, and quoted the case of the six detained air force officers who told at their trial they were tortured and intimidated into making confessions of involvement in the Thornhill air base sabotage.

Many people had been subjected to arbitary arrest under Zimbabwe's emergency powers, but the Government had refused to give exact figures of the number of people being held. On at least 10 occasions in 1983 people were redetained after being acquitted in court, said the report.

The Reagan administration recently cut aid to Zimbabwe by a substantial amount.

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Starving refugees face uncertain fate

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — About 100 000 sick and starving Mozambican refugees who have trekked hundreds of kilometres to escape a killer famine, now face an uncertain future in Zimbabwe.

While aid organisations and border district authorities await a lead from the government, the burden of providing assistance to these shattered people is weighing on poor peasant villagers in eastern Zimbabwe.

District authorities are becoming increasingly apprehensive about the health hazard to villagers. In one district alone, health authorities are battling to contain an imported outbreak of cholera which has affected an estimated 2 000 people and has caused an unknown number of deaths.

About 20 000 refugees have been lucky enough to get temporary work on commercial farms and, according to an informed source in Harare, the government recently put about 24 000 in a camp where it is presumably feeding them.

The extent of their plight is generally unknown in Zimbabwe and so far the refugees have received limited food and clothing on an ad hoc basis from a Catholic Church organisation, a rural school, some concerned town dwellers and of course villagers and district administration officials.

Apparently voluntary organisations which met in Harare this week to consider a response to the crisis and some other potential benefactors, are finding it difficult to help without any clear indication of the government's plans. The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, told Parliament this week he regarded Mozambican refugees as "being on a temporary sojourn" in Zimbabwe and the government was talking to Mozambique about repatriating them.

Refugees spoken to in north-eastern Zimbabwe this week said they would never go back. Among them were blind men, women, and children whose long trek had taken them through what some refugees described as "villages of death". Most of the refugees speak Shona which is also the language of the Zimbabweans who are helping them.

An old man at Rushinga said they had come from Tete province where nothing was growing and there was not a crumb of food or stitch of clothing in any store.

More than 100 000 people have reportedly starved to death in Mozambique in the past year and government spokesmen there have said they could not send food to Tete because of the activities of allegedly South African-backed Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR) bandits in central areas of the country.

The refugee children seen this week were pot bellied and had wasted limbs. Some were eagerly eating food given to them by sympathisers, but others sat listlessly. There were signs of vitamin deficiency — ginger-tinged hair, flaky scalps and advancing blindness.

The senior district administrative officer at Rushinga, Mr Webster Mutiti, said his office had been appealing to the government since September last year for help with the refugee burden.

He expected the government would take decisive action soon but in the meantime hoped more outside help would be forthcoming.

Peasants who were feeding the refugees were also drought victims and received only enough government aid to feed themselves. "But with our people it is very difficult to look at a man dying on your doorstep, so the little they have they share with these people."

Hapless Mozambique refugees seek relief

Starving thousands pour into Zimbabwe

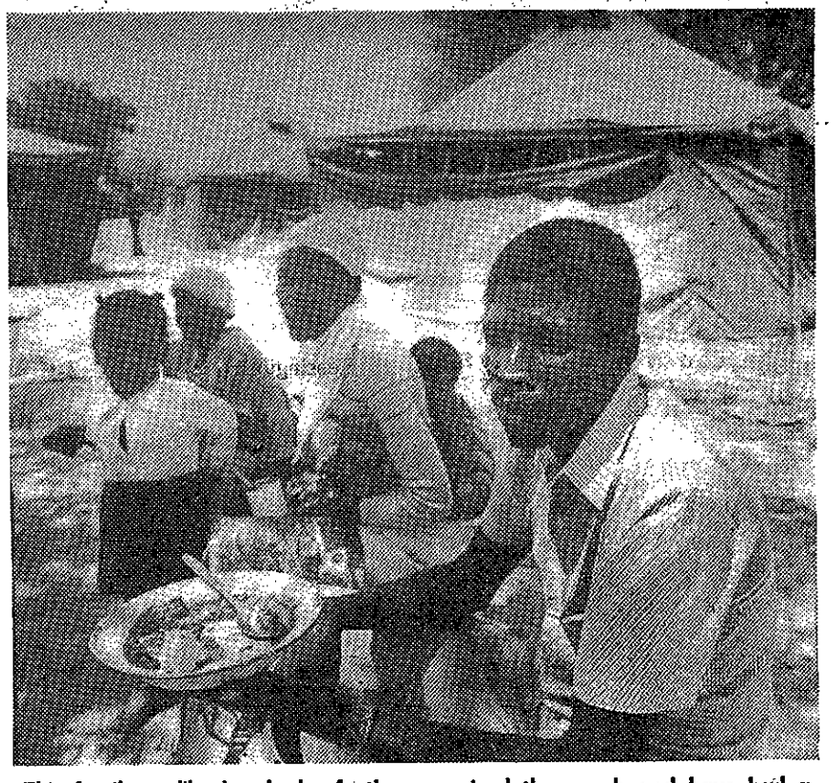
By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Foreign
News Service

RUSHINGA — When the emaciated old Mozambican eventually died, the other starving people in his group of refugees were too weak to dig a proper grave.

So they left the body covered with shrubs and grass a short distance from the road, and resumed their weary march into Zimbabwe in search of food.

Such stories are becoming commonplace in this harsh hot corner of north-east Zimbabwe where, over the past three months, there has been an influx of thousands of starving Mozambicans.

Church and relief agencies are extremely worried about the influx and are hard put to feed them. Urgent appeals for international aid have been made by the agencies, but so far none has been forthcoming.



This family, unlike hundreds of others, survived the march and have had a few days of regular meals in a tent city hastily erected by the authorities.

PRECONDITION

The Zimbabwe Government has failed to acknowledge and classify the people as refugees — a precondition for receiving aid from the wealthy UN High Commisssion for Refugees.

Many and lie in shallow graves or under shrubs. Others, particularly the little children, have died in hospitals and clinics.

Wizened infants, bellies swollen but limbs scrawny and bowed, are a common sight around Rushinga and at the Catholic mission hospital at Marymount, close to the border.

The Mozambicans, mainly malnourished women and children and elderly people, queue patiently at the mission's kitchen for their daily hand-outs of sadza, beans and soup.

Dr Rainer Winkelmann, a German working at the mission, is concerned about the health hazard from the 300 or so refugees camping at the mission, but is heartened by the progress the small children have made.

In this corner of Zimbabwe alone there are believed to be about 15 000 Mozambicans. However, all along Zimbabwe's eastern border, right down to the lowveld, the hapless ones have come streaming across.

Some of the refugees tell of having had to hand over what little food they had to the Mozambique Army which is deployed against the MNR and ap pears to have little food. Other refugees say the MNR robbed them of clothes.

On the road from the border to Rushinga, and further south to the main administrative centre of Mount Darwin, the refugees are a common sight.

Instantly distinguishable from Zimbabweans by their gaunt and tatty appearance, many have headed for the squatter camps springing up in the main centres.

Aid workers are worried that the Zimbabweans, who will have serious problems later this year in trying to feed their own people, will herd the Mozambicans together and send them back to their own country.

In the meantime the Mozambicans are existing, in many instances, on the generosity of local Zimbabweans.

"That is the normal Shona hospitality, " says one aid worker, " and also the Zimbabweans still feel very grateful for everything the Mozambicans did for them during the war."

Come winter the Zimbabwean themselves could well be in the same position.

The Ziana news agency reported earlier this week that a headmaster in the Rushinga area said he was afraid his pupils might not make it to school because they would succumb to starvation.

The area has had bad rains for the third consecutive season, and crops harvested here will be very small.

Looking at the smiling, fairly healthy, chubby Zimbabweans it is chilling to think that they could be as badly off as their Mozambican comrades later this year, when an estimated 40 000 people in the area, including refugees, will need food assistance in one form or another.

Starving villagers 'beaten and killed'

From ANDRE VILJOEN

.RARE. — Reports of forced starva-n and wanton army brutality are erging from an area of Matabelé-d that has been sealed off from the side world for the past month.

t is impossible to catalogue the suf-ing precisely because the vast Mata-eland South operational area is out ounds to journalists and no official ails are being released, but accord-to reports gleaned from a variety informed sources, thousands of vil-ers have been severely beaten and ndreds have been killed in the ruth-s search for dissidents.

bout 420 000 villagers who have no ps after 2½ years of drought face starvation because soldiers have cut off food supplies to all but farms and missions and forced stores to close. Many people are subsisting on wild melons.

An indefinite dawn-to-dusk curfew was clamped on the area a month ago but in some parts villagers are prevented from leaving their homes throughout the day. No forms of transport, except for government and a limited number of mission vehicles, are allowed to operate in the area.

According to a source close to the military, between 1 500 and 4 000 civilians are being interrogated by about 200 Central Intelligence Organization officers at a camp near Kezi. Many of those injured during questioning were being held in a camp hospital and according to unconfirmed reports hundreds of them had been beaten to death.

Villagers who managed to slip out of the curfew area say similar beatings and interrogations occur in other smaller holding camps in the area.

A medical source said one mission hospital treated 30 patients with broken limbs in the first week of the curfew. Farmers complain of soldiers beating their labourers.

Several sources said Fifth Brigade officers had told gatherings of villagers they would have to eat each other before food supplies were resumed.

On February 13, five heads of religious denominations in Matabeleland sent letters to the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe and the President, the Rev Canaan Banana, appealing to them to intervene in the food crisis. But apparently there has been no change and a Matabeleland clergyman said he was surprised when, more than a week after the letter had been sent, Mr Mugabe told parliament he was not aware of food-supply disruptions in the curfew area.

Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo was the first to allege killings in the area when in a speech in parliament on February 14 he named six men who he said had been murdered by soldiers at Kezi on the first day of the curfew.

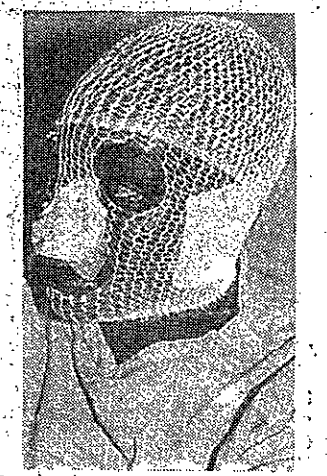
Zapu sources fear the curfew operation could become as bloody as the crackdown in Matabeleland North, a year ago, in which soldiers allegedly slaughtered thousands of villagers.

Matabeleland, in the south-western part of Zimbabwe, is Zapu's political stronghold and dissident violence first erupted in the province two years ago after Mr Nkomo was sacked from the cabinet and Zapu military leaders were detained. Since then dissidents have murdered and mutilated hundreds of civilians including 38 members of the white farming community.

The latest crackdown follows an upsurge of dissident activity which the government blames on dissidents allegedly infiltrated from South Africa. A number of white farmers, who say they have noted an improvement in the standard of training of dissidents, believe South Africa is exploiting the dissident problem. They see other dissident groups as criminal bandits and Zapu sympathisers.

A source close to the government said the Ndebele villagers had invited their plight upon themselves by materially supporting dissidents. He said Mr Nkomo could "end dissidence overnight by putting putting down the word through the party machinery".

In interviews this week Ndebele villagers and Zapu sources in Matabeleland all said they had never seen dissidents and alleged that reported dissident atrocities were the work of security-force "dirty tricks departments".



A victim of the violence in Matabeleland who has had his ears and nose hacked off.

Kiss of death for a dream

Mugabe still in SA trade shackles

By Angus Macmillan

ZIMBABWE, senior partner in the four-year old Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, can kiss goodbye its pipedream of economic independence from big brother south of the Limpopo — for the time being anyway.

South Africa is still its biggest export market and supplies most of its imports — in both cases more than double the volumes of the United Kingdom, its former colonial parent which is in second spot.

Zimbabwe's trade with West Germany, the United States and Japan has increased markedly since 1980, but not at SA's expense.

Zimbabwe's trade with its SADCC partners has fallen since the alliance's inception in 1980 — exactly what SADCC wanted to avoid — and it has not been able to prune its economic connections with South Africa.

SA's trade with black Africa has doubled since 1979 to more than R1 000-million a year.



Oil lifeline

Pretoria's extension of its long-standing preferential trade agreement in 1982 — an about-turn after announcing that it would be ended — is the single most important factor in Zimbabwe's economic mix. Without the agreement, Robert Mugabe's regime would be pressed to keep its place on top of the SADCC pile.

When Zimbabwe's oil lifeline from Maputo was sabotaged, commerce and industry were kept going by fuel from South Africa.

Zimbabwe's dependence on SA was highlighted last year when Pretoria showed its economic leverage by temporarily shutting the railway link.

In May and June last year, Zimbabwe imported goods worth R54-million from SA. Imports from the UK were valued about R34-million between January and April. The South African figure does not include petroleum.

In the export stakes, Zimbabwe is slightly better off. But the R33-million of goods sold south of the Limpopo in May and June were more than double Zimbabwe's exports to the US of R16-million from January to April. Exports to the UK were R25-million in the first four months of 1983.

Six SADCC members — Lesotho, Botswana, Swaziland, Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia — are also firmly enmeshed in South Africa's trade web.

The other two members are Angola and Tanzania with which South Africa trades more surreptitiously — as it does with many other African countries.

Apart from drought and worldwide recession, the SADCC has been plagued by lack of cohesion, bickering over who gets what new industry, and transport inadequacies.

Keith Atkinson, of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, says there has been infighting among member nations over plans for industrial projects. "Each has solid grounds for wanting new industry, but not all have sufficient infrastructure to support its needs".

In spite of these shortcomings, the SADCC has made progress in communications. Zimbabwe has a new multi-million rand electrified rail network, Mozambique's ports have been revived by international aid and satellites have upgraded telecommunications.

However, Mozambique's ports — Nacala, Beira and Maputo — are still a stumbling block. Maputo relies on transhipment of SA goods for much of its revenue and many Zimbabwean traders prefer Durban to the closer Mozambique ports, once teeming with holidaying white Rhodesians.

Alliance

Zimbabwe is a major participant in another trade alliance which has sprung up among African nations looking to decrease their reliance on South Africa and their former colonial masters.

The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has become the clearing house for the Preferential Trade Agreement which is expected to take off once a list of products is established in July.

Comprising East and Southern African members the PTA includes Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Somalia, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and the Comoros.

One-stop leasing for the truck fleets

By Alec Hogg

HASSLE-free running of heavy-vehicle fleets has arrived.

Imperial Truck Hire, which has a fleet of more than 600 vehicles, has completed a link with Volkskas fleet management division VVK, enabling it to provide clients with a one-stop leasing service for trucks.

The system combines a fixed maintenance fee for the fleet with the variable monthly cost of petrol and oil.

According to Stuart Reeves, managing director of Imperial Truck Hire, its attraction lies in trouble-free operation of a truck fleet, and the issue of VVK plastic cards for the purchase of petrol and oil.

Similar systems are in use for car fleets, but this is the first time the service has been available for heavy vehicles.

Stannic general manag... Rob Wynter says his grou... has offered a similar syst... for trucks of below 2½ t... for nearly a year, and it ... shortly follow VVK's lead ... heavy vehicles.

Barclays

Bob Joubert, head of ... ket leaders Barclays Au... says his operation will offer ... fully integrated fleet ... agement system for truc... with or without the pla... card and with on-line ter... nal facilities later this ye...

"We are studying the fe... bility of a full maintenan... leasing facility for heav... commercial vehicles whi... might be introduced in ...

"We regard the heav... vehicle industry as havin... unique problems and diff... ent characteristics from c... fleets and will therefore ... merely adapt our syste... We will structure a syst...



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SUNDAY EXPRESS March 4, 1984

Zimbabwe army cut food lines, claim Matabeles

Own Correspondent: Harare

ZIMBABWEAN soldiers are blocking food shipments into curfew areas of southern Matabeleland and are assaulting people in large-scale round-ups of residents, people from the region said this week.

The curfew was ordered a month ago as part of the latest government attempt to suppress dissident guerrillas believed responsible for hundreds of robberies and killings since 1982.

Government officials have not commented on the anti-rebel operation, but interviews last week with refugees, farmers and security sources just outside the curfew zone indicated that it could be as violent as a similar operation in northern Matabeleland a year ago.

During that operation church and foreign aid groups accused the army of torturing and murdering thousands of civilians.

The North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade is again the most heavily involved unit of the Zimbabwe national army. It is supplemented by a recently-commissioned unit, the Presidential Guard, dubbed the 'Sixth Brigade' because its men are, like the Fifth Brigaders, armed with AK-47 assault rifles and trained by North Korean advisers.

A number of villagers said soldiers had beaten people indiscriminately with heavy wooden sticks.

In the first week of the curfew, one rural hospital treated 60 victims of such beatings, more than 50% of whom had broken limbs. A seven-year-old girl had an arm broken in several places.

Unlike last year's operation, nobody is questioned in a village or kraal. Instead people are herded into trucks and driven to barbed wire-enclosed interrogation centres run by the Fifth Brigade and the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO).

Several thousand people have been sent to two such camps near Kezi and near Gwanda.

A source close to the military said injuries to the kidneys caused by beatings around the buttocks and back had caused a number of deaths.

Most of the dissidents the army is hunting are believed to have slipped out of the curfew zone about two weeks ago, moving to the north and east. But there has been no attempt by army or police to follow them.

The attack two weeks ago on five school-teachers near Masvingo, 160km east of the curfew area, may have been in retaliation for the government crackdown.

Most of the area's remaining white farmers have not been bothered but several are angry at what happens when they report sightings of dissidents to the army. Presidential Guard and Fifth Brigade troops often assault the workers who reported to the farmer in the first place.

"From a military point of view they are not trying to get information that will help them round up dissidents. They are just trying to brutalise people," a source close to the military said.

"The only way this could solve anything is if every Matabele in the region is killed, because there is no way anyone associated with this kind of terror campaign will ever want to have anything to do with the government," he said.

The operation has spilled over the curfew boundaries on at least one occasion. Just after midnight last Monday, soldiers forced the entire black population of the non-curfew town of Gwanda out of their homes and told them to "run" to a football field 1km away.

Those who did not run fast enough were kicked or hit with rifle butts. Two Fifth Brigaders were arrested in connection with an assault on off-duty policemen during the operation.

Later that day more than 400 of Gwanda's 2 000 black residents were trucked to an interrogation camp at Bar 20 mine, 15km away. While that was happening, a CIO officer arrested Mr Sikiwili Moyo, an opposition MP for Matabeleland and a close friend of opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Mr Moyo, 61, was released on Tuesday, barely able to walk and bruised over more than half his body. He said Fifth Brigade soldiers had assaulted him.

Matabeleland plotter freed

FORMER Bulawayo city council employee Mr Victor Samuel Radmore, 55, who was sentenced to seven years' jail for plotting to separate Matabeleland from Zimbabwe, has been released.

A member of his family said in Bulawayo yesterday that Mr Radmore had been released from jail two weeks ago and had left for South Africa on Sunday to visit other members of the family.

He was sentenced together with Bulawayo dentist Frank Bertrand in May, 1982. The relative said she did not know whether Mr Radmore had been released on medical grounds. He underwent a major spinal operation just prior to his detention. — Sapa.

Exodus gains momentum

ZIMBABWE lost 19 067 emigrants last year — the second biggest exodus since independence in April 1980, according to official figures published today.

A total of 74 781 people left Zimbabwe between January, 1980 and December last year, the Central Statistical Office said in its monthly bulletin on migration.

While it does not specify the race of emigrants, immigration officials say most of those who left were whites.

The number of emigrants was 17 240 in 1980, the year of independence, 20 534 the following year and 17 942 in 1982.

In the same period Zimbabwe attracted 28 870 immigrants, mainly black Zimbabweans returning from exile after nine decades of white minority rule and a seven-year war for independence. — Sapa-AP.

Mass grave shown to Zimbabwe Ministers

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe Cabinet Ministers were yesterday shown a mass grave site where more than 4 000 guerillas and their supporters were allegedly buried by Rhodesian security forces.

Several graves were opened at the site — a disused shooting range about 5 km from the farming community of Rusape, 200 km east of Harare.

Ministers were told that one grave held the remains of 180 women guerillas and another the remains of 160 men.

It was estimated, said a government spokesman, that more than 4 000 combatants, including young "mujibhas" and "chimbwidos" (guerilla helpers), were interred at the site.

Mrs Clara Farayi, a local woman who has spent more than R3 000 of her own money on marking and clearing the grave sites, claimed that many of the dead were shot at the range by Selous Scouts. Other guerillas killed in contacts with government forces were brought to the site in plastic bags for burial, she said.

The Zimbabwe television service claimed the rifle range was used as a torture and interrogation centre by the Selous Scouts, and that many of the victims were burned after being shot.

A section of one of the graves was opened and Ministers and Pressmen saw human bones and skulls.

The government spokesman said prisoners had been used to dig the graves.

Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira — head of a Cabinet committee on national monuments — said the grave site was an exposure of "the brutalities and atrocities committed by the regime of Ian Smith".

He appealed to others who might have information of massacres or mass graves sites to come forward.

It was the government's intention, he said, to build a national monument at the Rusape grave site.

African summit: where will the leaders meet?

The Star's Foreign News Service

Where will the summit meeting be? Botswana, Zambia or Malawi?

All those coy dimples displayed by Mr Pik Botha on TV recently while he described the birth of a new era in Maputo/Pretoria relations have intensified speculation about the likely venue for a meeting between Prime Minister P W Botha and President Samora Machel of Mozambique.

The Foreign Minister acknowledged, with what appeared to be some hope of success, that he would like to have the two leaders sign the Maputo/Pretoria peace accord.

However, he carefully sidestepped a question on where such a meeting would take place. There are several possibilities.

Portugal, which would be eager to host such a meeting as a demonstration of its keenness to increase its influence in its former territories, is out. The two parties agree that a signing ceremony of such import should take place in Africa.

That reasoning does not exclude Cape Verde, whose President Aristide Pereira has hosted several meetings between South African and Angolan delegations.

Zambia is a strong possibility as it would give Pretoria and Maputo an opportunity to acknowledge the role played by President Kenneth Kaunda.

Of the likely venues selected by commentators, Malawi is a possibility but may be considered too pro-South African for Mozambique to accept it as neutral ground.

Botswana is a possibility, though Dr Quett Masire's government may not wish to be too closely associated with the no-aggression pact in case it is later condemned as a Maputo sell-out of South Africa's black population.

There remains, of course, the possibility that instead of seeking neutral ground the South African Prime Minister may take his Homburg in hand and make a great leap outward to Maputo.

Zimbabwe set to reopen diplomatic links with Pretoria?

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Star 7/2/84



Zimbabwe premier Robert Mugabe . . . a change of heart?

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — The belief is growing in informed circles here that Zimbabwe will be talking to to South Africa on a government-to-government basis before too long.

Contact at ministerial level between Harare and Pretoria was banned by Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe soon after independence when in July 1980 he ordered the South African diplomatic representative here to pack his bags and go.

Both governments maintained trade missions in each other's countries and kept on talking through their officials.

But Mr Mugabe has up to now been adamant that there should be no discussions between Ministers, an attitude which angered Pretoria.

Now in the wake of the dramatic peace initiative involving ministers of the Mozambique and South African Governments and likelihood of a meeting between President Samora Machel and Prime Minister P W Botha, political and diplomatic circles here are asking not of, but when, Ministers from Harare and Pretoria will get together.

It is reliably learnt that overtures have already been made by South Africa and that Mr Mugabe's government has been urged to reconsider its stance in the interests of Southern African peace and stability.

Close ties between Zimbabwe and Mozambique were formed during the liberation war when Mr Machel allowed forces of the now-ruling Zanu (PF) party of Mr Mugabe to operate from Mozambique territory, despite the terrible cost exacted through Rhodesian security force raids.

Particular attention has been paid here to the remark last week by President Machel that the security talks in Maputo were not a matter for Mozambique and South Africa alone, but for the whole of Southern Africa.

TRANSPORT LINKS

Mr Mugabe has himself said in the Zimbabwe Parliament he had been assured that the talks were in the interests of security, and that if South Africa proved to be sincere, Zimbabwe should benefit from the security of its transport links through Mozambique.

But he went further to talk about his hopes for positive results from the Mozambique and Angolan meetings which could mean peace and calm in the region.

This, he said, would depend on whether there had been a "transformation" on the part of the South African Government.

Earlier this year when asked if he visualised talks with South Africa in view of the Mozambique moves, Mr Mugabe left the door open by saying that contacts had always been maintained with South Africa in an open manner, particularly when matters of trade or security needed to be discussed.

Well-placed sources in Harare say it seems inevitable that, because of the changed Southern African scene resulting from the peace talks between Maputo and Pretoria, the Zimbabwe Government will review its ban on ministerial contacts.

There is still a marked reluctance to take this step because of the wish to avoid affording South Africa the claim to respectability which it could make if yet another "progressive" African country finds itself negotiating with a regime which had been labelled "obnoxious". There is also grave distrust of South African motives.

ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS

But against this, there is the camp which says that given the prevailing economic hardships, it would be foolish for Zimbabwe to take a stand on a matter of principle when the rest of the region has found it necessary to bend.

One view is that if Zimbabwe does not agree to government-to-government discussions, it would be laying itself open to a stepped-up programme of destabilisation.

The Zimbabwe Government has repeatedly accused South Africa of arming dissidents and of mounting a propaganda campaign through a clandestine radio station called "Radio Truth", which it says is operating from South African territory.

"Whether we like it or not, we have to take account of the realities of the situation and that means more stick from Pretoria unless we reach for the carrot," said one source.

The carrot could be a non-aggression pact on similar lines to the one Mozambique has agreed to.

It could also be promises of assistance in helping to move food supplies which Zimbabwe will need this year and even assistance in persuading Botswana to do more to stop dissidents using that territory as a base.

A pact presumably would mean an end to Radio Truth outpourings and an agreement not to let South African soil be used as a springboard for opponents of the Harare government.

It would also mean a formal acknowledgement of the Zimbabwe Government's stand that it will not allow South African liberation movements to use the territory as a base for incursions across the border.

Talks with Zimbabwe next?

ARGUS 7/3/84 From ROBIN DREW, Argus Foreign Service, Harare 362

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Mozambique

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Changed scene

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There is still a marked reluctance to take this step because of the wish to avoid affording South Africa the claim to "respectability" which it could make if yet another "progressive" African country found itself negotiating with it. There is also grave distrust of South African motives.

But against this, there is the camp which says that given the prevailing economic hardships, it would be foolish for Zimbabwe to take a stand on a matter of principle when the rest of the region has found it necessary to bend.

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A pact presumably would mean an end to Radio Truth and an agreement not to let South African soil be used as a springboard for opponents of the Harare Government.

It would also mean a formal acknowledgement of the Zimbabwe government's stand that it cannot allow South African "liberation" movements to use the territory as a base for incursions across the border.

Zimbabwe has consistently maintained that while it gives the ANC and the PAC diplomatic and moral support, it cannot allow them to operate from here. Both organisations have maintain a low key presence.

Claim of raid by 'S A-armed bandits'

HARARE—Zimbabwe claimed yesterday that South African-armed 'bandits' had burnt down a Matabeleland school, bayoneted two teachers and later shot dead a local chairman of the ruling party.

The 10-man gang also set fire to schoolbooks at Chimbapiri School in the Mberengwa communal lands and robbed a nearby country store of cash and goods, security chief Mr Emmerson Munangagwa said in a statement.

Mr Munangagwa, who is Minister of State for Security in the Prime Minister's Office, said the bandits had attacked the school on March 3. The wounded teachers were in hospital, but their condition was not reported.

The gang was armed with AK-47 rifles, RPG-7 rocket launchers and three machineguns. One of the machineguns was recovered by the security force after they had shot one gang member in a clash on a ranch near the school yesterday, the minister said.

Accused

From checks of serial numbers of weapons supplied to captured bandits previously by South Africa, the RPK machinegun, serial number ANC3002, had been established as 'part of the same batch of weaponry', Mr Munangagwa said.

He said it was 'yet another indication of South African destabilisation through their supply of weaponry to bandits operating in southern areas of Zimbabwe.'

Zimbabwe has repeatedly accused South Africa of helping to arm, train and supply anti-Government dissidents in Matabeleland province, traditional stronghold of opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, bordering South Africa.

In a related development, the Zimbabwe Home Affairs Minister, Mr Simbi Mubako, said yesterday the dusk-to-dawn curfew imposed in Matabeleland last month had been eased 'to alleviate any hardships' for local villagers.

A South African Defence Force spokesman, questioned about the allegations, said in Pretoria last night that channels existed between South Africa and Zimbabwe through which common problems could be discussed. The defence force, therefore, had no comment to make. — (Sapa-AP)

RDM 9/3/84

Newsmen tell of Press 'smear on Zimbabwe

BULAWAYO. — A group of black South African journalists has alleged in Bulawayo that the South African Press deliberately discredits Zimbabwe.

The five journalists — Mr Sam Mabe of the Sowetan, Mr Langa Skosana, news editor of the Star's Africa edition, Mr Isaac Segola of the Rand Daily Mail, Mr Clement Ntombela of Ilanga and Mr Ezra Mantini of the Sunday Times — left Bulawayo yesterday at the end of an eight-day fact-finding mission.

They were in Zimbabwe as guests of the Zimbabwe Tourist Board, Air Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe Sun Hotels and the United Touring Company. The group visited Harare, Masvingo, Kariba, Hwange, Victoria Falls and Bulawayo.

Full of praise for the holiday resort, wildlife and hotel standards, the group said racial integration had impressed them most.

"Zimbabwe has only just emerged from a long, traumatic war. That within such a short space of time racial friction has given way to complete harmony, with life going on normally, is a magnificent achievement," Mr Mantini said.

The South African Press had been doing Zimbabwe an injustice for a long time, but it was in the interests of the Republic to discredit the country in the hope whites would leave to help swell white ranks in South Africa, Mr Mantini added.

Mr Segola said that while a single murder in Zimbabwe was "blown up out of all proportion" by South African newspapers, the fact that there were more than 1 400 murders in Soweto alone last year went unrecorded.

"The average weekend death toll in that township is 20 people as a result of violence, not to mention the many more who die as a result of tribal faction fights. But, if there is a single murder in Zimbabwe, it makes headlines at once," he said.

The group agreed that a great potential existed for getting more black South African tourists to visit Zimbabwe.

But it had to be appreciated that the South African Government would do everything possible to discourage black people from visiting Zimbabwe, "Since they would then be able to see how a multiracial country really works," Mr Skosana said. — Sapa.

ZIMBABWE

The exodus grows

Emigration from Zimbabwe increased 6% last year to 19 067 — the second-largest total in the country's history. Official figures published in Harare this week show that more than 71 000 people have emigrated from Zimbabwe since independence nearly four years ago. Over the same period, there have been more than 27 000 immigrants — giving a net loss of 44 500 people.

Most of the emigrants are believed to be white, though the figures do show that some 10 000 people have emigrated to Malawi since 1980 — presumably returning black migrant workers. Many of the immigrants have been returning black Zimbabweans.



KwaZulu ... pensioners abandon hope?

This means that the substantial outflow of whites since independence is continuing, though precisely how large the exodus has been is not clear. One reason for this is the fact that migration figures are not published on a racial basis; nor do the emigration statistics capture all those leaving the country. Ex-Zimbabweans arriving in SA in the last two years are said to exceed 17 500 a year — roughly double the figure published by the statistical office in Harare. The reason for this would seem to be that many younger emigrants do not disclose that they are leaving the country permanently since they may be able to take out more in the form of a holiday allowance than as an emigrant.

How large the white community is now is not clear. The consensus is that it is somewhere in the region of 120 000 — less than half the peak figure of 273 000 reached in the mid-Seventies.

It is not only the size of the white population that has changed. So has its make-up. There are many transient whites in the Zimbabwean population today — diplomats, the international aid fraternity, employees of non-governmental organisations, the expatriate business community, expatriate technicians, teachers, engineers and miners. The hard core of former Rhodesian whites is probably closer to 100 000 and likely to continue to shrink at a rate of at least 700 a month in 1984.

The government's moves against private schools — its insistence that private schools must work towards a majority of black pupils and black teachers over some undetermined time period — has had a severe impact on white morale. This has done more than any other single development to raise grave doubts in the minds of the dwindling white minority about their long-term future in Zimbabwe.

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The face of Southern Africa, 1984



Forlorn and defeated: A mother who fled to Zimbabwe to escape starvation in Mozambique, vainly tries to breastfeed her child

Own Correspondent

HARARE — Zimbabwe's government cannot decide what to do about the thousands of Mozambican peasants who are pouring across its borders to escape starvation in Tete and Manica provinces.

Last week the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, said "illegal immigrants" would be sent back.

On the same day in Rushinga district, 250kms to the north-east, two officials of the Ministry of Labour and Social Services said the refugees would be given food by the government as soon as their "names and families" were obtained.

Neither proposal offered much hope to the refugees, who have been staggering into Zimbabwe since August last year. Most arrive in appalling condition, in rags and their children emaciated from malnutrition.

Many of them are blind, victims of glaucoma, cataracts and vitamin-A deficiencies that seem to be endemic in their region of Mozambique.

Some said they had walked hundreds of kilometres from Zambezi province in Mozambique to reach Zimbabwe. They spoke of walking through villages in which everyone had died of starvation.

About 100 000 are thought to be in Manicaland. Another 50 000 crossed at Rushinga district in the northeast and have dispersed throughout the Mashonaland central province.

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Government officials and mission clergy in Mashonaland estimate that for every Mozambican who has reached Zimbabwe, another has died on the way.

"We've just seen the tip of the iceberg so far. You ask these people what it is like back there and they tell you there is nothing: no food, no government administration.

"There are millions of them still there and they know that if they stay they will die," an official familiar with the problem said.

Up to seven people have died in Rushinga district each week since the influx began. Rivers in flood along the border there have stopped new entries for the past two weeks, but when the water drops the migration is expected to begin again.

In Manicaland province the government has set up at least one camp for the refugees. But that camp, located on the Sabi river near the village of Chipinge, was filled to capacity weeks ago.

Despite Mr Mubako's threat to repatriate the peasants, there is so far no evidence that anyone has been sent back. Some officials admit privately that repatriation would be equivalent to a death sentence for many.

With Zimbabwe's maize stocks already low there is no eagerness for more mouths to feed.

Only a little government food has gone to the Mozambicans, most of whom subsist on charity from church and non-government organisations.

Thousands have found temporary work as cotton pickers on the rich commercial farms of Mashonaland.



Forlorn and defeated: A mother who fled to Zimbabwe to escape starvation in Mozambique, vainly tries to breastfeed her child

50 000 at Nkomo rally

From ANDRE VILJOEN

BULAWAYO. — Innocent women and children were being starved to death by soldiers in southern Matabeleland, the Zimbabwe opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, told an estimated 50 000 supporters in Bulawayo yesterday.

The political rally in a packed football stadium was one of the biggest in Zimbabwe since independence in 1980 and Mr Nkomo's first in nearly three years in the provincial capital of his Matabeleland stronghold. He has been refused permission to hold rallies in the capital city of Harare.

Mr Nkomo said nothing had come of a government promise last Tuesday to restore food to southern Matabeleland where there have been no supplies since a dawn-to-dusk curfew was imposed on February 3 after a surge in dissident violence and sabotage.

He said there were also reports of military atrocities in the area similar to those reported in northern Matabeleland a year ago.

Southern Matabeleland was naturally arid and after more than two years of drought the food situation was critical. Thousands of children were suffering from malnutrition before the curfew started and now with soldiers having forced stores to close, there had been reports of pregnant women and children starving to death.

By Saturday night not a single store in the vast curfew area had been re-opened, in spite of a promise by the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, last Tuesday to open stores at least twice a week. About 420 000 villagers are affected by the curfew.

Mr Nkomo was the first to speak out about alleged atrocities in the area when he told Parliament last month that Fifth Brigade troops had summarily executed six men at the southern town of Kezi on February 5.

He told yesterday's rally that he had presented the men who had buried the six Kezi victims, to government cabinet ministers in Harare. He had also brought them two teenage schoolgirls who had allegedly been raped by Fifth Brigade soldiers.

He said neither incident involving the Fifth Brigade "is the exception, and there are quite a number of graves around southern Matabeleland".

"I have done my bit to tell the government about these things", he said.

Zimbabwe GDP takes a tumble

HARARE. — Real gross domestic product (GDP), after a 2% rise in 1982, fell by 4% last year, says the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.

The decline was due to the 1982/3 drought, which reduced agricultural production by 15%, and to lower output in the manufacturing and distribution sectors.

While exports had nominally risen 7% in the past two years, they had fallen by 30% in real terms. Since 1981, import allocations had been reduced 40% in nominal terms and almost 60% in real terms.

Despite these major reductions in imports, the bank estimated that Zimbabwe's overall balance of payments deficit in 1983 would be significantly higher than the Z$185m recorded in 1982.

It said the inflation rate had also remained high, with prices rising at an annual rate of between 15% and 20% since the middle of 1982, despite tight control of money supply, which had increased by less than 1% in 1983.

The high rate of inflation was due to the effects of a drop in the exchange rate and the impact on prices of lower food subsidies. — Sapa-Reuter.

The Matabeleland puzzle: Are people really getting food?

The Star Bureau

HARARE — There are still doubts that food is reaching people in all parts of the curfew area in southern Matabeleland.

Last week the Home Affairs Minister, Mr Simbi Mubako, announced a relaxation of the six-week-old curfew restrictions to allow shops to open twice a week to sell mealie meal.

But at a rally in Bulawayo on Sunday the Zapu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, claimed that no shops had been allowed to open, and that people in the area were starving.

However, ranchers and farmers living on the outskirts of the curfew zone said that they believed few stores had been opened in the large curfew area, which stretches from the southern tip of the Hwange Game Reserve to Beitbridge.

Some shops were opened over the weekend for the benefit of local journalists flown into the area by security forces.

But, while villagers were photographed buying up entire stocks of mealie meal at stores, other small grocery outlets in the surrounding areas stayed closed.

According to local ranchers, some army units are confiscating mealie meal that people are trying to get to their relatives in remote districts. Under the curfew restrictions, no vehicle movement is permitted without permission of army and police commanders.

Residents are confined to a 50 m radius of their homes between dusk and dawn.

In the Senate last week, Senator Max Rosenfels claimed that he had had reports that people were starving in the curfew areas.

No food was getting in, and a large maize depot at the border town of Plumtree was "stacked to the ceiling" with bags, he said.

In normal times there would be queues of trucks waiting to collect stock from the depot.

Mr Nkomo claimed at his rally that young mothers and children were dying of hunger and being buried by their weakened relatives.

People interviewed by local newsmen at the opening of the stores said that since the imposition of the curfew they had been existing on goat meat and marula juice.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, last week offered to go into the curfew area and see for himself whether the reports of starvation were true. But so far he has not done so.

Three consecutive years of drought have hit the peasant farmers in the curfew area particularly hard. Widespread crop failures and pitiful grazing are the order of the day.

Mugabe for one-party state

Cape Times 16/3/84 (82)



Mr Robert Mugabe ... "The multi-party system has created more chaos than peace."

HARARE. — Paving the way for the introduction of a one-party state in Zimbabwe, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, said yesterday that the multi-party system had created more chaos than peace in the country.

Officially opening the first Zanu (PF) Women's Congress, he also claimed that thousands of Bishop Abel Muzorewa's former UANC auxiliaries had been trained in South Africa and were now ready to be deployed in Zimbabwe.

Mr Mugabe told the congress Zimbabwe "cannot hesitate to introduce a one-party state now, as any further delays could mean more disunity and subversion by forces bent on destroying the country's independence".

He said the postponement of a one-party state would create more room for disunity and destabilization by those who hoped to "wield power one day".

Mr Mugabe, the Zanu (PF) president, said: "Time has surely now come for us to start laying the foundation on which the one-party state will be structured.

"We cannot continue to hesitate on this matter, as this creates a mixture of destabilization and plans for more disunity by other forces."

The congress, he said, should accordingly "pronounce itself" on this subject so that its views could be transmitted to the coming party national congress in August this year.

The Prime Minister said the present multi-party system in Zimbabwe had created more chaos than peace.

"Tell me which of the other parties, Zapu, UANC and the Republican Front, has not yielded dissident ken who have resorted to subversion in order to overthrow Zanu (PF) and its government," he asked.

He reminded the congress that Zanu (PF) was currently fighting Zapu dissidents, while thousands of former UANC auxiliaries, he claimed, had undergone military training in South Africa and were now ready to be deployed in Zimbabwe.

The Republican Front also had a "whole history" of subversion and "criminality", having declared UDI in 1961, he said.

"Surely, in circumstances such as these, it is calamitous for our nation to opt for a multi-party state."

Accordingly, Zanu (PF)'s belief was that democracy could be practised only under circumstances which firstly created national unity and offered a broad forum for free discussion and debate of national issues.

"Such a forum can only be offered by a one-party state."

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabweans had for the last four years of independence been waiting for a one-party state because they know "we are one nation, one state with one government, which must have a one-party state".

He urged women to discuss the idea of a one-party state in their districts and provinces so that the country could easily move to establish the system. — Sapa

Blast closes vital Zimbabwe power plant

Mail Correspondent

HARARE. — An explosion has forced Zimbabwe's largest coal-fuelled power generating station to shut down, officials of the country's two major power companies said in Harare yesterday.

No comment could be obtained on the cause of the explosion or the extent of the damage.

The Hwange power station, situated near the huge Hwange coal fields in northern Matabeleland province, has been closed for more than a week. The plant produces 240 megawatts of power, more than a quarter of the country's total consumption.

The Electricity Supply Commission (ESC), which owns the plant, announced on March 7 that one person had been killed and 16 injured in an explosion at Hwange, but gave no other details. Further comment has not been available.

The power station is bordered by a region that has been troubled by anti-government guerrillas for more than a year, but a spokesman for the Department of Information in Harare said the explosion was not believed to be a result of rebel activity.

A Harare newspaper, the Financial Gazette, reported that all three of the power plant's boilers had been damaged in the explosion. The newspaper quoted electrical engineering and industry specialists as describing the Hwange shut-down as a "hidden catastrophe".

Utility companies throughout Zimbabwe have been ordered to shed power, and a coal-fired power station at Umniati that had been closed last year is being re-opened.

But there has been no public announcement of the power shortage and residents in the two major cities of Harare and Bulawayo have not been affected.

Zimbabwe gets most of its power from the Kariba Dam hydro-electric scheme, jointly owned by Zimbabwe and Zambia. But that station is undergoing maintenance and is generating at less than full capacity.

Manufacturing companies in Bulawayo and Harare have been asked to voluntarily cut back on their power usage.

Mr Tony Reid, director of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI), said the power cuts were worrying industrial plant managers because no one knew how severe the crisis was or for how long it would continue.

"We know very little of what is happening. If there are to be major power cuts, then we would be pleased to plan in co-operation with the government as to the best way of working out a rationalised method of power usage," he said.

Construction of the Hwange plant began in 1972, but was interrupted by the seven-year independence war. Work resumed in 1980 with extensive international participation.

Steam turbines were provided by France and West Germany, water pumps by Britain and generator transformers by Italy.

Nurses to lobby for aid change

Mail Correspondent

CAPE TONW. — South African nurses want medical aid societies to repay patients for the services of private nurses — and have drawn up a plan of action to achieve this.

The South African Nursing Association (Sana) stated at their central board meeting yesterday that the legislation should provide for the recognition of private nurses by medical aid societies.

Phase one of their plan was to educate other nurses, the medical profession and the general public.

They decided it was too soon to approach the Department of Health and Welfare at this stage.

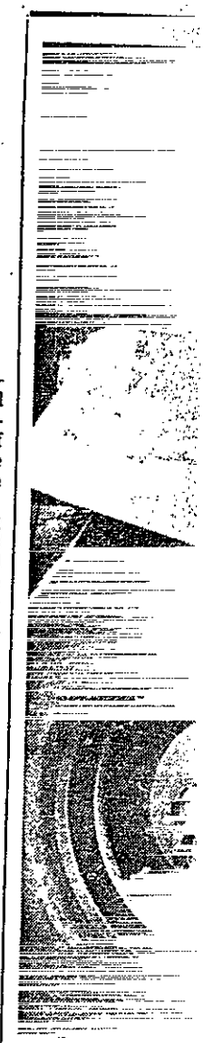
It was also suggested that, as most nurses belonged to a medical aid society, they should lobby for this within their own societies.

The work of private nurses was extremely important, especially that done by midwives and those nursing the elderly.

Nurses should be accepted as independent professionals who did not have to rely on doctors to prescribe that they were needed. In many cases, their work could mean that a doctor need not be consulted.

Opening the meeting yesterday, the president of Sana, Professor Retha van Huysteen, said many people held a low image of nursing, despite the fact that it was an independent profession with a proud history and well-defined ethical code.

The self-image of nurses was low and parts of the community also failed to see the nurse as an independent practitioner.



British grand p
South African f

Dawie plans to jump 12 cars

Mail Reporter

A SCHOOLBOY, who is attempting to raise money by jumping over cars on his BMX bike, plans to jump over 12 cars.

Dawie Victor, 14, hopes to raise money for his younger brother, Wayne, 12, to have an eye operation in the United States.

Dawie is current holder of the world record for jumping over nine cars at the Cape Showgrounds earlier this month.

He now aims to jump over 12 cars.

However, his mother, Mrs Bettie Victor, said yesterday she was determined Dawie would not attempt to jump over more than 10 cars on his BMX "because it is too dangerous".

So far Dawie has raised R8 000.

Mrs Victor said yesterday: "Wayne's eyesight remains stable, but it will worsen as he grows older, or he could lose it overnight.

"If the American doctors cannot help him, we still want to take him to see Disneyland before his vision goes totally."

Bid to ... of hom...

By JEANETTE ...

THE LENASIA ... Consultative Com... (LCC) is to attempt ... suade about 900 ... sub-economic houses ... chase their homes ... Government selling ...

The Government ... House Sale in Lena... has turned out to be ... pointing, with only ... cations received ... 1 130 tenants of the ... nomic homes.

The scheme, which ... into operation in ... year, will only be ... until June 30 this ye...

But the Minister of ... munity Developme... Pen Kotze, has agre... ants of the state own... economic homes in ... South, who still wish ...

Natal baby-snatcher jailed for five years

Mail Correspondent

DURBAN. — A 32-year-old woman who stole a two-day-old baby from its mother in Addington Hospital, Durban, in May, was jailed for five years by Mr H S van der Walt in the Durban Regional Court yesterday.

Before the court was Kay Gounder of Shalimar Gardens, Tongaat, who had pleaded not guilty to stealing baby Samantha Clark, born on May 9, at Addington Hospital on May 11 last year.

The court heard that Gounder, posing as a doctor, had approached Mrs Annemarie Clark.

Gounder showed interest in the baby and asked if she could take it and show it to her professor. She took the baby and did not return. On May 13, the baby was found by police at Gounder's home.

Gounder admitted three convictions for shoplifting.

Passing sentence Mr van der Walt said that child stealing was a very serious crime.

He sentenced Gounder to eight years' imprisonment, three years of which were suspended for five years for child stealing and to six months' imprisonment for impersonating a doctor.

He ordered that the second sentence run concurrently with the five-year jail term she will now serve.

SUPER·SPARES·MARKE

Accord will benefit entire region, says Mugabe

Zimbabwe backs bid for peace

RDM 22/3/84 (362)

By ANDRE VILJOEN HARARE.

ZIMBABWE fully supported the non-aggression accord between South Africa and Mozambique because it believed it would benefit the entire region, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, said in Harare yesterday.

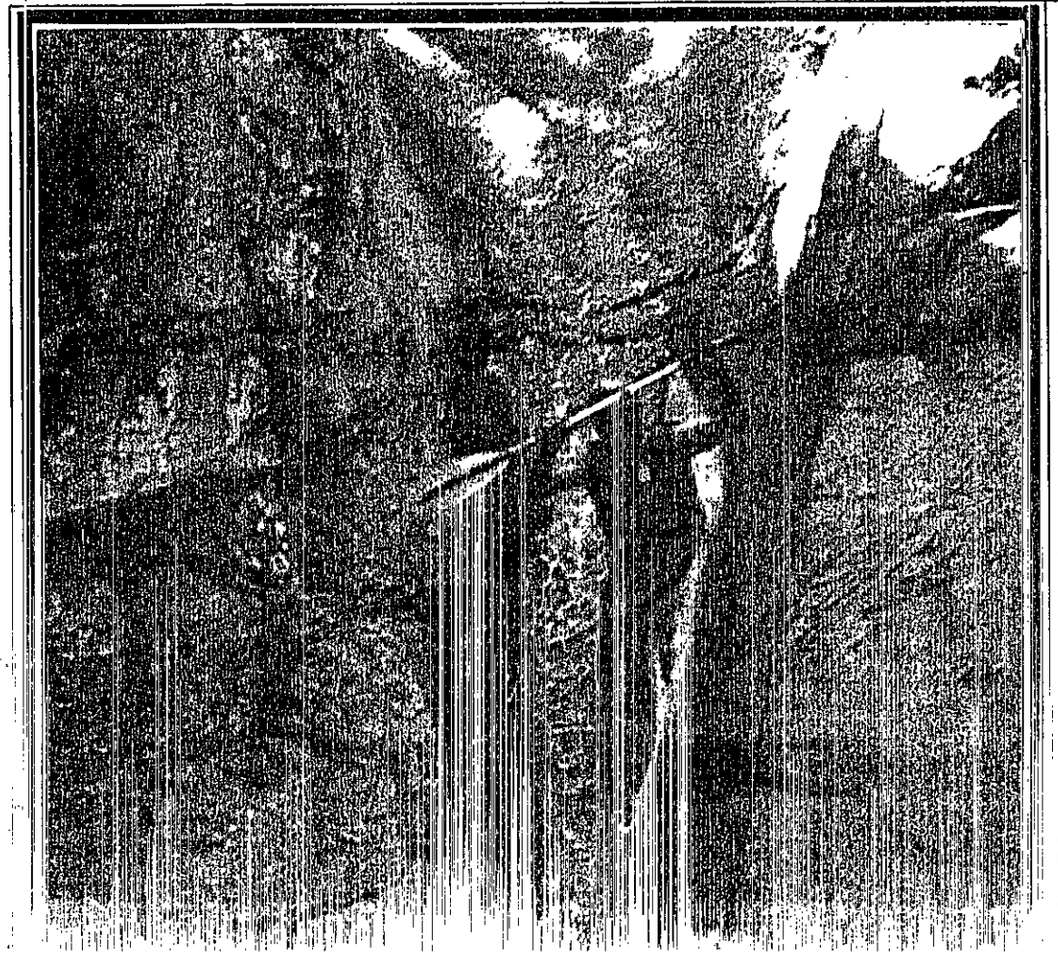
However, he did not see the need for a similar accord between Zimbabwe and SoUth Africa, though there were signs that through a strategy of unprovoked aggression, South Africa was "trying to get us into that situation in which Mozambique finds itself".

In a joint interview — his first including a SoUth African journalist in 20 months — Mr Mugabe told me and a Dutch and Canadian journalist that while he understood why the African National Congress was disenchanted by Frontline states' support for the accord, the independent black-ruled states were simply "too weak" to provide the ANC with the external bases it needed.

He said Zimbabwe, in particular, stood "to benefit immensely" from the pact because Mozambican Resistance Movement activities, including at least one attack a week on railway lines used for moving Zimbabwean exports and imports, had been "ruining our economy".

The accord was aimed at securing maximum peace in the region and did not constitute a new acceptance of apartheid.

He said the ANC was entitled to its viewpoint that the attainment of "freedom and



Problems 'not so big they can't be solved'

By PATRICK LAURENCE.

Zola does it again

ZOLA Budd set a new junior world record in the 1 500m at the Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery interprovincial athletics meeting in Port Elizabeth last night.

The tiny runner shot to the finish and hardly showed a flicker of emotion, when a roar from the crowded stadium greeted the news that she had established a new South African and junior world record of 4:01,81.

Breathing heavily, she appeared in a daze for a few minutes.

● See Back Page

Tory MP welcomes SA office

London Bureau

LONDON. — The opening of an office in London representing the interests of South African sport was long overdue and would be widely welcomed, pro-Springbok Tory MP, Mr John Carlisle, said last night.

Whitehall sources agreed with Mr Carlisle that suggestions that such an office would contravene the Gleneagles Agreement against sports contact with South Africa were "ridiculous".

Reports that top South African sports officials led by Mr Rudolph Opperman were considering a London outlet have been common knowledge for more than a year.

"There is a great need for an office like this and I have already offered to help in any way I can," said Mr Carlisle, who won backing from more than 120 Tory MPs for his recent rebel motion in favour of the England rugby tour of SA.

He said: "The office is needed more than ever now that the freedom in sport movement has had to empha-

Test for

LONDON. — The En rugby team are lined play two Tests on planned tour to S Africa — the first at Elizabeth on June 2 an second in Johannesbu June 9 — according advertisement whi travel company spec ing in trips for rugby porters has inserted i April issue of Rugby W magazine.

The company is org ing a trip for English to follow their tea

Hospit 10%

By GERALD REILL Pretoria Bureau

STARTLING increas provincial hospital fe ranging from 10% to and scheduled for Apri were outlined in the T vaal gazette in Pretori terday.

The administrator Transvaal, Mr W Cruywagen, said the c shortage of funds and d increases in the pric medicines, equipment, and services had neces ed an urgent review of tal fees — last raised in 1982.

Mr Cruywagen sai provinces hospital ser expenditure had incr from R443 550 000 in 19 to an estimated R705 8 in the current financial He explained the diffe in tariffs for membe medical aid schemes non-members had ca great dissatisfaction to cal schemes.

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sion, South Africa was "try-
situation in which Mozam-

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particular, stood "to benefit immensely" from the pact because Mozambican Resistance Movement activities, including at least one attack a week on railway lines used for moving Zimbabwean exports and imports, had been "ruining our economy".

The accord was aimed at securing maximum peace in the region and did not constitute a new acceptance of apartheid.

He said the ANC was entitled to its viewpoint that the attainment of "freedom and democracy in South Africa" would be delayed unless countries in the region granted it their full support and the right to establish bases.

"We ourselves would have felt like them had we been the party affected. That's only natural.

"But we (Zimbabwe) have also pointed out to the ANC that we are a very vulnerable country and that we haven't got the necessary defence to withstand South Africa's incursions should those be mounted against us.

"We pointed out that we feel we can offer the ANC maximum support materially and politically through the Organisation of African Unity as we have always done and that if we became weaker than we are, that even that support would not be forthcoming."

The ANC stood to gain more if the Frontline states were able to remain politically and economically viable, which would not be the case if they provoked SoUth African attack, Mr Mugabe said.

On his attitude towards violent change in South Africa he said: "That is a matter for the people of South Africa, their liberation movements and their leadership and we feel that if whatever form of struggle they decide to undertake is moral, justified and has the support of the people of South Africa, then who are we to deny them moral support?"

He supported the principle of an economic constellation of Southern African states but said he would not support South African participation in such a venture, until it had a "sufficiently democratic" internal political system.

He had not yet studied the text of the conditional offer by Angola and Cuba to withdraw Cuban troops from Angola, but said he had long been aware that Angola was prepared to start withdrawing Cubans on condition South Africa also withdrew its troops.

A South African troop withdrawal from Angola would be proof of its sincerity and would go "a long way towards ensuring the success of the negotiations".



There was no turning back for Eckhard Druschke as he careered down a 20m rock [illegible] a pool — the fifth of six slides he successfully braved. Picture: ROBBIE [illegible]

Canoeist faces his moment of tru[illegible]

By THELMA TUCH

IT WAS a "moment of truth" for Mr Eckhard Druschke when he faced a 10m vertical drop as he careered down a series of rock slides in the mountainous Sekorora area in Lebowa last Saturday.

He was one of the three canoeists — all members of the Johannesburg Canoeing Club — who each successfully negotiated six different rock slides down one of the streams from the escarpment.

It was the first time a canoeist had faced this particular challenge in the Transvaal Drakensburg range.

The other two canoeists were Mr Andy McGregor and Mr Clive Curson.

Their sixth venture was the most dangerous, as the rock slide led to a sheer drop of 10m into a pool.

"Once you are on the slide, there is no return. It's a moment of truth once you reach the lip of the slide, before you have to give yourself the last push," said [illegible] lives in QwaQwa.

"There is always a amount of risk because one knows how the canoe is behave in mid-air," he [illegible]

"Nobody had ever [illegible] challenge before. It was a feeling after each of us [illegible] without any injuries."

Their friends from the tain club turned up at the witness the event.

Mugabe: I expected it to be worse

Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has been speaking to foreign journalists of his fears when he first came to power and his plans now for a one-party state. ANDRÉ VILJOEN reports from Harare.

Four years ago when he first took over as Prime Minister of the new Republic of Zimbabwe, he had expected much worse problems than he faced now, says Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe.

We had been talking about dissident violence in the south-west of the country, a third year of drought which for the first time necessitates maize imports, and the influx of thousands of starving Mozambican refugees across the eastern border.

"But I must say I did expect a worse situation than we have," said Mr Mugabe. "First we had the whole white community pitted against us. Ian Smith (the former Rhodesian Prime Minister) had worked on their minds for so long that they believed we were blood suckers and would never accept the look of a white man in our midst."

He had been prepared for physical opposition and chaos. But after his government told the whites they were welcome in the new Zimbabwe he had been surprised when white army commanders and, later, other whites, pledged their loyalty to the country.

"At first I was suspicious, but as time went on I came to believe it."

The government had battled to get former guerillas to accept the policy of reconciliation. "They had thought victory would be outright... without any accommodation."

But both the Zanla and Zipra guerilla armies, and the former Rhodesian army, were made into one army and "now they (former guerillas) see that in terms of conventional warfare and the requirements of a regular army, they knew next to nothing and they are benefiting from the experience the others have had."

Mr Mugabe blamed Zapu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, for most of the dissident violence in the province of Matabeleland in the past two years. However, he said, South Africa had also started managing some dissidents in the area.

If Mr Nkomo had gone to the places where dissidents operated and seriously denounced them, there would have been a drop in dissident activity. "But he hasn't done this because, indirectly, he feels that if the dissidents succeed he might benefit from their actions."

He said Mr Nkomo's party had hidden arms, including Sam 7 missiles, "for that day which they have always called zero hour, but fortunately for us we discovered them and took action early.

"But though we removed Nkomo from government, we still retained some of his men and we still have four ministers in government from Zapu, and one junior minister. How many people would have behaved in the manner in which we have towards Zapu?"



Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe — blames Joshua Nkomo for most of the dissident violence in Matabeleland.

Mr Mugabe said he found "heartening" that there was now a growing group within Zapu that sought unity with his ruling Zanu-PF party.

"We hope they will succeed in swaying the rest of the Zapu membership, but Nkomo himself is still adamant that they must stick it out and he hopes that one day he will be given what he believes to be his birthright — the leadership of the country."

Despite reports that the government's security forces were responsible for excesses in Matabeleland, Mr Mugabe said on the whole he was "very happy with what has been going on".

Before a curfew was clamped on southern Matabeleland on February 3, and before troops and police were sent there to hunt dissidents, he had told his security ministers and army and police chiefs he wanted no wanton actions and that ordinary people should not be made to suffer unnecessarily.

"But in the nature of operations you may get on the ground, a commander of a local area, believing that the people in this village are all accomplices of dissidents and that it might be more effective if a given course of action was taken, you get that happening on the spot; and that does cause some hardships.

"Then you have an uproar from the Church leaders and Nkomo, of course, who always talks more loudly about actions we take against dissidents than the actions the dissidents effect against the people."

He said the current operation in the curfew area was mainly a reaction to a series of dissident murders of white farmers.

He denied that the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade was anti-Ndebele. He said its notoriety derived from the fact that most of its members were Shona-speaking ex-guerillas of his former Zanla army. There had not been enough former Zipra guerillas left to make for a more balanced composition.

The Fifth Brigade had been trained to be an effective counter-insurgency unit, but it was not meant to be tribal in approach or cruel in handling people, although "you always get one or two people defying the line of command".

Mr Mugabe said his party would fight next year's general election on a one-party-state platform. He thought 51 per cent of popular support would be enough to justify declaring one-party rule, but said: "I think we will get more than that."

He said his government was pledged to respect the Lancaster House constitution which is binding until April, 1990. In terms of the constitution, any fundamental change of the system of government had to be approved by the entire 100-member House of Assembly. But by his seventh year of office — "and that's not very far from now" — it might be possible to change some basic clauses in the constitution.

In the event of an election victory next year, he would start talks with Zapu on how to accommodate it in a one-party state. He would also talk with white representatives, including "My friend, Ian Smith" to try to convince them that one-party rule would not eclipse them as an ethnic group.

He argued that one-party rule, in which people were free to express themselves through congress and provincial, district, sub-regional and village organs, was more representative than Western multi-party democracies, where the "only occasion where people meet is when they cast their vote".

He expected, and would welcome, criticism at his party's first post-independence congress in August. One of the issues would be land redistribution which had been painfully slow. About 40 000 families had been resettled — way short of the target of 162 000 families by the end of June next year.

One of the constraints was the lack of money to buy land for resettlement. A simpler system, perhaps involving land bonds, would have to be found.

He was anxious to resettle people more for purposes of co-operative agriculture than simply to provide homes.

MG45 28/3/84 (362)

Matabeleland's endangered species — but some won't quit

Argus Africa
News Service

NYAMANDHLOVU (Zimbabwe). — Ranchers in Matabeleland, harassed by dissidents and hammered by the drought and soaring costs, see themselves as an endangered species.

Some have quit Matabeleland for greener pastures in Mashonaland or out of Zimbabwe altogether.

Others have become "weekend farmers" with homes in town and occasional daytime visits to their rural properties.

But there are others who have put aside the temptation to get out. Their motives vary but a common characteristic of these men is a stubborn streak of optimism which carries them over the rough patches.

Such a man is Jack Ehlers, a 46-year-old Nyamandhlovu Brahman breeder and beef producer, who has gone against the trend by extending his land holdings.

Mr Ehlers recently bought Bonisa farm vacated by Sir Humphrey Gibbs, the former Southern Rhodesian Governor, and his son, Mr Tim Gibbs, who decided to go because of the constant threat to the safety of their families.

The Nymandhlovu area north of Bulaway saw 10 whites killed last year, four of them children.

Mr Ehlers paid R150 000 for the 2 600ha of land adjoining his own farm to give him one block of land totalling nearly 10 000ha.

"Am I a nut?" he said, as we talked in one of the five sitting rooms of his home on Mimosa Park ranch.

The house, packed with treasures, the outstanding herd of 230 registered brahmins and the 2 000 ranch cattle are testimony to the success of his farming venture which started in 1975 when he went into partnership with the late Dr Cornelius de Kock.

Until then Jack Ehlers had been a railwayman. He was senior workshops foreman in Bulaway when he was offered the half share partnership and went farming, a life which he has grown to love fiercely.

Why did he buy another farm at a time when so many other farmers were trying to sell?

The answer lies mainly in the character of the man. Until he was 38 he played representative rugby. He was hooker for Matabeland and played once for Rhodesia.

"I don't believe in waiting for my ship to come in. I go out and meet it.

"It is no good just sitting and stagnating. The situation is depressed. But I must keep going. If I see a deal, I take it and go out and meet it.

"I needed the grazing for my cattle. I was offered a full bond on the Bonisa property, so it was a good deal for me.

"And you know, when you think about it, nothing really belongs to you. I don't want to get religious but whatever you have is really only lent to you to use as fully as you can... that's my belief.

"And in Zimbabwe if you have a farm of one acre or a million you cannot take either of them with you if you leave. So go ahead and get stuck in."

But had he not thought of getting away from the particular dangers of living in a security sensitive area where people go about armed and where guard dogs and security fences are a way of life?

"Of course. You think about it very seriously when someone gets knocked off. But you wake up the next morning and life has got to go on.

"You think 'I could be the next one,' but then if you did decide to go, who would buy your land? And in the end you just get on with it."

Jack Ehlers has done just that.

He says he has also accepted that with the transition from Rhodesia to Zimbabwe, he must adapt to the new situation.

Recently he gave a bull valued at more than R2 500 to the neighbouring peasant farmers of Tsholotsho communal land.

"With so much animosity and gloom about, things did not seem right," he said.

"I discussed it with my wife Joy and as a gesture of good faith and to show there was no ill-feeling, we decided to give them a bull which they needed. I want them to know that we are here to stay and that we are all together."

Mr Ehlers said, "As far as I am concerned, the black people were the victors in the struggle that is over. We are the vanquished. But now we are both on the same side and to extend the hand of friendship is one way of overcoming problems."

He praised the government for the effort it had put into its policy of reconciliation but he was highly critical of the attitude which saw constant reminders of the past as necessary in the present.

"It is about time we forgot about who lost and who won and just got together on the same side," he said.

Jack Ehlers is perhaps not the usual run of Matabeleland rancher. But he has an appreciation of the fact that whatever the problems, the life he has built for himself still has much more to offer him than a safer hole elsewhere would.

"Look at that bull. He is magnificent. Look at those cows. That is what I live for. If I went down south I would just get some white guy telling me "Hey, you... it's eight o'clock. Start work."

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"If I see a deal I go for it..." Zimbabwe rancher Jack Ehlers with some of his pedigree brahmin cows on his Matabeleland ranch.

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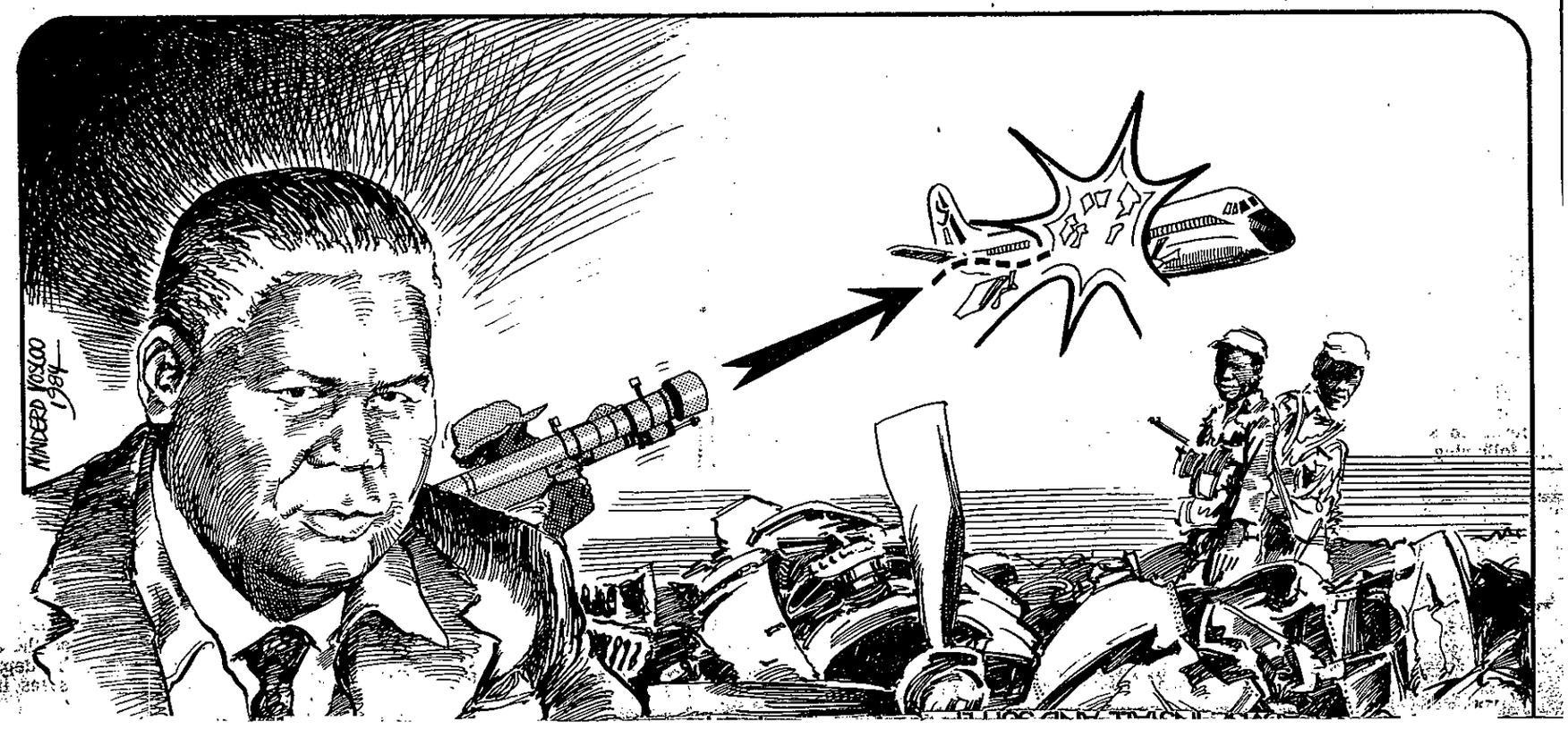
ARGUS 28/3/84

How Zipra shot down the Viscount airliners

362

The Zipra guerrillas who shot down two civilian Viscounts during the Rhodesian war also fired a SAM-7 missile at an aircraft carrying South Africa's then Defence Minister Mr P W Botha. But, says Mr Joshua Nkomo in his autobiography "Nkomo, The Story of My Life," the missile missed Mr Botha's aircraft. In this, the first of four extracts from Mr Nkomo's book, the Zapu leader gives his view of the downing of the Viscounts and of the murder of Bishop Adolf Schmitt.



OUR success against the Rhodesian Air Force was far greater than they allowed to be known at the time. We could not claim the credit that we deserved, because we needed to keep secret the fact that we had been given some Soviet surface-to-air missiles, Sam-7s. We deployed them first in defence of our camps in Zambia, and caught the enemy by surprise.

The first time we used them we knocked down two of their strike aircraft, the second time we got four. In all we shot down almost 30 of their planes and helicopters: the Rhodesian Minister of Defence was forced to resign, and they replaced the losses only by importing second-hand Hawker Hunters from Israel, with South African help. One of the Smith government's great propaganda successes was in covering up the extent of the damage we had done them. The only times they would admit to losses of aircraft were when we brought down passenger planes, which we did on two occasions. These tragic incidents need

Argus 28/3/84

First downed

The Rhodesians used their civil airliners equally for carrying passengers and for carrying troops. The first time we shot one down was immediately after Smith's troops had carried out a particularly brutal attack on the camps at Chimoio, in Mozambique, where well over a thousand of our young people died. Rhodesian television had shown pictures of Viscount aircraft in Air Rhodesia markings ferrying in their paratroopers for the attack and a plane carrying armed soldiers is surely a legitimate target in a war.

Of course it was not our policy to shoot down civil airliners: if we had wanted to we could have done so often, but we carefully refrained from that. What happened was that we identified one of the same aircraft that had been show on television loaded with troops .

It landed at Victoria Falls, where we knew paratroops were stationed, and as it took off we shot it down with a Sam missile. Forty-eight people, most of them holidaymakers, died in the crash; eight survived. Ten of those who died were said to have been shot on the ground after escaping from the wreck. It was a tragic mistake. I felt it personally. One man was killed with his mother and father and his wife and children —the whole family wiped out. Their name was Gulab, Zimbabweans of Indian origin. Mr Gulab was a good friend of mine, who often fixed me up with airline tickets in ways that avoided alerting the police. I regret his loss very much.

boys. Most of the 351 who died were just youngsters.

Later we again brought down one of Air Rhodesia's Viscounts, with serious loss of life. This time, too, civilians died because the Rhodesians used the same aircraft for civilian and for military purposes. Our intelligence people had identified the Rhodesian army commander, getting into a Viscount plane. The same aircraft was identified landing at Wankie, at Victoria Falls and at Kariba: General Walls was reported to be still on board.

After take-off from Kariba, the plane passed our Sam emplacement on the hill: the missile team identified the plane by its number, fired and brought it down. Shortly afterwards another Viscount took off and flew past our missile crew, who did not fire because our spies had not identified it as carrying a military target. General Walls had changed planes, and was aboard the second.

Walls and his staff officers were clearly a legitimate target.

Why the switch?

A few years later, when I was a Minister and he was commanding our post-independence army, I asked him why he had swapped planes. He just laughed. We talked about the time when his troops raided my home in Lusaka and killed four people in the house, while I eluded them. We had each had been killed by mistake. It was that kind of war.

I still wonder whether Walls had switched aircraft because they had intercepted our radio talk and knew it was a likely target. We, of course, could not say publicly that Walls was our target, we could not admit either that we had a sophisticated radio link, or that we had spies in all the civil airports of Rhodesia.

One other attempt to shoot down a civil airliner was unsuccessful. The target was P W Botha, the South African Defence Minister, who was flying in to Victoria Falls. That very day some South African soldiers who were operating in the area were killed by our men on Rhodesian territory. Botha was a legitimate target but the missile malfunctioned, and missed his aircraft. He left in a hurry, without performing his task of inaugurating a swimming-pool for the troops.

The worst thing about the war was the callousness it bred. It is true, and I regret it, that atrocities were committed by people on our side, by Zipra fighters as well as by Zanla men. Some of those killed were isolated white farmers and their families who happened to be in the way. Some were African chiefs who may have collaborated with the Smith regime, but who had little alternative if their own families and their people were to survive.

It was not our policy to kill such people but armed men, alone or in small groups, may come to disregard the importance of human life. It was necessary to fight a guerrilla war, and in such a war terrible things are bound to happen.

Murder of bishop

One killing that I especially regret was that of Bishop Adolf Schmitt of Bulawayo. The bishop was retired, and was a very old personal friend of mine — he had in fact blessed my marriage to Mafuyana, an event complicated by her insistence on remaining a Catholic, while I insisted on remaining a Methodist, so that we had a registry office wedding and two blessings by clergymen. A lone killer murdered the bishop, one of his priests, Father Possent, an old friend of my family, and a nun.The story illustrates the confusion to which the guerrilla war gave rise.

The killer was found by our people, alone, on the Zambian shore of the Zambesi, which he had apparently crossed by swimming. He said he had been fired on from both banks while crossing, and that he had got across the river after escaping from a cell in Victoria Falls prison, where he was wearing leg irons and manacles. His wrists did indeed have what appeared to be the marks of irons. We investigated, and found that he had previously been in a Rhodesian prison. This he admitted, claiming that he had escaped once, stolen a weapon, murdered the priests, then been arrested again and once more escaped to join us.

This was an unconvincing story. We detained the man in Mboroma camp, where we kept those whom we regarded as accomplices of the Smith regime.

Selous Scouts

Then Smith's forces raided Mboroma. Some of the detainees were heard to say: Our friends have come, folks, lets go."With the murderer among them they ran to a helicopter and were whisked back into Rhodesia. It is a fact that the Smith regime did its worst to turn the Catholic Church against us, though whether they, or their freelance agents, went so far as to murder the bishop is impossible to prove.

On other occasions Smith's undercover troops, the Selous Scouts, certainly killed priests and missionaries in order to put the blame on our nationalist guerrillas. The Rhodesian intelligence service was remarkably well informed, and capable of extremely precise actions, such as the raid on my own home in Lusaka, which they carried out in trucks painted in the colours of the Zambian army, so that they could make their approach undetected.

This makes me think that some of their worst atrocities were deliberate, not accidental. For example, they raided Mkushi camp north of Lusaka, entirely occupied by girl refugees with absolutely no military connection at all. They called the girls out of hiding, lined them up and told Jane Gumbo, the head of the camp, to fire on her own pupils.

She refused, and was herself shot. The white soldiers who seem to have been mercenaries rather than Rhodesians, massacred ninety-one girls, the black troops under their command helped large numbers of girls to escape, and came close to mutinying against their orders.

TOMORROW:

Zipra's plan to invade Rhodesia from Zambia using a conventional army equipped with Russian tanks and jet fighters

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Helped survivors

The Rhodesian propaganda people at once claimed that our anti-aircraft team had killed ten survivors on the ground. This was obviously untrue, since the plane fell well away from the firingpoint.

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Some of our Zipra boys did approach the crash site, and did help the eight survivors to get to safety, bringing them water and looking after them. I truly have no idea how the ten died. I do not believe they were killed by our people. I hope not.

I then made an error of a different kind. The following day the B B C telephoned me for a comment on the shooting-down. I told them as much of the truth as I knew. Then, fairly enough in the circumstances, they asked me what weapon the plane had been brought down with. Clearly I could not say it was a Sam-7: it was a secret that we had such things. To turn the question aisde, I answered that we had brought it down by throwing stones, and as I said so, I laughed a bit. I was not laughing at the death of all those civilians, but at the evasive answer. The laugh was remembered, rather than my regret at those unnecessary deaths.

In retaliation for the first Viscount disaster, the Rhodesians mounted a savage raid on our Freedom Camp, just north of Lusaka. It was not a military training camp, but a genuine refugee camp for young

tried to kill the other, and in both attempts innocent people



General Walls . . .not on flight

Not as bad as he expected, says Mugabe

ZIMBABWEAN Prime Minister Robert Mugabe spoke to three foreign journalists in Harare last week. Among them was Mercury correspondent ANDRE VILJOEN, who sends this report.

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FOUR YEARS ago when he first took over as Prime Minister of the new republic of Zimbabwe he had anticipated much worse problems than he faced now, Mr Robert Mugabe said last week.

We had been talking about dissident violence in the south-west of the country, a third year of drought which for the first time necessitated maize imports, and the influx of thousands of starving Mozambican refugees in the east.

We had been talking about dissident violence in the south-west of the country, a third year of drought which for the first time necessitated maize imports, and the influx of thousands of starving Mozambican refugees in the east.

'But I must say I did expect a worse situation than we have,' said Mr Mugabe.

'First we had the whole white community pitted against us. Ian Smith (the former Rhodesian Prime Minister) had worked on their minds for so long that they believed we were blood-suckers and would never accept the look of a white man in our midst.'

So he said he had been prepared for 'physical opposition' and 'chaos'. But after his government told whites they were welcome in the new Zimbabwe he had been surprised when white army commanders and, later, other whites pledged their loyalty to the country.

'At first I was suspicious but as time went on I came to believe it.'

The Government had battled to get former guerillas to accept the policy of reconciliation. 'They had thought victory would be outright ... without any accommodation.'

But both the Zanla and Zipra guerilla armies and the former Rhodesian army were made into one army and 'now they (former guerillas) see that in terms of conventional warfare and the requirements of a regular army they knew next to nothing and they are benefiting from the experience the others have had'.

Mr Mugabe blamed Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo for most of the dissident violence in the province of Matabeleland in the past two years. However, he said South Africa had also started managing some dissidents in the area.

He said if Mr Nkomo had gone to the places where dissidents operated and seriously denounced them there would have been a drop in dissident activity.

'But he hasn't done this because indirectly he feels that if the dissidents succeed he might benefit from their actions.'

Mr Mugabe said he found it 'heartening' that there was now a 'growing' group within Zapu that sought unity with his ruling Zanu pf party.

'We hope they will succeed in swaying the rest of the Zapu membership but Nkomo himself is still adamant that they must stick it out and he hopes that one day he will be given what he believes to be his birthright — the leadership of the country.'

Despite reports that his security forces were responsible for excesses in Matabeleland, Mr Mugabe said, on the whole he was 'very happy with what has been going on'.

Before a curfew was clamped on southern Matabeleland on February 3 and before troops and police were sent there to hunt dissidents he had told his security ministers and army and police chiefs he wanted no 'wanton' actions and that ordinary people should not be made to suffer unnecessarily.

'But in the nature of operations you may get on the ground a commander of a local area, believing that the people in this village are all accomplices of dissidents and that it might be more effective if a given course of action was taken — you get that happening on the spot and that does cause some hardships.

'Then you have an uproar from the Church leaders and Nkomo, of course, who always talks more loudly about actions we take against dissidents than the actions the dissidents effect against the people.'

He said the current operation in the curfew area was mainly a reaction to a series of dissident murders of white farmers.

He denied that the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade was anti-Ndebele. He said its notoriety derived from the fact that most of its members were Shona-speaking ex-guerillas of his former Zanla army. There had not been enough former Zipra guerillas left to make for a more balanced composition.

Next election

Mr Mugabe said his party would fight next year's general election on a one-party-state platform. He thought 51 percent of popular support would be enough to justify declaring one-party rule but said: 'I think we will get more than that.'

He said his government was pledged to respect the Lancaster House constitution, which is binding until April 1990. In terms of the constitution any fundamental change to the system of government had to be approved by the entire 100-member House of Assembly. But by his seventh year of office — 'and that's not very far from now' — it might be possible to change some basic clauses in the constitution.

In the event of an election victory next year he would start talks with Zapu on how to accommodate it in a one-party state. He would also talk with white representatives, including 'my friend Ian Smith' to try to convince them that one-party rule 'would not eclipse them as an ethnic group'.

Criticism

He argued that one-party rule in which people were free to express themselves through congress and provincial, district, sub-regional and village organs was more representative than Western multi-party democracies, where the 'only occassion where people meet is when they cast their vote'.

He expected and welcomed criticism at his party's first post-independence congress in August. One of the issues would be land redistribution, which had been 'painfully slow'. About 40 000 families had been resettled — way short of the target of 162 000 families by the end of June next year.

One of the constraints was the lack of money to buy land for resettlement, and a simpler system, perhaps involving land bonds, would have to be found.

He was also anxious to resettle people more for purposes of co-operative agriculture than simply to provide homes.

It is nearly two years since six young tourists were abducted in Western Zimbabwe near the end of a lorry safari through Africa. Nothing has been heard since to give a clue to their fate. In this third extract from his biography, Nkomo, The Story of My Life, Mr Joshua Nkomo rejects allegations that his Zapu party was involved in the kidnappings and suggests that they were stage-managed to provide an excuse for the army to move into Matabeleland.

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29 March 1984

Dissidents and death



THE problem of so-called dissidence became more serious, especially in Matabeleland. One particularly dreadful incident was the abduction of six young tourists on the road from Victoria Falls to Bulawayo. According to reports their vehicle was stopped at a makeshift roadblock which they assumed was manned by the army: there were three cars at the block. Some shots were fired, and the tourists' vehicle's radiator was damaged. The driver and three women passengers were released, the six men were taken into the bush, and shortly afterwards a ransom note was received.

The note contained three demands — that Masuku and Dabengwa (Lookout Masuku and Dumiso Dabengwa were senior officers in Mr Nkomo's Zipra guerrilla army who were detained by the Zimbabwe Government) be released, that Zapu's property be returned and that Nkomo be reinstated in the Cabinet. That was already contradictory. Why should men trying to destroy the Government seek to have me reinstated in it? And how did it

who came to Zimbabwe to trace them, and on their behalf I made two extended visits to the area where they had disappeared, calling upon anyone who had any information to come forward. I next planned to tour the Tjolotjo area to continue my inquiries there, but the Government stopped that.

In January 1983 the killings began in Matabeleland. The first reports reached me from Mbembesi on the 25th, then from Bubi and from Tjolotjo, in the country north-west of Bulawayo, areas already subject to curfew. The police had, I was told, been instructed not to intervene, the National Army was confined to barracks clear of the area. The perpetrators were young men in camouflage uniforms with distinctive red berets, calling themselves the Fifth Brigade. In the first week of these events I had reliable reports of 95 deaths.

Meetings

There had, just before the killings started, been a glimmer of hope. During December President Canaan Banana and Enos

ment including the following words:

We entirely support the use of the army in a peace-keeping role. What we view with dismay are methods that have been adopted for doing so. . . . methods which should be firm and have degenerated into brutality and atrocity. We censure the frightful consequences of such methods.

Violent reaction against dissident activity has, to our certain knowledge, brought about the maiming and death of hundreds and hundreds of innocent people who are neither dissidents nor collaborators. We are convinced by incontrovertible evidence that many wanton atrocities and brutalities have been and are still being perpetrated. We have already forwarded such evidence to the Government.

This is the witness of disinterested men, priests in close daily contact with people of their parishes. They have everything to gain from preserving good relations with the Government, much to lose from a failure to do so. I return to their statement:

The facts point to a reign of terror caused by

area, near Soluswe mission. There were four victims: a former teacher at Tjolotjo school, Roger Malusalila, a Zapu member and a farmer; Roger's farmer neighbour, Nyathi, Nyathi's nephew; and a visiting friend of the nephew.

The Fifth Brigade had set up a small camp near Roger's Farm, in a dry place with no water. The soldiers had issued an order that all nearby households should send a young girl to fetch water for the camp. In some cases girls had carried water in the evening, and been told to stay to bring it again in the morning. That meant remaining all night in the camp with the soldiers.

Roger and Nyathi refused to allow the young women of their households to go to the soldiers' camp. The soldiers came first to Roger's house and took him out, then to Nyathi's house aned took him and his two guests. All four were taken into a field and shot. The bodies lay there for a day until the police came and took them to Plumtree. Those of Nyathi and his guests were soon returned to Somnene and buried.

pass along the road every day the one to be stopped should contain two young Britons, two young Australians and two young Americans — from the leading country in the West and two of the leading countries in the Commonwealth? The car had passed through the immigration post at Victoria Falls, coming from Zambia: only Government forces could have known the potential for diplomatic pressure of the passengers in that particular vehicle.

I absolutely guarantee that neither I nor Zapu had anything to do with that kidnapping. The diplomats of those very important countries came to my house to ask for my and my party's help in obtaining their release. I asked why they came to see me: Zimbabwe was run by Robert Mugabe. They said he had approved their visit. But I told them they were being used to divide my country, by treating me as though I ran my own little republic within it.

The ambush

One of the cars seen by the released women passengers to have been involved in the ambush was later used by the police to transport the driver of the damaged vehicle back to town. Then the car disappeared. I really do not believe in dissidents who drive about in private cars that are later used by the police and disappear without trace in a country with road-blocks everywhere. I do not believe that six young white men could be hidden and eventually killed in the villages without anyone seeing them or reporting their presence.

I had nothing to do with that cruel kidnap. I had great sympathy with the young men's parents, who, I had approached me as emissaries of the Prime Minister. At two meetings with them in Bulawayo I had the impression that progress had been made, and I requested a meeting with Robert Mugabe himself. The Prime Minister was less forthcoming than his messengers, and the meeting made little progress, but at least a joint committee of three Zanu and three Zapu representatives was set up to discuss our differences.

The killings made our joint committee seem irrelevant. The Fifth Brigade, I knew, was a force recruited almost entirely from ex-Zanla combatants and specially trained by over 100 North Korean instructors in operations "in aid of the civil power" — that is, against civilians. Officially they were hunting down the so-called dissidents, gangsters who were said to be politically motivated by loyalty to Joshua Nkomo. In reality they were out to terrorise the people. They burnt villages, slaughtered cattle, assaulted women and killed simply to instil fear.

The scale of the Matabeleland brutality is understandably questioned by some reasonable observers. Why, they ask, should such excesses be permitted — whatever was the point of it all? I cannot say why Zanu should have allowed its men to do such things: to me also it seems senseless. But that it happened I am certain. As impartial witnesses I can quote the priests of the Roman Catholic Church in Matabeleland. Their Church is not a dissident organisation. It had bravely spoken out against the crimes committed by the forces of the Smith regime.

At their conference at Easter 1983, six Catholic bishops made a statement. They spoke of "reports of arbitrary arrests, beatings, burnings and rapings. Many homes have been burnt down. People in rural areas are starving, not only because of the drought, but because in some cases supplies of food have been deliberately cut off and in other cases access to food supplies has been restricted or stopped. The innocent have no recourse or redress, for fear of reprisals.

"Jeremiahs"

Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, the Minister of Information, described the Catholic bishops' statement as "irresponsible, contrived propaganda". The Prime Minister said the bishops were "mere megaphone agents of their external manipulative masters"; he called them "a band of Jeremiahs". But abuse is not a reasoned answer. If anything, the bishops underrated its frightfulness. The latest reports, from the same sources as gathered in evidence for the bishops, now puts the number of casualties at the hands of the Fifth Brigade in Matabeleland in 1983 at around 20 000 people.

The damage went well beyond that. Houses, villages, whole communities were burnt to the ground. At the end of the dry season, after two years when the rains had failed the Government then prohibited the sending of food to the worst-affected districts on the pretence that it would be used to sustain the bands of dissidents. Travel was restricted, access to watering points for cattle and for people was controlled by soldiers.

My own first cousin, Sihle Nkomo, lives in the *umuzi* where he gave me shelter when I was restricted to his home by the Rhodesian Government in 1962. By October 1983 his children were showing the dreaded symptoms — swollen bellies, yellowing hair — of the disease kwashiorkor, which is caused by malnutrition.

But Roger's sons live in Bulawayo, and wished to bury their father there. It took two days of negotiations before the police would allow the body to be moved from Plumtree: the problem was with the death certificate. It was eventually issued, with the cause of death described as "gunshot wounds". By now it was the weekend, and the funeral could not be arranged before Monday. So, a clear week after his murder by the men of the Fifth Brigade, Roger Malusalila was buried. His body, with its open wounds, had been several days in the African sun.

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Gangsters

The Government spoke of a problem of "dissidence" — a problem that it did not define, and that was hard to understand. That there were gangsters at work, especially in Matabeleland, was clear. There were many unexplained deaths, robberies and beatings. A significant number of white farmer were killed without explanation. By lumping all these deplorable incidents together as "dissidence", the Government implied that they were the result of an organised and politically motivated movement: the clear indication was that ex-Zipra people were at work, and that I was behind their crimes. In Parliament the Prime Minister pointed the finger at me and proclaimed before the television cameras that the Father of Zimbabwe had become the father of the dissidents.

In Parliament I called for a select committee of all parties to examine the problem of dissidence: the Government said there was no need for an inquiry, they knew who the guilty ones were.

TOMORROW:

Mr Ian Smith flies to Lu-

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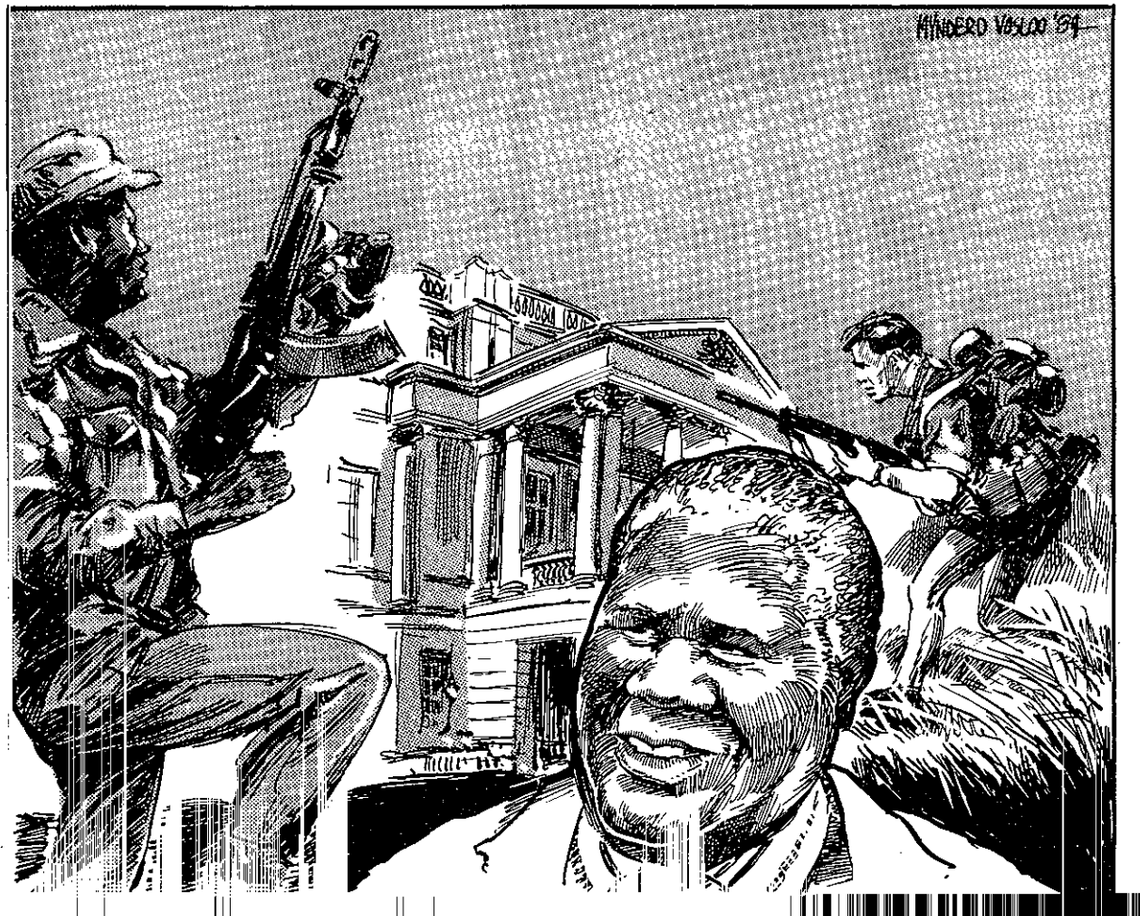
Nkomo's 'time-bomb'

In an attempt to end the Rhodesian war in one spectacular stroke, Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zipra forces planned to invade across the Zambezi from Zambia using tanks and jet fighters provided by Russia. This second extract from the autobiography, Nkomo, the Story of My Life, describes how preparations for the conventional strike continued as the Lancaster House peace talks began.

BEHIND the scenes a time-bomb was ticking away, and nobody but myself and senior Zapu colleagues knew of its nature. A year previously, Zapu and Zipra, in the closest secrecy, had decided that the war must be ended, the agony could not be allowed to drag on. We had set in motion what we called the "turning-point" strategy, for a transformation of the war from a guerrilla operation into a full-scale conflict in which we would match the Smith regime's armour and air cover with armour and air cover of our own. We had requested the Soviet Union to accelerate the training of our aircrews in that country, and to make available sophisticated modern aircraft which could strike directly against Rhodesian strategic installations, communications and fuel supplies. We had also asked them to speed up delivery of tanks, armoured cars and personnel carriers and to intensify the training of their crews in the USSR.

vance, in time for the end of 1979. Some tanks and armoured vehicles had already been moved with their crews into Zambia. Arrangements were under way for the necessary supplies of fuel and ammunition and all the other complex logistical matters involved in running an intensive modern war. All this was well advanced when I and my senior colleagues became involved in the intricate constitutional discussions at Lancaster House. The suspense arose from the fact that operational decisions would have to be made well ahead of the actual military operations — the necessary movements of men and materials, involving huge distances and vast quantities of hardware, could not be altered or even modified overnight. Once we said go, we would have to go — but meanwhile there was the chance of final victory by negotiation.

Of course none of this could be even hinted at in our discussions in London. The moment at



forces, perhaps with South African support, should use the ceasefire period to attack our people: a token international supervisory force could not prevent this, and our soldiers would be wide open to attack while moving in from their bases outside the country to concentrate in the designated assembly points.

The British and the Rhodesians were used to armies with radios and telephones and trucks for transport. They could hardly imagine troops who got their messages physically, by messengers, and who moved around the country on foot. When we explained this, they thought we were confessing that we did not really control our soldiers, that they were just uncoordinated bands of guerrillas. In the end we proved to them, by the efficiency and discipline of our redeployment, that even without modern equipment our armies could be moved efficiently and in disciplined bodies of men. It struck me that they had no idea how strong our

Some tanks

Without air cover we knew we could not conduct successful ground operations against the Rhodesian army. Our plan was therefore to mount a lightning ground strike across the Zambezi in order to seize the airfields at Victoria Falls and at Makuti using armoured vehicles and amphibean transports. The airfields, once acquired, would enable our aircraft to fly in and operate freely from our own soil, putting us on a level with Smith's armed forces. (For security reasons the plan was not co-ordinated with the Zanla army — but we assumed that when our attack began, Zanla would at once press into renewed guerrilla activity, engaging large numbers of Rhodesian troops on the eastern front.)

The Soviet authorities had responded to our request, and we were assured that the training of our airrews could be completed a year in advanced to launch our plan — which would have been irreversible — was when Rhodesian aircraft methodically bombed several strategic bridges within Zambia that would have been absolutely necessary if our tanks and armoured vehicles were to move into position to strike against the airfields across the Zambezi. I was positive that the only way the Rhodesians could have known of the significance of those particular bridges was by detailed knowledge of our plans. Such knowledge could only have reached them in one way, and that was through information collected by British intelligence in London. (In particular I was not certain that our communications were secure, despite the careful code procedures we followed.)

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Thatcher call

At this point Margaret Thatcher called publicly on both sides to issue orders that the fighting should be scaled down in order to allow the peace talks to proceed. I protested vigorously at this, saying that the only escalation of the conflict had been the Rhodesian attacks on the Zambian bridges. I added that these were deplorable attacks on civilian targets in a country not involved in the fighting. Zipra's forces, I said, consisted merely of guerrillas who moved about on foot, so the major road bridges could not be military targets since we did not even use them. But I am fairly sure that the British had a very good idea of what was really going on — and I could not discuss that with them without giving our whole secret operation away.

On the swift conclusion of the Lancaster House talks, in success or in failure, depended the start of a military operation that would certainly have involved an intensification of the war, and could have escalated into an international conflict. Nobody outside my inner circle knew exactly how much was at stake in a speedy conclusion to the conference.

The last stage of the argument dragged on, and was the hardest. It concerned the ceasefire and what happened to the fighting men of both sides during it. We had wanted a UN force to keep the peace, on the lines tentatively discussed with General Chand in Malta and later. In the end we settled for a Commonwealth force under British command, which was enough (perhaps because it was never threatened by either side). Our great anxiety was lest the Rhodesian human organisation was: they really did not believe tha. re could create such a fighting force.

TOMORROW:

Nearly two years have passed since six young tourists were kidnapped in Zimbabwe. Were the abductions the work of dissident former guerrillas or was there a more sinister motive for them?

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Continued from Page 10.

Cases of rifles went in the hold, I carried the ammunition, grenades as hand luggage

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lution needs only go to Moscow and they will open up the armoury. It was not at all like that in my case. Once the party officials had decided that I and my party deserved support, they stood faithfully by the decision. Since their personalities do not change regularly, as in western countries, their policies are more reliable.

Once the policy of support was decided, I was passed on to a military committee, and to it I had to justify every detail of my request. If I said we had 500 men, so we wanted 500 of their basic AK rifles, they would say no, 500 men means so many rifles, so many light machine guns, so many mortars or anti-tank rockets, and I would end up with only about 300 AKs. (This was a problem, since our soldiers in the field had to carry the ammunition, and the heavier the weapon the more ammunition they had to carry.)

I would then have to go to the right committee in Moscow, and the decision would come back without too much delay.

In all my discussions, the Soviets never asked for any undertaking about our policies after independence.

The Zapu central committee had authorised me and two colleagues to get arms where we could. And so it was that, on 12 September 1962, I found myself in Cairo, packing rifles into long boxes.

We had not wanted the armed struggle — but we were under attack, and we had to defend our people. I must admit that our first efforts were amateurish. They included lounge, refusing the crew's kind offer of help.

The two bags were a tremendous weight, but I took the grenades in one hand and the ammunition in the other, so that they were nicely balanced, and pretended that carrying them was no effort at all. Fortunately they did not examine our bags when we were called to get back into the aircraft.

No questions

At Dar es Salaam arrangements had been made to divert the luggage past customs through the freight area. I was so relieved that I felt like a student coming

months ahead. My colleague Joseph Msika personally took the arms across the border.

We received valuable co-operation in our smuggling operations from Ministers in the Northern Rhodesian Government, with Kaunda's knowledge and approval. George Lusinde, Minister of Home Affairs in Tanganyika, himself made the arrangements for getting past the customs there, and Julius Nyerere knew what was going on.

Naturally I was worried about what had happened to the weapons I had brought in to Lusaka, across the Northern Rhodeisan border. Soon I got the worst possible news

in the world. They wanted us, and the cause we stood for, out of the way. So they shut us up to rot quietly, in Camp 5 of the Gonakudzingwa protected area, in Gonarezhou Game Reserve.

I am told that the idea of hiding prisoners away in game reserves came from Sir Godfrey Huggins, the long-serving Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia who later became Lord Malvern.

It seems that he once met Dr Salazar, the old Portuguese dictator, and began to explain his country's native policy. Salazar was not much interested. Portugal, he said, did not have a native policy: the natives were just there, part of

one morning they met a lion — a big male — on the path, and they came flying home.

The objective was to cut us off from the world, to make it forget us and us forget it. But that is not so easy.

The radios were our lifeline. One was built into the top of a little bedside medicine chest that I had built myself during the relatively relaxed initial period of restriction — a little Sanyo, using the same batteries as my pocket torch, so that I could buy replacements without difficulty.

The other was hung on a pole fitted under the seat of our earth latrine, and the guards never found it there.

Minister, a lady dog called Janet, after his wife, and an ugly beast call Van der Byl. A big fat dog we called Dupont, after the pompous man who pretended to be President of their illegal state — and there were others named after other Ministers.

When the police came round to inspect us we would call "Smith, Smith," and the dog would come running up to be patted. The police thought this lacking in respect, so they shot all the dogs with names. They called out the names we had given, the dogs came running, and were shot.

Government spies

each other through the bush.

Our people did not have to climb the fence or jump over the security strip: the policemen would open the gates when the time was right and let us walk in and out.

Clearly the Rhodesian security forces were eaten away from inside by our supporters. One young man told me of his great fear that he might be wounded, and that one day he would have to explain to his son how he was injured in the liberation war — but fighting on the wrong side, for Smith.

We had to persuade some of the lads to stay in uniform because they could serve us better from where they were than by deserting and joining our fighters. — © *Argus Printing & Publishing Company. Published by permission of Methuen, London.*

little guns, and everyone wanted one.)

The Soviets never seemed to have enough even of their simple infantry weapons: there would always be a delay while they checked their stocks and worked out the details. Only after I had studied the way armies are run, was I able to deal as an equal with the Soviet military people. They were always reluctant to give anything away.

The former Soviet ambassador in Lusaka, Solodonokov, was reputed to be associated with the KGB. He was a very nice fellow, and we got on very well on the personal level. Moreover, he was entirely professional about his work, and if you discussed a request with him you could be sure that it would soon get on to the agenda of ec a session hammed and I went out into the desert and fired off the guns so that I would be sure to know how they worked. Then I set off for home, literally carrying the weapons on me. They were 24 semi-automatic assault rifles, with magazines and ammunition, and a big bag of grenades.

The cases of rifles were loaded into the hold of the plane. I carried ammunition and grenades — unprimed, I checked that — as hand baggage, with a first-class ticket by Air France. The excess baggage charged was R300.

The flight was to Dar es Salaam, via Nairobi, and at Nairobi (which was still under British colonial rule) everyone had to leave the aircraft. I insisted on carrying my personal baggage with me into the transit o successful ex-amination, and the heat of Dar felt cool to me after the strain.

Later I made another trip to pick up yet more ammunition and grenades from Cairo. In these days of airline security it seems incredible, but I was able to load the lot into the Air France baggage hold with no questions asked. I was the only person on that aircraft who knew what it was carrying, and I was even more anxious than usual for the duration of that flight.

There was still the problem of transporting the arms out of Tanganyika and into Southern Rhodesia, which meant passing through Northern Rhodesia, still a British colony, although Kenneth Kaunda was now the dominating figure in the government and independence lay only a few

I switched on the radio and the announcer had something dramatic to say. Illegal automatic weapons had been found in Southern Rhodesia: an African had been stopped on the road from Bulawayo to Shabani, and automatic weapons had been found in his car. The arrested man was a regional secretary of Zapu and one of our very best young people, Bobylock Manyonga. There must have been treachery within our party.

Animals as jailers

NKOMO's long years of detention.

Ian Smith's illegal government knew they could not break our spirit. They feared to kill us, since that would alienate the few friends they had he African launa the elephants. Portugal did not have an elephant policy, so he did not see why it should have a native policy.

Encountered lion

Huggins answered that the British colonies did have an elephant policy, where they were herded into reserves for their own safety, and its policy for natives was much the same.

So here the four of us were, the first natives to be hidden away in the elephant reserve. After a while we were joined by Dan Madzimbamuto, Stanislas Marembo and William Musarurwa. The lions and elephants made sure we did not run away.

Joseph and Stanislas had a habit of taking early morning walks until e ... mained in occupation, a couple of miles away in the forest. The paths were patrolled not only by the usual wild beasts, but also by our own fierce-looking dogs.

It was the dogs that enabled us to keep in touch with the other prisoners. Each camp put out food for the dogs at fixed, but different, times of the day, so they made a regular circuit of the camps. We fixed up little pouches behind their collars, so messages passed from one camp to another.

It was a tragedy for us when the police shot the dogs — but that was not because of the message system, which the guards never discovered. It was because of the names we had given the animals.

There was Ian Smith, after the so-called Prime

Contact with the outside world became much easier when a strong paramilitary support unit was brought to guard us with black troops under white officers.

Many of the black policemen made it plain at once that they were on our side, some even being members of my party. We were cautious about establishing the first contacts, since we well knew the use the Rhodeisan government made of spies.

The Rhodesian policemen carried messages in and out, opening up communications at last with our fighting men. They told how their patrols, if their white officers did not accompany them, held friendly meetings with their supposed enemies, sitting quietly in the shade smoking cigarettes instead of chasing

Nkomo, The Story of My Life

Early peace thwarted

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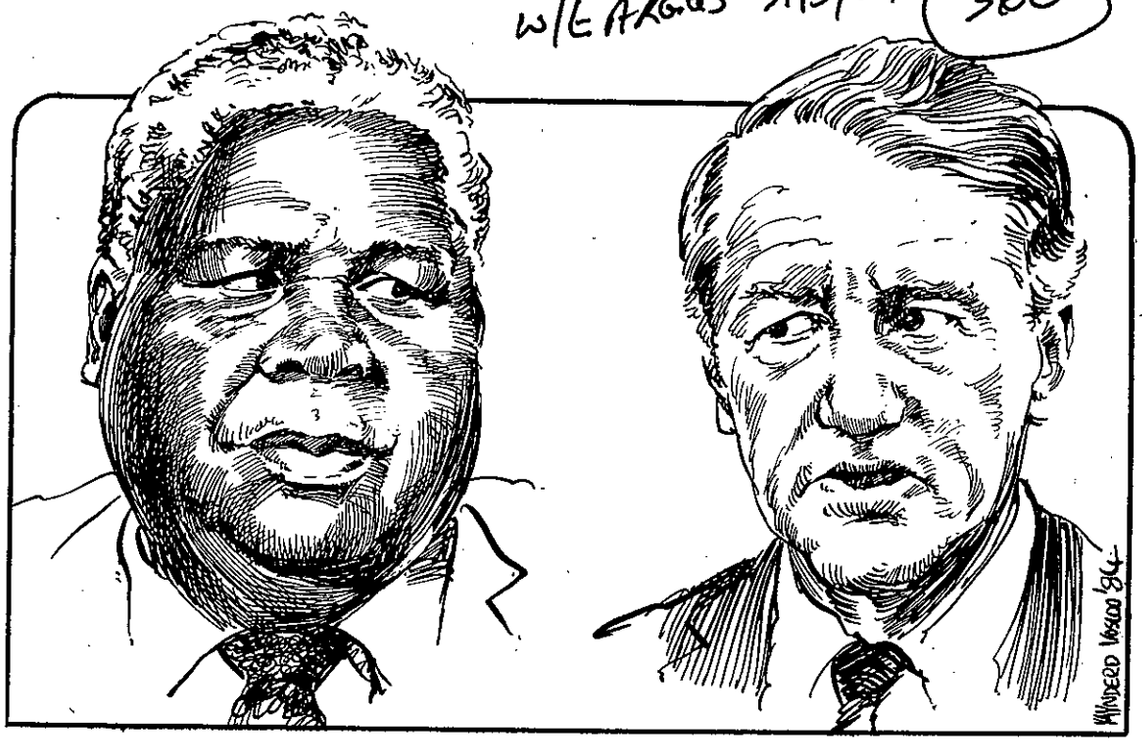
IN 1978, Prime Minister Ian Smith met Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo secretly in Lusaka and told him he wanted to surrender power, according to Mr Nkomo's autobiography.

In this, the fourth extract from Nkomo, The Story of My Life, the Zimbabwean Nationalist explains how the peace initiative, which might have shortened the war by three years, failed.

He also describes his first contacts with the Russians and his life in detention.



MESSAGES reached me in Lusaka that Ian Smith was ready to surrender. I did nothing until the same message arrived by way of President Kaunda.

The one thing I was determined to avoid was being manoeuvred into any deal which could be misinterpreted as a secret bargain between myself and Smith. If there were to be talks, I insisted that the front-line presidents should be involved, and that Zanu should play its full part.

But I knew the suspicious nature of the Zanu leadership, which was far from being under Robert Mugabe's control. I feared that if I myself broached the subject to them, they would suspect that I was playing a trick and denounce me for seeking to join in Smith's so-called "internal settlement".

In spite of this risk, I agreed to talk to Smith, face to face. In absolute secrecy we met in State

league in the Patriotic Front: it was to the PF that power must be surrendered, not to Joshua Nkomo or Zapu.

Smith was critical of me: he asked President Kaunda why I was acting like that, did I not have the authority to settle? Kenneth, of course, supported my position that I could not finish the conflict on my own, it was the Patriotic Front that mattered.

ways their commitment to liberation for Zimbabwe: I believed that a proposal from them would be sure of acceptance by Mugabe and Nyerere.

Understood

I therefore spoke to Brigadier Garba in London, assuring him of my information that Smith wished to hand over power, and informing him that I would do no busi-

soon as our preliminary talks were complete. He was notified that his presence was not useful, and so the hope ended.

The Nigerians, understandably enough, withdrew from the whole

haps he feared that a quick settlement might have brought me to power in a free Zimbabwe. To avoid that risk he condemned my country to three more years of civil war.

ment for me to see another official, so I went round in person to state my case again. The man I spoke to appeared unable to discuss the matter. Later I found that Soviet diplomats invari-

The Russians were at first extremely sceptical of my request for help: they said they had liberated their own country without outside support, and asked why we could not follow their examp e

guests of Kenneth Kaunda. I found Smith a tired man, a battered man. He told me he wanted to surrender power, to hand the whole thing over; I am convinced that he knew the game was up, that the time had come to concede defeat.

But I could not on my own accept his offer. I told him that the important thing was his agreement to surrender power. But I also stated that the mechanics of the surrender was not something he could discuss with me alone. I had to bring in Robert Mugabe, my colleague, to convince Robert Mugabe, and his principal backer, Julius Nyerere, that it was worth talking to Smith, and I needed to do so through an intermediary who could not possible be suspected of trying to advance my own or any other sectarian interest. I therefore, in close consultation with Kenneth Kaunda, decided to ask the Nigerian government for help.

The then military government of Nigeria, headed by General Obasanjo and with Brigadier Joe Garba as the head of the Foreign Ministry, had already shown in many ways that Robert Mugabe was fully involved. Garba discussed my proposition with General Obasanjo, who agreed to help and asked Robert and me to visit him in Nigeria.

Robert understood and accepted the proposal for joint talks with Smith: all that was necessary was the agreement of Julius Nyerere and of Samora Machel, the president of Mozambique.

Once again State House in Lusaka was the venue for a meeting; there were present all five front-line presidents, Brigadier Garba, Robert Mugabe and myself. Mugabe himself had specifically agreed to take part in the new surrender discussions with Smith.

But once more Nyerere's suspicions of me were too much for him. He said that this was a Nkomo thing, and he could not advise that Mugabe let himself in for it. Lacking unanimity, the talks could not go ahead. Smith was prepared to travel up to Lusaka as had, at our request, promoted the initiative and got the meeting going. But if there was quibbling and jealousy in southern Africa, that was beyond them and there was nothing more they could do to help. I told Julius Nyerere to his face that he was a saboteur, that he had thrown away the certainty of a quick surrender by the Smith regime.

Smith, who naturally did not know the details of our internal differences, may have had it in mind to hand over power to Nkomo. But neither with him, nor with the Zambians, nor with the Nigerians had I ever given any indication of accepting that. The offer I wished to accept was of a hand-over to the Zimbabwean nationalist movement in the Patriotic Front, which would then decide how to organise to accept it.

Nyerere, as I have said, had for long shown an extraordinary personal jealousy of me. Per-

The Soviet connection

ZAPU'S first contact with the Soviet Union was made by Mr Nkomo in London.

I telephoned their embassy and spoke to an official. He asked me what my business was, and I tried to explain about our struggle for independence. "But do you have an embassy here?" the man asked — hardly a sensible question to put to someone who was complaining that he was subject to British rule. But he made an appointment to see me.

The Soviet Union and other east European countries work methodically through an elaborate committee system, and when I first came in contact with them, they tended to move slowly because they had very little personal contact with Africa. The exceptions are the East Germans, who have a tradition of imperial involvement in Africa, and have some specialists who know a good deal about it.

I had to explain that the days when a revolution could be achieved with a few rifles were over, and that the Rhodesians had been deliberately armed by the British to preserve their economic interests in that part of the world. They came round only very slowly.

I must emphasise that the Soviets never offered me help. Each time I asked for it I had to give good reasons and explain in detail what I wanted. Some people in the West pretend that anyone wanting to start a revo-

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companies spells nationalisation

APRIL 1, 1984 S. Tribune

Zimbabwe's takeover of all foreign shares in nominee

Finance Correspondent

HARARE: Zimbabwe might have set something of a record for former British colonies in Africa. After less than four years it has had to resort to virtual nationalisation and the freezing of most forms of payment abroad.

The complete State takeover of all foreign shares held in nominee companies on behalf of residents and former residents is nationalisation in all but name. Holders will be paid out in Zimbabwe dollars at the ruling price on the relevant stock exchange and they will have no say as to whether they want the shares to be sold.

This is but one aspect of the sweeping and demoralising cutbacks on foreign exchange payments announced by Finance Minister Dr Bernard Chidzero this week. Predictably he blamed three years of drought for the problem and said the measures were temporary.

It is hard to see how he can call them temporary when everyone abroad is being forced to put their money into pathetically low-yielding 4 percent Government stock with a minimum life of 12 years in order to qualify for any foreign income.

In effect the Government is channelling all private assets and investments into its own investments. Dividends, rent, partnership and branch profits are being stopped. They will accumulate in bank accounts and the only way money from these can can be sent abroad is through interest on the external bonds.

The bonds have a lifespan of 12 years for individuals and 20 years for companies. For individuals, only interest will be remittable for the first six years with the capital being redeemed in equal instalments from the seventh to the 12th year and interest accruing on the reducing capital balance.

Companies will get only interest during the first 10 years and the capital will be redeemed from the 11th to the 20th year, also with interest accruing on the reducing capital balance.

Said Dr Chidzero: "Those who elect to retain their blocked funds outside the external bonds will have to accept that neither capital nor, as from October 1 this year, interest will be externally remittable."

Interest on the bonds will be paid half-yearly, beginning six months after the date of issue.

Pensions, both Government and private, have not been affected and nor have alimony payments. There has been no change in the policy on holiday allowances and business travel.

Severe restrictions have been imposed on emigrants leaving as from the beginning of next month. They now have to sell everything they own in the country, less the money and goods they are allowed to take out, and put it all into the external bonds. This has to be done within six months although exceptional cases will be given special consideration.

Probably the worst affected are going to be the elderly. Many depend on dividends and such like to supplement meagre pensions.

While emigration allowances will now be limited to a maximum of $1 000 for a family, instead of the sliding scale as before which allowed up to $10 000 for the elderly, special consideration will be given to hardship cases.

Also, some people over the age of 65 will still be able to get the former "anniversary allowances" although each case will be considered on its merits. However it is limited to those whose blocked assets are a maximum of $35 000 and who have not been given an external pension commutation.

Many unanswered questions remain. At the moment it is understood that former residents visiting the country will still be allowed their $50 a day spending money but the Reserve Bank has not confirmed this.

The former six-year external bonds carrying 4 percent interest are presumed to have been abandoned for the 12-year units, but this also has not been answered. Further, the Government has not said anything about money invested in its internal stock which carries as much as 13 percent interest. It is understood that the same restrictions as those on dividends apply and foreign remittability is now blocked. This is penalising those who have their money tied up for anything up to 25 years.

The reasons given for the cutbacks are predictable.

Dr Chidzero says as much as 700 000 tons of maize will have to be imported this year worth R180 million.

The reason for the serious foreign exchange shortage is mainly uncontrolled Government spending and borrowing.

Dr Chidzero left the news conference at which he announced the cutbacks in a very expensive German limousine. Perhaps he could cut back on that sort of expenditure throughout the Government.

Why Zimbabwe has blocked all dividend payments abroad

Many ex-Zimbabweans now living in South Africa will have been shocked by Zimbabwe's decision to stop all dividend, interest and rents income to emigrants. ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare, sets out the full dimension of the drastic move.

Bankers, industrialists and businessmen in Zimbabwe agree that the critical shortage of foreign currency and urgent need for massive food imports called for drastic measures, although somebody had to be hurt.

They also concurred that the government was correct in coming up with a package in which the main victims were emigrants rather than those committed to staying in the country.

All were relieved there was no further cut in import allocations which, in real terms, are already 60 per cent less than they were at the end of 1981.

However, some say the government's deficit budgeting, heavy borrowing and use of loans in areas not generating foreign earnings, have played a significant part in bringing about the currency crisis.

Most have expressed concern also about the likely negative impact on potential investors of the decision temporarily to suspend dividend, interest and rent payments outside the country.

There has been only a trickle of foreign investment in recent years anyway, the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero, acknowledged.

Some whites I spoke to who have been contemplating emigrating (white emigration has been continuing at an average of about 1 580 a month); and private shareholders whose foreign stock "nest egg" is being expropriated, bluntly accused the government of "robbery".

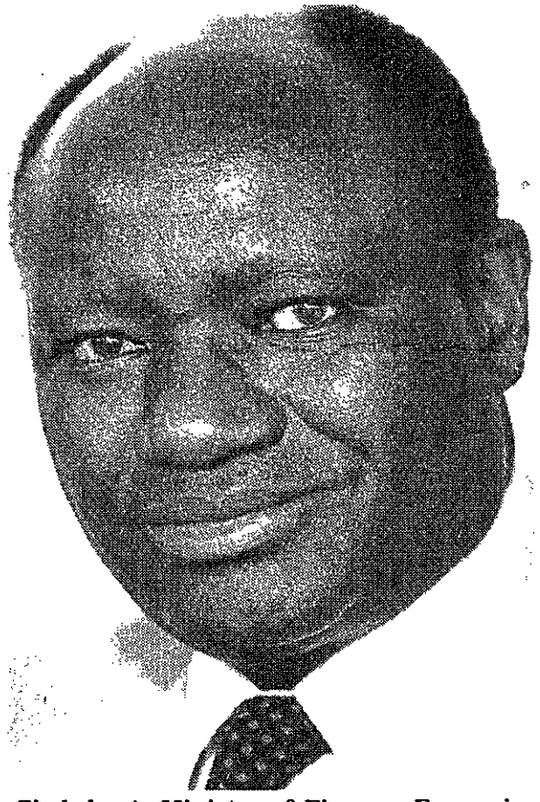
An editorial in the government-controlled newspaper, the Herald, said: "However bitter the medicine" there was "no denying the country needed it". While it hoped some of the measures would be lifted when the recession ended, it said the freeze on rent remittances should remain.

"In any case, where in Africa would one find rents being remitted to property owners outside the country?" the Herald asked.

Dr Chidzero said that his measures had been a "painful decision". He estimated they would result in foreign currency savings of more than R22 million a month.

The current account deficit of the balance of payments is more than R550 million. Borrowings exceed R1 billion and debt servicing costs more than R330 million a year.

The government measures include the temporary suspension of external dividend and profit payments on pre-September, 1979, investments believed to be worth well in excess of R1 billion; and expropriation of a pool of externally quoted shares worth more than R220 million.



Zimbabwe's Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero — critical shortage of foreign exchange.

External payments of all income remittances, except for pensions, alimony and approved expatriate incomes, have also been suspended temporarily, and emigrants' take-away allowances have been reduced from a maximum of R11 000 a family to R1 100. But emigrants are still allowed to leave with their old cars and old furniture.

All income from a pool of blocked funds held by non-residents and estimated to be worth between R440 million and R550 million, has been permanently suspended. Dr Chidzero said annual payouts of more than R44 million had become "an intolerable burden".

Holders of blocked funds could, however, turn them into four per cent government bonds. They would receive interest payments every six months. Individual 12-year bond holders would have their capital remitted in the last six years and corporate holders of 20-year bonds would be paid out in the last 10 years.

According to an economist it appeared the bond system would in fact benefit emigrants with considerable wealth in Zimbabwe, but that over the next six years average emigrants would receive considerably less income. Previously all emigrants were entitled to receive a maximum of R16 500 outside the country a year. Now it looked as if an emigrant with blocked funds worth R1 million could receive R40 000 a year.

In the short term, the government would pay out considerably less income from the blocked funds, while in the medium term it would pay out more and in the long term it would pay nothing because it would have liquidated all non-resident claims.

The only measure which actually provides the government with additional foreign currency is the expropriation of externally quoted shares. But they yield only enough to foot the anticipated approximately R242 million food imports bill.

Referring to the shares, Mr John Robertson, chief economist of the RAL merchant bank, said: "Unfortunately the government won't have this option again. So if we get into this kind of trouble again we will have to find another way out."

A number of economists believe the next few years will be very critical. The drought, now in its third year, has wreaked havoc on vital agricultural foreign earnings and until the country has an unusually successful farming year, it will need substantial external support.

The group economist for Standard Chartered Bank, Zimbabwe, Mr Zdenek Silavecky, said while international bankers might recognise the government package as "responsible in the face of current trying economic conditions", it was possible it would have a negative psychological impact on potential investors.

Despite Dr Chidzero's assurance that the government eventually intended to liberalise remittances, he said there was a "conspicuous absence of any incentives for new investment".

He said a spokesman for a large multinational company had remarked that Zimbabwe seemed to be joining Tanzania, which had not yielded dividends for eight years, and other problematic African countries.

Independent MPs have urged the government to give sympathetic consideration to elderly people who have no pension and who would be destitute if other funds were not remitted to them.

'Rebel force' trains in SA

From STANLEY UYS

LONDON. — South Africa is assembling a force of Zimbabwe rebels in preparation for further military operations against Zimbabwe," according to a report by a special correspondent in Africa magazine, published here yesterday.

The report claims that the force consists of 5 000 former auxiliaries of Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Selous Scouts and dissidents who supported the Zapu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The report differentiates between Zapu and the dissidents, whom it describes as "super-Zapu", and says "super-Zapu is an extension of the South African Defence Force", which South Africa will "furnish with a leadership once the time is ripe for open destabilization of Zimbabwe".

The report claims that "super-Zapu insurgency forces operating from South Africa" have been responsible for "increased acts of banditry" in Matabeleland.

"The South African Government's involvement has been exposed by captured dissidents, who have testified publicly to having been trained in South Africa.

"Some of the camps in Northern Transvaal where dissidents are trained by former Rhodesian Army officers are Mandimbo Gumbo, Spencer and Pafuri along the Limpopo River.

"It is still not clear who leads super-Zapu. Premier Mugabe asserts that the dissidents are a Zapu brain-child."

Mr Joshua Nkomo has repeatedly denied any involvement, the report adds.

RDM 13/4/84 (362)

Jo'burg housing project praised

Mail Reporter

THE acquisition of housing and loans for the housing of Johannesburg's white elderly is a major breakthrough and should be seen as part of the city's centenary projects, the deputy chairman of Johannesburg's management committee, Mr Jan Burger, said yesterday.

Mr Burger — who is also chairman of the council's housing committe — con-

Rebels burn borehole equipment

BULAWAYO. — A group of about 20 armed dissidents burnt a drilling rig and a tractor which was being used to sink a borehole near a school in the Nkayi district of Matabeleland last Saturday, it was confirmed yesterday.

After sending a hail of bullets through the tents of a Ministry of Water Resources and Development drilling team, the dissidents forced three team members to douse the rig and tractor with diesel and set fire to them.

The drilling superintendent for Matabeleland, Mr Alfred van Straaten, said a seven-man team had been drilling near Hompani School in Nkayi on Saturday. After work four of the team, including the drill operator, had gone off to buy meat and the remaining three stayed at the camp with their wives.

The workers were sitting outside their tents when shooting began about 5.30pm, Mr van Straaten said.

The Minister of State for Water Resources and Development, Mr Chephas Msipa, said he was deeply disappointed and angered by the incident.

"The people of Nkayi had asked us for water, and we went ahead with the drilling of boreholes. Now it will be the women and children who will suffer. The people there will see who is their enemy now."

The provincial water engineer, Mr Piet Maritz, said the rig and the tractor had been damaged but could be repaired.

But until the rig, which had been taken to Nkayi for safekeeping, was brought to Bulawayo and stripped for repair, it was difficult to say how extensive the damage was, he said.

The drilling rig, donated by Unicef, is one of two that had been operating exclusively in Nkayi since last year, drilling boreholes where needed, Mr Maritz said.

Another rig, was set ablaze in the Beit Bridge district last year. That one had been donated by Sweden, he said. — Sapa.

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Brothers' murder charge

permit the traffic department to be in control of the policing.

The department will in the next few weeks alert and warn offenders. But after that drivers will have to pay R20 fines for parking on the

The centre will, for example, provide parking for disabled people soon. Non-disabled shoppers who disregard the signs and make use of disabled parking will have to be fined for the service to be a success, he said.

3 appear on rape charges

Mail Reporter

THREE white men appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday on charges of raping two black women and robbing them.

Before Mr D J du Plessis van der Wath were Mr Wynand Koenrad Bezuidenhout, 25, of Van Zyl Street, Klerksdorp, Mr Hendrik Frederick van Staden, 23, and Mr Marius Marthinus van Staden, 20, whose addresses were not given.

The State alleges they raped two black women at Brixton on January 9 and robbed them.

They will appear again on May 2. Mr Bezuidenhout was freed on R300 bail while the other two were remanded.

Anthem

joice" to make it more ceptable to the femi movement.

Opposition leader Mr drew Peacock criti the changing of the as "ludicrous", whil national secretary o Returned Services L (RSL), Mr Ian Go said the anthem was "the thin edge wedge to move us t republicanism".

Sources in Melbourne Mr Hawke's Labou retained governm the next electi Hawke will pres national referend other symbols suc tralia's flag and even the coat of

MPs make a song and dance over h

London Bureau

LONDON. — More than 20 MPs have signed a motion condemning plans to introduce harp music in the Harcourt Room, a candle-lit dining room at the Houses of Parliament, where many of them enjoy quiet conversation over dinner.

A proposal by Mr Charles Irving, a Conservative MP, that a harpist should be hired to play during the evening is being opposed by MPs.

But Mr Irving said: "There are so many dreary drips in this place, I wouldn't have expected anything else."

"Some MPs have asked for the Harcourt Room to be brightened up as it is a place where they take and families."

Mr Peter Snap MP, welcomed th said a jazz trio might be more t

"I'm not sure harpist would suitable as there far too many e here with their clouds," he sai

ZIMBABWE'S DEATH CAMPS

Babies boiled and hundreds butchered in purge — claim

S. Tribune FOREIGN SERVICE 8/4/84 (82)

boiled alive and hundreds of people have died in torture camps set up by Robert Mugabe's government in a new campaign to end raids by dissident guerrillas in Matabeleland, according to survivors in Harare.

The *London Sunday Times* says it has evidence that a "death camp" has been established at Balaghwe, a town in Matabeleland.

At least one witness and several reports say government forces have already killed large numbers of people at the camp.

Father John Gough, a dedicated campaigner for human rights during UDI, spoke during a sermon in Harare last week of "genocide" in Matabeleland.

He told of babies being tossed into cauldrons of boiling water and of people being buried up to their necks and shot in the head.

According to details pieced together from reports by survivors, church supporters and anti-Mugabe factions, thousands of people have been indiscriminately rounded up for "screening" in the internment camps.

During interrogation they were beaten with heavy sticks on the buttocks and [illegible] back and were subjected to electrical shocks and other forms of torture.

In Belaghwe, the most notorious of the camps, many people died and their bodies thrown into shallow pits, splashed with kerosene and set alight. Identification papers were destroyed.

A member of the security forces, now outside the country, said that atrocities and deliberate killing of civilians are commonplace. He estimates that more than 1 000 civilians have been killed since the start of anti-dissident sweep.

He claims to have seen telex messages from Harare to field headquarters in the province which suggest the murder of civilians may be official government policy.

The Belaghwe camp is a barbed wire enclosure in dry scrubland 16 km south of Kezi and close to a disused mine called Antelope. About 40 km south of Antelope is another camp at a place called Yet Sen. A third camp has been built at Mphoengs, east of Francistown on the Botswana border.

Based at these and other camps in Matabeleland are elements of the Zimbabwean Army's notorious Fifth and Sixth Brigades, as well as about 200 members of the Central Intelligence Organisation.



Mugabe ... army accused of operating death camps.

These groups are not only campaigning against guerrillas but also seem to be forcing civilians to support Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) Party.

Though forbidden on pain of death to leave the curfew zone, thousands of people have fled over the border into Botswana or have gone to Bulawayo.

In Harare, Father Gough invited his congregation to meet witnesses of the alleged killings.

These villagers said tens of thousands were starving in the curfew area because the government had stopped food supplies to areas where the army was operating.

Eventually, after representations from the church, the government allowed stores to open for one hour twice a week under close army supervision. But customers say the soldiers decided arbitrarily who could buy food.

Evidence of the Matabeleland atrocities has been passed to the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, which met in Harare last week.

Apart from the drought and the shortage of foreign investment, says the *Sunday Times*, the country also faces pressures from South Africa to come to a non-aggression agreement similar to the Nkomati Accord.

"Usually reliable sources in Harare said last week that shortly after signing the February 20 deal with Mozambique, South African Ministers flew to the Zimbabwean capital, showed Mugabe the text of the accord and suggested a similar agreement with his government. This was denied in Pretoria," the newspaper said.

Zimbabwe tourism picks up

HARARE. — Tourism to Zimbabwe continued to pick up in January this year, with 24 427 people visiting the country, 2 683 more than in January last year.

According to the latest government migration and tourism statistics, visitors who left the country in January said they spent R4 237 329. Visitors who do not stay for at least one night are not included in the spending figures.

The number of Zambian tourists jumped from 6 327 in January 1983 to 7 490 in January this year, almost certainly making Zambia the largest single source of tourism.

There were 7 544 tourists from South Africa, Swaziland and Botswana and the South Africans spent R510 879, providing about a third of the January takings. The Zambians who left in January spent R375 824. — Sapa.

Murder in Matabeleland: the evidence

362
Star
14/4/84

ROBERT Mugabe's government in Zimbabwe has launched a new campaign of extraordinary brutality in Matabeleland in the south of the country. The aim is to end the raids on white farms and government buildings by dissident guerillas. According to the home affairs minister, Mr Simba Mubako, the guerillas have been responsible for 75 murders and 284 armed robberies in the past six months. In one case, two teenage girl teachers had their noses and ears cut off for "collaborating" with the government.

But the government is now meeting brutality with extreme brutality. The London Sunday Times has evidence that a "death camp" has been established at Belaghwe, a town in Matabeleland. At least one eye witness and several other reports say that large numbers of people have already been killed there by government forces.

The camp is a barbed-wire enclosure in dry scrubland 16 km south of Kezi: it lies between two rivers, the Shashani and the Tuli, waterless after a three-year drought. It is close to a disused mine called Antelope. Some 40 km due south of Antelope is another camp at a place known as Sun Yet Sen. A third camp has been built at Mphoengs, due east of Francistown on the Botswana border.

At these, and other camps in that half of Matabeleland which has been under strict curfew since January, are based elements of the Zimbabwean army's 5th and 6th brigade. The 5th became notorious because it was trained by North Korean officers. The 6th is known as the presidential guard. Also among the estimated 15 000 troops in that area, are some 200 men of the Central Intelligence Organisation.

These three formidable groups are not only campaigning against the guerillas, but seem to be forcing civilians to support Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party. Until now Matabeleland has been a stronghold for Joshua Nkomo's opposition party. The campaign is seen as further evidence of Mugabe's desire to make Zimbabwe a one-party state.

According to details pieced together from reports by surviving victims, church supporters and anti-Mugabe factions, thousands of people were indiscriminately rounded up for "screening", in the internment camps. During interrogation they were beaten with thick sticks on the buttocks and lower back, and subjected to electric shock and other torture.

In Belaghwe, the worst camp of all, many people died and their bodies were thrown into shallow pits, splashed with kerosene and set alight. Identification papers were destroyed.

A member of the security forces now outside the country has told The London Sunday Times that atrocities and deliberate killing of civilians are commonplace. He estimates that more than 1 000 civilians have been killed since the anti-dissident sweep began.

He says that the actions against the civilian population appeared to be systematic, rather than the work of undisciplined troops. He claims to have seen radio messages from Harare to field headquarters in Matabeleland which suggest that the murder of civilians may be official government policy.

Recently, Father John Gough, who was a dedicated campaigner for human rights during the Ian Smith regime, preached a sermon in Harare Catholic cathedral in which he used the word "genocide." He warned his congregation that horrifying things were happening in Matabeleland and spoke of babies being tossed into cauldrons of boiling water and people being buried up to their necks and shot in the head.

Father Gough invited worshippers to meet eye-witnesses of the alleged killings in the vestry. These villagers said that tens of thousands were starving in the curfew area because the government had stopped food from going into areas where the army was operating.

This was at least partly confirmed by other sources who told The London Sunday Times that shops and stores have been forced to close, depriving the drought-stricken residents of the area of sufficient food to survive. Eventually, after representations from the Catholic Church, the government allowed stores to open for one hour twice a week under close army supervision. But customers say that the soldiers decide arbitrarily who can buy food and who cannot.

Though forbidden on pain of death to leave the curfew zone, many thousands of people have fled. They slip over the border, eluding the army patrols under cover of darkness, into Botswana. Others escape to relatives in the high density suburbs of Bulawayo, the provincial capital.

Evidence of the Matabeleland atrocities has been passed to the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace which met in Harare last week. This group first drew public attention to an earlier 5th Brigade terror campaign in the province with a dossier of incidents compiled by village priests, hospital workers and relatives of people killed or missing.

The prime minister at first rejected the document, condemning its authors as "interfering busybodies", but later set up a committee of inquiry, which will report directly to him. The committee's mandate has not yet been expanded to examine the latest allegations.

The Matabeleland problem is only one of a number of serious pressures on the Mugabe government. The world recession and the drought have reduced the real growth rate from 15 percent in 1980 to zero. The country has been transformed from a maize exporter to a maize importer.

Drastic measures, including suspension of remittances and dividends abroad, have been taken. This will affect tens of thousands of ex-Zimbabweans, forcing some of them to return.

Yet the underlying cause of the country's ills continues to be lack of foreign investment. It was disclosed at a seminar of economists in Harare recently that Zimbabwe had made itself one of the least attractive of all Third World countries to potential foreign investors.

Zimbabwe also faces increasing pressure from South Africa to come to a non-aggression agreement similar to that between South Africa and Mozambique and the one being worked out with Angola.

Usually reliable sources in Harare said recently that shortly after signing the February 20 deal with Mozambique, South African ministers flew to the Zimbabwean capital, showed Mugabe the text of the accord and suggested a similar agreement with his government. This was denied in Pretoria.□ — *From the London Sunday Times.*

S. Express 15/4/84

(362)

Torture and beatings in camps, say ex-prisoners



Own Correspondent

BULAWAYO — Ndebele peasants are being systematically tortured and beaten in interrogation centres in southern Matabeleland as part of the Zimbabwean government's 10-week campaign against dissidents.

Eyewitness accounts to this effect from released prisoners form part of a report — believed to have been sent to the Harare government this week — by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP) in Zimbabwe on allegations against security forces.

A Catholic priest in Harare last month accused the government of genocide in Matabeleland and last week the country's Catholic bishops expressed concern at the allegations of army misconduct.

Mr Robert Mugabe's government has denied allegations of tribal war, saying the security forces, led by the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade and the newly-commissioned North Korean-trained presidential guard, are doing what has to be done to find dissidents who have killed and robbed hundreds in Matabeleland in the past two years.

Detained

But former prisoners in the camps say the soldiers detained people without regard to who they were or where their sympathies might lie. They reported that:

- Following the imposition of curfew retrictions on February 3, more than 3 000 people were taken to Balagwe camp about 90km south of Bulawayo and that about 800 were detained at a camp near the Sun Yet Sen gold mine, about 40km further south.
- Inside the camps, beatings with wooden clubs and sjamboks were more common than questioning.
- Hundreds of children under the age of 12 were also taken to Balagwe and some were beaten.
- The camps are run by members of the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO).
- Some detainees were tortured with electric shocks administered by a hand-operated generator and crocodile clips fastened to the prisoners' lips.
- People who fainted — from electric shocks or beatings — were dumped into barrels of cold water until they revived.
- Food and water were given to the prisoners only every second day.
- Former and retired policemen and former guerrillas of opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo's wartime Zipra force were kept apart in chains in asbestos-roofed hothouses.
- Prisoners who had already been beaten were later forced to work, cleaning toilets, washing soldiers' uniforms and digging shallow pits that many felt were graves for their fellow prisoners.

Loaded

But none of the statements

The Minister of State Security, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, said several days ago that the security excercise had been effective in dealing with dissidents.

But police, soldiers and farmers on the perimeter of the curfew zone said last week that groups of up to 50 dissidents were prowling unhindered through farmlands and communal areas.

certain deaths and nobody saw bodies loaded into pits.



● Mr Robert Mugabe ... denies tribal war

The PM visits Matabeleland

HARARE — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, flew into troubled Matabeleland province at the weekend for the first time since missionaries accused government troops of systematically starving and brutalising local civilian supporters of opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Mr Mugabe made an impassioned plea for unity and an end to tribalism when he addressed some 300 supporters, crowded into a hall in Gwanda, 96km south of Bulawayo, but made no mention of the bloodshed. — Sapa-AP.

Sons and daughters of famous, fighting Alex

● Children of 'Mama Alexandra' — from the book 'Alexandra, I Love You', a mainly photographic record of the township landlocked by white suburbia north-west of Johannesburg. A short text by former Sunday Express journalist Jon Swift records 70 fighting years that have won world note for Alex and her greatest sons, such as exiled poet Mongane Wally Serote, whose work introduces sections of the book. Published by Future Marketing for the Alexandra town council, it sells at R12,95. The picture is by Ingrid Hudson.

RDM 17/4/84 (362)

Porters' murder charge

Mail Correspondent

TWO Groote Schuur Hospital porters who allegedly threw a colleague into the Liesbeek River in Mowbray after a drinking session last week, are to be charged with murder.

The body of Mr Edward Blumenfeldt, 37, of Eden Road, Observatory, was found by police divers on Sunday afternoon.

Mr Blumenfeldt had been reported missing by members of his family last Friday night, police liaison officer for the Western Cape, Captain Jan Calitz, said yesterday.

"It has been established that his death was caused by drowning," Capt Calitz said.

Mr Blumenfeldt and two colleagues had been drinking alongside the Liesbeek River about 6.30pm on Thursday.

Capt Calitz said the men, aged 28 and 23, would appear in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court shortly.

Matabele teacher tells of army brutality

I was tortured, says Zimbabwe fugitive

GABORONE. — A young Zimbabwean teacher has said he and five colleagues were tortured and threatened with death by Zimbabwean troops seeking information about dissidents.

He said he had escaped an army detention camp in the troubled south-western Matabeleland province and slipped across the border into Botswana.

Mr Grown Khumalo, 21, told reporters at Dukwe refugee camp in northern Botswana he feared for the lives of his colleagues as the troops had threatened to kill them by April 18, Zimbabwe independence day, if they did not provide information by then.

Mr Khumalo was speaking at the weekend at the same time as the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, attacked Catholic bishops in Zimbabwe for presenting a report to his government alleging that troops on an anti-dissident drive in Matabeleland had conducted a murderous reign of terror.

The report charged troops with starving the local population and listed cases of killings, torture, rape and beatings.

Mr Mugabe said the bishops were supporting the dissidents, but said they would be called on in due course to lead officials to where the alleged atrocities had occurred.

The anti-dissident drive began in southern Matabeleland on February 3 when a dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed and severe restrictions clamped on movement in and out of the area.

Mr Khumalo said he was a teacher at a school in his home village of Tshianga, 9km north of the western town of Plumtree.

He said he and five colleagues, three men and two women, were taken from the school by members of the Fifth Brigade of the Zimbabwean Army on the night of March 15 and taken to an army camp he named as Costelos. He could not say where it was.

Mr Khumalo said at the camp they were "brutally interrogated" regarding the whereabouts and movement of dissidents in their area.

When they denied any knowledge of dissidents, he said they were tortured with electric shocks, made to stand in water up to their necks with their hands cuffed behind their backs for several hours, and beaten with sticks.

Wet towels were also placed over their heads, during which one of the women teachers fainted, he added.

Mr Khumalo said the torture was carried out on instructions from and under supervision of a white lieutenant, whose surname, he said, was Howard.

The North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade, which was also accused of atrocities during a similar anti-dissident sweep in northern Matabeleland last year, has a small number of white officers. — Sapa-Reuter.



"Little Miss Easter Chick" competition winner, four-year-old Elizabeth Anne Beures, is flanked by Sharon Shaleu, 7, (left) who came second and Liza Anne Pon, 4, who was third.

Picture: GLENN MIDDLETON

Russia playing game of words

Mail Correspondent

MOSCOW. — The Soviet Union will not boycott the Los Angeles Olympics — but might still stay away — the Soviet Olympic Committee chairman, Mr Marat Gramov, told a Moscow Press conference yesterday.

He drew a semantic distinction between a boycott and a decision not to participate, should the American organisers and the United States Government fail to uphold the Olympic charter rules and traditions.

A desire for revenge for the US boycott of the Moscow Olympics in 1980 is seen as a major influence on the Soviet position, but few Western observers in Moscow doubt that the Russian team compete in Los Angeles.

A decision on whether to send a team would be made at the end of May.

Soviet sports officials told newsmen that given "normal" conditions in Los Angeles, a full-strength Soviet team of almost 800 athletes and officials would attend.

"We never use the word boy-

RDM 17/4/84 (362)

Zimbabwe — four years after the bush war's end

DOZENS of new poster-size portraits of President Canaan Banana and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe look down on Harare's busy Samora Machel Avenue — and bright red, yellow, green and black flags and bunting decorate the city centre.

Preparations for the fourth anniversary of independence celebrations are also at an advanced stage in the second city and provincial capital of Matabeleland — Bulawayo — although the celebration committee there says donations are only at a quarter of the level they were this time last year. They blame the drought and general economic conditions.

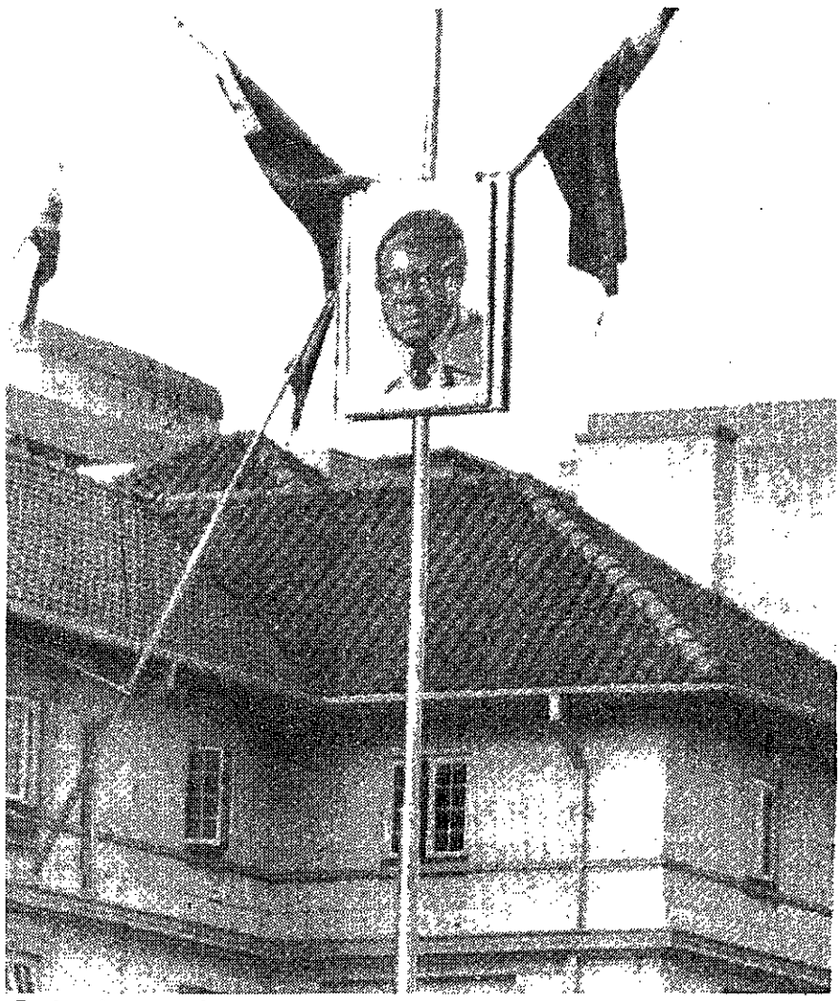
But what is the mood in the rural areas and home of the 80% of the national population, in whose name the liberation struggle that brought about Zimbabwe four years ago tomorrow, was fought?

To get some idea I drove about 70km out of Harare, leaving behind the wooded suburbs and fenced commercial farms, to the Murewa district where thousands of Shona-speaking peasants grow mealies and groundnuts and keep cattle and goats on plains between rugged hills and huge, rounded granite outcrops.

The area is also a traditional stronghold of Mr Mugabe's Zanu PF party.

I dropped in on Mr Tigere Rusere, an old man who did not know his age or that tomorrow is the fourth anniversary of independence.

But Mr Rusere, who still works his land each day with his aged wife to ensure their annual R90 income, said he remembered Independence Day on March 18, 1980.



Poster-size portraits of the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, are displayed in Harare to mark Independence Day tomorrow.

"We were drinking and enjoying ourselves on that day, because we knew we had powers," said the old man, who was wearing a gumboot on one foot and a tattered veldskoen on the other.

I asked him what single change since independence had meant the most to him. Without hesitation he replied: "Now we can slaughter our cattle whenever we want. Under Smith, each time we killed a beast we had to show the tail to the government."

ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare

The old man told me he used to give food to "freedom fighters" and I gathered that the Rhodesian Government had kept a close check on peasants' meat consumption.

This year, because of the drought, the government gave him some groundnut seed and a bag of fertiliser. Nothing like that had happened "since I was a small boy".

The district council had also helped him get water, because it was so dry that he had had to walk 10km to fetch it.

But Mr Rusere said the cost of living had risen so much he could afford less than he could before independence.

"At least we are ruling ourselves now, but I still think people have got to go to the government and ask them to reduce the prices."

He also wished the government would give him more land to graze his cattle on.

At a more prosperous-looking kraal, I spoke to a 26-year-old woman, Mrs Mary Mubaiwa, who said she would definitely be celebrating tomorrow.

Despite the drought, the 12-member extended family had had a reasonable harvest and had even planted some decorative marigolds around their brick-and-thatch huts.

Their doves, chickens, guineafowls and rabbits were kept in neat stockades. Two of the family head's sons worked in Harare and sent most of their earnings home.

In Mrs Mubaiwa's opinion, the greatest advance since independence was the building of schools and the lowering of school fees.

Before, the nearest school had been 30km away. Now, with a school within walking distance from their home, her two brothers were for the first time able to attend school.

With government encouragement, every family group in the local community had made 1 000 bricks towards the school building, which had been erected by local people.

Like the old man, she, too, had given food to "freedom fighters". Two of her brothers and her father-in-law had been shot dead by Rhodesian soldiers one night.

At Ntabazinduna — a peasant settlement about 20km outside Bulawayo and in the territory of opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo — it proved to be more difficult to persuade people to comment on their first four years of independence.

Two young men refused to speak to a reporter, even after he showed them his Press card.

"You could have been sent by the government. We know the CIO (Central Intelligence Organisation) uses whites. You could be trying to trap us into saying something against the government," they said.

But an old man, who said he was born when the whites first came to the country, was prepared to talk.

The old man, Mr Mazira Ndlovu, said he had been very happy when Independence first came, because, "I knew things would change very much".

"And there was a big change — because now people can go to hospitals in Bulawayo suburbs, where before only Europeans could go. Also now if an African man wants to have a marriage party and he has enough money, he is allowed to go to any hall he likes."

Asked what he thought of the Prime Minister, he said: "He cannot give us everything we want in one day. He must do it bit by bit. I think that is what he is trying to do."

And what about Mr Nkomo? "I can say nothing," said the old man — and that was the end of the interview.

RDM 18/4/84

Mugabe claim refuted

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — The South African Government had not approached Zimbabwe with a view to concluding a non-aggression pact, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said yesterday.

Mr Botha was commenting in Cape Town on reports from Harare that Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe had disclosed in a television interview this week that the S A Government had asked for talks at ministerial level aimed at probing the possibility of a peace pact.

Mr Mugabe said in the interview he did not consider it necessary to have a peace pact with South Africa.

Mr Botha said yesterday the Zimbabwe Government's repeated public stand was that it was not prepared to allow its territory to be used for acts of aggression or the planning of aggression against its neighbours — including South Africa.

There was therefore no need for a formal non-aggression treaty and the South African Government had not approached Mr Mugabe's government with this in mind, Mr Botha said.

Catholic Church upset by Mugabe allegations

By ANDRE VILJOEN

HARARE. — The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe has denied allegations by the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, that clergymen in Matabeleland had influenced Catholic bishops in the country to adopt a document alleging widespread military atrocities.

The commission was "deeply concerned" by Mr Mugabe's "astonishing statement", a spokesman, Mr Alois Maveneka said.

"It should be clear to everybody that neither the Catholic bishops nor the clergy have ever been involved in party politics and in particular that the bishop and clergy of Bulawayo are not Zapu supporters," the statement said.

It said both the commission and the Catholic Bishops Conference were "concerned only with protecting innocent people against brutality, the violation of their human rights and starvation".

The church was united in its condemantion of atrocities, whether they were committed by dissidents or by security forces.

The Catholic Bishops Conference, which had its annual meeting earlier this month, had publicly supported the government's legitimate efforts to restore law and order in Matabeleland, where it imposed a curfew in February.

The conference's "deep concern for the suffering of the people of Matabeleland" was based on reports from the commission which had been presented to Mr Mugabe and "which have not been published precisely because they were intended only to inform the Prime Minister of the serious state of affairs in that area".

Mr Mugabe first attacked the Catholic Church last weekend when he told a Press conference that the church in Matabeleland supported Mr Nkomo's Zapu Party which, he said, had been sustaining dissidents.

He accused the Bishop of Bulawayo, the Right Reverend Henry Karlen, of having inspired other bishops to adopt the atrocities document.

The bishops' document was being studied, he said.

Meanwhile, the **Mail's London Bureau** reports that Mr Donald Trelford, editor of the Observer, is to be told by Mr "Tiny" Rowland, chairman of the newspaper's board of directors, that he expects him to issue a "statement of clarification" about his report in last Sunday's issue in which he referred to alleged atrocities in Zimbabwe.

A spokesman for Mr Rowland, whose holding company, Lonrho, has extensive business interests in Zimbabwe, said he would insist that Mr Trelford "restored the balance" and outlined "the chronology of events affecting his collation and research of the evidence".

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Darkness over Zimbabwe

"BLACKS AND WHITES ALIKE HAVE THIS TERRIBLE FEELING OF FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY"

Clive Shaw, a former British Policeman, spent six years in what is now Zimbabwe, serving first Ian Smith and then Robert Mugabe as a sergeant-major in the Special Investigation Branch — the military CID. Here, talking to SHAUN USHER of the London Daily Mail, he tells of his disillusionment with the country.

ZIMBABWE'S tragedy is at last out in the open.

Troops are alleged to be starving their own people to death. Mugabe's personal force, the notorious Korean-trained Fifth Brigade, is accused of mass murder and rape.

It does not surprise me, though I grieve over it. The evidence of the incidents is new, but the atrocities are not. They are part of a wave of anarchy, violence and injustice that began when Robert Mugabe took over .

Disillusionment

Main target area is Matabeleland, where Mugabe's rival Joshua Nkomo has most support — his power base. That's where I served in first the Rhodesian army during the UDI era of Ian Smith, then with Mugabe's forces.

I truly believed blacks and whites could work as a team. That belief nearly killed me, landed me in jail, caused huge personal disillusionment, before I realised my error.

My lesson began one day in 1980, in an area where the new army of which I had such high hopes is now beating and starving the locals into submission to Mugabe.

Freedom fighters

As a sergeant-major in the Special Investigation Branch — military CID — I was provost duty officer for the Bulawayo area that evening.

Like a fool, I'd responded to frantic telephone calls warning that freedom fighters waiting to join the army had raided Grenville Barracks armoury, outside the town, and a battle had broken out between Mugabe's Zanu men and Zipra squads loyal to Joshua Nkomo.

With a black driver, I found myself marooned in a howling mob. Death had never been closer. These men were crazy with rage, bloodlust and sheer panic. Some of them, jabbing assault rifles at the car, me and my driver, literally foamed at the mouth.

We drove off. Crimes were being committed, military regulations breached, but nothing could be done. It was hopeless. Just more of the anarchy sweeping Zimbabwe, and we were lucky to get away alive.

Faction fighting

We knew they had had to bring in freezer trucks to deal with the corpses after recent factional fighting near here — a thousand died at Entumbane, many never identified.

I speak from six years' experience of Rhodesia and Zimbabwe. I came from England and Metropolitan Police service with the Flying Squad to join the army under Ian Smith. And unlike many whites, stayed on.

"Do your work by the book and there can be no problem," I told those urging me to get out when Mugabe took over.

Racial prejudice — black against white for a change — and rampant graft, crime and inefficiency running Zimbabwe into the ground, made it impossible to carry on.

Too many politicians and officials running Zimbabwe, from Robert Mugabe down, see no place for whites. They know the system is being abused — often by ex-freedom fighters turned officers who believe they were promised a free hand — and ignore it.

Paid informers

Today, Mugabe's security force, the Central Intelligence Organisation, has thousands of paid informers, one in most public places. There's the atmosphere of a police state. Blacks and whites alike have this terrible feeling of fear and uncertainty.

But all that lay over the horizon when I went back into the SIB as a sergeant-major. There was plenty to do. Army discipline and morale started slipping as Zipra and Zanu fighters were incorporated into the army.

After independence, the army lost at least R1,2-million in pay fiddles alone.

My personal moment of truth came in February 1982 when — along with other SIB men — I was accused of stealing army rations.

When the case came up, documents showed that not only were we entitled to the rations but we should have indented for more.

Prejudice

Ironically, though it sickened me with the Mugabe regime and its brazen graft and injustice, that rigged arrest rid me of my last shred of racism.

Prejudice can't survive working and fighting alongside black soldiers. I liked and admired many of them. Now I have more friends, black and white, in Zimbabwe than at home in England.

I'm telling my story, not to denigrate them, but to expose what they have to endure.



The bodies of three of six passengers allegedly taken off a bus by government troops and shot lie partly covered by branches on a farm in Matabeleland. Their suitcases lie open in the background. White farmers were allegedly asked by the soldiers to burn the bodies but refused.

Mugabe's reputation in Britain lies bleeding on the ground

WHATEVER Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe may have achieved in Matabeleland, his image in Britain has been ruined.

The euphoria with which many in Britain welcomed his "magnanimous" regime evaporated fast as British newspapers gave prominence to news of the activities of the Korean-trained Fifth Brigade in the dissident area.

This week Britain's newspapers once again focussed their attention on Mr Mugabe and his regime — and none of the references have been flattering.

From JOHN D'OLIVEIRA: Argus Foreign Service, London

On Sunday the liberal Observer gave a great deal of space to an article by its editor, Mr Donald Trelford, detailing alleged atrocities in Matabeleland.

He wrote, after a visit to Zimbabwe, of seeing the burns and bayonet scars on a man beaten close to death in front of his wife and children, of gathering eye-witness accounts about the "horrors of the Matabeleland campaign", of women abused, beaten and raped by the soldiers.

Mr Trelford was repudiated by the owner of the Observer, Mr tiny Rowland, who has considerable business interests in Zimbabwe, but he says he stands by every word he wrote.

White South Africans will say that Mr Mugabe has got off comparatively lightly.

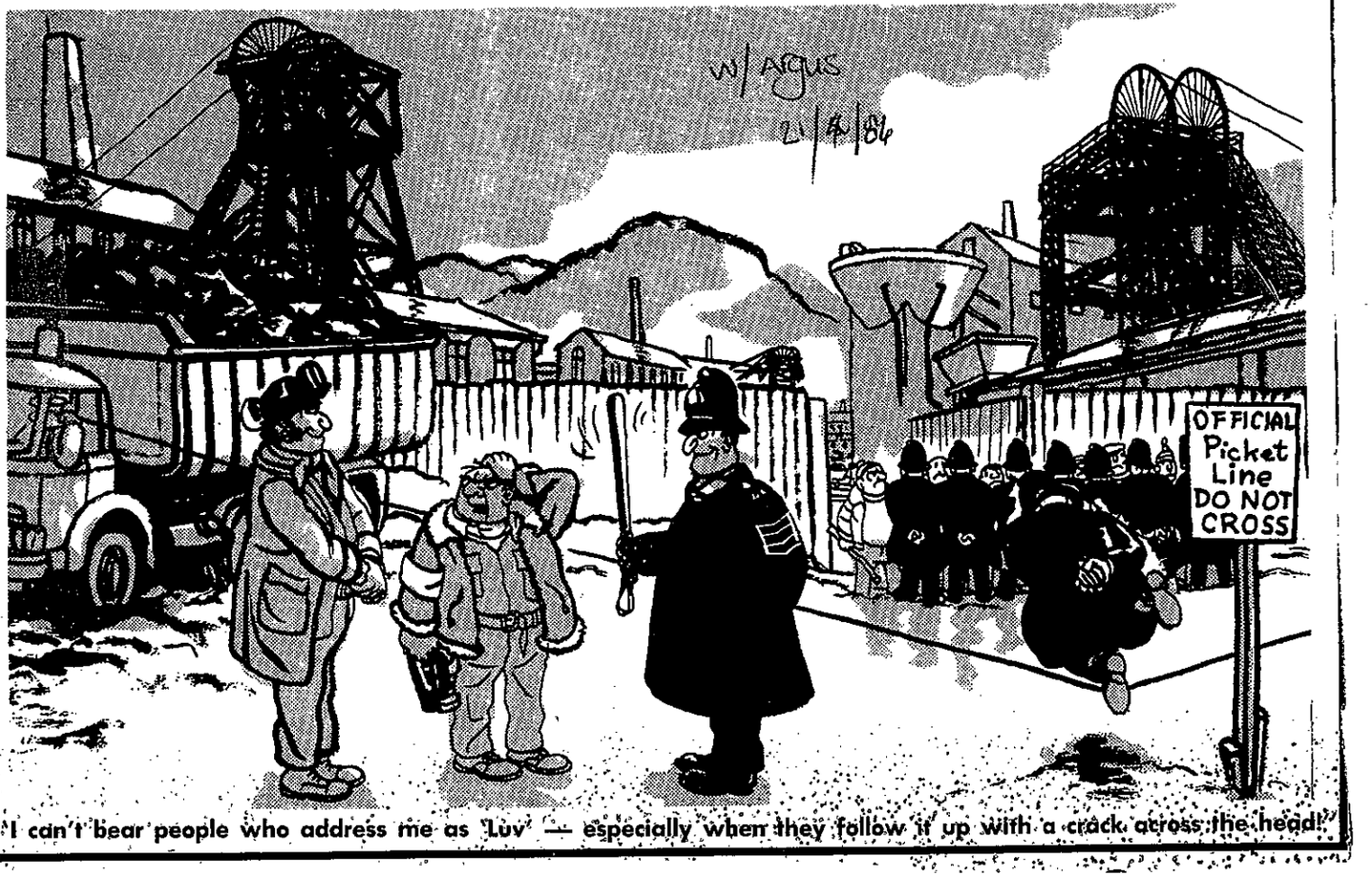
This has not been lost on British commentators.

On Tuesday a columnist in the conservative Daily Express referred to South Africa's "abominable government" and added that it seemed perfectly clear that more people had been killed by Mr Mugabe's regime in Zimbabwe than during the same period in South Africa.

"It is also perfectly obvious that if Mr Mugabe was a white tyrant instead of a black one, his campaign in Matabeleland would long ago have become a blazing issue at the United Nations . . ."



Robert Mugabe . . . image ruined



"I can't bear people who address me as 'Luv' — especially when they follow it up with a crack across the head!"

The white reports bwana

22/4/84

S. Times (362)

By NORMAN ELLIS: Harare

EVER since the white-ruled colony of Rhodesia won its independence as black-governed Zimbabwe four years ago, British business tycoon Tiny Rowland has unabashedly striven to ingratiate himself with the new socialilst rulers.

He had, after all, backed the wrong horse in the seven-year war waged by two rival armies to end nine decades of white domination in Rhodesia where his London-based Lonrho has a multimillion rand stake in mines, coffee and timber plantations, textiles, transport and ranche.

Rowland, chairman of Lonrho and a friend and confidant of presidents and prime ministers elsewhere on the turbulent continent, supported Joshua Nkomo's minority Zimbabwe African Peoples' Union (ZAPU) in the armed struggle.

Rowland soon ditched the Zapu leader and began courting the new government with offers to buy the ruling Zanu party its own newspaper for about R5,7-million and to double the conglomerate's investment in Africa's youngest nation.

The offers were rejected.

This month Rowland, whose multinational also owns the British Sunday Observer newspaper, seized a fresh opportunity to score points in a country where Lonrho is one of the biggest employers and one of the main suppliers of food.

After horror stories had been published widely abroad — and notably in the Observer's opposition paper, The Sunday Times — about alleged security force atrocities against peasants of Nkomo's Ndebele tribe in Matabeleland, Rowland fixed an interview between his Observer editor, Donald Trelford, and Prime Minister Mugabe in Harare.

One Sunday Times report described how a disused mine shaft — part of the old workings of a mine owned by Lonrho — had been used for the disposal of bodies in a three-month clean-up operation against Zimbabwean dissidents.

Stench

The Sunday Times reported eyewitnesses as saying that every night for many weeks trucks had arrived at the shaft from the direction of a Zimbabwean army camp at Balaghwe, about eight kilometres away.

They told the newspaper's correspondent, Peter Godwin, that corpses had been unloaded and thrown into the shaft.

The locals said some bodies got snagged on cross-supports inside the interior, and after each night's dumping explosives were used to cover the bodies with debris.

Godwin's report went on: "I visited the mine last week during a two-day break in a nine-week curfew. The stench of rotting flesh was unmistakable."

Meanwhile, Trelford — who had been invited earlier to Zimbabwe in an evident bid to portray Zimbabwe in a kinder light — spent 40 minutes with Mugabe.

Then he was briefed on the Matabeleland situation — where some 15 000 troops have been hunting down 5 000 armed rebels for two years — by top cabinet ministers and security chiefs.

Why fearful Lonrho boss telexed apology to Mr Mugabe

Godwin — flung Rowland into fury.

The Lonrho boss, seemingly fearful his investments were in jeopardy as a result of the backfire, fired off a lengthy telex to Mugabe apologising for "what in my view was discourteous, disingenuous and wrong of the editor of a serious paper widely read in Africa".

Rowland said his conglomerate, which bought the 193-year-old liberal weekly from the Los Angeles-based Richfield Oil Co in 1981 in the face of British journalists' protests that he would interfere with editorial policy, "unreservedly" dissociated itself from the story.

Unrepentant

In a further stinging attack on the ethics of his editor, Rowland added in his letter — published in full on the front page of the state-controlled Harare Herald:

"I would not have encouraged his application for an interview with you, Mr Prime Minister, had I known anything of his intention to make a very brief visit to Bulawayo and to use the unsubstantiated material which he was given there during the night for a sensational article.

"I cannot understand why Mr Trelford should take advantage of his position as editor to print allegations which, if put forward by one of his reporters, would have been edited out on the grounds that they were not substantiated and were not based on any research at all.

"I apologise for having introduced Mr Trelford and, if you should feel it to be at all useful, my letter can ... be published."

Mugabe, seizing on the apology to reinforce his long-standing claims that the Western Press has blown up Matabeleland atrocity reports to smear his leadership, was delighted.

"I have just received a telex message from Tiny Rowland expressing an apology for what his editor did," Mugabe, 60, told Zimbabwe journalists at his official residence.

"He (Trelford) asked to see us here, I granted him an interview ... and he was invited to come with us to Matabeleland.

"But we understand that he chose to clandestinely go into the curfew area, had his own contacts, and then he produced that front page news item," Mr Mugabe said.

Trelford remained unrepentant.

Extraordinary

"The story was solidly based on the evidence of victims whom I interviewed and who signed sworn statements in my presence," he said.

"I saw their wounds. I stand by every word of the story."

A slanging match ensued. Lonrho accused Trelford of getting his information from the Mr Godwin, a charge strenuously denied by both men.

Rowland called on Trelford to return to Zimbabwe and back up his story for the authorities.

In an extraordinary letter to Trelford, Rowland wrote: "The truth of these sad stories is not an issue. It is the manner in which you sought and displayed them which has considerably upset me."

Trelford, who insisted that by revealing his sources he would only open them up to reprisals, retorted:

"If Zimbabwe has nothing to hide it should open up Matabeleland to all the world's Press."

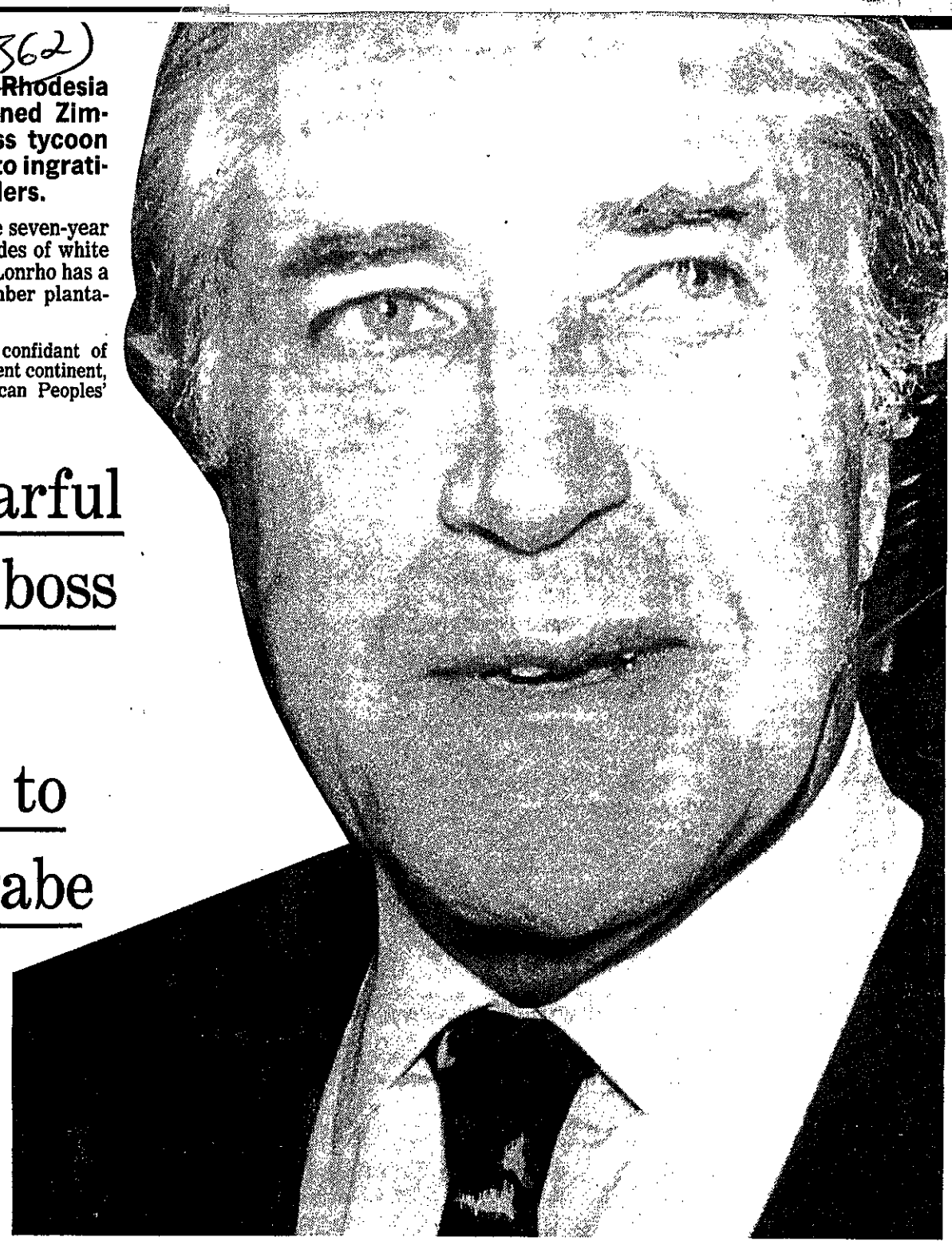
Journalists have been pointedly barred from entering the region.

Detained

Four BBC reporters and TV crewmen were detained several hours last week while trying to enter the curfew area.

Missionaries who have read the accounts by the Observer and The Sunday Times said they "were close to the truth, understated perhaps".

By week's end the war of words was still raging.



THIS is Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chairman of the giant Lonrho group, which last year made more than R119-million of its R201-million profits from its interests in Africa.

And Zimbabwe is one its most important African profit centres with operations spanning textiles, car and coach-building, and the franchise to distribute Mercedes vehicles.

Though Lonrho has been steadily decreasing its dependence on Africa, the group's operations in central and east Africa last year accounted for almost R53,4-million of its profits.

More than half of those profits were made in Zimbabwe.

Lonrho is no stranger to political difficulties in the region.

Mr Rowland has nevertheless maintained a good record for sorting out his group's African problems.

. . . and the man he dropped

By RAY JOSEPH
London

JOSHUA NKOMO has revealed for the first time how Lonrho boss Tiny Rowland suddenly cut off his funds after supporting him financially for a number of years.

Mr Nkomo disclosed that Mr Lonrho stopped his financial support after he had called a Press conference in London to support claims of Catholic bishops in Zimbabwe of atrocities by the infamous Fifth Brigade.

The message that Rowland's aid would be immediately cut off angered Nkomo because it was passed on to him by phone by one of the business tycoon's staff.

So ended the close relationship between Nkomo and the multi-millionaire he had come to regard "as a son-in-law, what we call the mkwenyana, one of the family by marriage".

Nkomo was in London this week to launch his new book, "Nkomo — The Story Of My Life", published by Methuen.

Mr Nkomo revealed how his relationship with Mr Rowland came to an abrupt end.

"At the darkest moment of my life, the man I regarded as my friend withdrew his help and left me without money or a place to live, at 12 hours' notice."

But, he says, he can understand why Mr Rowland took this step.

Threatened

"People were pressing him. If he went on helping, his investments in Zimbabwe might be threatened ... my friends in the Zimbabwe Government wanted me to starve ..."

Despite this he was grateful to Mr Rowland for his help over the years and his last contact with the businessman had been a message "expressing my thanks".

His relationship with Mr Rowland began in 1974 as a result of the businessman's intervention through personal contacts with both the South African Government and President Kaunda of Zambia, which had led to the the release of both himself and other nationalist leaders.

"At no time did I have dealings with Lonrho," said Mr Nkomo. "My relations were purely with Tiny Rowland as an individual, his with Joshua Nkomo.

"His most important contribution was airline tickets. I was constantly travelling, usually with two or three assistants: all I had to do was ring up Tiny's office and the tickets would be waiting."

Horror

But Trelford was anxious to learn more about allegations levelled by foreign journalists and Catholic missionaries that Mugabe's troops led by the infamous North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade, were murdering, raping, torturing and systematically starving thousands of Ndebeles since a curfew was slapped on southern Matabeleland and its 500,000 people on February 3.

So, accompanied by Zimbabwe-born Observer Africa correspondent Godwin Matatu, Trelford flew to the Matabeleland provincial capital of Bullawayo, checked into the Holiday Inn and then turned into his room for what he said as an "early night".

Matatu, whose appointment as Harare-based correspondent last year was ordered by Rowland and resisted by Trelford, went off to see relatives. But Trelford was meantime handed a sealed envelope with instructions to see someone in the hotel car-park.

By Trelford's own account he was driven into the bush where victims and witnesses of atrocities were waiting.

He spent the night recording their allegations, drove back to the Inn, had breakfast with Matatu and then flew back to Harare before catching Friday night's flight to London.

Before he left, Trelford dictated his story — a litany of the same kind of horror stories Zimbabwe officials hoped to discredit — by telephone to the Observer. The subsequent page one expose for Sunday — similar to a follow up by The Sunday Times

Security in curfew area has 'improved'

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The commander of the Zimbabwe Army's controversial Fifth Brigade — which has been accused of committing atrocities against civilians — says the security situation in the curfew areas of Matabeleland has "improved tremendously".

Brigadier Edzai Chanyuka said that the local people in the restricted zones were now coming forward to report the presence of dissidents.

The brigadier was briefing Deputy Minister Mr Chimbidzai Sanyangare, who officiated at independence celebrations in Kezi — which is in the heart of the curfew area — last week.

The brigadier claimed that since the curfew restrictions were eased about two weeks ago, many peasants had been coming forward and applauded the presence of the army, saying they were happy that security forces were winning the battle against the rebels.

The army was quite happy with its operations in the curfew areas, despite allegations by some local Catholic priests, who "constantly accused the army of going about killing people", said Brigadier Chanyuka.

Starving Mozambicans face ostracism

The Star Bureau

23/4/84 Star

HARARE — Thousands of starving Mozambican refugees entering Zimbabwe in search of food have been given a bitter welcome by their Zimbabwean comrades.

The Sunday Mail newspaper in Harare, which recently sent a team to the north-east border area, where the biggest influx of hungry Mozambicans has taken place, reported yesterday that the refugees had encountered "rejection, ostracism, ill-treatment and humiliation".

The paper quoted a Mrs Maria Ntape, a spokesman for the refugees, as saying the Mozambicans were being treated as though the drought in their country was of their own making.

Mrs Ntape said she and other Mozambicans had been at a refugee site in Mount Darwin for about three months.

Initially the refugees were given food by church organisations, but they were told they were not allowed to take drinking water from public taps.

Last week, local people told them they were not allowed to continue cutting down trees for wood for their cooking fires.

Zimbabweans had offered some of the Mozambicans work, but at a paltry wage of just over R2 a week, said Mrs Ntape. Other Zimbabwean employers would only offer them food in return for work.

Some of the Zimbabweans had chased their children away and prevented them from playing with the Mozambican youngsters, while drunken Zimbabwean men had been known to visit refugee settlements demanding Mozambican women.

The Sunday Mail reported that refugees were still coming into Zimbabwe, telling horrific stories of death marches during which relatives dropped dead from hunger before reaching Zimbabwe.

The refugees also told tales of a Mozambican infrastructure reduced to ruins in many areas by the activities of rebel bands of the MNR.

Some estimates have put the number of Mozambican refugees in Zimbabwe at 50 000.

In the north-eastern areas of Zimbabwe, local people are themselves facing starvation this winter because of widespread crop failures after the three consecutive years of drought.

The Cape Times, Tuesday, A

24/4484
362

Church replies to attack by Mugabe

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe has dismissed charges by the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, that politically biased clergymen in Matabeleland had influenced Catholic bishops in the rest of the country to adopt a document alleging widespread military atrocities.

The commission was "deeply concerned" by Mr Mugabe's "astonishing statement", a spokesman, Mr Alois Maveneka said in a statement released here.

"It should be clear to everybody that neither the Catholic bishops nor the clergy have ever been involved in party politics and in particular that the bishop and clergy of Bulawayo are not Zapu supporters," the statement said.

It said both the commission and the Catholic Bishops Conference were "concerned only with protecting innocent people against brutality, the violation of their human rights and starvation".

The church was united in its condemnation of atrocities whether they were committed by dissidents or by security forces, the statement said.

The Catholic Bishops Conference, which had its annual meeting earlier this month, had publicly supported the government's legitimate efforts to restore law and order in Matabeleland where it clamped a curfew on February 3.

The conference's "deep concern for the suffering of the people of Matabeleland" was based on reports from the commission which had been presented to Mr Mugabe and "which have not been published precisely because they were intended only to inform the prime minister of the serious state of affairs in that area".

Mr Mugabe first attacked the Catholic Church last weekend when he told a press conference that the church in Matabeleland supported Mr Nkomo's Zapu party which he said had been sustaining dissidents.

Land owner wants to stay, but . . .

Zimbabwe farm may be handed over to squatters

362
Star
26/4/[illegible]

By Brendan Seery, The Star Bureau

A Shurugwi farmer is facing the unhappy prospect of becoming the first Zimbabwean to have his land compulsorily acquired by the Government for resettlement. Squatters, who refuse to leave the 2 000 ha property in the Midlands, appear likely to take it over and set up a co-operative in a move that could have far-reaching implications for all farmers in the country.

SHURUGWI — After a three-year running battle to have squatters evicted from his property, a farmer in this Midlands town, Mr Robert Rensford, could be the first person to have his farm compulsorily acquired by the Zimbabwe Government for resettlement.

Up to now, Mr Robert Mugabe's Government has acquired vacant or under-utilised white farming land on a "willing seller-willing buyer" basis for its ambitious programmes to resettle more than 160 000 families from the impoverished former tribal trust lands.

However, Lands and Resettlement Minister Mr Moven Mahachi said last week that Mr Rensford's property would be "acquired" by the government and that the people now living on the farm would run it as a co-operative venture.

RESETTLEMENT

Under the terms of the Lancaster House Agreememnt, the government may seize farming properties it requires for resettlement, provided that it pays adequate compensation.

However, there is a stipulation that any compensation shall be remittable anywhere in the world, free from any levies or taxes.

Because of its tight foreign exchange position and because there have been plenty of vacant farms available for resettlement, the authorities have so far avoided this course of action.

Although the minister has made public his intention of taking over the farm, Mr Rensford has so far received no official notification of this.

He has been farming in the area since 1956 and bought the 2 000 ha Little Impali farm in 1980 as additional grazing for his 1 700 head of prime Hereford cattle.

He refuses to give up the land.

"Why should I? I paid for it and I am the legal owner. How can a bunch of squatters do as they please ?" he asked.

The squatter population — which numbers 19 families — is composed of former employees of the farm's previous resident.

When Mr Rensford bought the property, they refused to move, claiming they had been given the land by the previous resident who, in fact, was not the legal owner, and who also served the squatters with eviction notices before Mr Rensford was to move in.

The squatters have beligerently and violently refused to acknowledge Mr Rensford as the owner and have even refused offers of jobs made by him.

They have backed up their stand by maliciously tearing down kilometres of boundary fences which the farmer and his workers painstakingly put up.

They have threatened to kill him and his wife, have threatened his labour force and assaulted his workers' children.

About 160 head of cattle have been either rustled or snared and butchered. More than a thousand trees have been cut down on the property and packs of hunting dogs belonging to the squatters are killing off the game, said Mr Rensford.

The headmaster of a primary school — which Mr and Mrs Rensford are helping to support — was assaulted by some of the squatters because he refused to move his school nearer their huts.

Mr Rensford has recorded a total of 64 incidents related to the squatters — ranging from poaching to assault to damage to property and theft — but, so far, police have done nothing.

His efforts to negotiate with the Ministry of Lands met with no success.

- He was first told the squatters would be moved and resettled. They were not.
- He was then informed the squatters would be resettled on a nearby government scheme. They refused to be moved, although the resettlement scheme land was better farming country.
- Mr Rensford was asked by the government to sell his property so the people could start their own co-operative farming scheme. This he refused to do, as he needed the land for grazing.

Tired of wrestling with ministry officials, Mr Rensford eventually took the matter to the courts and won eviction orders. But the local police would not help the sheriff's office in carrying out the evictions.

Taken to court over the issue, the Commissioner of Police suggested he was above the law and not bound to enforce orders from the courts.

Slapped down by the judiciary and ordered by both the High Court and Supreme Court to co-operate in the eviction, police last week claimed they were short of manpower when the eviction operation was about to start.

The eviction was then postponed for two weeks.

Now, after the Minister's announcement, Mr Rensford does not know where he stands.

He said he has received anxious telephone calls from farmers across the country — including one black land owner — who were concerned that the Minister's edict might set a dangerous precedent.

"What this means now, if it goes through, is that every landowner, if he gets rid of his labour or sells his property, will have to allow his workers to remain on the land, farming their own little patches.

"If a small group of people, who seem to have connections in the right places, can get their way and the rule of law is ignored, what is the rest of the world going to think?"

COMPENSATION

If the government does take over the farm, Mr Rensford will hold out for what he thinks should be adequate compensation.

If the squatters eventually take over the land to run it as a co-operative, he does not believe he will be spared harassment.

Pleas by white MPs, including former Rhodesian Prime Minister Mr Ian Smith — who is a neighbour of Mr Rensford — and Independent MP Mr Henry Elsworth, have come to nothing.

Mr Rensford, unlike some other white farmers — who would dearly love the chance to remit their money outside the country — is not tempted by the possibility that he can be paid out elese where.

"This is my home. When I came here this place was virgin bush. My efforts have made this farm what is is today. I'm a Zimbabwean, and proud to say so. Why should I be pushed out ?"

RDM 30/4/84 (362)

Harare set to probe atrocity allegations

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — The Zimbabwean Government would investigate all the atrocities alleged to have been committed by troops in southern Matabeleland, the Minister of National Supplies, Senator Enos Nkala, told a weekend rally in the area.

The promise follows a challenge he made last week to churchmen, the opposition Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo, and others who alleged atrocities had been committed in the area in the past three months of curfew, to "show us where the mass graves are".

The Catholic Bishop of Bulawayo, the Rt Rev Henry Karlen, has said he would be willing to present evidence if he were invited to, and a Catholic priest, Father Gabriel, who accepted a government challenge to attend a weekend rally, said he could present witnesses if their safety could be guaranteed.

Sen Nkala told Father Gabriel, who reportedly made atrocity allegations to a British journalist, that his witnesses would be given all the protection they needed.

Sen Nkala told the rally at Kezi, in the heart of the curfew area, that the Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe was "disturbed" by "false reports" of atrocities.

Catholic Church leaders recently handed Mr Mugabe a document detailing alleged atrocities. International news media have also carried reports of soldiers allegedly killing, torturing and raping civilians in their ongoing crackdown on armed dissidents.

Much of the published information has come from clerics who are among the few independent observers who have had access to the curfew area.

Mr Mugabe has accused the Western Press of conducting a smear campaign against Zimbabwe and he has claimed that Catholic clergymen in Matabeleland are biased in favour of Zapu which, he says, supports dissidents.

The Minister of Health, Dr Sydney Sekeremayi, went further at the weekend when he publicly accused Bishop Karlen of being "in league with Satan, Joshua Nkomo, bandits and other evil forces hell-bent on trying to destroy our nationhood and the unity of our people".

Ironically, Bishop Karlen and the Catholic Church were outspoken critics of Rhodesian security force atrocities against civilian supporters of black nationalist movements during the Rhodesian bush war.

Three weeks ago the government announced it was relaxing conditions in the curfew area and would also be inviting foreign journalists to visit the area "to dispel" atrocity allegations.

The journalists' trip has not materialised yet but according to sources the relaxation of the curfew has brought about a dramatic improvement in the availability of food in the drought-stricken area.

Harare goes all out to counter atrocity claims

HARARE. — Zimbabwean Government Ministers began a campaign yesterday to counter allegations that the country's security forces had committed countless atrocities in the hunt for anti-government rebels.

The atrocity claims featured in Roman Catholic Church dossiers given to the government and in foreign news reports.

The National Supplies Minister Mr Enos Nkala, and the Political Affairs Minister Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, said after a tour of southern Matabeleland they had found no evidence of army atrocities.

Mr Nkala told the pro-government Herald newspaper he felt confident in challenging Roman Catholic churchmen to produce evidence of atrocities against civilians.

"A mass grave is not something one can hide. We want these people to verify their allegations. All we have been presented with are further unsubstantiated claims," he said.

Mr Nkala said he had been particularly angered by Western Press reports alleging the government was attempting to "wipe out" the minority Ndebele tribe in Matabeleland.

Press reports quoted a Catholic priest Father John Gough in a sermon last month at Harare's Catholic cathederal.

Mr Nkala said: "I am an Ndebele, a senior Cabinet Minister and member of the central committee of the ruling Zanu PF (Zimbabwe African National Union Popular Front).

"What these foreign journalists are saying is that I have been sitting in councils that have been making decisions to eliminate my own tribe."

Mr Nyagumbo echoed Mr Nkala's assertions, accusing the Catholic churchmen of having "an unholy alliance" with opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo and his Zimbabwe African Peoples' Union (Zapu) party.

Mr Nyagumbo said neither the church nor Zapu had issued "a single word of condemnation of dissident atrocities on civilians".

"But the Catholic clergy have condemned the security forces for unsubstantiated allegations of atrocities," he said.

The Information Minister, Mr Nathan Shamuyarira, joined the government campaign with a bitter attack on Mr Donald Trelford, editor of the London newspaper The Observer, who reported the atrocity claims two weeks ago after visiting Zimbabwe.

Mr Shamuyarira accused Mr Trelford of "cheating the Zimbabwe Government".

The Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has not so far commented in detail on the atrocity claims but officials believe he plans to join the campaign today when he makes an important speech marking Labour Day. — UPI.

'Stabilization': Is Zimbabwe next in line?

Political Survey



Gerald Shaw

AS the last session of the Westminster parliamentary era debates the estimates of expenditure, the Botha administration is riding high.

A series of regional diplomatic coups has isolated the African National Congress, depriving them of secure contiguous bases for mounting guerilla warfare in South Africa.

The external-based threat to the country's security has been dealt a heavy blow, by all accounts, and it seems unlikely that the ANC will be able to sustain the current level of infiltration from abroad for much longer.

The days of sabotage and car-bomb terrorism in South African towns and cities, planned and mounted from across the borders, may well be numbered, or at least the frequency and intensity of the attacks may be greatly moderated.

On the domestic front a new constitution is about to come into effect. While it is generally acknowledged that the new three-chamber system is grossly inadequate, many people have a hunch that it will lead to further liberalization.

Wait and see

Meanwhile, Mr Botha is sweeping all before him. The English financial establishment hails him as a star. Some English-speaking businessmen openly proclaim themselves as Botha supporters and are inclined to withdraw their support from the Opposition.

They would do better to wait and see.

As the external threat fades, so too does the "total onslaught" line of propaganda lose its potency. And it is no longer possible to divert attention from pressing domestic problems by blaming everything on communist aggression from outside.

The trouble is mainly internal and springs from an oppressive domestic policy which excludes blacks from the body politic and discriminates against people of colour.

Does the Botha administration really intend to do something about it? Hope that they are about to address the problem of black rights in courageous fashion is quickly dispelled when the apartheid bureaucracy, at Mr Botha's bidding, cracks down on the squatters who are streaming into the towns to find jobs.

In the House of Assembly this week Dr George Morrison, a deputy minister, left little doubt that Crossroads is to be demolished come what may — and quickly. The Prime Minister himself had earlier reaffirmed the government's determination to move all Peninsula blacks to Khayelitsha in due course.

It is here that a contradiction in Mr Botha's policies threatens to wipe out the diplomatic advance he has made.

The Western world has a bad conscience about population removals. In a Europe which remembers the horrors endured by civilian populations in World War II, large-scale removals from one place to another arouse a sense of moral outrage — as does the bull-dozing of squatter camps.

Mr P W Botha, riding the crest of a wave after Nkomati, has been invited to visit various European capitals. His advisers must surely have told him of the embarrassments and demonstrations which could spoil such a visit — if the newspapers are full of news reports from South Africa announcing the demolition of squatter camps in the rain and cold of a Cape winter.

Meanwhile, the last Westminster-style session and the prospect of coloured and Indian elections are attracting remarkably little interest in the country. The attention of the public is fastened on Mr Botha's Southern African diplomacy.

And Africa-watchers abroad are wondering who will be singled out next in Mr Botha's campaign to "stabilize" the sub-continent.

The obvious candidate seems to be Mr Robert Mugabe, who has been careful to prevent ANC activism in Zimbabwe but has received little thanks from Pretoria.

Zimbabwe now finds itself the odd man out — as the only frontline state which does not accept public ministerial encounters with South Africa.

Mr Mugabe has preferred to follow a low key, pragmatic policy of non-aggression and mutual co-operation between Zimbabwe and South Africa. He has declined to allow diplomatic relations or high profile ministerial contacts.

This is not good enough for the Botha administration, who are disinclined to give him the best of both worlds. If Zimbabwe wants South African co-operation, as Pretoria sees it, Mr Mugabe will to have to stop treating South Africa like a pariah.

To remind Mr Mugabe of the political realities, Zimbabwe is likely to be subjected to increasing doses of clandestine "stabilization". This, at least, is what leading figures in Harare believe, as Jonathan Steele reported this week in the Guardian.

The view from Harare, as reported in the Guardian under a headline "Pretoria's secret war against Zimbabwe" may be summarized as follows:

A radio station known as Radio Truth, based in South Africa, has been beaming anti-Mugabe propaganda into Matabeleland for almost a year. But the level of Pretoria-sponsored insurgency, when compared with South African support for Unita in Angola and the MNR in Mozambique remains relatively low. The SA-sponsored anti-Mugabe rebels have been dubbed super-Zapu. Harare claims to have discovered traces of South African involvement in 48 incidents of violence last year and there have been several more this year, it is claimed, including ambushes of government troops, attacks on a bridge and a mine, "as well as the shooting of three white farmers, one of them a senator, together with his daughter and an English visitor staying with them," according to Steele.

These are extraordinary allegations. Can they possibly be true? In the nature of clandestine operations, convincing proof of South African involvement is unlikely to be readily available.

It is certainly straining credulity to assert that the South African taxpayer is unwittingly helping to finance an anti-Mugabe revolt in Matabeland in which murderous acts of terrorism are the order of the day.

The allegations in the Guardian are pretty detailed, however, and it is unlikely that we have heard the last of this.

If a force of anti-Mugabe Rhodesians is in fact undergoing training in camps in the Northern Transvaal, as alleged, the idea presumably is to keep Mr Mugabe in line, indicating that he will feel the full force of South African "stabilization" if he should incur the wrath of Pretoria.

The sub-continent may be pacified for a while by the use of force and the threat of further force. But this will not remove the need to subdue, again and again.

Why not try diplomacy with Mr Mugabe — instead of driving him steadily into the arms of the Soviets and their surrogates?

Instead of exploiting the historic distrust between Shona and Ndebele to keep Zimbabwe off balance, as South Africa is said to be doing, why not offer Mr Mugabe practical help?

You may pacify a subcontinent by humiliating its leaders and forcing them to do your will. It is not a pretty sight. And it is at best a temporary solution.

There can be no lasting peace in Southern Africa until the apartheid policies which infringe upon the dignity of people of colour everywhere have been abolished and a regional alliance can be negotiated on a basis of mutual trust and respect.

N. Mercury 7/5/84 (362)

Nkomo wants his job back

HARARE—Zapu leader Joshua Nkomo returned from London yesterday and announced he wanted to rejoin the Government.

He said on his arrival: 'I am prepared to work with the Government in order to reduce tension and mistrust in the country and to discover who the dissidents are and what their motive is.'

He attacked tribalism, regionalism and racism and said he was committed to a unified Zimbabwe.

Mr Nkomo said he had been removed from the Cabinet 'for being a plotter'. He added: 'I've never been a plotter and I will never be one. I stand for the interests of this country.'

Mr Nkomo had been in London to launch his autobiography. He said he hoped the book would be available locally within the next few weeks.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe recently described the book as a 'pack of lies'.

Mr Nkomo said: 'That is his view. The people who happen to appear in this book should know that this is my book, my life ... I report what I believe happened. If they don't believe it, they will write their own books some day.'

On charges that Zapu was working with the Roman Catholic Church in alleging atrocities by Government troops, Mr Nkomo said the Catholics had expressed their views.

'Where they get their information, I don't know. And I'm not a Catholic myself.' He repeated his party's denial of charges that it sponsored dissidents. — (Sapa)

GROUP NO 5
Karroo and Namaqualand

Buirski (37)
Wentzel (38)
Leyetan (39)
Boonzaaier (68)
Klinghardt (70)

GROUP NO 6
Karroo, Namaqualand and the OFS

Whittaker and Archer (256)
*Walwyn (41)
Sharp and West (71)
Sharp (69)
West (31)

GROUP NO 7
Commercial Agriculture.1

De Klerk (27)
De Klerk (28)
Cobbett (58)
Hugo (287)
*Black Sash (85)

GROUP NO 8
P.E., Dbn, Vaal Triangle.

White (21)
Fisher (172)
Suparsad (17)
Pillay (18)
Pillay (19)
Webster (20)

GROUP NO 9
BLSZN

Simon (22)
Packard (279)

Eglin calls on PM to meet Robert Mugabe

CMC Trails 10/5/84 (362)

Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — A meeting between the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, and Mr Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe should not be impossible in view of regional developments, Mr Colin Eglin said yesterday.

Mr Eglin (PFP Sea Point) said during the Foreign Affairs debate that Zimbabwe appeared to have remained aloof from new relationships between South Africa and her black neighbours.

Mr Mugabe had endorsed the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique, but relations between Zimbabwe and South Africa had not really thawed.

This was a pity, because South Africa and Zimbabwe between them held the key to the development of Southern and Central Africa.

South Africa should make the improvement of relations with Zimbabwe an important foreign-policy objective.

Mr Eglin said that a meeting between the two governments at ministerial — or preferably prime-ministerial — level would set the seal on a highly successful round of Southern African initiatives.

A meeting between Mr Botha and Mr Mugabe should be viewed as no less impossible than the meeting and agreement between Mr Botha and President Machel of Mozambique might have seemed.

"We should not say things are impossible in the Africa of today or of tomorrow."

The Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, did not reply directly to the call for a meeting between the two governments.

He would like to improve South Africa's relations with Zimbabwe but did not want to say any more at this stage.

"I want to say nothing about Zimbabwe's shortcomings, because then they will talk about ours," he told the Assembly.

In essence, however, relations between the two countries were normal, realistic and correct. Trade and private business continued and Zimbabwe had since independence refused to allow terrorist groups to operate from its soil.

Mr Mugabe had not only welcomed the Nkomati Accord, but had expressed the hope that it would lead to greater understanding.

Sapa reports that Mr Botha said an Nkomati-type agreement was not necessary because the Zimbabwe Government had constantly given the assurance that it would not accommodate terrorists in its territory.

Nkomo's suggestion gets cool reception

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Mr Joshua Nkomo's suggestion that he be taken back into the Government has not received an enthusiastic reception in official circles.

The Zapu leader flew home last week from London saying he was prepared to work within the framework of government if he was asked to.

He said he had been kicked out of the Cabinet two years ago for plotting against the government but he had never been guilty of this.

There has been no formal reaction to Mr Nkomo's latest pronouncements but a top source said that no moves were underway to accommodate him.

PRESS

"If he had been serious," said the source, "Nkomo would have made approaches to the government directly, not through the Press. The question of bringing him back is not a live issue."

Since the dissident troubles started in Matabeleland after his expulsion from the Cabinet, the Zapu leader has frequently called for a commission of inquiry.

Mr Nkomo's expulsion came after arms caches were on property belonging to Zapu.

PFP attack on new local-govt funding

CAPE TIMES 12/5/84 (262)

Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Proposed new levies to finance local government were attacked by the Progressive Federal Party yesterday as likely to increase unemployment by hampering job-creation.

The three proposed levies were set out yesterday by the Minister of Finance, Mr Owen Horwood.

They are an establishment levy (which has been referred to as a turnover tax), a services levy on salaries of all employees and a levy on productive assets.

Mr Horwood said during the budget debate on his portfolio that these recommendations by the Croeser working group on local-government financing had been accepted in principle.

They had, however, also been referred to the National Co-ordinating Council for further consideration. A final decision would only be taken on receipt of this report and in consultation with all concerned.

The chief opposition finance spokesman, Mr Harry Schwarz (PFP Yeoville), told Mr Horwood that taxation of turnover, employment and productive assets went to the root of South Africa's main problem: The need to create many jobs cheaply.

South Africa's population was already increasing at double the rate that jobs were being provided. Any further restriction on job creation was a disservice to the economy and to future stability.

"Hungry people are not interested in constitutions. They will turn to political interests to see their stomachs are full," Mr Schwarz said.

Mr Horwood earlier described local government as the cornerstone of the government's new constitutional arrangement.

The objective was to provide funds enabling local authorities to provide minimum standards, including infrastructure, for the provision of housing, roads, sewerage and electricity. The present system of financing local government favoured the more prosperous and established areas.

The Croeser report had therefore recommended that the new levies be imposed on the basis of a region where people lived, worked and purchased. There would then be a formula for the division of these proceeds among local authorities in the area.

The new recommended sources of funds were:

● An establishment levy. This would be applied at a low rate on the turnover of all trade, manufacturing and professional business undertakings within a particular local government area. It would replace the existing trade licence fees based on stock.

● A service levy on the wages and salaries paid by all employees, including the public sector. Because this was proposed as a replacement for the existing transport levy, it was suggested that a portion of this income be used to cover the broad costs of urban transport.

● A levy on productive assets, designed to balance the possible negative effects of the proposed service levy on job-creation. Mr Horwood said the proposal was actually an extension of the Croeser group's recommendation that the total value of a property be subject to tax.

Van der Walt 'no secret agent'

Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday rejected the claim by a former deputy minister, Mr Hennie van der Walt, to have been a government security agent involved in secret Information projects.

Mr Botha told Mr Horace van Rensburg (PFP Bryanston) that he had been assured by the heads of security forces that no secret operations of the kind mentioned by Mr Van der Walt ever existed.

The questions follow Mr Van der Walt's statement to the Transvaal Law Society that he put R1 million into a secret government project known to the then Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster, and the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder.

'Special agent'

The money came from trust funds in Mr Van der Walt's legal firm. Mr Van der Walt, who resigned his parliamentary seat and his deputy ministership on the grounds of ill-health, was subsequently struck off the attorneys' roll for misusing clients' trust money.

Mr Van der Walt claimed to have been "a special agent for security" for 11 years but said he had never been given proof of the money he invested in a secret project which had never materialized.

He said the project was linked to the Schlebusch Commission, which Mr Van der Walt said subsequently became the President's Council. His claims were denied by Dr Mulder.

Yesterday Mr Botha told Mr Van Rensburg that Mr Van der Walt had not been a security agent for any State department, nor were there any security operations with regard to the Schlebusch Commission or the President's Council.

When Mr Van Rensburg put further questions on the matter, Mr Botha accused him of "gossiping" and of enjoying trampling on people who were down.

Atrocity probe seen as 'farce'

Cape Times 14/5/84 (362)

BULAWAYO. — The press trip to investigate allegations of army atrocities in Matabeleland province has cast a pall over Zimbabwe's international image and severely damaged already-strained relations between the government and foreign press.

The two-day trip was ordered at the highest level of government to force foreign correspondents to substantiate overseas press reports of widespread military brutality since southern Matabeleland was placed under curfew and other restrictions on February 3 as part of an army sweep against armed rebels.

In a combination of farce and tragedy, the correspondents were lost in the bush, heard testimony of murders, rape and beatings dismissed as inconsequential and were threatened about their future reporting.

Afterwards, Information Director Mr John Tsimba said the purpose of the trip had been to establish whether there had been genocide against the minority Ndebele tribe in the region and to pin-point alleged mass graves. "On those counts there was no evidence whatsoever," he added.

'Set-up'

At a press conference in Bulawayo on Saturday, Mr Tsimba accused the foreign correspondents of engineering the presence of witnesses who told of army brutality and said: "The whole thing was a set-up."

The Minister of State for Defence, Mr Ernest Kadungure, in reply to a question, said: "The government will take its time to see whether we have to waste money investigating or not."

Sharply critical articles about the trip have since appeared in newspapers around the world, particularly in the United States, and Western diplomats in Harare expressed shock and dismay over the foreign correspondents' accounts.

Domestic news media, however, said the trip had failed to produce any evidence to substantiate allegations of army atrocities and described it as "a wild goose chase".

Diplomats from several Western countries contacted foreign correspondents to ask about the trip and said they would be making lengthy reports to their capitals. One diplomat commented after reading summaries of the foreign newspaper articles: "It's much worse than I had expected."

Convoy lost

The trip, led personally by Army Commander General Rex Nhongo, took correspondents by military convoy into the curfew area of southern Matabeleland, which is normally out of bounds to journalists.

Originally scheduled for only Wednesday, the tour was extended after General Nhongo left the convoy in an area the reporters had not asked to visit and it got lost.

After being reunited with the convoy, however, General Nhongo said that officially there were only an estimated 40 to 50 rebels, referred to here as dissidents, in the whole of Matabeleland's south province. The region covers about 30 000sq km of south-west Zimbabwe.

When the tour resumed on Thursday, the correspondents said they would take part only if they could choose the route.

General Nhongo agreed, on condition that London Sunday Times reporter, Mr Peter Godwin, led the armed convoy in his own car. Mr Godwin, 26, was the author of an article which particularly angered the Zimbabwe Government, in which he reported entering the curfew area, hearing of killings and being shown graves.

At the first stop, at Matopo mission south of here, a nursing sister told of 28 people she had treated in February and March who said they had been beaten by soldiers.

Others at the mission, questioned publicly, said they knew of no cases of army brutality. But three men later took aside an American reporter and said they did know of beating cases but had not wanted to admit it in the presence of government photographers and troops.

At Mtshabezi mission, 60km south of Bulawayo, an American doctor told reporters he had treated more than 120 people since February 3 who said they had been beaten by troops.

Dr Devee Boyd, 36, added that in the past three weeks he had also treated 15 teenage girls who had been raped by men they said were military personnel.

After a 50km trip over a rough dirt road, the group reached Minda mission, west of Mtshabezi.

A group of villagers from the nearby area of Donkwe Donkwe were waiting to meet the correspondents. But before they were allowed to speak, Mr Tsimba said they were not plausible witnesses because Mr Godwin had arranged for them to be there.

The villagers said they had witnessed the shooting of six young men near Donkwe Donkwe School on February 5 by soldiers who had said: "We want to show you we kill people who support dissidents."

During questioning of the villagers, three of whom said they were relatives of the dead men, arguments broke out as reporters for the government-controlled domestic news media persistently interrupted foreign correspondents' questions.

Graves

The villagers led the group to where they said the men had been shot and pointed to two graves where they had been ordered to bury the bodies.

Three days earlier restrictions on travel and movement of food in the curfew area were lifted. Since then there have been unconfirmed reports that the army has been exhuming bodies and burning them to eliminate evidence.

Questioned about the villagers' testimony, General Nhongo said they were liars.

As the trip ended in pitch dark by the grave, Mr Tsimba announced: "This whole trip has proved allegations of brutality, allegations of atrocities on a mass scale, like the figure which was mentioned of 30 000 people killed in this area alone, are false. — Sapa-Reuter.

CAPE TIMES 14/5/84 (76) 362

Report vindicated

LONDON. — Mr Donald Trelford, the editor who publicly argued with his proprietor over a story on alleged atrocities in Zimbabwe, said yesterday that his report was now supported by a government-conducted tour.

Long reports of the tour have appeared in London newspapers and the editor of the Sunday newspaper the Observer, Mr Donald Trelford, said in a radio interview that despite the official nature of the trip, journalists were still able to discover the truth.

He said he was "really quite astonished" that villagers were brave enough to say there had been atrocities, "even on a conducted tour like this, with soldiers standing around with rifles, and with members of the Central Intelligence Organization taking photographs for obvious use afterwards".

"I think that shows astonishing courage and itself is an indication of the scale of what's been going on there," Mr Trelford told Independent Radio News.

Mr Tiny Rowland, owner of the Observer and boss of the Lonrho conglomerate, accused Mr Trelford of inadequately researching his report from Zimbabwe on the atrocities. Mr Trelford rejected the criticism and has remained in the editor's chair.

Lonrho has ranching, mining and other interests in Zimbabwe. — Sapa-AP

Dispatch 16/5/80 (362)

Zimbabwe atrocities: trip for press degenerates into farce

PETER GREGSON reports from Bulawayo, Matabeleland.

The press trip to investigate allegations of army atrocities in Matabeleland province has cast a pall over Zimbabwe's international image and severely damaged already-strained relations between the government and the foreign press.

The two-day trip was ordered at the highest level of government to force foreign correspondents to substantiate overseas press reports of widespread military brutality since southern Matabeleland was placed under curfew and other restrictions on February 3 as part of an army sweep against armed rebels.

In a combination of farce and tragedy, the correspondents were lost in the bush, heard testimony of murders, rape and beatings (dismissed by the accompanying officials as inconsequential) and were threatened about their future reporting.

Afterwards, information director, Mr John Tsimba, said the purpose of the trip had been to establish whether there had been genocide against the minority Ndebele tribe in the region and to pin-point alleged mass graves. "On those counts there was no evidence whatsoever," he claimed.

At a press conference in Bulawayo, Mr Tsimba accused the foreign correspondents of engineering the presence of witnesses who told of army brutality and said: "The whole thing was a set-up."

The Minister of State for Defence, Mr Ernest Kadungure, in reply to a question, said: "The government will take its time to see whether we have to waste money investigating or not."

Sharply critical articles about the trip have since appeared in newspapers around the world, particularly in North America, and Western diplomats in Harare expressed shock and dismay over the foreign correspondents' accounts.

Domestic news media, however, said the trip had failed to produce any evidence to substantiate allegations of army atrocities and described it as "a wild goose chase".

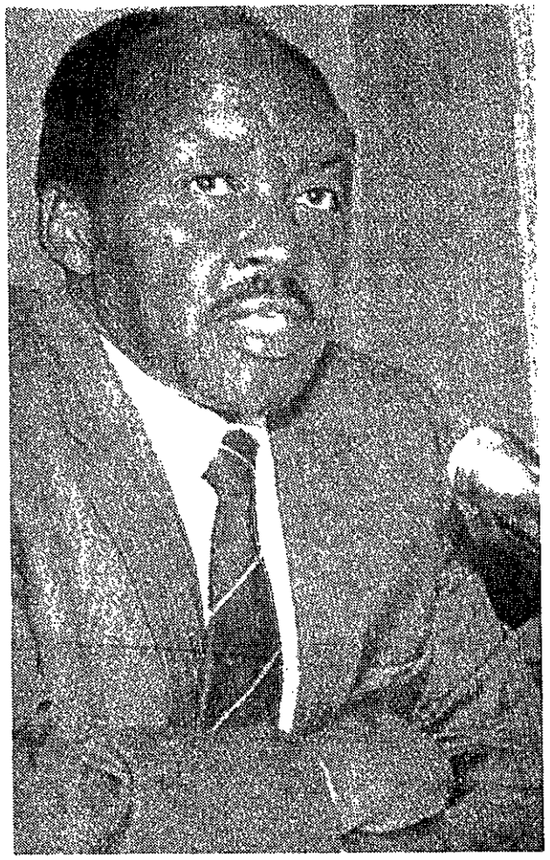
Diplomats from several Western countries contacted foreign correspondents to ask about the trip and said they would be making lengthy reports to their capitals.

One diplomat commented after reading summaries of the foreign newspaper articles: "It's much worse than I had expected. There's no question that it will harm this country's image abroad."

The trip, led personally by Army Commander General Rex Nhongo, took correspondents by military convoy into the curfew area of southern Matabeleland, which is normally out of bounds to journalists.

Originally scheduled for only Wednesday, the tour was extended after General Nhongo left the convoy in an area the reporters had not asked to visit and it got lost, spending several hours crashing through thick bush before finding a road.

Asked why they had been taken to that area, Mr Tsimba said: "The General chose that route because he wanted you to see where the war is being fought."



Zimbabwe's Minister of Information, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira — an exercise in whitewashing that was botched?

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Dr Devee Boyd, 36, added that in the past three weeks he had treated 15 teenage girls who had been raped by men they said were military personnel.

Mr Tsimba attempted to cut short the questioning of Dr Boyd, whose testimony was later dismissed as not credible, and at one point forcibly tried to drag Washington Post correspondent, Mr Glenn Frankel, back to the vehicles.

Mr Godwin later told reporters that during the stop at the mission, General Nhongo had asked to be led to a grave and warned that if none were found Mr Godwin would leave the area in handcuffs.

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During questioning of the villagers, three of whom said they were relatives of the dead men, arguments broke out as reporters for the government-controlled domestic news media persistently interrupted foreign correspondents' questions.

The villagers led the group to where they said the men had been shot and pointed to two graves where they had been ordered to bury the bodies.

"I buried the people. I dug the grave. I handled them," said Mr Richard Sindewa, when asked about the graves.

Another man, Mr Alfred Buhlalu, said he was a brother of one of the six dead and said the soldiers had returned on April 12, dug up the bodies and burned them for two days.

Three days earlier restrictions on travel and movement of food in the curfew area were lifted. Since then there have been unconfirmed reports that the army has been exhuming bodies and burning them to eliminate evidence.

Questioned about the villagers' testimony, General Nhongo said they were liars.

As the trip ended in pitch dark by the grave, Mr Tsimba announced: "This whole trip has proved allegations of brutality, allegations of atrocities on a mass scale, like the figure which was mentioned of 30 000 people killed in this area alone, are false.

"You have not found evidence of genocide in this whole region, no mass killings, no mass graves," he added.

Mr Tsimba warned correspondents who had gone on the trip that if they wrote any more stories about mass graves or genocide they would be considered as conducting a vendetta against Zimbabwe.

General Nhongo added: "You have been writing nonsense."

● The term genocide was used by a Catholic priest, Father Gough, in Harare last month in a sermon not reported in Zimbabwe, to describe a ban on movement of food into drought-stricken Matabeleland South, which was in force from February 7 to April 9. — SAPA-RN

RDM 17/5/84

Police, court row over squatters

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HARARE. — Zimbabwe's Police Commissioner has refused to enforce a Supreme Court order to evict farm squatters in a case which threatens a serious clash between the police and the judiciary.

Zimbabwe's government-run Herald newspaper said yesterday that Police Commissioner Wiridzai Nguruve could face charges of contempt of court for failing to deploy his men against the squatters.

Lawyers acting for a white cattle rancher, Mr Robert Rensford, have threatened Mr Nguruve with a private prosecution if he refuses to evict the 27 black squatters from the farm in Shurugwe in Zimbabwe's Midlands Province.

Mr Rensford won a High Court order last year to evict the squatters but court messengers who went to supervise their expulsion from the land were threatened and abused. The court then ruled the messengers should be protected by police.

Mr Nguruve appealed to the Supreme Court, arguing that as Commissioner he was immune from direction from the courts and was above the law.

The Supreme Court called his arguments "extraordinary" and dismissed his appeal.

The Minister of Lands and Resettlement, Mr Moven Mahachi, however, told the squatters to stay where they were and form a co-operative on the farm because they had been there longer than the owner.

"What is legally right might not always be morally defendable," Mr Mahachi said.

The wrangle illustrates the plight of land-hungry Zimbabwean peasants who have been forced into the countryside by strict government controls over the number of people allowed in towns and cities.

After independence from Britain in 1980, Zimbabwe launched an ambitious land resettlement scheme. The programme has, however, been short of money and progress has been slow.

An official of the Commercial Farmers' Union said the Rensford case could set a dangerous precedent.

"Those who are breaking the law must be brought to court," he said. "This could be the straw that broke the farmers' back."

White TDF officers called gold diggers

UMTATA — White Zimbabweans in the Transkei Defence Force (TDF) were accused yesterday of being there "to fill their pockets".

The accusation of them being "gold diggers" who were making the TDF their "gold mine" came from the MP for Bizana, chief Daliwonga Mlindazwe.

The chief cited several cases which he said backed his claim and also called for a commission of inquiry into promotions.

Chief Mlindazwe cited a case of a white army officer who was living in Johannesburg but was collecting his salary cheque in Umtata.

There was another example of some white official in the TDF who had charged the government R8 600 for furniture removal.

"All I know is that most of these whites come from countries where they are not allowed to take their belongings, including furniture.

"I would like the Minister to give us a satisfactory answer about the whole set-up in our defence force.

I would also like to know what happened to the guns which were said to be crooked and were said to have been sent to Pretoria.

"If they have been brought back, the minister must tell us.

"It is the taxpayers' money and we are there to find out exactly how our money is being used," Chief Mlindazwe said.

The chief also cited a case where a white official had been paid R15 000 compensation after an accident in a government vehicle.

"There are other people who have been injured in the TDF. Some are paralysed, but they had not been paid a cent. Chief Mlindazwe said. — DDR.

CORRUPTION

Argus 21/5/84 (362)

Zimbawe's scandal causes furore

ROBIN DREW of the Argus Foreign Service reports from Harare

SET against the millions said to be involved in South Africa's alleged oil payment scandal, Zimbabwe's R6,3-million bribery and corruption case might look like small fry.

But the issue has set tongues wagging all over the country.

You do not have to look hard to find someone who will suggest yet another name among the top ranks of government said to be involved.

At the centre of the scandal is a leading local businessman, Mr Samson Paweni (46), whose company gained a government contract to deliver drought relief maize to collection points in Manicaland in eastern Zimbabwe.

The company also has defence ministry contracts.

The state alleges that the transport charges were grossly inflated and cost the government some R6-milion. To cover up the fraud, it says, officials were bribed to keep quiet.

Four officials have already been given jail setences of up to 10 years. In mitigation they claimed everyone in the ministry concerned "right to the top" knew of the swindle.

One convicted official said he was too terrified to try to stop it because the then minister, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, had "bodyguards wity guns".



This drove the minister to issue a statement through the department of information denying any involvement and accusing "criminals of mudslinging and dividing the people".

Mr Paweni himself has been in custody since the end of March under a detention order.

It has been stated that among things he was involved in was economic sabotage and that he had supplied food to the MNR rebels in Mozambique in exchange for payment in Lisbon.

Then during a bail application by another official facing a bribery charge came the bombshell announcement by the state that a plot had been discovered to spring Mr Paweni from custody and to take him out of the country.

No details of the "kidnap " attempt, as it was termed, were given. But one version now doing the rounds is that the people who wanted to get him out of the authorities' hands intended to dispose of him permanently to ensure his silence.

Meanwhile a judge who sentenced some of the officials has ordered the police to investigate the claims by the convicted men that they were the minor cogs in the wheel of corruption.

Some documents concerning the scandal are said to have disappeared and a court was told the police were searching for a secret hideout along the Mozambique border.

While the Paweni case slowly unfolds, the whole question of corruption involving politicians, officials and businessmen is being actively debated.

On television this week one panellist said nothing on this scale had occurred during Ian Smith's reign.

In the newspaper columns, the authorities, from the Prime Minister down, are being urged to crush corruption before it becomes an incurable cancer.

RAND DAILY MAIL, Monday, May 21, 1984 5

Tough Mugabe dissident stand

HARARE. — An all-out "fight to the finish" against Zapu-sponsored dissidents and their sympathisers in Zimbabwe was declared at the weekend by the country's Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe.

"Enough is enough," he told several hundred mourners in Chegutu, at the funeral of a local Zanu (PF) official, Mr Peter Simunyu, 50, gunned down by a group of dissidents last Sunday at his homestead in the Musengezi area in central Zimbabwe.

"Zapu has started something and I want to assure you that we are going to see this thing to the bitter end.

"I shall give power to the police, the security forces, all of them to mount a manhunt, not only in houses but also in bushes, anthills and trees. Anybody here who belongs to Zapu will have to answer for it."

Mr Mugabe said Zapu was to blame for the murder of Mr Simunyu, the Zanu (PF) secretary for transport for Musengezi district in Mashonaland West province.

Visibly angry, Mr Mugabe said Zapu had now proved to be "incorrigible" and would never see the errors of its ways, let alone reciprocate the hand of friendship, or unity being extended to it by Zanu (PF).

And in a speech read on his behalf in Harare at the opening of a three-day international trade union anti-apartheid conference, Mr Mugabe called on South African workers to intensify efforts to create new anti-apartheid fronts in all industries.

"Not even the might of the racist South African state will be able to withstand the organised strength and concerted energy of the workers of that country as they strike at the heart of the productive system as part of the assault of the entire liberation movement in that country," he said. — Sapa.

RDM 21/5/84

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Freedom without freedom for Nkomo

IT WAS the 18th Century French philosopher, Jean-Jacques Roussseay, who observed: "Man was born free and everywhere he is in chains."

Joshua Nkomo, in his autobiography, — "Nkomo — The Story fo my Life" (published by Metuuen — London), presents a corollary to Rousseau's immortal aphorism when he says: "The hardest lesson of my life has come to me late. It is that a nation can win freedom without its people becoming free."

Father Zimbabwe, the name given to Nkomo by his political acolytes, has produced a thoroughly readable account of the growth of black nationalism in Rhodesia and its struggle — punctuated by years of one of the most bitter guerrilla conflicts the world has known — to secure independence and freedom from an intransigent and well entrenched minority white regime.

But dismissing readability for the moment, it needs to be stressed that any honest assessment of Mr Nkomo's book would be incomplete without making the observation that it is riddled with rancour — a good deal of it quite possibly justified — directed at Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and his ruling Zanu-PF party.

Mr Nkomo goes to some length to show how kind he has always been to Robert Mugabe and even claims responsibility for bringing Mr Mugabe to the leadership of Zanu. His helpfulness and kindness, Nkomo claims, were met with betrayal and finally an attempt on his life by government agents which forced him to flee the country he loved and had worked so hard to liberate.

To demonstrate the manner in which he was let down by Mr Mugabe, Joshua Nkomo refers to the Lancaster House talks. He points out that to begin with the most encouraging aspect of the proceedings was the co-operation that built up between Robert Mugabe and himself as leaders of the two wings of the Patriotic Front.

The day after the Lancaster House agreement had been signed, Nkomo and Mugabe were scheduled to meet to discuss the procedure for the elections that were due in three months' time.

This is Mr Nkomo's description of what happened: "I went to Robert Mugabe's flat for our first talk. Nobody answered; the place was empty. Mugabe had left for Dar-es-Salaam. That was the end of our agreement to talk, broken not by me, but by Robert Mugabe... The smiles of Lancaster House were left behind in London. The national campaign of reconciliation that I dreamed of remained a dream. I, and the followers of Zapu, had been deceived."

Passages of a similar type are common throughout the book — Mr Nkomo stressing his commitment to national unity and reconciliation while accusing Mr Mugabe of fostering tribalism and constantly attempting to create divisions in the nationalist movement.

Clearly, there must be some truth in Mr Nkomo's allegations, but the manner in which they are repeated lends credence to the argument that Nkomo has become a bitter old man intent on giving vent to his spleen on legitimate political rivals.

The independence election is another target for Mr Nkomo's ire. In fact, he goes so far as to suggest that it was a patent fraud.

The greatest threat to the fair conduct of the elections, he says, came from Zanu guerrillas in the eastern areas of the country.

At the ceasefire, large numbers of fighting men loyal to Zanu were not withdrawn into the assembly points. Nkomo says that these former combatants stayed on in the villages, refusing to move or allow anyone other than Zanu-PF candidates to campaign there. Two Zapu candidates and 18 party campaigners were killed and many more were terrorised.

"Zapu was cheated out of some seats that it could have won given a fair campaign."

The British, who were in Zimbabwe to organise and supervise the election, also came in for a pasting. Mr Nkomo says that after the count, the used ballot papers were flown to Britain, not to be stored as historic documents, but to be burned. Why, he asks, would this have been done if there were nothing to hide.

"That my party should not have won a single seat in Salisbury and only 20 seats in the whole western strip from Kariba right down to Beitbridge, I could not believe and still do not believe.

"Even the known and massive campaign of intimidation could not have achieved that. That the first election in free Zimbabwe failed to reflect the people's will is something of which I am sure.

"My party and my followers had been cheated."

In dealing with the war, Mr Nkomo once again attempts to discredit the efforts of Zanu's Zanla combatants by suggesting that they had it comparatively easy while his own Zipra fighters were forced to fight in much more difficult terrain.

Operating out of Zambia, he says the Zipra guerrillas were confronted first of all with the Zambezi Valley. Then they had to make their way through ravines and high, bare hills which were followed by a wide expanse of open bush with semi-desert set with a maze of landmines.

By contrast, Nkomo says, the Mozambique border, opened up as an alternative route into Rhodesia after independence in 1974, was mostly forest and mountains. It had good cover from the air and was excellent guerrilla country.

The Zapu leader's explanation of why his Zipra followers shot down two civilian Viscounts also cast doubts on his credibility.

The first aircraft was shot down — a Sam-6 missile was used — as it took off from Victoria Falls airport and 48 people, most of them holidaymakers, lost their lives.

According to Nkomo, Viscounts were being used to transport Rhodesian troops and as there were paratroopers based at Victoria Falls, it had been assumed that the plane was carrying soldiers.

Another Viscount was downed at Kariba, because it was thought that the Rhodesian military supremo, Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, was one of the passengers. Walls and his staff officers, Nkomo says, were clearly a legitimate target and, in a country at war, that is indeed so.

What Nkomo fails to explain is whether there can be any moral justification for shooting down a civilian aircraft — scores of innocent people were killed — on the suspicion that senior military personnel were among the passengers.

As with the first incident, Zipra's information proved to be incorrect. General Walls was not among the passengers. Instead of proffering totally unacceptable explanations for these acts of unmitigated terrorism, Mr Nkomo would have done well to have vigorously condemned them.

The great irony, indeed sadness, of Joshua Nkomo's life — and it emerges powerfully in his book — is the fact that his treatment by Zimbabwe's current rulers is, in some respects, as bad if not worse than it was at the hands of previous white regimes.

On the other hand, Mr Mugabe's government claims to have good reason for its anti-Nkomo attitude. He is held responsible for the gruesome activities of undisciplined bands of dissidents in the southern Matabeleland province.

Perhaps predictably, Nkomo has denied these allegations and, in fact, has gone so far as to suggest that government forces have perpetrated most of the crimes attributed to Zipra dissidents.

Whatever the truth, the Matabeleland unrest has provided Mr Mugabe's government with an excuse to send in its troops. Mr Nkomo claims that more than 20 000 people — the majority of them his supporters — have died so far this year in Matabeleland at the hands of the Fifth Brigade.

There can be no doubt that Mr Nkomo's fears for his own life are real. Accusing him of trying to overthrow his government, Mr Mugabe said recently: "Zapu and its leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, are like a cobra in the house. The only way to deal effectively with a snake is to strike and destroy its head."

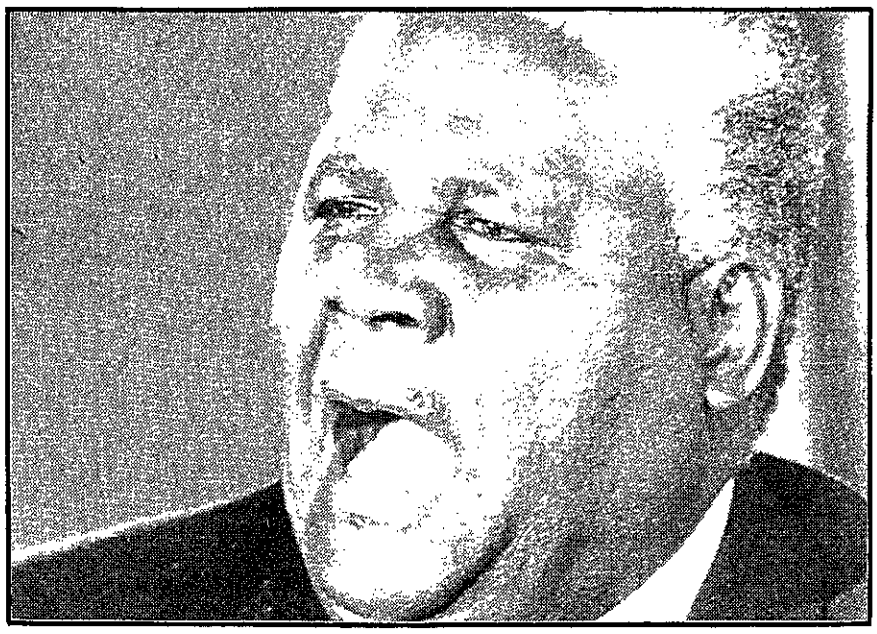
It was shortly after this, Mr Nkomo points out, that an attempt was made on his life.

He explains it in these words: "There had been shooting at my home and sporadic fire was continuing in the neighbourhood.

"Never before had I wished that I were dead, but I wished it then. I wished that I had died when Ian Smith's raiders attacked my Lusaka house and missed me by an hour. Then I would have died at the hands of the enemies of my people."

Remembering that they come from the leader of a significant section of Zimbabwe's population, it is statements like these that provide a true picture of the extreme difficulty that the country's rulers face in attempting to achieve stability and peace.

It must be regarded extremely unfortunate if Nkomo and Mugabe are unable to reconcile their differences for while they remain at loggerheads — and this is one of the messages to emerge from "Nkomo: The Story of My Life" — there can be no realistic potential for the development of what could be one of Africa's most viable and vibrant independent states.



JOSHUA NKOMO... "I wished that I had died when Ian Smith's raiders attacked my Lusaka house and missed me by an hour. Then I would have died at the hands of the enemies of my people."

PETER BUNKELL

22/5/84

Mugabe homes in on corruption, tribal cliques and half-hearted socialism

362

THE ZIMBABWE PURGE

27/5/84

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By Colin Legum

HARARE: Zimbabwe is a country in urgent need of firm leadership and a clear policy direction.

The only leader capable of supplying it, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, has been so overwhelmed by a sea of troubles — economic, security and political — that he appears to have lost the strong grip on affairs which he displayed in the years immediately following independence.

This appearance of weakness and indecisiveness is deceptive. Behind the scenes Mr Mugabe has been engaged in quietly preparing the ground to consolidate his political powerbase to give him the authority he needs to put an end to the disruptive schisms within his ruling party, the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU); to clean up the corruption that has scarred his government; and to clarify the ambiguities arising from his socialist aspirations and the reality of a capitalist economy.

The decisive turning-point will be reached in August when ZANU holds its first congress since independence. Then, if all goes according to plan, the ruling party will adopt a new constitution designed to establish both a clear statement of policy as well as a new structure of political authority.

Instead of the amorphous central committee — a carry-over from the exile years of the liberation struggle — a new central committee will be elected that will be more representative than the present one but, more importantly, which will delegate the day-to-day running of affairs to a small political bureau of, perhaps, a dozen people.

Mr Mugabe will become first secretary with the veteran Simon Muzenda as second secretary. As first secretary, Mr Mugabe will be given the right to nominate all the members of the key political bureau. Then Mr Mugabe will be in a position to make the changes which he is aware are necessary to put an end to the corrosive inefficiencies, corruption and blatant contradictions that mar his present administration.



□ Mugabe

He has promised that after August "there will be a real purge".

His purge is expected to include those shown to be guilty of corruption; those not genuinely committed to socialism; and those whom he describes as belonging to "tribal cliques".

The speed and extent to which the get-rich mentality has spread — even among some of those who were engaged in the liberation struggle — present the Prime Minister with a formidable challenge since a number of those alleged to be among the corrupt include prominent political figures.

Explaining this get-rich attitude, he says it was only to be expected that some people who have moved from a situation in which they had been denied almost everything by the previous regime would seek compensation for what they feel they should have had a long time ago.

"The nouveau riche," he says, "have no qualms when it comes to how they should get rich. They will commit all kinds of irregularities if they are in the public service. If they are in the private sector they will cheat as much as possible."

One blatant example of this type of behaviour is at present before the courts. It affects a well-known businessman, Samson Paweni, who is alleged to have defrauded the Government to the tune of $5,8 million by over-claiming on services for transporting food to drought-affected areas.

Already, a number of civil servants have been convicted and given stiff sentences for colluding in this fraud, and the name of a prominent Minister and former freedom fighter, Kumbirai Kangai, has been frequently mentioned during the court proceedings.

A second major challenge facing Mr Mugabe is to how create a new government composed of those loyal to Zanu's socialist commitments. It is no secret that a number of his Ministers do not share his views on Marxism-Leninism. On this issue, though, he is a gradualist — or a realist.

However, while the education process continues at the mass level, he insists that at the leadership level it is "absolutely important" to have people who believe in Marxist-Leninist principles — not just in socialism in general. Mr Mugabe insists that if socialism is to be true then it must base itself within Marxist-Leninist parameters.

Perhaps the most sensitive of all the challenges that will face Mr Mugabe after August is how to deal with "tribal cliques" in the ruling party.

These cliques reflect the political divisions among some of the Shona clans which were such a prominent feature of power struggles during the liberation struggle, and which have persisted after independence.

Mr Mugabe, who comes from one of the smalier Shona clans, is determined to stamp fiercely on it. Zanu's congress is certain to support Mr Mugabe's insistence of the need to turn Zimbabwe into a single-party state. But there seems no likelihood of this happening in the near future. Under the Lancaster House Agreement, Zimbabwe's constitution cannot be changed for 10 years except with the unanimous support of all members of Parliament. This would require the votes of all the white members as well as those of Joshua Nkomo's Zapu members.

Mr Mugabe, who is, above all, a legalist, has promised that he will not attempt to change the constitution except by consent. At the earliest, therefore, Zimbabwe seems unlikely to become a single-party state before 1990 — and even then it would still depend on Zanu winning substantial support in Joshua Nkomo's fiefdom, Matabeleland, as well as from the white electorate.

Although Mr Nkomo's personal fortunes have continued to wane, few doubt that he still enjoys considerable support among the Ndebele of Matabeleland. While Zanu appears to have made some progress in establishing itself in Matabeleland — and has recently gained by the defection to it of a prominent Nkomo supporter in the Cabinet — it still has a long way to go before it can hope to establish itself as an effective challenger to Mr Nkomo in Matabeleland.

The undoubtedly tough methods used by the army to suppress the dissident militants in Matabeleland is unlikely to soften attitudes in that region towards Zanu.

However, one important point seems to have been missed in the attempts by the overseas media to portray the conflict in Matabeleland as a tribal conflict between Shona and Ndebele.

Despite the defection of thousands of Mr Nkomo's former guerrilla fighters (Zipra) from the national army, there are still between 6 000 to 9 000 Ndebele in the army.

The national army is, today, composed of 10 to 12 percent former Rhodesian army soldiers (including whites); 30 percent of former Zipra fighters; and just under 60 percent of former Zanu fighters (Zanla).

Furthermore, the Government still includes three of Mr Nkomo's ministers who still remain loyal to Zapu.

The presence of so many Ndebele in the army, the police and the Government is an important corrective to the generally distorted picture of Zimbabwe as a country riven by tribal conflicts between Shona and Ndebele.

Whatever criticisms can be accurately levelled against the behaviour of elements of the national army in suppressing dissident violence, it is totally false to suggest that Zimbabwe is a country engaged in a civil war, or that the Government is guilty of genocide against the Ndebele.

Zimbabwe to step up drive towards socialist revolution

360 Star

The Star Bureau 28/5/84

HARARE — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has pledged an all-out campaign to educate the people in Marxist-Leninist doctrines as part of an intensified drive towards a socialist revolution.

Speaking in Harare at the conference of the Youth League of the ruling Zanu (PF) party, Mr Mugabe said that although the people of Zimbabwe had fought for, and achieved, political power, they were still deprived of economic power.

"Must we be content with a situation in which we control the votes but not the economic resources of our country? Are we content to hold only the calabash while its nourishing drink is being gulped by others?" he asked more than 3 000 young people.

A major event in the run-up to the party's decisive congress in August, the youth conference will elect leaders who will sit on the party's extended 90-member central committee which will be constituted after the full congress.

Sunday Star 29/5/84 (362)

Zim youths want one party

HARARE — The youth league of Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF party has called for the country's British-drafted constitution to be scrapped and a one-party state declared in this southern Africa nation.

The resolution was made at the league's weekend national congress, a run-up to the first national congress of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front) since independence in April, 1980.

Zimbabwe's independence constitution should be "totally, wholly and unconditionally rejected" said the resolution, which will go forward to the August national congress.

Alien

Another resolution said the multi-party system of government inherited at independence had no place in Zimbabwe because it was "alien both to our culture and scientific socialism".

The constitution, a document that guarantees multi-party democracy and guards against civil rights abuses, was approved by Mr Mugabe and other parties at the British-chaired Lancaster House peace talks in London in December 1979 to end nine decades of white minority rule and seven years' war.

Twenty seats in the 100-member national assembly are reserved for whites — outnumbered 75-1 by blacks — under the constitution which requires a 100 percent vote from legislators for major constitutional changes, such as a one-party system. — Sapa.

ZIMBABWE

The mills of change

362

The Zimbabwean government's decision to pass legislation which regulates the assets of former residents marks an important milestone in the development of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's economic and political policies. The implications of this legislation cannot be underestimated — and Zimbabwe's international credibility has been seriously jeopardised.

The recent plight of the ailing Zimbabwean economy provided Prime Minister Robert Mugabe with just the excuse he needed to put his Marxist ideologies into practice. While no one would deny that the Zimbabwean economy needed a shot of corrective medicine, few believe in euthanasia. That, very largely, was what he gave it.

The origins of Zimbabwe's modern economy were humble. It was, after all, less than 100 years ago that the country was colonised by a British commercial concern — the British South Africa Company. The country's emergence from underdevelopment was made possible only by Western investment and technology. The important role the pioneers and local population played together in developing what was Rhodesia cannot be underestimated.

But just as trust between the population groups was damaged by the war of independence, developments since the installation of an internationally accepted black government in 1980 have reflected serious disparities over the direction of economic consolidation and development. In short, the Zimbabwean economy has been on the skids since independence — though this was not altogether the doing of the Mugabe government. The white population has dwindled to one third of its former size — taking away technical and managerial skills — and there has been a noticeable lack of foreign investment.

The disruptions in Matabeleland added to the image problems, scaring off further investment, and three years of devastating drought knocked the living standards of all sections of the population. Inflation became rampant — and is currently around 20%. In short, few people who supported the Mugabe government have come to enjoy the improvement in living standards that legitimate independence was supposed to bring.

Until recently, Mugabe's personal brand of politics and economic "reform" took a relatively low profile — although much of the white population seems to have thought otherwise, and to have voted accordingly with their feet.

Mugabe is keeping an eye on the elections scheduled to be held in nine months' time; and he is only too well aware of the economic suffering of the masses. Pressures from the strong leftwing elements of his party have surfaced in a predictable form — an insistence on the need to redistribute the nation's wealth along socialist lines. And so it was that the wealth of the former white residents began to seem a logical target for a kind of appropriation — the intention being to provide the base from which radical economic policies could be put into practice. Simultaneously, the eco-



Minister Chidzero ... forcing liquidation

was Botha asked to "leave the laager" and enter the wider world in which apartheid seems, at best, a nasty aberration from the past and at worst a threat to regional stability? The answer is that the journey is part-reward (for Nkomati, Namibia and the constitutional reforms) and part-warning (that in the end apartheid must go as the price of genuine international respectability).

P W Botha and Pik Botha are strong men: they will not take kindly to the least hint of patronisation. After all, they are more fully aware of the realities of southern Africa than any European leader can be. And they must always be aware that they have to report back to an increasingly suspicious, and rightward-leaning, electorate. But they will be meeting equally strong leaders, who are likely to be as forthright in spelling out the terms for SA's readmission to the world community.

Can there truly be a meeting of minds? What seems likely is that while the leaders will agree to disagree on blueprints for the future of the black majority — so extending the time period in which SA must resolve its essential problem — progress can be made in the following areas:

☐ A drawing of SA into the Western defence network, with a concomitant reconsideration of the arms embargo; and

☐ An outline of the kind of aid and development packages that the West will arrange for Mozambique, Angola and an independent Namibia — bearing in mind that strengthened economic links in the sub-continent require the goodwill and active participation of SA.

But the overwhelming achievement of the European tour is likely to be symbolic: a recognition that, within the constraints of ideology, SA *has* moved towards change and that, as the Americans have been arguing for four years, dialogue and persuasion carry more force in Pretoria than condemnation and isolation. Indeed, the negative approach to SA — in a spectrum that ranges from severing cultural and sports links, to disinvestment — is now perceived to affect the hardline ideologists not one inch. Instead, carried to extremes, it would impoverish all of southern Africa and entrench (currently weak) Soviet leverage over states like Mozambique, Angola and ultimately Zimbabwe.

But unless there is another world crisis and the combatants scramble for allies at almost any price, SA's acceptability in Lisbon, Bonn, London and Washington will always be tentative and conditional while it maintains grand apartheid. Botha is almost certainly a leader of sufficient stature to recognise and be troubled by that fact. It is devoutly to be hoped that he *will* be given the time to make the necessary reforms at home — not to placate the world, but for the sake of regional peace itself. On the Left and Right many are waiting for him to fail or "go too far."

The sobering aspect of the European tour, therefore, is that it represents not so much a triumph or vindication of overall policy, as the beginning of a massive task of internal reconstruction and reform. One of the posters at the Graaff-Reinet rally read: "We trust you, P W, keep up the good work." But do the NP stalwarts realise just how open-ended that "good work" really is — and has to be, if it is to have any chance of succeeding?

ZIMBABWE

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Minister Chidzero ... forcing liquidation



PM Mugabe ... fully implementing socialism

nomy would be given what is unfortunately likely to be only a short-lived shot of life.

Against this background, in March, Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero announced draconian measures which primarily regulate the assets of former residents. The legislation is said to be unparalleled in world history — although measures adopted by the Czechoslovakian government shortly after the Second World War are in some respects similar.

Understandably, former residents are resentful at what seems to be the high price they are being made to pay for having supported, or at the least lived under, the Ian Smith government. The Zimbabwean government is literally forcing them to liquidate all their assets — including property — and invest the proceeds in 4% Government of Zimbabwe external bonds. The bottom line is that they are being used as a cheap source of government funding. The rate of interest is well below the prevailing market rate of some 12%, and a mere fraction of the 20% inflation rate. In effect, government has absolute control over the wealth of former residents: so that is what is left of Mugabe's stated 1980 policy of reconciliation.

The payment of pensions, alimony and approved remittances of expatriate salaries is permitted — but what remains? Interest on the 4% government bonds *is* remittable, and the capital will be repaid in tranches — one-sixth of the capital for six years, starting in seven years' time. And whereas previously the maximum income a non-resident could receive annually was Z$15 000, there is now no limit.

But clearly the measures adopted by the government take advantage of the vulnerability of the wealth of former residents whose assets are blocked inside Zimbabwe. In many cases, non-residents will have to sell their assets in a very depressed market if they are to beat the October deadline for placing their funds in the government stock. Income from assets which are not realised in the prescribed fashion will probably be lost forever. The banking system is already bursting at the seams with the unnatural excess liquidity arising from the liquidation of non-residents' assets.

It is interesting to note that the punitive legislation discriminates between those non-residents who previously resided in the country; and those who own assets in Zimbabwe but have never lived there. It also does so between those companies which invested in Zimbabwe after the Lancaster House Conference began in September 1979, and those which had already invested in what was then Rhodesia. In this fashion, the new legislation does not violate the terms of the Lancaster House agreement, though whether its spirit is being honoured is another matter.

Seeking a court ruling

Non-residents who have never lived in Zimbabwe are not being forced to realise their assets and invest in the 4% government bonds. Companies that invested after 1979 are still free to remit their dividends. The other companies and non-residents (those who never lived in the country) are currently, in theory, not receiving income on their investments — although their position will apparently be reviewed next year.

South African and other foreign parent companies have generally adopted a conservative line of thinking on investment in Zimbabwe. In the parent companies' balance sheets investments in Zimbabwean subsidiaries are not consolidated or disclosed, and only any income received (normally dividends) is accounted for. Possibly this accounting treatment realistically reflects the genuine fear that Zimbabwean investments are indeed very tenuous. They could well be the next target.

A measure that applies universally to all parties with vested interests within the country is the forced sale of all externally quoted securities. This could save Zimbabwe some Z$200m in a once-off foreign currency coup — if successful. In what could prove to be an epic court case in SA, more than 20 individuals are intent on blocking the Zimbabwe government from disposing of their externally quoted securities registered in SA. To date, the litigation is limited to SA, but if it spreads to other countries, the overseas media might find it difficult to ignore the full impact of all the



Harare ... locking up non-residents' assets

new measures.
Any economic benefit that might result
from the drastic actions of the
Zimbabwean government is likely to be
short-lived, and detrimental to the economy in the longer run. People with skills, and foreign companies with capital to invest, are understandably unwilling to commit themselves to a country whose political and economic policies run contrary to the spirit of free enterprise. This awareness is bound to spread.

362 FM 1/8/84

Mugabe starts farm drive

HARARE

ANDRE VILJOEN on a move to get farmers back on the land in Matabeleland

THE Zimbabwean Government will launch a campaign tomorrow to reclaim 274 000ha of land abandoned by commercial ranchers in southern Matabeleland because of widespread dissident terror.

According to an informed source, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, hopes that the drive will deal a political blow against dissidents who are reportedly boasting to Ndebele peasants that they have provided them with the grazing and cattle that the government had failed to deliver.

Two state-run bodies, the Cold Storage Commission (CSC) and the Agricultural and Rural Development Authority (Arda), will manage the farms in the Kezi and Marula South areas, and will be protected by resident security forces.

A number of farmers who abandoned their land in January are understood to be interested in returning in the new circumstances.

The CSC is buying the approximately 15 000 remaining head of cattle of the 18 000 head left after the January exodus. Matabeleland farmers describe the CSC price, which is well above the depressed market price, as "very generous".

According to an informed source the government is anxious to defeat a new dissident strategy, which it says emerged eight months ago.

A concerted effort was made to entrench the rebel presence in the south-western border areas by exploiting the sensitive issue of land.

In the balance

Through a combination of political indoctrination and sabotage the dissidents have disrupted all government resettlement schemes in Matabeleland, and, after a Christmas Eve killing of a white farming couple and their two children in the Kezi district, frightened all commercial farmers in the area off their land.

Elsewhere in Matabeleland the future of commercial ranching is in the balance. The number of resident ranchers in the province has dropped from 740 at independence to about 263.

Immediately after a Marula farmer, Mr Ian Birchall, was shot dead by dissidents on his land on May 24, the remaining nine families in the area spoke of leaving. But after a fortnight the close-knit community has decided to try to stay on.

A prominent Marula farmer and independent senator, Mr Max Rosenfels, said Mr Birchall had been the only commercial farmer in the province killed by dissidents in the past five months and it now seemed his death had not been premeditated.

This, despite the fact that there was a heavy dissident presence in the area, gave farmers some hope that there was not a specific campaign to kill them.

"Right now we are staying on but we are very unsure of our future," said Mr Rosenfels.

(b) none, but as soon as all the dwellings have been vacated by the Whites, it will be sold to Coloureds.

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome

*17. Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Health and Welfare:

(1) Whether any cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) were (a) reported and (b) diagnosed in the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available; if so, how many in each case;

(2) whether he intends declaring AIDS to be a notifiable disease; if not, why not; if so, when?

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE:

(1) (a) and (b) Since 1982 a total of 12 confirmed cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome have become known to the Department;

(2) no, it is at present not considered to be a public health threat. The diagnosis of acquired immune deficiency syndrome is at present very difficult because there are no simple diagnostic tests available.

Hansard Q.601. 1479 6/6/84

Old-age pensions: bonus

*18. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Co-operation and Development:

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 3 on 11 April 1984, the recently announced bonus of R22,00 to Black old-age pensioners was paid out during May 1984; if not, (a) why not, (b) how many persons were affected and (c) when is it anticipated that they will receive this bonus?

The MINISTER OF CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

Yes.

Hansard Q.601.1480 6/6/84

Zimbabwe: deportations

*19. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Co-operation and Development:

(1) Whether his Department has held an investigation into allegations concerning the deportation of South African Blacks to Zimbabwe; if so, (a) what was the purport of these allegations, (b) (i) who was in charge, and (ii) what was the extent, of the investigation and (c) what were the findings;

(2) whether he or any member of his Department has received any representations or complaints regarding the Additional Commissioner for Co-operation and Development at Alexandra; if so, (a) from whom, (b) when and (c) what was (i) the nature of the representations or complaints and (ii) his response thereto;

(3) whether any steps have been taken by his Department in respect of this person pending the outcome of the investigation; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) in respect of what period were they taken;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†The MINISTER OF CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Yes.

(a) The purport of these allegations was that law-abiding Black people with valid South African reference books and other documents are being detained without trial by the Commissioner at Alexandra for up to 13 months to make them confess that they are aliens in order to deport them to Zimbabwe.

(b) (i) The investigation was carried out under the guidance of the Deputy Director-general (Departmental Administration) of the Department of Co-operation and Development by a departmental inspector.

(ii) An in depth investigation *in loco* was carried out into the allegations by interviewing the officials concerned, by taking sworn statements from them and by obtaining relevant information.

(c) The findings are contained in a report which is being studied by the Department of Co-operation and Development.

(2) No specific complaint was received. There was a reference to statements alleged to have been made by an Additional Commissioner. These allegations were also investigated as indicated above.

(a) The allegations were contained in a telex received from City Press.

(b) On 9 May 1984.

(c) (i) The nature of the allegations is as stated in (1) above.

(ii) The Department and I immediately ordered an investigation.

(3) No steps against the Additional Commissioner can be considered until the report has been studied and the situation evaluated. If any proof of irregularities should be found, appropriate steps will obviously be taken.

(4) Not at this stage. In case it should appear desirable to do so from evidence which becomes available to me I will make a suitable statement.

Mrs H SUZMAN: Arising out of the reply of the hon the Minister, will he make those findings public or make them available to members of Parliament?

The MINISTER: If after I have evaluated the findings I consider it to be in the public interest to make them public, I will have no hesitation in doing so.

Passport control officers

*20. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Internal Affairs:

(1) (a) How many persons have been appointed by him as passport control officers in terms of section 4 of the Admission of Persons to the Republic Regulation Act, No 59 of 1972, since the inception of the said Act and (b)(i) how many such passport control officers are there at present and (ii) to which Government Departments are they attached in each case;

(2) whether, prior to their being gazetted as passport control officers, these persons are given any training in regard to (a) their functions and (b) the laws they will be enforcing; if not, why not; if so, what is the nature of this training?

The MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) and (b)(i) This information is not readily available. Appointments are continuously being made and withdrawn as many officers of a number of departments are placed, replaced or transferred in and from posts where their duties also include aspects of aliens control.

(b) (ii) Appointments have been made in respect of officers of the Departments of Internal Affairs, Justice, the South African Police, Finance and Co-operation and Development and of the South African Railway Police.

(2) (a) and (b) Persons employed by the Department of Internal Affairs who are appointed as passport control officers are instructed and trained to

administer the provisions of the Acts and regulations controlling the admission to and residence of aliens in the Republic. Officials of other departments are trained by their own departments and the appointments in their case also vary in accordance with section 4(b) of the Admission of Persons to the Republic Regulation Act, 1972.

Passport control officers

*21. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Internal Affairs:

(1) What is the (a) nature and (b) scope of the investigations carried out by passport control officers in regard to cases involving alleged illegal immigrants;

(2) whether these investigations include questioning the families of the persons concerned in the event of such families being resident in the Republic; if not, why not;

(3) what is the longest period for which any person has been held in detention pending the outcome of such an investigation?

†The MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) and (b) The hon member is referred to the provisions of the Admission of Persons to the Republic Regulation Act, No 59 of 1972, and more particularly section 34 thereof which prescribes the nature and scope of the investigations to be carried out by passport control officers in cases involving alleged illegal immigrants.

(2) Only where they can be identified and reached and can contribute towards the identification of the person concerned.

(3) Statistics of individual cases are not kept but in terms of regulation 26 published in *Regulation Gazette* No 321 of 3 April 1964 no person shall be detained in custody for any longer period than is necessary for the purpose of any prescribed inquiry or for the completion by the passport control officer of arrangements for the removal of such person from the Republic at the first reasonable opportunity.

Mrs H SUZMAN: Arising out of the Minister's reply, may I ask him whether his attention has been drawn to the case mentioned by the hon the Minister of Co-operation and Development where people have been held up to 13 months in detention?

†The MINISTER: The hon member has already received a reply from the hon the Minister. This case only became known to me as a result of the question that was asked. I received no representations from any other quarter.

YMCA building, Port Elizabeth

*22. Mr J H HOON asked the Minister of Community Development:†

(1) Whether the YMCA building in Havelock Street, Port Elizabeth, is situated in a White group area; if so,

(2) whether youths of population groups other than the White population group may be accommodated in this building; if so, under what statutory provision; if not,

(3) whether a permit in respect of the accommodation of such youths in this building has been issued; if so, when;

(4) whether he or any member of his Department has received any complaints in this regard; if so,

(5) whether he has investigated the complaints; if not, why not; if so, with what result?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Yes

(2) No

(3) No

(4) No

(5) Falls away.

Mr D J N MALCOMESS: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the deputy Minister's reply, if he receives an application for multi-racial occupation of this building, would he give it his sympathetic consideration? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY MINISTER: No applications have been received in this regard.

South West Africa: printing work

*23. Mr J H HOON asked the Minister of Defence:†

Whether the South African Defence Force at any stage did printing work for a private body or association of private bodies in South West Africa; if so, (a) for what private body or association of private bodies, (b) which section of the South African Defence Force did the printing work and (c) what was the cost involved?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER (for the Minister of Defence):
No.

(a), (b) and (c) fall away.

Hansard Q.Col. 1485

Indian teachers: improvement of qualifications 6/6/84

*24. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Internal Affairs:

(1) Whether provision has been made for a scheme enabling serving Indian teachers to improve their teaching qualifications by correspondence with any college of education; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether his Department keeps a register of teachers availing themselves of this scheme; if not, why not; if so, how many teachers (a) were so registered as at, and (b) had improved their qualifications in this manner since the inception of this scheme up to, the latest specified date for which figures are available;

(3) whether this scheme provides for the acquisition of a senior certificate; if not, why not;

(4) whether he is considering any extensions to this scheme; if not, why not; if so, (a) what extensions and (b) when?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS:

(1) No, because the small number of lowly-qualified teachers still in service does not justify the introduction of a correspondence course.

(2), (3) and (4) Fall away.

Hansard Q.Col.1486

Coloured teachers: improvement of qualifications 6/6/84

*25. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Internal Affairs:

(1) Whether provision has been made for a scheme enabling serving Coloured teachers to improve their teaching qualifications by correspondence with any college of education; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether his Department keeps a register of teachers availing themselves of this scheme; if not, why not; if so, how many teachers (a) were so registered as at, and (b) had improved their qualifications in this manner since the inception of this scheme up to, the latest specified date for which figures are available;

(3) whether this scheme provides for the acquisition of a senior certificate; if not, why not;

'Negative' journalists to be charged — Govt

ARGUS 6/6/84 362

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Foreign correspondents in Zimbabwe who continue to write "negative and unsubstantiated reports" will be charged under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act.

The warning was given by the Information Minister, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira.

According to the main report in the Government-controlled Herald, the Minister told the Institute of Public Relations that Zimbabwe's image abroad had become a subject of great concern and controversy.

He had appealed to British and American editors to upgrade their offices in Zimbabwe "since most of them are run by stringers who have no regard for truth or facts and some of them do not even know the ethics of journalism".

The Minister said there were also experienced men like the editor of the Observer in Britain, Mr Donald Trelford, who published "blatant lies" about the situation in Matabeleland.

Mugabe interview

Mr Trelford had refused to print a long interview he had had with the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe.

According to the Ziana national news agency, Dr Shamuyarira said "undesirable journalists" who had no regard for the truth would be charged.

"We are going to prefer charges on them in court in terms of the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act and require them to substantiate their false allegations."

In an apparent reference to the correspondent of the London Sunday Times, Mr Peter Godwin, the Minister said overseas newspapers should not appoint "former Selous Scouts and unemployed juveniles" as correspondents.

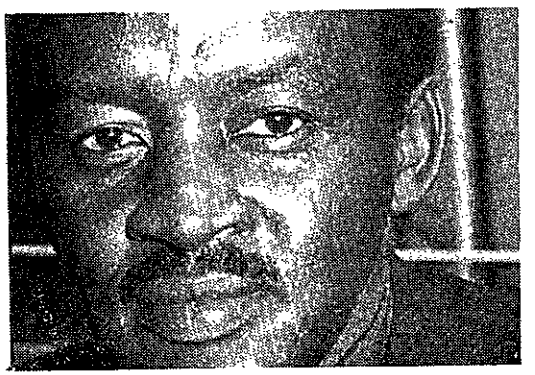
Army commander

Mr Godwin, whose reports on Matabeleland infuriated the Government, was described as a former Selous Scout by the army commander, General Rex Nhongo, during a recent Government-sponsored trip to the troubled area.

Mr Godwin is a 26-year-old Zimbabwean-born lawyer who turned to freelance journalism last year.

Dr Shamuyarira also accused South Africa of spending millions on a "disinformation" campaign against zimbabwe.

He said South Africa was directly intervening in Zimbabwe affairs through the clandestine Radio Truth broadcasts and was also distributing subversive literature in the country.



Dr Nathan Shamuyarira



Mr Donald Trelford

DIPLOMACY

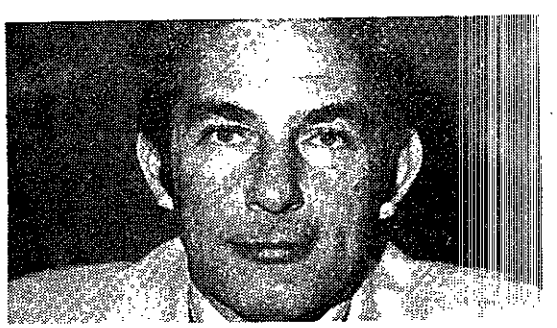
Russia's grip on Seychelles tightens

Argus Foreign Service

MAHE. — New moves to bring the Seychelles Islands closer to the Soviet bloc, while at the same time wooing the West for aid and tourist traffic, are being quietly initiated here by Mr Albert Rene's revolutionary socialist Government.

The Soviet Ambassador, Mr Michael Orlov, has over the past year strengthened his position to the extent that he claims he has the islands "in the palm of my hand".

And while Mr Rene is struggling to maintain his own position of neutrality in the East-West cold war, he is being outwitted by Mr Orlov, the former head of the KGB — the Soviet secret police — in Turkey, who is believed to be in overall charge of Soviet strategy in the western Indian Ocean.



The Prime Minister of the Seychelles Islands, Mr Albert Rene . . . struggling to maintain his position of neutrality, but he is being outwitted by the

In addition to the 35 staff members of his embassy, which, appropriately, began its life in the Seychelles seven years ago in a hostelry called The Pirates Arms, Mr Orlov has infiltraded another 45 "experts" on to the main island, Mahe.

Their official task is to man a Soviet-supplied defence system, which now rings the island. Radar installations at each hidden mountain-top outpost are linked to BM 21 rocket launchers and anti-aircraft missile batteries.

Sam 7 missiles supplement anti-aircraft emplacements at the Mahe International Airport, which are manned by 65 North Koreans.

Reports say another 150 North Koreans will move in during the next two months to replace Tanzanian troops due to leave in July.

Mr Rene says he cannot afford the R750 000 a year which they have been costing him.

North Korean troops come

TAKEOVERS

Concern as Zimbabwe Govt grabs steel firm

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Concern is being expressed in business circles here about the way the Zimbabwe Government has acquired control of the Lancashire Steel Company's operations at Kwekwe.

The company had been running at a loss for the past two years because of rising costs and a refusal by the Government to allow it to increase the price of its products.

Now the Government, through two State-controlled concerns, the Industrial Development Corporation and Ziscosteel, has taken over the whole issued shareholding of Lancashire Steel — without paying a cent.

In a barbed comment, a spokesman for the local directors of the British subsidiary said: "If it had been Government's intention, from the outset, to acquire Lancashire Steel without having to go through the procedure for nationalisation and compensation, it would no doubt have behaved exactly as it has."

By failing to allow a price increase 10 months ago, the Governmernt had placed the company in a position where it had lost its capital and become heavily indebted to banks and to the Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Company (Zisco).

In an editorial, the independent Financial Gazette said many businessmen believed the Government was choosing key industries and by applying economic pressure through price controls, it was forcing companies either to surrender a shareholding or to make an inexpensive takeover possible.

"The trend could be described as nationalisation by manipulation," said the paper in an editorial headed: The unacceptable face of socialism?

It said that by taking over companies which had been forced into loss positions because of official actions or controls, the Government was adopting the worst features of the capitalist system it purported to despise.

Zimbabwe wants State control of all strategic industries. It already controls or has a stake in fuel procurement, two banks, the insurance business, the coal mining industry, the external sale of all minerals, the main drug manufacturer and the steel industry.

It controls or has large interests in the communications media and the hotel industry and is negotiating to take control of the main urban bus companies.

INQUIRIES

Argus 6/6/84

Directors, firms probed over big drought swindle

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Another four companies and their directors are being investigated after allegations that they swindled the Government out of more than R620 000 for alleged drought relief.

Under the country's emergency powers regulations, the Justice Minister, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, ordered that the affairs of the companies be investigated by a Government-appointed official, Mr Malcolm Fraser.

The companies are connected with a Harare businessman, Mr Petrus Shitto, who was arrested last week over allegations of fraud in connection with false claims for drought relief transport.

Another businessman, Mr Sam Paweni, is being held in the maximum security Chikurubi Prison on allegations that his companies defrauded the Government of more than R6-million in similar swindles.

A number of civil servants have already been jailed for taking bribes from the businessmen.

The 'unacceptable face of Zimbabwe socialism'

(362) Star 6/6/84

The Star Bureau

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RDM 11/6/84 (362)

Free schooling for all next year in Zimbabwe

Mail Africa Bureau

GABORONE. — The Zimbabwean Minister of Education, Dr Dzingai Mutumbuka, has revealed that free and compulsory education for all Zimbabwean children up to the age of 16 will be introduced next year.

Speaking from Harare yesterday, Dr Mutumbuka outlined the progress made in Zimbabwean education since independence in 1980.

In those four years the number of children in government high schools has increased from 62 000 to 400 057 and the number of high schools which had been built since independence is 1 062, of which more than 400 were opened in 1984 alone.

There are now 10 teachers' training colleges, with an enrolment of 5 000 prospective teachers.

There is fierce competition among successful advance level students for the University of Zimbabwe, 1 200 places available annually at the University of Zimbabwe and this means that the students should get a first class pass in order to be assured of a place.

Dr Mutumbuka, who has a doctoral degree in chemistry from the University of Sussex in England, added that his Ministry's educational goal had now been achieved, in that primary and high school places were now available for every Zimbabwean child.

The country had now entered a period of consolidation with the major emphasis on the teaching standard and improvement of classroom fascilities.

Dr Mutumbuka paid tribute to the role of parents, both in the building of the schools and in assisting to run them.

He said Zimbabwe had also entered into an agreement with independent African states in Southern Africa. In terms of this agreement these countries sent their students to the University of Zimbabwe for courses not available in their respective countries.

He also disclosed that he had been to England where he had recruited 1 000 British teachers. He had also recruited teachers from Australia and said he would go to Canada in September to recruit others.

CAPE Times 18/6/86 362

Ban imposed on Zapu meetings

KWEKWE, Zimbabwe. — Zimbabwe's opposition Zapu party will be banned indefinitely from holding political meetings in the country's Midlands province from today, the Minister of State for Security, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, was quoted as saying yesterday.

The Ziana news agency said Mr Munangagwa was speaking on Saturday after the funeral of an official of the ruling Zanu-PF party who was killed on Monday by a group of about 20 armed dissidents at his farm 30km from Kwekwe.

Mr Munangagwa said the ban on Zapu activities would remain until all dissidents in the province had been wiped out. Midlands, one of Zimbabwe's eight provinces, is centred round the towns of Kwekwe and Gweru.

The government has accused dissidents operating in Midlands and neighbouring Matabeleland of being supporters of Zapu (Zimbabwe African People's Union), which is led by former cabinet minister Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Ziana reported that Mr Munangagwa said: "The government is aware that dissidents operating in the Midlands use the Zapu party structure and move from one official to another for food and shelter."

The minister said that during the past six months eight Zanu-PF officials had been killed in Midlands province by dissidents, but not one Zapu official.

"On each occasion we have discovered that Zapu officials fed and sheltered the dissidents who carried out the murders, and misled the security forces in their follow-up operations," Ziana quoted Mr Munangagwa as saying.

Last month, at a funeral of a Zanu-PF official killed by dissidents in Mashonaland province, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, declared "a fight to the finish" against Zapu and dissidents opposing his government.

Dissidents fighting the government stepped up their activities after Mr Nkomo's dismissal from the cabinet in 1982 and since then have killed several hundred people throughout the country, mostly in Matabeleland. — Sapa-Reuter

Harare paper urges: Take Botha seriously

HARARE. — Harare's Sunday Mail newspaper said yesterday that the offer by the South African Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, to pull out of SWA/Namibia if Western governments agreed to take over the territory's administration and defence should be considered seriously.

In an editorial, it said the offer should not be dismissed out of hand. It should be "taken up and tested to its last detail and texture".

It added: "We are at a loss to understand why the Western powers should reject Botha's proposal out of hand.

"Namibia is a former colony of Germany and a former mandated territory of Britain ... these two Western powers still have a responsibility to see Namibia freed and handed over to its people."

The proposal was made by Mr Botha during his tour of Europe earlier this month. — Sapa-Reuter

Muzorewa to lose house

HARARE. — The home of the former prime minister of Zimbabwe/Rhodesia, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who is now in his eighth month of detention, is up for auction because of non-payment of debts, it was reported here yesterday.

Ziana, the official news agency, said the home would be auctioned on June 29 because the bishop had fallen behind in mortgage payments.

The property was bought in 1980 for about R40 000.

Last week, a lengthy court action between Bishop Muzorewa's UANC party and a Gweru transport company was resolved in an out of court settlement. — Sapa

SA: Mugabe critical

HARARE. — South Africa has not been bringing its influence to bear against guerillas of the Mozambique Resistance Movement despite the signing of the Accord, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, was quoted as saying in Harare yesterday.

In an interview with West German Radio, Mr Mugabe said attacks by Renamo on the railway line to Maputo had "slowed down the flow of our imports and exports, especially exports like steel, asbestos and now sugar".

Mr Mugabe, questioned whether SA had been "genuine" in signing the non-aggression pact, said that even if Renamo was carrying out attacks within Mozambique, the organization could still be influenced by SA. — Sapa

Five clubbed to death in Zimbabwe riots

HARARE—Five followers of Zimbabwe opposition leader, Joshua Nkomo, have been clubbed to death by rioting supporters of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, who burnt down houses and set cars blazing in a week of political violence in the Midlands town of Kwekwe.

The Zimbabwe Inter-African News Agency yesterday quoted a Kwekwe Hospital spokesman saying another 200 injured people, five critically wounded, had been treated since Thursday.

Hundreds of others have been injured in several Zimbabwean towns in the past week as Mugabe loyalists, armed with axes, iron rods, bricks and clubs, went on a rampage against members of Mr Nkomo's rival Zapu Party.

The Government banned indefinitely all Zapu political meetings in the Midlands and Mashonaland West.

The Home Affairs Minister, Mr Simbi Mubako, warned yesterday that a dusk-to-dawn curfew would also be imposed if necessary to maintain law and order and eliminate dissident activities.

The rise in anti-Zapu demonstrations comes less than two months before Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF holds its first congress in 20 years, at which it is expected to adopt and endorse his long-mooted policy of a one-party state.

The violence also follows the killings of two Zanu-PF officials that particularly angered the Government.

Bitter end

At the funeral of one, Mr Mugabe declared what he called a fight to the finish against Zapu.

"Enough is enough," he told hundreds of mourners. "Zapu has started something and I want to assure you that we are going to fight this to the bitter end."

Zapu secretary-general Joseph Msika said yesterday the demonstrations were a Government attempt to stifle his party.

"Burning down people's offices and using coercion to gain political support, as Zanu-PF is doing, is against the constitution," he said.

The demonstrations have clearly been well organised with Government ministers and State-employed television crews present. — (Sapa-Reuter)

Zimbabwe businessman strikes gold

The Star's Foreign News Service

LONDON — British oil entrepreneur Algy Cluff, whose Zimbabwe gold mine started production four weeks ago, says costs are so low that good profits look assured in the first year.

He said he expects the mine to produce revenue for his Cluff Oil business of R1,3 million this year and at least R7 million over the next four years or so.

And that assumes a bullion price at only the present level of around 370 dollars an ounce.

The gearing is such that revenue could amount to a heady R35 million with a gold price of 450 dollars.

The Royal Family Mine — so named because gold operations in the territory traditionally had names like Elizabeth and His Majesty — is due to get bigger, it seems.

Mr Cluff says he has another four prospects in his sights, two of them already under survey and two the subject of options.

Mr Cluff says the Zimbabweans are "very co-operative" towards the operation at a time when few foreigners want to invest in the country.

Cluff can repatriate 50 percent of the profits. The rest will go into exploration, and the company does not expect to pay tax out there.

Mr Michael McAllister, the Cluff director working on the project, says that grades indicate an output of about 640 ounces of gold a month when the No 1 shaft is at full steam.

The Royal Family Mine breaks even with a bullion price as low as 140 dollars.

148 now held by Robert Mugabe

HARARE. — Zimbabwe's two Detainees Review tribunals face mounting problems in handling the cases of 148 people currently held in preventive detention.

Mr Stephen Mafara, an official in the Attorney-General's office, told the High Court on Wednesday that the two tribunals could meet only twice a week.

There were 148 detainees and each case was already due for review, he said.

Mr Mafara was opposing an application from the wife of a Harare businessman to have her detention reviewed immediately.

Mrs Gertrude Paweni was detained on May 5 with her husband Samson, who is facing charges of defrauding the government of about R3 800 000.

He is alleged to have falsified drought relief transport claims.

Judge Teresa Scot rejected Mrs Paweni's application but hoped more detainees tribunals would be set up "to cope with the situation if due regard is to be had for the liberty of the individual, which is at stake here".

The Minister of Home Affairs Mr Simbi Mubako told Parliament on Wednesday that the detained United African National Council leader and former Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa was in good health.

Bishop Muzorewa was detained in November on charges of plotting against the government.

"He has visits from his family and lawyers and everybody is satisfied that he is quite healthy," Mr Mubako said. — UPI.

How Smith's secret troops went to war

362 S. Times 15/7/84

By SHAUN HARRIS

SECRETS of the Rhodesian bush-war — unknown even to most ex-Rhodesian soldiers — are about to be told.

Details of clandestine cross-border operations will be revealed for the first time in a book on the Rhodesian Special Air Service due to be published at the end of the year.

Most revealing is the account of the close relationship between the Rhodesians and Mozambican resistance fighters.

Many sabotage operations attributed to the guerrillas were actually the work of the Rhodesians.

Written by journalist Barbara Cole, wife of a former Rhodesian SAS officer, the book, The Elite, details the many secret raids carried out by the unit from its inception in Malaya in 1953 to Zimbabwean independence four years ago.

Activities of the low-profile SAS, who operated almost exclusively beyond Rhodesia's borders, have never been made public because the unit's 100 regular members were sworn to secrecy.

But the vows of secrecy fell away when the unit closed down in 1980, and now after four years of research, Mrs Cole believes "the story must be told".

How the SAS set up, trained and carried out joint missions with the Mozambique National Resistance movement will be revealed.

Also, the close contact between the Rhodesian SAS and its British counterpart, despite the severing of relations after UDI, are revealed in the book.

Mrs Cole claims that a daring raid into the heart of Lusaka, where SAS soldiers were dropped and picked up by helicopters, destroyed Zipra's intelligence headquarters and led to the capture of documents that exposed the Zambian-based organisation's secret operations.



Former SAS officers Captain Colin Willis, left, Lieutenant Peter Cole and Captain Bob Mackenzie



Writer Barbara Cole in her study — revealing the secrets of the Rhodesian war Picture: JIMMY HUTTON

Missions

"Now after four years of travelling to track down people and hundreds of interviews we are ready to publish the true story of the SAS."

Some well-known Rhodesian soldiers were associated with the SAS.

Lieutenant-General Peter Walls was the first commanding officer of the SAS when they were formed in Malaya in 1953. He was a major at the time.

Also with the unit when they formed was Lieutenant-Colonel Ron Reid-Daly, then a sergeant.

He later became the founding commander of the Selous Scouts.

"By the time the Rhodesian war started in earnest in 1972, the SAS had aleady carried out several missions over the border into Zambia and Mozambique," Barbara Cole said.

"But because these operations were top secret nobody ever knew about them. Towards the end of the war they were operating in three countries — Botswana, Zambia, and Mozambique — at the same time."

Disguised

She also tells why the mission to assassinate Zipra leader Joshua Nkomo at his guarded home in Lusaka didn't come off, and how the SAS drove into Lusaka in their own disguised vehicles.

Her husband, former SAS Lieutenant Peter Cole, said the MNR movement took the credit for many bridge-blowing and train-wrecking operations carried out by the SAS.

"The SAS shunned publicity, we were a low-profile unit. But because the MNR was a rebel movement they needed publicity and took the credit for many of our operations," he said.

Like the majority of Rhodesians during the war — including most members of the regular army — Mrs Cole said she knew nothing of the SAS's secret operations even though her husband was an officer.

"SAS men were known for their silence and my husband was no exception.

"I wouldn't see him for six months at a time, and when he came home for a few days he wouldn't say where he had been or what he had been doing.

"Eventually I trained myself not to ask."

After Prime Minister Robert Mugabe came to power in 1980 and SAS members — after closing down the unit — spread across the world, Mrs Cole began to hear bits of information about the SAS's cross-border operations.

Reluctant

"We had settled in Durban when I decided the story of the SAS had to be told."

Mrs Cole spent the next four years researching her book, gathering information.

"Most SAS members came to South Africa, but many headed for other parts of the world. I had to track them down in America, Australia, England, Canada — even the Middle East."

For Peter Cole his wife's research answered many question marks hanging over his wartime operations.

"As Barbara dug deeper and spoke to more and more people, the information she was getting explained a lot to me.

"Things fell into place. I began to realise why we had to blow up certain bridges, why we had to capture certain people and documents," Peter Cole said.

Barbara Cole turned down two offers — one from an English publishing house specialising in military books, and one from a South African publisher — to have her book published, because she wanted to do it "her way".

"The publishers were imposing limits on the length of the book and the amount of colour and black and white photographs I wanted to use, so I decided to go it alone."

Her husband and two former SAS colleagues, Captain Colin Willis and Captain Bob Mackenzie, set up their own company called Three Knights Publishing and commissioned Barbara Cole to write the book.

Alarm at govt hand in local affairs

362
C-Times
25/7/84

By EVELYN VOSLOO
Municipal Reporter

THERE is growing alarm about five pieces of legislation recently before Parliament which give the government a lot of control over local authorities.

Instead of the devolution of power promised for the new constitutional dispensation by the President's Council and the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, the government is increasing its control.

The provisions of the legislation include that:

● A cabinet minister will acquire direct control of salaries and working conditions of local officials.

● Power to control services, change local authority boundaries and radically alter the municipal franchise will be vested in the cabinet.

● No compensation will be paid to local authorities for assets or rights transferred to planned Regional Services Councils.

● The Administrator will be able to appoint chairmen of the regional councils.

● The public could be barred from Regional Services Council meetings. If this includes the press, the meetings will be held in secret.

An Opposition spokesman on local government, Mr Colin Eglin, said the overall effect would be to entrench apartheid.

Local authorities would be linked to the Group Areas Act. They would be established on a racially-compartmentalized basis and the franchise would be based on race.

In a recent speech, the Leader of the Opposition in the Provincial Council, Mr Herbert Hirsch, said a major problem was the exclusion of all black people from the new local government dispensation.

Authoritarian powers would be given to the minister concerned to do virtually what he liked and to direct the Administrator, who was himself being given greater powers. References to consultation were almost meaningless, as there was no requirement for consent or agreement with the governed.

"Indications are that decision-making power is moving upwards rather than downwards to local authorities."

Measures

A senior local official says three of the five measures, of which four have already been approved by Parliament, allow a cabinet minister to interfere directly in the "intimate details" of the staff policy of local authorities.

The fifth bill has been referred to a select committee.

The measures are:

● The Commission for Administration Act, which renames and increases the powers of the former Public Service Commission. It allows the relevant cabinet minister, and through him the commission, to appoint senior local government staff and determine their salaries and

To page 2

From page 1

conditions of service.

● The Remuneration of Town Clerks Act, which grades local authorities and specifies that the salaries of town clerks in each grade will be decided by the minister. This directly affects all other salaries, because no local authority may pay an employee more than 92,5 percent of the town clerk's salary.

● The Promotion of Local Government Affairs Amendment Act, which allows a minister to set criteria for establishing local authorities.

It divests Administrators of their previous power to establish, dissolve or extend the boundaries of a local authority after advertising for and considering objections, and places this power in the hands of the relevant minister.

● The Local Government Bodies Franchise Act, which radically changes qualifications to vote in municipal elections—formerly this was decided by a Provincial Ordinance.

Whites retain their right to vote, but coloured and Indian people will have the franchise only if they live in areas with local authorities representing their race group.

Regions

The Act also provides for more than one municipal vote. Anyone over 18 registered as a voter will have a vote, but people owning fixed property over a value prescribed by the minister in other wards will be able to vote there as well.

● The Regional Services Councils Bill, which has been referred to the Select Committee on the Constitution, empowers the minister to set up these councils to provide and control services in any area.

Unless the bill is amended, black local bodies will have no input into the councils, as only white, coloured and Indian local authorities will be represented on them.

Black local authorities will be able to get services from the councils only on a contract basis, as is done at present by Lianga, Nyanga and Guguletu.

(362)

ZIMBABWE

Inflation rises

With inflation already averaging 20%, Zimbabwean government ministers must have been loath to increase inflationary pressures. But last week they were left with no alternative but to announce another round of food-price and wage increases.

Bread, maize-meal and vegetable oil products have been increased in price by margins ranging from 10% to 20%. This is part of the continuing government programme of phasing down food subsidies and making consumers pay for the increase in producer prices awarded to farmers last year.

Immediate farm reaction was that this was another case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. The hike in food prices was accompanied by a 10% general wage increase for those earning less than Z$300 a month. The Commercial Farmers Union estimates that this will cost the industry an extra Z$30m annually in wage costs and, coming on top of the recently-announced 43% increase in fertiliser prices, it raises new and deeper doubts about the viability of the Z$180/t maize producer price announced early in the month.

When the fertiliser increase was announced, the farmers — who were looking for a Z$200/t producer price for maize in 1984-85 — asked the government for an assurance that any further cost escalations would be added into the price next year. Agriculture Minister Denis Norman, understandably enough, was unable to give any such assurances. Now he is under renewed pressure from the farmers for an upward revision in the maize price.

Wage impact

Just how severe the wage impact will be on other sectors of the economy is unclear. The vast majority of the workforce in retailing, manufacturing and mining earns less than Z$300 monthly and will therefore qualify for the pay rise. The increase is certainly justified on the grounds that real wages have been falling for the past 18 months.

In industry, wage costs account for about 20% of total costs implying that the impact on industry's aggregate costs is unlikely to exceed 2%. The pay rise will add at least Z$60m to industrial pay packets and more than Z$20m to the mining industry's costs.

There are mixed feelings in industry about the pay rise since it will help underpin existing depressed levels of demand as well as adding to total costs.

There is concern on two specific points. First, industrialists are concerned that the 10% pay rise will have to be matched all the way up the scale. Also, with shop floor militancy running at a high level in some firms, there could be further pay demands made by the end of the year.

Secondly, Zimbabwe's export competitiveness is once again being eroded — certainly in relation to SA. Zimbabwe's 20% inflation rate is well above that in SA and yet the Zimbabwe dollar is strengthening against the rand. This can only point to a loss of competitiveness in the SA market as well as in markets where Zimbabwean and SA exporters compete.

The Zimbabwe subsidiary of Plate Glass made this point in its recently published 1984 results. "Export sales remain a high priority," said Plate Glass Zimbabwe, "but because of the devaluation of certain foreign currencies against the Zimbabwe dollar, further penetration is becoming increasingly difficult."

The outlook for inflation is not quite as gloomy as this might suggest. The signs are that inflation will peak in the current quarter at around 22%, before falling back to an average figure for the year of some 18%. This would be slightly down on last year's 20%.

International help sees Zimbabwe's biggest single investment pay off

R1-bn Wankie power station back on line after setbacks

By Robin Drew

HWANGE (Zimbabwe) — After a series of setbacks, power is again flowing into the national grid from the huge new thermal station which is being developed on the Wankie coalfield in north-western Zimbabwe.

The power station, the biggest single investment in the history of the country, has been a long time in the making.

It got the go-ahead from Mr Ian Smith's government in 1972 but difficulties arose in raising the money during the days of sanctions.

It was not until after independence in 1980 that the Zimbabwe Government re-started the project.

Taken together with the necessary coalfield development by the Wankie Colliery Company, in which Anglo American is a major partner with the Government, the final cost will be more than R1 billion.

SECOND STAGE BEGUN

The development is all the more remarkable when it is realised that huge loads of valuable equipment have been moved without a hitch to the power station site through dissident-troubled Matabeleland.

It had been hoped to have the first four 120-megawatt units in commission by the end of the 1983 to mark the end of Stage One.

Stage Two, on which work is in progress, will bring the power generating capacity of the station to 920 megawatts, half as big again as the south bank power station at Kariba.

But delays mounted and it was not until August last year that the first unit went on stream, to be followed a month later by another.

In March this year, when the [illegible] boiler was undergoing [illegible]



The cooling tower and chimney stacks of the huge new thermal power station dominate the Wankie coalfield.

Rumours of sabotage were rife.

But these have been demolished by a committee of inquiry, which included independent exports from Britain and West Germany.

The committee found the explosion resulted from the ignition of unburnt fuel which had accumulated in the furnace when the flame went out.

The collapse of the fireball in the combustion chamber came while the boiler was being [illegible] tripped immediately, halting the inflow of pulverised coal which rushes into the furnace at the rate of more than 10kg a second.

The committee found that one of the two protection systems had not been commissioned and the other had been installed incorrectly.

The operator failed to take certain precautions but was not given the support usually found in a modern power plant because of the absence of the two [illegible] cedures, the committee of inquiry says it is confident that the station can be depended upon to produce power reliably and safely.

When the wraps were taken off the power station for the first time during a tour by newsmen this month, power was flowing into the national grid from one unit which is in commercial operation.

Zimbabwe is now importing just over a third of its power requirements from Zambia, which [illegible]

Other schemes being considered are in the Zambezi Valley, where it is possible to develop further the north and south bank power stations at Kariba or even to build a new dam across the Zambezi River at the Batoka Gorge downstream of Victoria Falls.

The international effort to ensure that there are adequate power supplies for Zimbabwe is concentrated at Hwange where British, French, German, Italian and Sout[illegible]

final trials before being handed over by the South African contractors, disaster struck.

The boiler, a massive steel structure as high as a 10-storey building, blew up, emitting a scalding shower of steam and fiery ash which killed four workers and injured 17.

International Combustion Africa Limited (ICAL) of Braamfontein was demonstrating the combustion chamber's ability to operate at varying loads without the support of fuel oil.

When the furnace flame failed, the unit should have

But in the end everyone seems to have accepted that disaster was an accident and the estimated R15 million damage will be paid by the insurers, General Accident of South Africa, who have declared liability.

Now, after modifications to plant and revised operating pro-

R33 million.

But the Energy Minister, Dr Oliver Munyaradzi, said that even after the Hwange station comes fully on stream, some power will still be needed from Zambia. Star

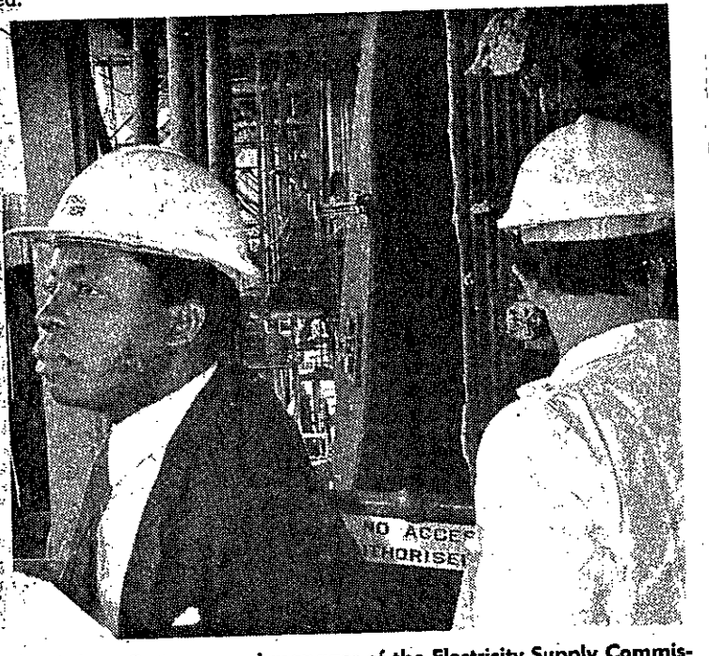
Talks have started about the possibility of Zimbabwe importing power from Cahora Bassa in Mozambique.

This would mean extending the national grid to the eastern border. However, it would take eight to 10 years for extensions at Cahora Bassa to be completed.

working alongside Zimbabweans to complete the giant project.

The Electricity Supply Commission depends heavily on expatriates to manage the station at present. 27/1/89

But Dr Sidney Gata, the London-trained Zimbabwean engineer who is general manager of the ESC, said that more than 120 Zimbabweans were being trained to operate the station and for engineering and professioal posts. — The Star's Foreign News Service.



Dr Sidney Gata, general manager of the Electricity Supply Commission, shows newsmen damage to the 43-metre high steel boiler which exploded killing four people. The gigantic rent which can be seen behind Dr Gata is three metres wide and 20 metres high. Steam from the burst pipes and fiery ash from the furnace where temperatures reach more than 1 000 degrees Centigrade escaped when unburnt pulverised coal ignited.

RDM 28/7/84 (362)

Court orders 100 squatters out

HARARE. — Zimbabwe's High Court has given the police chief, Commissioner Wiridzai Nguruve, until August 9 to evict about 100 black squatters from a white-owned farm.

However, the government wants to nationalise the farm and set it up as a squatter co-operative, the farmer's lawyers said yesterday.

Commissioner Nguruve faces High Court action from the farmer, Mr Robert Rensford, who has asked for his imprisonment for contempt of court after the commissioner refused to carry out a High Court eviction order.

Mr Rensford's lawyers, who cannot be identified for ethical reasons, said yesterday the ultimatum date was fixed by Mr Justice Nick McNally in a private session last week. The edict was first reported in the independent Financial Gazette yesterday.

Mr Rensford, 57, has been fighting government officials and police for four years to have the squatters, labourers of a previous farm owner, evicted from the 1 800ha Little Impala Ranch he bought in southern Shurugwe in 1980, only months after the former British colony became independent.

Numerous court eviction orders were overruled by the Lands and Resettlement Minister, Mr Moven Mahachi who, in May, ordered Mr Rensford to sell the farm to the government so the squatters could set up a co-operative.

It is the first time the government of Mr Robert Mugabe, has tried to nationalise a farm owned by one of the country's 4 500 white commercial farmers.

Mr Rensford says the squatters have killed several of his cattle, burnt one of his tractors, destroyed 10km of fencing and stoned his car.

Mr Mahachi argues that the welfare of more than 100 people is more important than that of one family and "what may be legally justified may not be morally defensible". — Sapa-AP.

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Zanu congress may be the turning point

HARARE — The second congress of the ruling Zanu-PF party to be held next month will be of immense political significance in Zimbabwe.

In a country which is moving inexorably towards a one-party state, what emerges from the meeting will undoubtedly affect everyone.

There are many dimensions to this party congress which has added significance because it is only the second one in Zanu's entire 21-year turbulent history.

The first was in Gweru in 1964, 10 months after the party was was formed by rebels who broke away from Joshua Nkomo's leadership.

It was at that congress that Robert Mugabe was elected secretary-general.

At the second congress he will be re-elected party leader, a post he assumed in 1976 when the guerilla fighters of the Zanla army refused to recognise any longer the Reverand Ndabaningi Sithole, the first president of Zanu-PF.

Political and diplomatic observers here believe that Mr Mugabe will emerge from this congress in an even stronger position.

The central committee of the party, which was restructured in 1977 at a wartime meeting in Mozambique, is to be trebled in size. This will enable Mr Mugabe to extend patronage to a wider cross-section of his followers.

But the new 90-strong body will have above it the real powerhouse in the form of a politbureau, an innovation in Zimbabwe.



Robert Mugabe: re-election will make his position stronger than ever.

It is expected to be composed of 15 men and women appointed from members of the central committee by the party's president and vice-president.

This means they will be hand-picked by Mr Mugabe whose post as president will not be challenged. It is understood that this position will give him the added position of first secretary in the politbureau. The vice-president, who will almost certainly be Mr Simon Muzenda, will become second secretary.

There will be intense interest in the remaining members of the politbureau which, according to party thinking, will be the nerve centre which will direct the affairs of the country through the cabinet and the ordinary organs of government.

Mr Mugabe has promised that the congress will foreshadow a purge of non-committed socialists from the party leadership and especially those tainted with corruption allegations.

It is expected that a leadership code to be adopted by congress will be one way in which he will be able to get rid of these elements.

Ideologically the congress will see a rein forcement of the commitment to scientific socialism based on marxist leninist principles.

Because the role of the party is so crucial to the development of this kind of socialism, there will certainly be demands for an acceleration of moves towards a one-party state.

"The one-party idea is a religion for us," Mr Mugabe said recently and the only point at issue is how to achieve that state.

The congress itself which is due to start on August 8 is expected to be attended by more than 5 000 delegates. The nomination of candidates for central committee position is being handled through the party's provincial structure and it is likely that by the time the actual voting takes place all will have beeen been arranged before hand.

The congress will have an international flavour with visitng delegations from European and African socialist countries attending, with even some heads of state expected.

A highlight of the proceedings will be a marathon review of the party's history by Mr Mugabe. □ — *The Star's Foreign News Service*

Broadcasts hostile to Angola, Zimbabwe

Mystery Tvl stations air propaganda

2/8/84

By Stephen McQuillan
of the 24 Hours team

Propaganda branded hostile to two of South Africa's neighbouring countries is being beamed from the Transvaal by mystery radio stations.

Confirmation that the clandestine broadcasts emanated from South Africa came today from the BBC Monitoring Service, which records radio transmissions from around the world.

Two stations were broadcasting political propaganda to Angola and Zimbabwe, the BBC said. The broadcasts to Zimbabwe were heard as recently as last week.

"These stations are broadcasting from the Transvaal," said Mr John Chadwick, acting assistant editor of news and publications for the BBC Monitoring Service in Reading, England.

"We can't pinpoint the transmitters because we haven't got enough monitoring stations in that part of the world.

"We can give only the approximate locations of these stations — roughly in terms of the size of a British county."

But sources in Zimbabwe said the transmissions beamed to their country had been coming from Moriah Hill, near Messina, for about a month. Before that, the signal was coming from the Louis Trichardt area — about 90 km away.

"This would suggest that the radio signals are being beamed from a mobile unit," said the source.

A third station, transmitting propaganda to Mozambique, ended its broadcasts days after the Nkomati Accord was signed, said Mr Chadwick.

"A magazine, New Africa, reported that the Mozambique signals were coming from the north-eastern Transvaal although we cannot confirm this."

In English

Radio Truth, whose transmissions could be heard in Zimbabwe, was broadcasting in

SABC fades as broadcasts reach Harare

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Broadcasts of Radio Truth into Zimbabwe have been monitored at 5 015 khz on the 60 m shortwave band — very close to the external broadcasts of the SABC.

A Zimbabwe Government source said the transmissions, monitored in Harare, took place six days a week between 6.30 am and 7 am, although the signal appeared weak.

External broadcasts of the SABC have been heard to go off the air at around 6.25 am and resume at just before 7 am — the time that Radio Truth is transmitting, said the government source.

The cultured English tones of a woman calling herself "Flame Lily" dispense the virulent anti-Mugabe commentary, often interspersed with "appropriate" music.

During a long commentary

● To Page 3, Col 7 ☞

Radio Truth shows SA aggression — Harare

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe Information Minister Dr Nathan Shamuyarira has said Harare regards the operation of Radio Truth as an indication of South Africa's aggressive attitude.

He told The Star Bureau earlier this year that Zimbabwe's objecions had been made known to the South African authorities through the trade mission in Johannesburg.

He said: "We know that a former Rhodesian security officer is running the station. But he is acting under orders from the South African authorities."

Dr Shamuyarira said there was no doubt that the station operated from the Transvaal. He said the broadcasts had little political impact and the radio represented a clumsy attempt at subversion.

The Minister said Zimbabwe had criticised the policy of apartheid on its radio service.

"But we have not directed any of our radio programmes at a particular section of the South African public in an attempt to subvert the Government.

"South Africa has an external service which is anti-Zimbabwean and anti-African generally. But it also has this special radio beamed at Zimbabwe."

He said that until the South African Government acted to stop the broadcasts, it was difficult to take seriously its claims that it wanted peace in the region.

SABC fades during broadcasts

● From Page 1.

aimed at whites, asking what they hoped to gain by remaining in a Zimbabwe that was crumbling around them, "Flame Lily" played Elton John's "Goodbye yellow brick road".

The commentaries, in English and occasionally delivered by a man, also include jokes denigrating Mr Mugabe and his government.

Government radio technicians in Harare regularly monitor the broadcasts, and transcripts of the commentaries have been shown to visiting delegates as evidence of South Africa's "destabilisation" campaign against Zimbabwe.

In March this year a Bulawayo man, Derek John Rhodes (64), was given a suspended four-month jail sentence for recording a Radio Truth programme, broadcast in the vernacular, and playing it to his black workmates.

After his arrest, Rhodes was allegedly assaulted by police officers and kept in custody for some time.

English between 4.30 am and 5 am GMT every day on 4 902 khz, said Mr Chadwick.

The broadcasts were resumed in Shona and Ndebele — with occasional announcements in English — between 5 pm and 5.30 pm GMT each day on the same frequency, he told 24 Hours. 2/8/89

The BBC recorded a test transmission on March 10 1983 and the first commentary 15 days later. Broadcasts started on 6 010 khz but, at the end of the first week, they switched to 4 902 khz.

"We would describe Radio Truth's broadcasts as hostile to the government of Zimbabwe," said Mr Chadwick.

He said the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel was beamed to Angola in Portuguese and other commonly spoken Angolan languages. It supported Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita guerilla movement.

"We would call these transmissions hostile to the Government of Angola".

The broadcasts were on 4 950 khz at 4.30 am to 6.30 am and 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm GMT every day. Mr Chadwick said the station was first heard on January 4 1979.

The Voice of Mozambique Resistance was broadcast to Mozambique, also from the Transvaal, but transmissions were stopped a week after the signing of the Nkomati Accord, he said.

● See Page 11, World section.

KPM 6/8/84 2 (362)

Mugabe's men gather to plan future

HARARE. — Zimbabwe's ruling party this week holds its first congress for 20 years in what will be a watershed event for Africa's youngest nation.

In the unlikely setting of Harare's Borrowdale racecourse, about 6 000 Zanu-PF members will debate a new draft constitution whose central plank is the establishment of a one-party state in Zimbabwe under its own "Vanguard leadership".

The August 8-13 meeting in the elegant racing grounds, one of the most visible vestiges of Zimbabwe's colonial past, will begin on the 21st anniversary of the founding of the now-splintered Zimbabwe African National Union..

Zanu held its first congress in the town of Gweru in 1964, with the present Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, elected to one of the three top posts, before the party was banned by the white authorities and the Zanu leadership was scattered into prison or exile.

The second congress will review the 16-year struggle for freedom, assess the party's performance since winning power in the independence elections of 1980 and map strategy for fresh elections in the next six months.

For months, Mr Mugabe, the Zanu-PF president, has been addressing rallies around the country telling the party faithful what the second congress is all about.

His theme has been that because Zanu-PF was now the party of government, it was necessary to formulate new programmes, restructure its organisation and chart the course the party envisages for social and economic development.

But political analysts, commentators and party members themselves all agree that the congress is also about power.

It will elect a much-expanded central committee with 90 members as opposed to the present 26. More than half the places are reserved for nominated members and regional, youth league and women's league representatives.

But 42 will be elected at the congress and the battle for those places will be hard fought.

From the central committee, the party president and vice-president, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, will appoint a 15-member political bureau — a Soviet-style "Politburo" that is destined to be Zimbabwe's ultimate authority.

"As a party, Zanu-PF is seeking exclusive political power for itself. Individually, its top politicians are battling for who is on the highest councils of authority and who is not," commented a party insider with close ties to the government.

A broad range of issues will be debated at the congress: "Basic issues, matters of life and bread," in the words of the Justice Minister, Mr Eddison Zvobgo.

Above all, running through the five-day gathering will be the essential theme of the supremacy of the party over the government.

How to proceed in that direction from the present multi-party democracy, where change to the country's constitution requires the assent of all 100 members of the House of Assembly until 1990, will be a topic of debate at Borrowdale.

Some party hardliners want it to be declared unilaterally and have already adopted a battle-cry of "One-party state now".

Others believe Zanu-PF will win the forthcoming polls so convincingly that the next parliament will effectively reflect a one-party state and there will be no need for legislation.

Zanu-PF has 58 of the 100 seats at present. Twenty are reserved for whites until 1990.

Mr Mugabe will open the congress on Wednesday. — Sapa-Reuter.

Marxist missionary in search of an audience

(362) Star 8/8/84

The second congress of Robert Mugabe's ruling party opens in Harare today. Robin Drew of The Star's Foreign News Service examines some of the major issues which will be discussed.

The face that Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, is presenting to the nation in this week of the mammoth congress of his ruling Zanu (PF) party is that of an earnest marxist missionary.

Mr Mugabe is never happier than when he is painstakingly explaining to his interviewers that socialism has a powerful moral appeal for him. By emphasising the sharing among the people of the natural resources of the country, the philosophy that he wants everyone to embrace emphasises the selfless approach as opposed to the selfish individualism of the followers of capitalism.

Mr Mugabe's problem, however, is to find enough people who understand what he is talking about.

When he was asked how socialism could succeed when there appeared to be only one committed socialist — himself — he spoke of the small beginnings of any project.

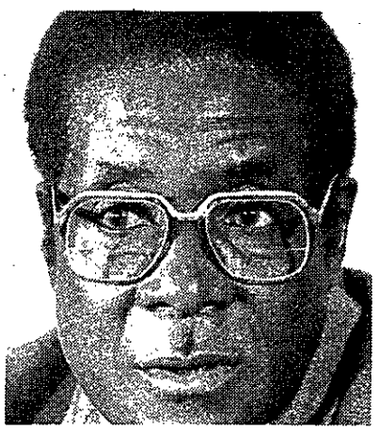
"We will start with a core of the committed few," he said. But he accepted that even among the leadership of his own party, which is to adopt scientific socialism as its guiding ideology, there were people who did not not support or even understand the concept.

In marxist terms, socialism is the first phase of communism. Under socialism, marxists believe that private ownership of the means of production must be replaced by public ownership, that power must belong to the working people and that a nationally planned and managed economy will put an end to economic crises, poverty and exploitation.

Mr Mugabe has said that while there are different roads to socialism, there is only one genuine product and that is socialism of the marxist-leninist variety.

In the whole of Africa, even though it is 25 years since the collapse of colonialism began, not one country is ruled by a party recognised as "communist" in Soviet terms.

The authoritative check list of communist parties published in "Problems of Communism", a US Government publication, lists only five countries in Africa ruled by parties which are regarded by Moscow as "vanguard revolutionary democratic" bodies. These are parties deemed by Russia as ones most likely to evolve into fully fledged communist parties.



Mugabe . . . only one brand of socialism.

Those countries are Benin, Congo, Ethiopia, Angola and Mozambique — hardly a triumph for the spread of marxist-leninist ideas.

The other concept which will be pushed hard at this week's congress is the move to a one-party state, something which Mr Mugabe's followers find easier to grasp. Once again he has adopted a crusading attitude and said recently that the one-party system was a "religion" for him.

The obstacles here, however, lie in the constitution which gave rise to the state of Zimbabwe.

The rules for governing Zimbabwe, drawn up at Lancaster House, lay down that the people have an enshrined right to form political parties of their own choice.

The Declaration of Rights in the constitution granting them freedom of association is specially protected. Until the end of the first decade of independence, which will be reached in 1990, the assent of every single member of the 100-seat House of Assembly would be needed to do away with this provision.

In other words, given the presence in Parliament of men like Mr Ian Smith, who have vowed to oppose the one-party system, it will be another five years before that system can be introduced legally.

As Mr Mugabe has repeatedly said he intends to act within the constitution (though he has hinted at a different course of action on occasions) it is more than likely that introducing the one-party system will be a long drawn-out process.

Political observers in Harare believe that while the concept will be endorsed, implementing it will probably be linked to a review of the whole constitution. Zanu (PF) favours, for example, one House of Parliament instead of the bicameral Senate and House of Assembly, and an executive President instead of the present system of a Prime Minister and a figurehead President.

Reviewing the whole constitution could entail the appointment of a special commission, consultations with various groups, studies of government processes in other parts of the world, and so on.

Meanwhile there is the general election, scheduled for early next year, at which Mr Mugabe must obtain an increase in seats to prove that the electorate does endorse his wish for a one-party state.

Congress week will see an outpouring of rhetoric. But hard practical politics will in the end decide the pace of change in Zimbabwe.

Squatter law stuns Zimbabwe farmers

S. Express 12/8/84 262

ZIMBABWE'S white commercial farmers were stunned this week by the surprise introduction of a law that will allow some squatters to remain on land they have occupied illegally.

The law was gazetted this week under the country's emergency powers regulations that allow laws to be passed without the approval or knowledge of Parliament.

It enables the Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Mr Moven Mahachi, to issue certificates allowing people to stay on farmland they have occupied for more than five years. The certificates may also be issued if evictions result in "undue hardship".

The law seems to be aimed mainly at extricating the government from the embarrassing situation it faced in the case of Mr Robert Rensford, who runs a cattle ranch at Shurugwi (formerly Selukwe), 200km south-west of Harare.

Mr Rensford bought a farm next to

Own Correspondent
HARARE

his ranch just after independence in 1980 and has been battling since to evict 19 squatter families that came with the land.

Both the country's High Court and Supreme Court have upheld his right to evict them, but the police have refused to take action.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Wiridzayi Nguruve, was facing contempt of court charges in connection with the police inaction when the new law went into effect.

Mr Adrian de Bourbon, acting for Mr Rensford, told the High Court in Harare last week that the Police Commissioner should still be liable for contempt of court. He said this was due to Mr Nguruve's non-compliance with regard to another court order that dealt with property damage caused by the squatters and not their right to stay on the land.

High Court Judge Mr Justice J Samatta has reserved judgement on what is obviously a political hot potato.

The government has taken action against squatters in urban areas. Squatter camps have been bulldozed in Harare, but no muscle has been used against squatters in rural areas.

Nevertheless, the squatter problem, which threatened to destroy some prime commercial farm land just after the war, has faded away in most of the country.

Officials of the Commercial Farmers' Union credited the improvement largely to the CFU's easy-does-it approach to sorting out problems in each area. They said only a a small percentage of the CFU's 4 500 members had squatters on their land.

Squatters 40

Of those farms, even fewer seem to be affected by the new law. But the key word is 'seem'. The law does not refer to squatters, but to people who occupy land.

And that vague wording, some farmers fear, may be a loophole giving the 275 000 labourers living on commercial farms a claim — however dubious — to some of their employers' land.

CFU officials last week tried to clarify the law with the Ministry. The discussions were inconclusive, but sources close to government said on Friday the government had no desire to throw the commercial farming sector into turmoil.

With white farmers still growing most of the country's food, it cannot afford to. But that is little consolation to Mr Rensford, who has been enduring vandalism, cattle theft and intimidation of his workers by his squatter neighbours.

The Ministry of Lands has requested that he sell the land for conversion to a resettlement project. But Mr Rensford does not want to sell.

S. Tribune 12/8/84 (362)

MUGABE: Turning the soil

By Colin Legum

LONDON: The first congress of the ruling party, ZANU-PF, on Zimbabwe's soil marks an important turning-point in the country's political history.

After four years of independence, the Government and the political system are already overdue for a major shake-up.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has emerged much more strongly entrenched from the reorganisation of the ruling party's machinery. He now possesses the effective executive authority within the party that approximates more closely his personal authority in the country.

Another major advance of the new political structure of Zanu-PF is that it removes the party's central committee as an independent power base in rivalry to the Cabinet and which in the past had placed some constraints on Mr Mugabe's freedom.

The effective power within the ruling party now passes to the new political bureau (politburo) of 15 members.

The adoption of the terminology of politburo has been reported in some of the western media as indicating Soviet influence.

In fact, the term has been widely used by African political parties (especially in French-speaking countries) as an alternative description for a central committee or executive committee.

Soviet influence is distinctly absent in Zimbabwe and, especially, in the development of Mr Mugabe's political ideas. These have been strongly influenced by the Chinese rather than the Russians.

Despite Mr Mugabe's strong emphasis on the need to turn Zimbabwe into a single-party state as the most effective means of establishing national unity, there is little likelihood of this change occurring in the near future since he is personally committed to achieving this major reform by constitutional means.



Under the Lancaster House Agreement, an independence constitution was imposed on the country which requires a 100 percent vote of Parliament to effect any substantial change in it. This requirement stands until 1990.

To achieve unanimity would require that three groups of MPs should be won over to the idea of a single-party: Joshua Nkomo's opposition Patriotic Front (Zapu), the remnants of Ian Smith's Republican Front, now numbering only seven, and the group of 13 independent white MPs.

Many among the white independent MPs accept the need for a single-party as a positive contribution to national unity.

Mr Nkomo, though suspicious of such a move, has not declared himself to be irrevocably opposed to the idea provided suitable terms are negotiable. In view of his own declining power and the weakening of his party, it is not altogether beyond the realms of possibility that some deal might be worked out if some way can be found of giving Mr Nkomo a role he feels compatible with his own estimation of his position as the father of Zimbabwe nationalism.

The real obstacle in the end is likely to be Mr Smith and his handful of diehard supporters.

So long as they continue to hold out it seems unlikely that Zimbabwe will become a single-party state before 1990.

Mr Mugabe continues to speak about the importance of Marxist-Leninism while still pursuing pragmatic policies in developing a mixed economy very reminiscent of democratic socialist parties in the West.

Therefore in the immediate future, the major changes are likely to come in changes in his own government and party.

Mr Mugabe has promised "a serious purge" of those of his colleagues who can be proved to have been guilty of corrupt practices or of having, in other ways, used their position to enrich themselves. He has also declared war against the tribalists within his government. In this context, tribalism is not confined to Shona-Ndebele rivalry, but rather to the rivalries among the four major Shona clans.

If he can successfully accomplish these tasks by setting aside sentiment about those who fought alongside him in the bush, Mr Mugabe is likely to emerge as an even more formidable leader than has already proved to be the case.

'SA may have cut its aid to rebels'

16/8/84 Star

HARARE. — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has said South Africa might have decided to end its alleged policy of infiltrating dissidents into the country.

Zimbabwe has often accused South Africa of training and equipping a hard-core unit of rebels, which it calls "Super Zapu", who have been active mainly in the western province of Matabeleland for two years.

Mr Mugabe charges that the dissidents are loyal to the main opposition Zapu party of Mr Joshua Nkomo, an accusation the veteran nationalist rejects.

Asked during question time in Parliament yesterday about reports that South Africa had cut its aid to the rebels, Mr Mugabe said: "There has been a lull for some time and it appears that South Africa has not been successful in continuing its process of infiltrating our country with Super Zapu elements, or that it has deliberately decided to stop that policy."

A curfew in southern Matabeleland imposed six months earlier was lifted on August 1 because of the improved situation following a decline in dissident activities.

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe would stick to its stand that it would not have ministerial talks with South Africa.

The trade missions in both countries would continue and security talks could take place either at the border or if necessary in Johannesburg.

Mr Mugabe said he hoped a general election could be held before March next year. — The Star Bureau and Sapa.

Zimbabwe's new pecking order

(362) Star 7/8/84

There are marked contrasts in the personalities who have been appointed to the Zanu (PF) politburo, writes Robin Drew of The Star's Harare Bureau.

The 14 people named to occupy the positions of power and influence in Zimbabwe as members of the newly formed Zanu (PF) politburo are as diverse a group as any to be found in the country.

After Mr Robert Mugabe, the party first secretary, follow in order of seniority: Mr Simon Muzenda, Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, Mr Enos Nkala, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, Mr Didymus Mutasa, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, Dr Dzingai Mutumbuka, Mrs Teurai Rhopa Nhongo, Mr Ernest Kadungure, Lieutenant-General Rex Nhongo, Air Vice-Marshal Josiah Tungamirai and Dr Sydney Sekeramayi.

It would be difficult to find two more contrasting figures than Mr Mugabe and his deputy.

Mr Mugabe is the archetypal international figure, highly educated, articulate, always immaculately dressed, but somewhat remote from the ordinary man.

Mr Muzenda, who trained as a carpenter at Marianhill near Durban, is very much a man of the people. The grey-bearded grandfather image that he presents, the rumpled jacket and cardigan he favours, the lack of authority when he speaks in English, but the respect he commands when addressing a crowd in the vernacular, all add up to a picture of a homegrown politician with influence among the peasant people who constitute the bulk of the population.

In ideological attitudes it would be difficult to find two more contrasting attitudes displayed by the veteran Ndebele-speaking politician, Mr Nkala, and Dr Ushewokunze.



Dr Shamuyarira . . . rising star.

Mr Nkala, once regarded as a wild man given to intemperate statements, has mellowed into a "conservative" socialist who frequently cautions against moving too fast and destroying the economy in the process. Dr Ushewokunze, with his flair for the dramatic, is likely to emerge as the front-running radical in the politburo.

One member whose star is clearly in the ascendancy is Dr Shamuyarira, who takes on the high profile post as party secretary for publicity and information which matches his Cabinet position as Information Minister.

The partial ecclipse of Dr Eddison Zvobgo, who did not not get a seat on the politburo and who had to scamble on to the central committee, was one of the shocks of the congress. But he is unlikely to allow this setback to keep him out of the limelight too long.

General Nhongo and Air Vice-Marshal Tungamirai were among the 10 members of the 90-member central committee to be appointed by Mr Mugabe. Similarly, they have been brought into the politburo by special nomination, a sensible move in the opinion of political observers conscious of Africa's history of military coups.

There has been some surprise at the appointment to the politburo of Mr Didymus Mutasa, Speaker of the House of Assembly and a person whose party political involvement has been low-key.

However, it must be remembered that one of Mr Mugabe's tasks in forming his politburo was to maintain a tribal balance and Mr Mutasa and Mr Maurice Nyagumbo are the only two members from Manicaland in the east.

The volatile Mr Edgar Tekere, chairman of the Manicaland division of the party, got back on to the central committee to tremendous applause. But his erratic performance in the past and his admitted fondness for drink have been a grave source of embarrassment to Mr Mugabe.

The new body at the top of the Zanu (PF) structure has a predominance of Zezuru-speaking members (seven, of whom Mr Mugabe is one), followed by Karangas (four) and Manyikas (two). All these are members of the Shona clan; the sole member of Ndebele origin is Mr Nkala.

The party constitution requires the politburo to supervise government agencies through five standing committees which have yet to be appointed.

100 Years Ago

From The Eastern Star

Mr Hutcheon, conversing with the farmer members of the Commission, said: "You farmers will have to change your entire system of farming if you are not to go to the dogs. You will have to get better and keep fewer stock, and take better care of it. You will farm then with success." The farmers said: "You're right."

★ ★ ★

A correspondent at Rorke's Drift writes that Mnyamana has accepted the Boer terms about the border line. Piet Joubert has been elected President, and Lucas Meyer Commandant, of the new territory.

Mugabe rejects Westminster, turns to Marxism-Leninism

From

Anthony Delius

LONDON. — This last week Southern Africa began political life with its third politburo.

There is the politburo of the MPLA in Angola and the politburo of Frelimo in Mozambique. Both are the commanding executives of single-party states.

Now we have the rather curious set-up in Zimbabwe which we must accept as a sort of politburo-in-waiting, to be supplied by Zanu (PF) when it finally becomes the only party in Zimbabwe.

The Zimbabwean politburo is already in existence although the constitutional moves to make it legal have not yet been taken.

In jail

It is smaller than the politburo originally planned and its members are already named: Nine from the cabinet and three from the military with Mr Robert Mugabe as its secretary and foreign affairs specialist.

After spending 10 years in jail swotting political theory, Mr Mugabe has reached some pretty fixed theoretical positions derived from his masters, Vladimir Lenin and Karl Marx. No doubt 20th century experience of governing under their lights has also entered the Zimbabwean leader's concepts and he has made suitable adjustments for African application.

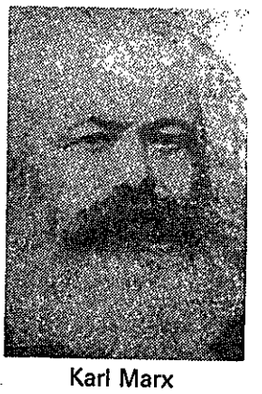
He must have studied and gone to see the form of communism as applied in Ethiopia, the country which claims to have the purest Marxist-Leninist approach in Africa.


Mr Robert Mugabe


Sekou Toure


Dr Eddison Zvobgo


Mr Edgar Tekere


Karl Marx


Vladimir Lenin

Once there were those who felt that the nearest thing in Africa to an East European socialist state was Sekou Toure's Guinea, the last refuge of Kwame Nkrumah, whose ideas Mr Mugabe so much admired. But Sekou Toure's recent death and the revelations that followed it has made the state of Guinea no good example to follow, either theoretically or in reality.

Ethiopia's adoption of Marxist-Leninism has been far more uncompromising than that of any other African state. It is crowned by the erection of a huge statue of Lenin and an appointment of a politburo from the long-lasting committee of military revolutionaries, the Derge. This was also followed by the biggest nationalization of land on the African continent.

Mr Mugabe wishes to give his followers in Zimbabwe the evidence, even ahead of time, of the direction their socialism is going to take. There is not going to be, in their future course, any kind of truckling under to any Westminster-type compromise and peddling in British half-measures.

It may be that up to 1990 some checks and balances, insisted on by the British, are going to restrict true socialism in Zimbabwe, but beyond that no such hypocrisies and hindrances are going to operate.

The Zimbabwean Prime Minister and future president has now nailed his colours to the mast and declared his African independence of Western constitutionalism.

He has apparently refused to have any truck with mere thuggery, as it exposed itself by a former cabinet minister Mr Edgar Tekere. But Mr Mugabe seems equally resistant to British legalism — neither Mr Tekere nor Dr Eddison Zvobgo, the best legal mind at Mr Mugabe's disposal, has been appointed to his politburo-in-waiting.

Perhaps the examples of both the former Rhodesia and the present South Africa are not acceptable as examples for future Zimbabweans. As Mr Mugabe sees it, the whites in both these states were able to twist and manipulate the British inheritance to oppress the blacks.

Nor is he going to set the example for his people of gratitude to Western capitalism.

Certainly he is going to borrow from the West and rely on Western expertise, and he is going to continue feeding his people on the production of the efficient white-owned farms in Zimbabwe.

Conviction

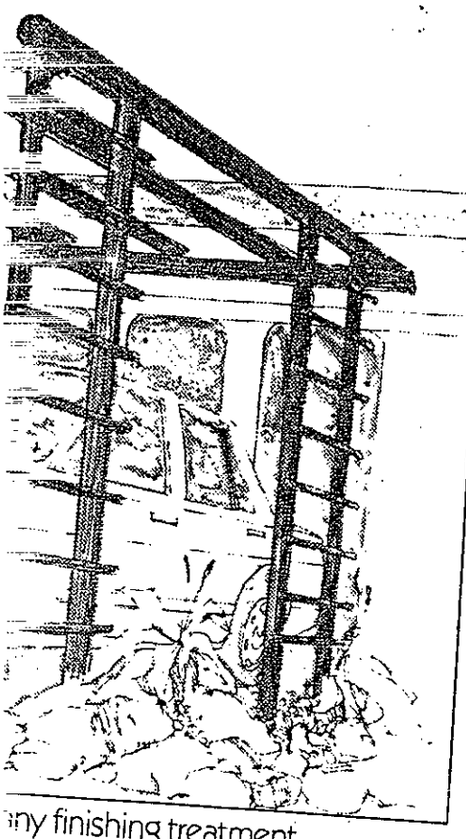
In any case he reckons that the white farmers will stay and the Western loans and investment will be available as long as it suits the West.

Only if Western aid proves to be generally useful to the blacks of Southern Africa, will they make their case for retention in the future.

Mr Mugabe is advertising his reliance on Marxist-Leninism out of sheer conviction that is likelier to be of greater help to Africa in the long run than the Western methods, which have ended in the subjugation of the continent's people and their exploitation by Western capital.

He might be wrong, but he feels he has the stronger case. Expect no favours.

: CARPORT.



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BBDO INDUSTRIAL 160616/2

Mystery killing of white Zimbabwean detective

By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Foreign News Service

362
25/8/24
Star

HARARE — On a warm December evening in 1982 a senior white detective was gunned down in a grisly, sectarian-type execution in Bulawayo. The question has now been raised here — were South African agents responsible?

Unconfirmed reports of the killing suggested that Superintendent Eric Roberts, a Bulawayo CID officer, was shot three times in the head from close range in his house in the Waterford suburb.

His body was then dragged into the garden where another two shots were pumped into it.

A resident at the policeman's home was reported as saying that police investigators believed three white men were responsible for the killing.

The allegation of South African involvement emerged in Bulawayo this week at a court case after a tragic suicide last October.

Another detective, Superintendent Robert Minchin, was fined R83 for failing to take precautions to ensure that his service pistol did not fall into the hands of an unauthorised person.

The court heard that Minchin's wife, Sylvis, used the weapon to kill herself during a family gathering at their home.

The policeman, who was acquitted of culpable homicide, told the court he had been issued with the weapon for "self-protection" after the murder of a "senior member of the CID" the previous year.

Minchin did not mention the name of the dead policeman, but told the court that investigations after the killing had showed it had been carried out by "South African agents".

Roberts, who was in his 30s, had been a policeman for many years and was highly regarded for his work in the law and order section of the CID, dealing with incidents relating to security.

In late 1981, just before he was replaced as head of the section by a black officer, Roberts authorised an investigation into the activities of Bulawayo dentist Frank Bertrand.

As a result of the investigation, which was carried out mainly by black detectives, Bertrand was jailed by the High Court in Bulawayo for 10 years for conspiracy to commit acts of sabotage and terrorism and create a secessionist state in Matabeleland.

Bertand's son, Stephen, and a friend, Allen Cauvin, were each given four years for their parts in the plot, and Bulawayo municipal employee Victor Radmore (55) was jailed for seven years.



Hospital, were Sergeant J W Swanepoel, who had extensive cuts, and Constables W J Strydom and P J Kunneke who were treated for shock. The fourth policeman, who has not been identified, was [illegible] was taken to the Coro-

PW's warning is seen as ultimatum to Zimbabweans

(362) Star 5/9/84



Mr P W Botha . . . heavy hints about "normal" relations.



Prime Minister Mugabe . . . officially hostile to Pretoria.

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — The warning last week by Mr P W Botha that South Africa's neighbours must normalise their relations with Pretoria has an ominous ring for Zimbabwe.

In diplomatic circles here there is increasing awareness of the South African Government's impatience and growing anger at Zimbabwe's refusal to soften its hostile attitude to Pretoria.

Mr Mugabe's adamant refusal to allow any ministerial contact between the two governments — a stand that the Zimbabwe Prime Minister restated a couple of weeks ago — is a particular irritation.

In his address to the South African Institute of International Affairs last week, Mr Botha said states which continued to give preference to a hostile relationship would soon realise they had chosen an impossible path and that their people would be the ones who would suffer.

A Zimbabwe newspaper, *The Sunday Mail*, said it is difficult to view the statement in any light other than that of an ultimatum.

The paper said Mr Botha wanted to reduce neighbouring black states to sycophantic bleating bantustans and added: "It is natural for states to want to defend and maintain their integrity and dignity no matter how small and weak they may appear to be."

Since the signing of the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique, South Africa has made approaches to Zimbabwe.

SOUNDINGS

It is known that top South African intelligence and military officials have paid visits to Harare and soundings have been taken about renewed contacts at government level.

But it appears that Pretoria has received little if any encouragement from the Zimbabwe Government.

There was public acknowledgement that support from South Africa for the dissidents in Matabeleland had been curtailed following Nkomati. But Mr Mugabe suggested that this might just be a lull.

If anything the propaganda campaign against South Africa has intensified following the visit to Harare of Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Mr Yasser Arafat.

In his last comments on relations between Pretoria and Harare, Mr Mugabe insisted that these be limited to trade and security matters.

But if, as it seems, this is not good enough for the South Africans any more, it is in the areas of trade and security that Zimbabwe is most vulnerable.

South Africa remains Zimbabwe's biggest trading partner. In the first half of last year, for example, it took 18,6 percent of Zimbabwe's exports and supplied 23 percent of her imports.

Due for signing soon will be the re-negotiated terms for the preferential trade agreement which Zimbabwe has maintained with South Africa.

Two and a half years ago there was a huge sigh of relief when South Africa, which had earlier threatened to end the agreement, allowed it to continue in operation.

Since then talks have been going on about "outstanding matters" in the agreement and they are believed to be nearing conclusion.

SIGNATURE

The South Africans may insist on a Minister's signature at that stage, something which up to now has been firmly resisted by Mr Mugabe.

When renewal of the agreement was in doubt once previously, experts warned that Zimbabwe would lose more than R60 million a year and the ranks of the jobless would swell by 7 000.

Zimbabwe is also of course heavily dependent on South African transport routes. Her maize for example has been imported very smoothly through Port Elizabeth.

On the security front the Zimbabwe Government's efforts to crush dissident operations in Matabeleland, which have met with far more success in recent months, would be set back badly if the "super-Zapu" gangs re-emerged with fresh supplies of weapons and equipment.

Security officials here say there is some evidence that this may already be taking place in line with the belief that South Africa intends to keep the dissident threat simmering as a warning to Zimbabwe.

It is recognised that Zimbabwe has kept to its word not not to allow the ANC to establish military bases or to allow its territory to be used as an infiltration route.

But one view is that South Africa wants stronger guarantees that this attitude will be maintained and a more open involvement between the two governments would be a move in this direction.

In the game of inducements and threats the feeling is that Pretoria may have decided that the time has arrived to apply the stick again, unless there is a ready response to Mr Botha's observations about getting on to the right path.

Infiltration from SA alleged

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From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — A "sizeable group" of Zapu dissidents was infiltrated two weeks ago from South Africa into Zimbabwe's strife-torn Matabeleland province, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, alleged in parliament here yesterday.

The public allegation marks an apparent breakdown of a de facto truce which appeared to have been arranged between South Africa and Zimbabwe following the signing in February of the Nkomati Accord between the Republic and Mozambique.

'Halted support'

While the truce lasted, South Africa was reported to have halted its support for dissidents in Matabeleland and high-level talks took place between police and army commanders of the two countries.

Speaking during his monthly "prime minister's question time" in the House of Assembly, Mr Mugabe said that despite recent reported incidents, the general level of dissident attacks in Matabeleland had not increased since some army units were withdrawn from the province earlier this year.

Mr Mugabe said that, warned by "Zapu intelligence", some dissidents had escaped the security-force net in Matabeleland South and fled to the north of the province, from which they were now trying to return southwards.

"And we are also aware that a sizeable group was infiltrated from South Africa about two weeks ago — about 40 or so.

"I think some have already been arrested — captured — and they are giving us more information. And as the process of following up the rest continues, I am sure more and more will be captured."

Mr Mugabe's public allegation concludes a period of some weeks of unconfirmed reports of renewed South African support for "super Zapu" dissidents, during which there has been a marked increase in Mr Mugabe's verbal hostility towards the Republic.

At his "prime minister's question time" session in August, Mr Mugabe expressed a very guarded hope that South Africa had abandoned its "destabilization" policy towards Zimbabwe following the Nkomati Accord.

He said Zimbabwe would pursue trade and security co-operation with the Republic, stopping short only at having a "political forum" at which ministers of the two governments met face to face.

Security sources in Harare have reported that the newly-captured dissidents, members of a gang numbering about 40, bore equipment which was claimed to be of fresh South African origin, easily distinguishable from war material dissidents retrieved from caches made during the 1972-1980 Rhodesian conflict.

It is alleged that both Nato and Communist-made weapons passing through South Africa to the Zapu dissidents have their original serial numbers erased and new numbers forged.

Civil servants

Mr Mugabe yesterday categorically denied a report in the London Daily Telegraph that hundreds of members of the Korean-trained Fifth Brigade had deserted with their rifles and equipment such as armoured cars after the controversial unit's withdrawal from Matabeleland for retraining under British instructors.

Questioned about reports that all civil servants would eventually be required to be members of the ruling Zanu party, Mr Mugabe said that while Zanu did not wish to force anyone to join, it would negate the planned one-party state's object to have public servants who did not subscribe to Zanu's socialist ideology.

Zimbabwe wants peace, not another civil war

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C. Times

13/9/84

MICHAEL HARTNACK reports from HARARE

AMID all the talk of the imminent arrival of a one-party state in Zimbabwe no one seems to have stopped to consider what would happen if Mr Robert Mugabe lost the next election.

This is wildly unlikely, but it is not unthinkable.

At present Mr Mugabe has an absolute majority of seven in the 100-seat House of Assembly. Bishop Abel Muzorewa's UANC holds three seats, Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu 20, and the tally of all 20 white seats taken by Mr Ian Smith's party in 1980 has now been whittled down, by defection and by-election defeats, to seven.

What would be the upshot if Bishop Muzorewa, Mr Nkomo and Mr Smith picked up just enough seats at the general election scheduled for next February to give them a combined House of Assembly majority?

Bargaining

We certainly would not witness the kind of frenetic, but peaceful, bargaining to form a coalition that we have seen in Israel over the past month.

An election victory for Mr Mugabe will very likely result in the Lancaster House constitutional rules being "bent" for the inauguration of a one-party state.

But an announcement of defeat would be even more disastrous for the rule of law and constitutional government.

It would mean civil war, or at least a technical coup d'etat, because the Zanu members, now in an overwhelming majority in the civil service and the armed forces, would refuse to see their party ousted.

The ordinary black people outside Matabeleland, who make up 70 percent of the population of Zimbabwe, know all this.

Aspirations

They want a government which will meet their aspirations, but first and foremost, after the horrors of the 1972-80 war, they want peace — or as fair an imitation of peace as can reasonably be obtained in the unstable conditions of the day.

They know Mr Mugabe can, by and large, deliver the goods.

Bishop Muzorewa, released from prison last week after 10 months in detention, was ditched at the 1980 British-supervised election because he could not.

The bishop, like his one-time colleague in the Rhodesian transitional government, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, belongs to the "first generation" of nationalist leaders.



Mr Ian Smith



Mr Joshua Nkomo



Bishop Muzorewa

The qualifications they needed were the ability to excite a fever of expectation of change among the internal population and to convince people abroad, in the East and the West, in China, Sweden or the United States, that if they came to power they could mould a society in imitation of their foreign friends' values.

Expectations

Mr Ian Smith was also once a nationalist leader in one of these senses, whipping up expectations among Rhodesian whites of imminent independence from Britain until the pressure was so great in November 1965 that if Mr Smith had not declared UDI he would have been deposed as premier and replaced by a man willing to swim with the tide that Mr Smith had created.

However, when a nationalist movement attains real internal political influence its leader needs to be not an agitator nor an idealist, but an effective power broker.

Here the "second-generation" leader Mr Mugabe is in his element, while Mr Smith, Bishop Muzorewa and Mr Sithole can all be seen to have failed.

Bishop Muzorewa said after his release from prison that he planned to revitalize his moribund UANC to fight the coming election on a platform of resisting Zanu's plans of "scientific socialism" and a one-party state.

Support

After the attacks on UANC and Zapu party members' homes by Zanu supporters it is going to be very difficult for the bishop to organize any open support at grass roots, and the government has warned that if he tries to work through the American-based United Methodist Church, of which he is the local head, he will be re-imprisoned.

However, if he stays free over the next few months the bishop's public statements in support of free enterprise and free association will arouse much sympathy in the non-communist world, even if they do not get through to Zimbabwean voters.

Amiable as the bishop is, his brief record in office was almost an object lesson in "how not to do it" in Africa. His party, which should have stood solidly united since all its MPs' names were on a single Patriotic Front death list, was nevertheless riven by a walkout after the April 1979 election which brought it to power.

Unwise

The bishop's unwise omission of several key personalities from his first cabinet — all from the Zesuru tribe and, incidentally, Mr Mugabe's home area — precipitated the split.

Bishop Muzorewa's oversight contrasts with Mr Mugabe's own continual and lavish use of his patronage prerogatives to conciliate potential opponents and delay confrontations, if not indefinitely then at least until he consolidates his own position into one of overwhelming strength.

Where patronage can be effectively distributed to keep the peace, it is always cheaper than deploying troops. Unlike Bishop Muzorewa, Mr Mugabe always tries the former course first, and keeps on trying it.

Lucrative

He has kept Zapu ministers and deputy ministers in their lucrative posts despite the breach with Mr Nkomo and the undeclared war with "super-Zapu" dissidents in Matabeleland.

Yet the greatest handicap Bishop Muzorewa suffers from, in the eyes of the average Shona voter, is not his political ineptitude but his image as the man who spearheaded the campaign for black rule as the idol of the internal nationalist faction, but who then as Prime Minister sent the Rhodesian army and air force out to attack the teenagers who had believed they were going abroad to fight for his cause. For this, the many relatives of the dead will never forgive him.

'Dictatorships'

He helped create a fever of black expectations, but was unable to exploit it.

Bishop Muzorewa protested after his release last week: "One of the reasons Africa is a slaughterhouse of coup and counter-coup is that people are denied by one-party dictatorships the opportunity to change their governments and leadership."

This may be true, but the Westminster parliamentary system offers just as little hope, in practice, of peaceful changes of government.

The best the people of Zimbabwe can hope for is a ruler who will nurture the pursuits of peace by maintaining political stability for as long as possible between the inevitable upheavals.

Zapu to go ahead with congress despite 'harassment by Zanu'

HARARE — Zapu is to hold its congress next month despite a climate of "harassment and intimidation" by the ruling Zanu party, Mr Joshua Nkomo has announced.

Speaking at a Press conference at his home, Mr Nkomo said he expected a full quota of 8 000 delegates, "despite the intimidation that has been going on, especially in Matabeleland south and north".

The congress was planned to run for four days from October 12 and delegates from all of the party's eight provincial organisations would be present.

The last Zapu congress was in 1975, Mr Nkomo said.

The ruling party held its congress last month over five days at the Borrowdale Racecourse and 6 000 delegates were present.

"I appeal to the government that we move towards elections in a sense of tranquillity and a sense of freedom of being able to hold meetings," Mr Nkomo said.

The country's general elections are due in February next year.

Zapu has been banned from holding meetings in the provinces of the Midlands and Mashonaland West, following violence in July in which at least seven people were killed and hundreds of others injured as supporters of Zanu sought out Zapu loyalists.

The Government alleges that Zapu is behind guerilla unrest in Matabeleland.

Mr Nkomo would not say whether he had applied for permission, in terms of the country's state of emergency legislation, to hold the congress.

"Don't make problems," he told journalists.

Recently, he said, police had arrested and subsequently released Zapu supporters attending private house meetings in Bulawayo.

He accused Zanu's youth wing of harassing Zapu supporters in Gwanda, Beitbridge and Matabeleland South.

In Victoria Falls in Matabeleland North, he said, members of the government's Central Intelligence Organisation had been asking the party there for the names of all who would be attending the congress.

"No names shall be given to people who have nothing to do with congress," he said. — Sapa.

AGRICULTURE

Argus 20/9/84

(362)

Zimbabwe's dazzling farming 'miracle'

Against all predictions black peasant farmers are turning in record crops reports ROBIN DREW of The Argus Foreign Service in Harare

PEASANT farmers in Zimbabwe have this year produced 315 000 tons of maize over and above their own needs. Their contribution has enabled the country to slash planned imports and maintain its record of being able to feed itself.

The fact that this year peasant farmers in Zimbabwe will deliver 35 percent of the maize crop to the grain depots for marketing has been described as phenomenal.

Four years ago, their contribution amounted to eight percent. But in the years since independence it has gone up dramatically — fivefold in volume — reflecting the response of the farmers to the provision of technical advice, aids such as fertilizer and insecticides, and credit facilities.

The director of the state agricultural advisory service, Agritex, Stellenbosch University-trained Mr John Hayward, said the emphasis had been switched after independence from assisting the 4 600 mainly white commercial farmers to the 850 000 peasant families in the communal lands and the 8 000 small-scale commercial producers.

"In the circumstances, the switch in emphasis made sense," Mr Hayward says. "The commercial farmer was capable of looking after himself, probably up with the best in the world".

Most of the peasant-grown maize which is coming into the grain marketing board depots is from areas in the North of the country constituting less than 10 percent of the communal land area.

It has been produced almost entirely by the efforts of individual growers. In the communal lands which in the bad old days were known as native reserves it is only the grazing land which is shared. Each family is allocated its own lands by the chief or district administrator and is responsible for growing its own crops.

Mr Hayward said terrific progress had been made in the better rainfall areas in improving farming techniques. Forty percent of Zimbabwe's cotton crop has been produced by peasant growers this year.

"They are getting intensive training and advice and they are responding well," he said. "In parts of the country I have walked through field after field of cotton and maize and never seen a weed. You do not not often find that in Africa. The farmers are using herbicides and scouting for pests. Their results compare very favourably with neighbouring commercial farmers' lands."

Mr Hayward said that given the right incentives such as viable prices and credit facilities, he had found that peasant farmers did a good job.

"They are motivated by the right price and the return for their efforts. They do not not use a computer but they go through the same mental process in working out the economics of farming," he said.

He did not not agree it was a matter of a "Feeling for the soil". "No. It is a question of hard work and following advice. You do not not get something out of farming without putting plenty into it."

The communal lands make up 42 percent of Zimbabwe and are heavily over-populated and overstocked in some areas. There are extremely serious erosion problems in the marginal areas particularly.

Mr Hayward attributed the boost in maize production contrary to earlier forecasts of a big shortfall to the late rains which fell in Zimbabwe at the end of March and the beginning of April.

'It was a miracle rain," said the Agritex director who came to Zimbabwe more than 30 years ago from the family farm between Murraysburg and Aberdeen in the Eastern Karroo.

As a tribute to his efforts, the commercial farmers' union this year awarded him the farming "Oscar".

His department is also heavily involved in the resettlement programme in which up to now 35 000 families have been given land on former white owned farms.

AUSTRALIA

Tribalism a simple label in Zimbabwe's ethnic maze

362

20/9/84 C-Times

From MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

MR Robert Mugabe and his government are very touchy on the subject of tribalism in Zimbabwe.

Allegations that tribal considerations play a role in government decisions is very likely to get a foreign correspondent summoned to Linquenda House, headquarters of the Ministry of Information, for an angry confrontation with the powers that be.

There is an old, and good, newspaperman's adage that "personalities make news". Abstruse ethnographic studies belong in academic journals.

But there comes a point when "personality journalism" woefully misleads the reader, when reporters continually trot out simplified labels such as "Mr X, a Shona" or "Dr Y, a Matabele", etc.

Recently a South African newspaper illustrated an article on Zimbabwe with a map of a heart-shaped country, the right half labelled "Shona", the left half "Ndebele".

One only wishes it were that simple.

It is an ethnic maze, comparable to Austria-Germany before the Napoleonic wars. In Zimbabwe, as elsewhere in Africa, tribal ties are breaking down under the impact of education and urbanization. Personal imitative behaviour is turning away from parents, chiefs and ancestors and towards "career people", businessmen, pop stars.

Succession

For a start, Zimbabwe's Ndebele are not and probably never have been a united nation. The last request for the appointment of an Ndebele paramount chief was made by tribal indunas as late as 1946 but was turned down by the Southern Rhodesian native affairs department.

Succession among the Ndebele passes from father to son, but with no clear heir to the last king, Lobengula, the indunas would not take an independent stand to acknowledge one among themselves.

Only a comparatively small number of the Ndebele, the Amazanzi, can claim descent from the warriors Lobengula's father, Mzilikazi, took with him from Zululand in the 1820s to escape the wrath of Chaka.

A larger section, the Amahlahla, are descended from Sotho people forcibly incorporated during the Ndebele sojourn in the Transvaal, before their defeat by the Trekboers at the battles of Vegkop and Maaierskop.

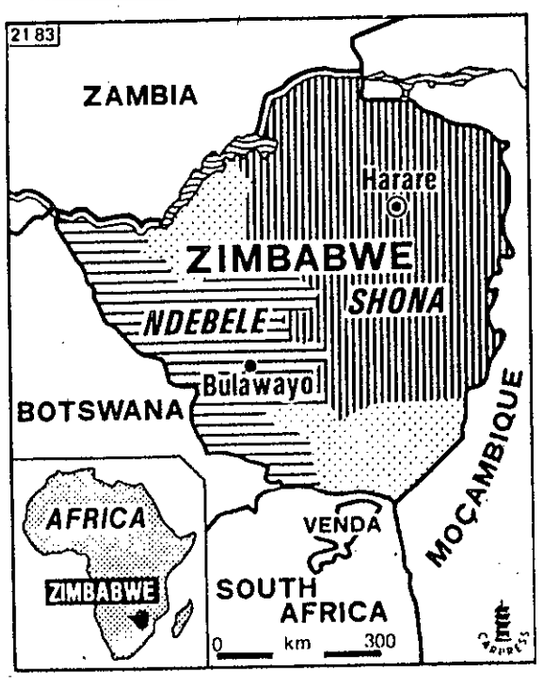
Supporters of Mr Mugabe have claimed that these "true" Ndebele are the ones least committed to the Zapu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo. They point to several Ndebeles in prominent positions in the ruling Zanu party to justify their claim that tribalism is dead or dying in Zimbabwe.

Strength

Mr Nkomo himself, like many of the people who support him in Matabeleland, is in a highly ambivalent position tribally. He is descended from the Shona people subjugated by Mzilikazi and Lobengula. To this day the Ndebele word for the section of the tribe of Shona origin — "Amaholi" — remains highly offensive to Shonas, and under white rule Mr Nkomo's people preferred to call themselves Na-kalanga rather than Ndebele.

But such was the strength of the Kalanga's Shona heritage that when Lobengula was overthrown by the whites in 1893 they had risen to be more than a slave tribe, replacing the Ndebele religious practices brought from Zululand with their own. Mr Nkomo boasts that his grandfather was chief rainmaker to Lobengula.

As their name suggests, the Na-kalanga are related to the Ma-kara Nga of southern Mashonaland, but like the British and the Bretons, similarity of name belies a divergence of history and political allegiances.



A map of Zimbabwe showing the areas inhabited by the two main tribes

The Shona, who make up 70 percent of Zimbabwe's people, are a language group, not a tribe. In the pre-Ndebele and pre-colonial past even major sub-divisions of the Shona such as the Karangas were seldom united for long under one leader. Some Shona clans trace descent from altogether extraneous ancestors, such as the Tonga who are found along the Zambezi River and in the southern hill country of Zambia.

One found a network of clans having similar language, religious practices and culture, venerating the same spirits of certain legendary figures, but with different emphasis. There were sometimes fierce inter-clan battles.

Near the eastern town of Rusape, for example, the soil between two great hills is still reputed to be phosphorescent by night with the bones of warriors killed in a battle between two Shona clans which are today often ignorantly lumped together as "Manicas", because the whole area is labelled "Manicaland" on administrative maps. Scotsmen are notorious for sticking together, but the old Campbell-MacGregor feud can still start some vicious brawls in Glasgow.

Among the Shona, the Cezuru, from whom comes Mr Mugabe, both benefited and suffered from an accident of geography. Since Cecil Rhodes's white pioneers sited their capital in Cezuru country and this group gained quickest access to schools, hospitals, town jobs, and the other blessings and banes of European civilization. They outgrew their "native reserves" more quickly and so were brought into the earliest conflict with whites.

Favoured

More than any other group they have intermarried with the hundreds of thousands of descendants of Malawian migrant workers, who are often overlooked as a very important element in Zimbabwe. The Minister of Finance, Dr Bernard Chidzero, is the most prominent Zimbabwean of Malawian descent.

The Karanga have a rather unfair reputation with fellow Shonas for being "cruel" which goes hand in hand with their military tradition. Since the Karanga suffered worst of the Shona at the hands of the Ndebele, most of them took no part in the 1896 risings in which a tenth of the whites were slaughtered. Recruited first as "native levees", they were favoured for 90 years thereafter in the white-officered police and army.

The Karangas have a discrete sense of cultural superiority over the other 65 percent of the Shona which they are usually too subtle to display. In politics, they seem to prefer a non-Karanga to be their spokesman but they cite the 1896 fiasco to support their claim that no political venture can succeed without their backing. A Karanga "party" met with electoral disaster at the hands of Karangas themselves in the 1980 elections.

Although the past few tragic years of political violence in Matabeleland have inflamed tribal sensitivities there, there are probably very severe limits to the political importance of tribal loyalty elsewhere in Zimbabwe.

Writing in 1912 about the ancestors of modern Europeans when they were passing through a similar political phase, the historian H M Chadwick said their princes appeared to free themselves to a large extent from control by the tribe with its ancestor-worshipping elders.

"The force formerly exercised by the kindred is now largely transferred to the comitatus, a body of chosen adherents pledged to personal loyalty to their chief," wrote Chadwick.

In the formation last month of Mr Mugabe's hand-picked 15-member Politburo one may see an outstanding example of Chadwick's principle.

One should recall that Mr Nkomo first became a cult figure, over 25 years ago, not as an Ndebele or a Na-kalanga but as a

"Pan-Africanist" nationalist. His accumulated capital of personal prestige has kept the people of his home area loyal to him, but it is doubtful whether they would have collected themselves for purely tribal reasons around a nonentity, had Mr. Nkomo not already achieved fame.

C. Times
20/9/84

Peasant farmers to the rescue in Zimbabwe

(362) Star 20/9/84

Growers in the communal lands have this year produced 315 000 tons of maize over and above their own needs, enabling the country to slash planned imports and maintain its record of being able to feed itself. Robin Drew reports from Harare.

The fact that this year peasant farmers in Zimbabwe will deliver 35 percent of the maize crop to the grain depots for marketing has been described as phenomenal.

Four years ago, their contribution was 8 percent. But in the years since independence it has gone up a dramatic fivefold in volume, reflecting the response of the farmers to the provision of technical advice, aids such as fertiliser and insecticides, and credit facilities.

The director of the State agricultural advisory service, Agritex, Mr John Hayward, said the emphasis had been switched after independence from assisting the 4 600 mainly white commercial farmers to the 850 000 peasant families in the communal lands and the 8 000 small-scale commercial producers.

"In the circumstances, the switch in emphasis made sense," Stellenbosch University-trained Mr Hayward told *The Star's* Foreign News Service. "The commercial farmer was capable of looking after himself, probably up with the best in the world."

What was needed and would continue to be needed was a balance between large-and-small-scale farmers in Zimbabwe.

Most of the peasant-grown maize which is coming into the Grain Marketing Board depots is from areas in the north of the country constituting less than 10 percent of the communal land area.

This is because the bulk of the communal lands are situated in low rainfall marginal land areas which were hard hit by last season's drought and which in any case are not suitable for commercial crop production.

It has been produced almost entirely by individual growers' efforts. In the communal lands, which in the bad old days were known as native reserves, it is only the grazing land which is shared. Each family is allocated its own lands by the chief or district administrator and is responsible for growing its own crops.

Mr Hayward said terrific progress had been made in the better rainfall areas in improving farming techniques. Forty percent of the cotton crop has been produced by peasant growers this year.

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"They are motivated by the right price and the return for their efforts. They do not use a computer but they go through the same mental process in working out the economics of farming," he said.

He did not agree it was a matter of a "feeling for the soil". "No. It is a question of hard work and following advice. You do not get something out of farming without putting plenty into it."

The communal lands make up 42 percent of Zimbabwe and are heavily overpopulated and overstocked in some areas. There are extremely serious erosion problems in the marginal areas particularly.

Mr Hayward attributed the boost in maize production, contrary to forecasts of a big shortfall, to the late rains at the end of March and the beginning of April.

" It was a miracle rain," said the Agritex director who came to Zimbabwe more than 30 years ago from the family farm in the eastern Karoo.

As a tribute to his efforts, the Commercial Farmers' Union this year awarded him the farming "Oscar".

His department is also heavily involved in the resettlement programme in which up to now 35 000 families have been given land on former white-owned farms. Resettlement land amounts to about 2 percent of the land area.

But while this programme has attracted publicity, it is not at this stage comparable in terms of output with either communal or commercial agriculture. Resettlement areas have contributed only about 1 percent of this year's marketed maize crop.

(362) S Times 23/9/84

Secret talk brings hope of freedom for 'spies'

SECRET contacts have taken place between Zimbabwe and South Africa for the release of two alleged South African spies detained for nearly three years.

This was disclosed to the Sunday Times by Zimbabwe's security supremo, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, who said contacts and co-operation were continuing.

He is the former Zanla guerrilla intelligence chief who now holds the official title of Minister of State (Security) in the office of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, and controls Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organisation.



Minister Munangagwa

By MICHAEL HARTNACK: Harare

New hope for the release of the alleged spies comes after a desperate personal plea to the Zimbabwe Government from the tragic family of one of the men.

Mr Munangagwa said the fate of the accused spies, Colin Evans, 29, and Phillip Hartlebury, 32, held since 1981 in Chikurubi Prison, had been the subject of previous abortive talks when "approaches through foreign governments" suggested an exchange of prisoners between Angola, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Evans and Hartlebury, both former officers of Mr Munangagwa's CIO, were acquitted by Zimbabwe's High Court in 1982 on charges of spying for South Africa and assisting the assassins of the ANC envoy to Harare, Joe Gqabi.

They were redetained immediately after the verdict.

Both were former Rhodesian policemen who stayed on after the transition to black rule.

Mr Munangagwa said the court's finding resulted from "some technical legal problem".

He said Mr Mugabe's government had given sufficient grounds for their continued imprisonment to the detainees' review tribunal, which, after a recent secret hearing, turned down their second plea for release since their court acquittal.

"However, there are things happening elsewhere outside this environment," said Mr Munangagwa.

"The South Africans have approached us and we are talking about these persons quietly, but I am unable to say at this stage what propositions they are making."

Mr Munangagwa said no special consideration had been given to Colin Evans because his nine-year-old son, Davy, is suffering from incurable muscular dystrophy.

But Davy and his mother, Mrs Colleen Evans, were allowed regular visits at Chikurubi Prison in company with Mrs Brenda Hartlebury.

Challenge

Mrs Evans last week handed in a letter to Mr Mugabe appealing for his personal intervention to re-unite her family so they may take their son to proper medical care.

Lawyers for Evans and Hartlebury last week announced their intention to challenge the review tribunal's recommendations in the High Court on October 17.

Zimbabwean legal history will be made when the application is lodged for the tribunal to justify its refusal to recommend their immediate release.

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Messina to shed mining interests in Zimbabwe

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Messina is negotiating to sell all its mining interests in Zimbabwe to the Zimbabwe Mining Development Corporation.

The group said in a statement released yesterday that negotiations have reached an advanced stage and agreement in principle had been reached whereby Messina would provide certain technical and engineering services to the mines in question for a minimum of three years.

The mining interests to be sold include Messina's investment in MTD (Mangula) and consist of three gold and two copper mines.

Bonds

Payment will be through the issue of non-resident government bonds bearing interest at four percent per annum and redeemable in foreign currency in equal annual instalments over six years.

Messina's financial director, Mr David Dry, said yesterday the deal would have minimal effect on Messina's results.

"We have received nothing in the way of dividends from our Zimbabwe operations for the last three years and in our accounts have already provided against the investments in full.

"The price we are negotiating will be in the region of Z$4m to Z$5m remittable over six years. That means we should get out about R1m a year over the next six years if the Zimbabwe Government meets its obligations."

Mr Dry said Messina had actually negotiated a deal to sell its Zimbabwe mining operations to one of the major public companies based in Harare. He declined to name the company.

Approval

"However, when we submitted the deal to the government for approval it refused to allow the company involved to borrow the foreign currency outside of the country to pay the purchase price.

"The government then said it wanted to buy our mining interests itself.

"We had previously wanted to close one of the copper mines down but the government forced us to keep it going through providing emergency loans," he said.

Messina's remaining South African copper mining operations are now a tiny part of the group's business which is dominated by its stake in car manufacturer Nissan South Africa.

Currently mining provides about R25m of Messina's total annual turnover of around R900m.

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Zimbabwe backing for SA unions



By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE ZIMBABWE Congress of Trade Unions and the International Labour Organisation have expressed their support for black unions and their abhorrence of the disturbing laws in South Africa.

This was said by the general secretary of the Motor Assemblies and Components Workers' Union of SA (Macwusa) and General Workers' Union of SA (Gwusa), Mr Denis Neer, after his return from Zimbabwe recently.

Mr Neer, who had attended a conference of the international trade unions, said his delegation had experienced difficulties in obtaining visas and information about the conference in South Africa.

"We had to spend a whole night at Harare Airport due to the fact that SA had refused us proper travel documents. With the help of ZCTU and the co-operation of the Zimbabwean Ministers we went through," he said.

Mr Neer said that they had exposed the lack of freedom of association in South Africa and other discriminatory laws affecting blacks. "We were also given an exposure as to what is happening in the trade union movements internationally."

Slain taxi driver: Man arrested

A MIDDLE-AGED man has been arrested in connection with the death of a 38-year-old taxi driver who was shot in a taxi at a rank in Mamelodi, Pretoria, at the weekend.

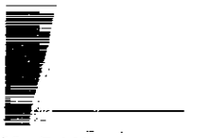
The arrest followed the death of Mr France Choma of 13299 Mamelodi East, who was shot in the head during an argument inside a taxi near the Denneboom station.

Brigadier H A du Plessis, Chief CID Officer for the Northern Transvaal, yesterday said the man was arrested on Monday night following intensive police investigations.

• Police are still investigating the death of a 26-year-old man who was shot dead by a detective in Mamelodi last Tuesday night.

Mr Norman Petros Hlangothe of 6344 Mamelodi West, died instantly after being wounded in the chest by a bullet from his friend's revolver.

A police spokesman said Mr Hlangothe was in the company of a detective friend who had a revolver in his hand. A shot went off, "accidentally" fatally wounding him in the chest. A docket would be submitted to the Attorney-General of the Transvaal as soon as investigations were completed.



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Harare buys MTD mines

27/9/84

362

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government will pay the South African mining concern Messina R6,6 million for its interests in gold and copper mining operations in Zimbabwe which are conducted by the MTD group of companies.

The Minister of Mines, Mr Callistus Ndlovu, said MTD had wanted to close down some of its mining operations but the government intervened to maintain copper production and employment and to maintain the foreign exchange earnings from the mines.

EXTERNAL BONDS

Mr Ndlovu said Messina had substantial deposits of copper, lead and zinc which had yet to be developed and offered a great potential for future expansion.

Under an agreement in principle, the purchase price will be payable immediately that formal agreement has been reached.

The money will be remittable outside the country under the government's six year external four percent bonds.

Messina is to continue to provide technical services at an annual fee of 0,5 percent of the gross turnover of the copper mining companies and the three gold mines under the MTD Group.

Nkomo's deputy dies at 61

Star 362 21/10/84

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Mr Josiah Chinamano, veteran nationalist politician and deputy leader of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party, has died in Harare after a long illness.

Mr Chinamano, who received his university education at South Africa's Fort Hare and married a South African woman, was 61.

His wife, Mrs Ruth Chinamano, was elected to the Zimbabwean Parliament in 1980 and is known for her fiery debating style and outspoken manner.

INTO TEACHING

The Zapu vice-president was born in Harare and, after qualifying at Fort Hare and taking a further diploma at Birmingham University in England, went into teaching.

He was arrested, together with his wife, during the UDI period and the couple spent more than 10 years in detention for nationalist activities.

He was nominated to fill a seat in the Zimbabwean Parliament in 1981 and was appointed Minister of Transport. After the arms cache scandal in early 1982, Mr Chinamano, along with Zapu colleagues, was dismissed from the Government but he remained active in party politics.

Harare claims SA 'elements' aid rebels

By Brendan Seery
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe State Security Minister Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa says 100 armed rebels have been killed in military operations around the country this year, bringing to 500 the number killed since the security force campaign began two years ago.

He said there had been a marked decrease in sabotage and malicious damage to property this year, with only 17 cases reported compared with 39 last year. Most of these took place in the south of Zimbabwe.

Mr Mnangagwa said "elements in the South African Army" were still engaged in "acts of destabilisation" against Zimbabwe.

SA SPIES

These people had been providing training and supplies for the rebel bands which called themselves Super Zapu.

There had also been evidence that South African spies had been operating against Zimbabwe from within its borders.

Mr Mnangagwa said he would soon make a statement on spying.

Thousands of former auxiliaries loyal to Bishop Abel Muzorewa were still in South Africa.

While some of these, who numbered about 4 000, had left South Africa's armed forces, others still had "hostile intentions towards Zimbabwe" and a number had been arrested in Zimbabwe while seeking information about security force movements and strengths.

RAM 362
5/10/84

A big defeat for Mugabe's party

By MICHAEL HARTNACK
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — Mr Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) suffered a landslide defeat when results were announced yesterday of municipal elections in Bulawayo's "low density" suburbs.

Black householders, who now comprise up to 50% of the ratepayers in many of the once exclusively white suburbs of Matabeleland's capital city, appear to have rejected Mr Mugabe's party in favour of joining forces with their white neighbours.

White independent candidates won all seven seats, and among the victors was at least one former member of the party of former Rhodesian Prime Minister Mr Ian Smith.

The white population of Bulawayo is believed to have shrunk from about 70 000 to less than 40 000 since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980.

Zanu (PF) members have already alleged collusion in the campaign between Mr Smith's party, now called the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe, and Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapu, which deliberately did not field candidates to prevent a split in the anti-government vote.

A white Zanu (PF) candidate was defeated by 42 votes to 1 107 by the last white mayor of Bulawayo, Mr Michael Constandinos, while a former MP for Mr Smith's party, Mr Charles Scott, standing as an independent, defeated a black Zanu (PF) candidate by 600 votes to 196.

Most of the ruling party's candidates failed to gain even a 10th of their white opponents' votes.

At the weekend black voters in Bulawayo's high density suburbs go to the polls in eight wards, all of which are contested by Mr Nkomo's party.

As the build-up continues for next year's first post-independence general election, Mr Mugabe's government has moved to keep its pledges on free campaigning, lifting the four-month-old ban on Zapu meetings in the Midlands and Mashonaland West provinces.

At least six people were killed in inter-party violence in the provinces in June when mobs of Zanu (PF) supporters attacked Zapu members' offices and homes after the murder of two ruling party officials by dissidents.

Announcing the lifting of the ban, Zimbabwe's Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, said he had been encouraged to do it by recent condemnations of dissidents issued by Zapu leaders.

Zapu would still have to obtain official permission for all political meetings, but this would be granted as long as they were peaceful and did not incite support for the dissidents.

Zimbabwe, SA should come clean over Matabeleland

(362) C-7 times

5/10/84

MICHAEL HARTNACK
reports
from Harare

HARARE. — An organization calling itself "The Friends of the Hunters and Hanekoms Support Committee" held a meeting here last month to express solidarity with the accused in the South African secrets trial, which was then sub judice.

Relatives of the accused claimed there was simply no way national serviceman Roland Hunter and Andre Hanekom or his wife, Patricia Hanekom, could make known what the South African government was doing except by acting in the way they did.

I understand details of the in camera trial are still secret, so to reiterate the accusations that were made — both against the accused and the South African government — will make it impossible for this article to be published.

Moreover, it is not possible to state whether South Africa's bizarre security relationship with Zimbabwe was mentioned at the trial.

Supplies

It has been mentioned in many other places, although remarkably few details seem to be filtering back to two groups of people most concerned — the South African and Zimbabwean people.

Since September 1, when The Times of London carried an initial report, Zimbabwe's Minister of State for Security, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, has confirmed that at least one military convoy from South Africa, bound for President Samora Machel's hard-pressed troops in the northern areas of Mozambique, has been allowed passage through Zimbabwe.

It entered Zimbabwe at Beit Bridge and at Forbes border post, outside Mutare, the vehicles were handed over to the Mozambican army. They contained tents and logistical supplies, not actual war munitions, he said.

Co-operation

Mr Munangagwa, who controls Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organization, later told me security co-operation was continuing, despite renewed fears that South Africa was assisting Zapu dissidents in Matabeleland. Recent "kills" appeared to have equipment of late South African origin, he said.

In an "on-the-record" interview Mr Munangagwa stated weapons which dissidents obtained through South Africa came from Rumania. Their original serial numbers were erased and false ones forged, making them quite different from the remnants dissidents unearthed from old caches left over from the 1972-80 Rhodesian bush war.

Mr Munangagwa confirmed that contacts between the two countries took place at their highest level in May when Lieutenant General P W van der Westhuizen, head of military intelligence of the South African Defence Force, visited Harare in plain clothes for talks with his opposite number in the Zimbabwe national army, Major General Sheba Gava.

Contacts

Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has vetoed the holding of a political "forum" between ministers of the two governments, but Mr Munangagwa said contacts took place routinely between local police and army commanders along the Limpopo River common boundary.

At the meeting in May General Van der Westhuizen was presented with a list of Zimbabwean allegations of South African-sponsored destabilization incidents. Mr Munangagwa told The Times that General Van der Westhuizen had asked specifically whether there had been any such incidents since South Africa signed the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique, and was told that at that time (in May) there had not been.

When I spoke to Mr Munangagwa last month he said a gang of about 40 "Super-Zapu" dissidents had entered Zimbabwe shortly before the ruling Zanu (PF) held its congress at the beginning of August.

Pretoria

"Dead men do not talk," replied Mr Munangagwa laconically when I asked if he believed the gang had infiltrated southern Matabeleland from South Africa or Botswana. He said that having split into groups of two or three, the gang was attempting to move northwards.

"They are not attacking anybody, they are not committing any acts. I think they are heading for specific target areas," Mr Munangagwa told me.

He said political direction for the dissidents' campaign, which had racked Matabeleland for more than two years, claiming unknown thousands of lives, came from a former Zapu-nominated district administrator at Tsholotsho, north east of Bulawayo, whose name was Muthukuki and who was based in Pretoria.

When captured members of the latest gang had been interrogated and a dossier of evidence compiled, a meeting would take place with the South Africans at which it would be presented to them.

Grotesque

While it is very welcome the two sides are on such apparently familiar terms one can hardly imagine anything more grotesque in the field of human relations.

Imagine telephoning your neighbour and asking him to pop across for a cup of tea so you can discuss whether the landmine planted in your driveway last night was one of his.

The alarming facet of Zimbabwe-South African relations is that while Mr Munangagwa has, very creditably, made himself available for on the record press interviews, little or no word about Lieutenant General Van der Westhuizen's visit, for example, nor the joint co-operation between Zimbabwe and South Africa to help Mozambique, seems to have reached the ears of the Zimbabwean or South African man in the street.

Accessible

On October 2 Mr Munangagwa gave a remarkably full statement on the current security position in Matabeleland to the main national daily newspaper, the Herald.

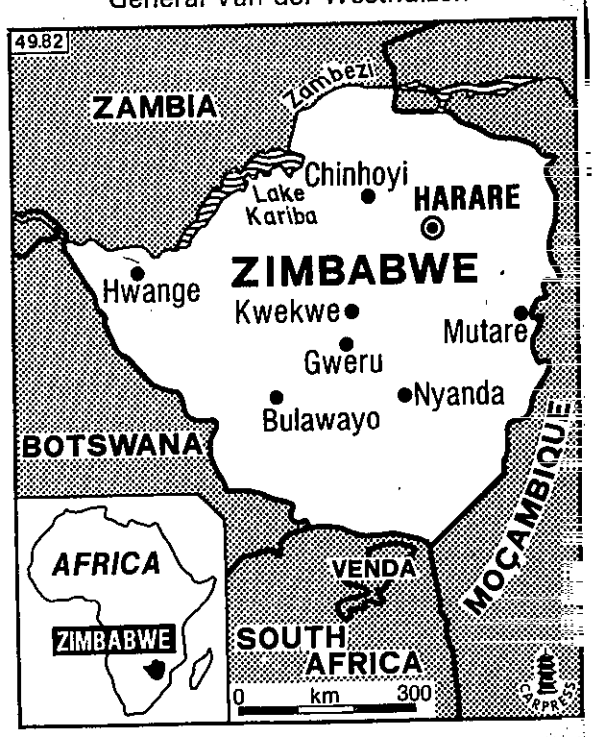
Talk is, of course, cheap, but Mr Mugabe's government can make no better start to the difficult task of rebutting the allegations against it of violating human rights than by making its ministers accessible to the press as it has done.

Yet there was no exploration in the interview of Zimbabwe's complex security relationship with South Africa beyond the usual stereotype allegations that Pretoria lay behind the dissidents in the unhappy province of Matabeleland.

The propagandists in their state-controlled broadcasting media keep comparing Zimbabwe and South Africa to Stalin's Russia and Hitler's Germany respectively. These comparisons are almost invariably preposterous, farfetched and wilfully ill-natured.



General Van der Westhuizen





Mr Emmerson Munangagwa

Corpse

But in one respect the very beginnings of an unwholesome similarity to the nazi-Soviet relationship do seem to be appearing.

While the propaganda ministries raved abuse during the 1930s, the military men from Berlin and Moscow established a high degree of co-operation — the Germans, for example, evaded the 1919 Versailles Treaty restrictions imposed on them through an aircraft research establishment at Lipezk, south of Moscow.

One British cartoonist summed up this relationship in his famous 1939 drawing of Hitler and Stalin bowing to each other over a corpse labelled "Poland".

"The scum of the earth, I believe?" said Hitler with a smile, while Stalin returned a similar pleasantry.

Let us hope Zimbabwe and South Africa can come clean with each other and their citizens before there is a similar symbolic encounter over a corpse labelled "Matabeleland".

COVER-UP!

But lawman's courage leads to exposure of horror killings in Zimbabwe

A PROLONGED official cover-up ended on Friday when Zimbabwe's main national newspapers said four soldiers of the Korean-trained Fifth Brigade might be arraigned on multiple murder charges.

Although a final decision on prosecution of the soldiers rests with Mr Robert Mugabe's government, publication of the story breaks a total news blackout that endured for two weeks while an inquest in Bulawayo heard sensational evidence of attempts to intimidate police and a magistrate into silence over the killing of four people in Northern Matabeleland last year.

Last week's exposures represent a triumph for the integrity of Zimbabwe's independent judiciary and the personal courage of one provincial magistrate, Mr George Romilly, who pressed on with an investigation into the deasths of the four despite threats from one of Zimbabwe's top policemen.

By MICHAEL HARTNACK: Harare

Mr Romilly testified at a Bulawayo inquest presided over by Mr Gordon Geddes.

Evidence presented to Mr Geddes reads more like a Len Deighton thriller than a judicial report.

Mr Geddes heard that an Ndebele-speaking army lieutenant, Edias Ndhlovu, and his wife Jennifer were stopped by Fifth Brigade troops at a road block near Lupane on February 11, 1983.

Two still unidentified black civilians, one a young woman, were bundled into his car by troops who then took them away. Their four bodies were later found in a shallow roadside grave.

Mr Romilly, who was provincial magistrate at Hwange (formerly Wankie), first heard of the killings when Lt Ndhlovu's unit tried to convene an army board of inquiry into his death.

After being told by Lt Ndhlovu's commanders that police refused to investigate his death, Mr Romilly called on Inspector Samuel Ngwenya, police officer in charge at Lupane, who confessed in obvious fear that he was acting under his superiors' orders. Mr Romilly said that when he approached a Fifth Brigade major at Lupane, he was met with an "extremely arrogant" response.

Above law

"As far as he was concerned, he and his men were above the law and did not have to answer to the authorities," Mr Romilly testified.

Later that day Mr Romilly was telephoned by the then commanding officer of the Zimbabwe Police, Bulawayo district, Assistant Commissioner Noah Mvere, who accused the magistrate of subversion and threatned to have him detained under Zimbabwe's state of emergency laws if he did not drop his inquiries.

After Mr Romilly reported the incident to Zimbabwe's chief magistrate in Harare, a written order was sent to all magistrates not to investigate such cases, nor to testify to an official commission of inquiry into alleged army atrocities against Ndebeles and civilians.

Mr Mugabe appointed the commission last year to counter what he called an orchestrated "campaign of lies" against his government by Roman Catholic churchmen and British newspapers.

Crossfire

Mr Romilly said that despite the orders he refused to close the case when he received a "sudden death docket" from police stating that the four had died accidentally in "crossfire" between Zapu dissidents and Zimbabwean security forces.

He knew from previous post-mortem results that three of the victims were bayonetted to death.

The docket disappeared after he dismissed it as "a police fabrication". Mr Romilly later unearthed evidence of elaborate forgeries and deletions from official records which made reference to the case.

Insp Ngwenya testified that he was called "a traitor" when he tried to investigate the killings. He and a subordinate section officer, Kefas Mudzimiri, admitted falsifying records. They said they were acting under orders to complete a cover-up operation.

Security force commanders who briefed Insp Ngwenya when the Fifth Brigade moved into Lupane allegedly told him "for the purposes of the operations I was blind, and I would be told when to look up".

Mr Geddes heard other evidence from soldiers and a passenger who escaped after being taken from Lt Ndhlovu's car at the army roadblock.

At the inquest's conclusion he issued warrants for the arrest of the four Fifth Brigade members, but he cannot force Mr Mugabe's Government to bring them to trial.

Corporals Charles Simango, Simon Chayana and George Chivayi and Private Samuel Gwatirera were ordered to be detained in custody pending a decision by the Attorney General's office in Harare on whether they should be prosecuted for murder.

Orders

Corporal Chayana allegedly told an earlier, secret army board of inquiry in May that he had been acting under orders "to kill anybody whom we suspected to be a dissident".

Zimbabwe's Supreme Court judges recently rejected attempts by the Government to promulgate emergency powers regulations placing security force members' conduct outside the law.

Clean sweep for whites

By MICHAEL HARTNACK Harare

ROBERT MUGABE'S ruling party suffered a massive defeat in municipal elections in Bulawayo last week as wealthier, middle-class blacks in Matabeleland's capital city — many of them civil servants — appeared to team up with their white neighbours to vote for white independent candidates.

One former Rhodesian Front MP, Mr Charles Scott, was among seven whites who made a clean sweep in a council poll for Bulawayo's "low density" suburbs, so fuelling Zanu (PF) fears of a deal between Mr Ian Smith's party, now called the Conservative Alliance Zimbabwe, and Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapu.

Zanu (PF) claimed Mr Nkomo deliberately did not field candidates to split the CAZ-Zapu allied vote.

Zapu will contest all the seats in the former black townships this weekend.

All the white candidates denied the Zanu (PF) charge, protesting they were not affiliated to any party.

Defeat

The first white Zanu (PF) candidate in any Zimbabwean poll, Mrs Maryam McCosh, suffered a humiliating defeat by 42 votes to 1 107 at the hands of Bulawayo's last white mayor, Mr Mike Constandinos.

Mr Scott defeated a black Zanu (PF) candidate by 600 votes to 196 — the lowest margin of any successful candidate.

Since independence Bulawayo's white population is believed to have halved to below 40 000.

Many of the houses in the "low density" suburbs have been bought by black civil servants, who are best able to get housing loans.

Last week's poll may indicate the continuing opposition to Mr Mugabe, not only among whites but wealthier blacks in Matabeleland, while political violence in the rural areas has led to charges of government human rights violations.

The Mail's cartoonist Andy is on leave until the end of the month.

RDM 10/10/84 (362)

Zanu's dilemma over tradition

MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

THE RULING Zanu party in Zimbabwe has a desire to have its cake and eat it as far as Zimbabwe's past is concerned.

All the traditional pre-colonial African institutions were based on the tribe, but in one breath we are told that tribalism is evil, to be equated with racism and apartheid, and is on its way out.

In the next breath we are told the planned new one-party state which will lead Zimbabwe into the 21st century is really just a re-assertion of traditional, pre-colonial African political institutions and therefore, by implication, morally legitimate.

Zimbabweans are doing nothing new in the world by contradicting themselves in this manner. Arnold Toynbee, the British historian, pointed to the glaring ambiguity, for example, in the Bolshevik attitude to Russia's tsarist heritage.

No one would say, he remarked, whether Lenin intended to undo or complete the traumatic process of "Europeanising" Russia begun by Peter the Great 200 years before.

The Nazi's position was truly preposterous: they aimed to introduce a futuristic new age, made "more terrible by perverted science" as Churchill put it, while at the same time reverting to some idyllic state they fancied had existed before their pagan ancestors were "enslaved by a romance culture and a semitic supersition" — Christianity.

There are less glaring examples of this contradiction in other, milder, forms of nationalism. They are hardly surprising, since nationalism only arises when societies are in a violent state of flux.

During the Rhodesian war a vicious academic controversy raged here which paralleled the conflict taking place in the bush. Who were the leaders of African society?

The Rhodesian Ministry of Internal Affairs said they were parents, chiefs and tribal authorities.

At the University College of Rhodesia (now the University of Zimbabwe) there was an opposition group whose most famous member was the sociologist Dr A K Weinrich.

It contended that young blacks now wanted to accept the values and behaviour patterns of teachers, successful career people and idols of the entertainment media.

Ironically, both factions were to be proved right and both wrong, for Zanu based its successful campaign on a two-pronged attack. While its political wing abroad convinced foreign opinion they were fighting to modernise a society the whites were deliberately holding back, their military wing in Rhodesia's Tribal Trust Lands told the people they were fighting to throw off the constraints of alien ways.

Modern conservation and husbandry programmes were resisted by force. Anyone representative of the cultural intrusions of the previous 90 years was attacked. Traditional African religion was favoured and the spirit mediums played an important part under special Zanu protection in consolidating guerrilla morale.

As soon as Zanu came to power in 1980 the bewildering ambiguity of its stance became apparent. What, for example, was its attitude to women's rights? If it was going to fulfil the hope of the Scandinavian socialist intellectuals who had idealised it, it should have legislated immediately to emancipate African women fully.

If it was consistent in its attitudes to African authenticity, however, it should return women firmly to their traditional place as marketable property.

Tribal loyalties are indeed on the wane, being replaced by cults of personality which, here as elsewhere, are symptomatic of social insecurity.

But the values and attitudes of centuries are not going to be lightly thrown off.

Just after independence, when members of the new government were completely cock-a-hoop with their claim to rule Zimbabwe by right of conquest, a leading politician (who had best remain nameless) graced one of the humblest black housing areas of Harare with the honour of an official visit.

He was sent away with a flea in his ear.

Blacks who were present said he was told: "You must talk to us nicely when you come to visit us". No one actually stepped from the ragged crowd and told him so — he got the message from the "rhubarb rhubarb" noises and indignant demeanour aroused by his patronising arrogance.

It was an endearingly typical reaction of the Shona people, who make up 70% of Zimbabwe's population, rooted in traditions which make them quite different from their Ndebele neighbours.

To understand it one must go back to their peculiar system of "collateral succession". In most Shona clans there is no "royal house" or hereditary aristocracy.

Chieftainship passes not from father to son, as among the Ndebele, but to the descendant separated by the least number of generations from the founding father of the tribe.

In the pre-colonial past this ensured a remarkably egalitarian society, at least as far as men were concerned. Political influence passed (in theory) from one distant cousin to another in a rotation among families.

This system also explains, in part, the massive role in Shona society of the spirit mediums. The only person who can settle the seemingly insoluble disputes that arise over succession is, most often, the tribal ancestor who died centuries ago. He is therefore consulted through the spirit mediums.

When at last his verdict comes, it is final, as some Rhodesian colonial administrators found out to their cost. The Shona will reject authority not consecrated by their own process, secretly honouring and obeying their own claimant.

The same is true of the spirit mediums themselves. The Shona have elaborate tests by which they say they can detect bogus ones.

Whatever the supernatural influences on spirit mediums, public opinion is certainly a major factor, too.

If Zanu's planned one-party state does indeed silence all criticism, as some observers fear, whoever rules in Harare will arouse a huge groundswell of opposition voiced through the spirit mediums, or their modern counterpart, the Africanised churches.

The deep-rooted egalitarian tradition among the Shona made them always regard white plans to build a black middle class as a buffer between themselves and the mass of blacks with deep suspicion and resentment.

Mr Mugabe knows this. It explains a major attraction of socialist theory for Shona intellectuals which is seldom understood by outsiders.

But neither will the Shona look kindly on the rise of a ruling caste of Marxist bureaucrats.

Zimbabwe farmer fights on to evict squatters

362
Star
15/10/84

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Shurugwi farmer Mr Robert Rensford is to go back to the Zimbabwe Supreme Court again in his long battle against the government over squatters who have occupied his land for four years.

This time his legal team will go before the country's highest court to argue that emergency regulations — which give the squatters virtual permanent residence on the property — are unconstitutional.

The regulations were introduced after Mr Rensford repeatedly took the country's Police Commissioner, Mr Wiridzai Nguruve, to court over his refusal to comply with court orders for the eviction of the squatters.

The emergency legislation, titled the "Resolution of disputes over rural land", gave the squatters residence rights and also prevented the Commissioner of Police being sued for damages or prosecuted for contempt of court for his failure to act on the eviction orders.

Mr Rensford had on a number of occasions tried to take such legal action against the commissioner who repeatedly argued that he was under orders from the government not to evict squatters from commercial farming land.

The case raised fears among the white farming community that the rule of law was being abrogated by the authorities in the handling of the case. Other farmers who also have squatters on their land feared they might suffer the same fate as Mr Rensford because of the emergency regulations.

Referring the matter to a full Supreme Court hearing, the Acting Judge President of the High Court, Mr Justice Wilson Sandura, said the matter was of considerable importance and the question of whether the regulations were contitutional was neither "frivolous nor vexatious".

No real independence till development battle is won

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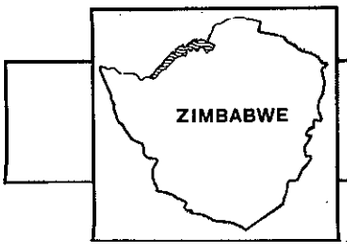

Michael Hartnack
Reports from Harare

UNTIL the assassination of the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi, the most prominent reports the BBC world service was broadcasting last week stemmed from the famine in Ethiopia and the Nigerians' reluctant decision to cut the price of their oil below the agreed Opec level.

Meanwhile the SABC told us about the hammering the rand was taking on world foreign exchange markets and our own ZBC carried item after item referring in one form or another to Zimbabwe's chronic shortage of foreign currency.

Although it may not be obvious at first sight, there is a very definite link between all these reports of economic hardship.

Poverty

In view of its strong secondary and tertiary industries, South Africa has an infinitely more sound economy than most other African states, but to the extent that its financial health depends on exports to the developed world of primary products such as gold, the Republic is in the same boat as Ethiopia with its coffee, hides and skins, Nigeria with its oil, or Zimbabwe with its tobacco, chrome and asbestos.

While South Africa may not require massive gifts of grain to stave off famine, it is very dependent on its relationship with its industrialized trade partners as it strives to redeem its growing population from obvious rural and urban poverty — just as we are here in Zimbabwe to an even greater extent.

Opening the third Co-operation for Development in Africa (CDA) conference here on Monday, Zimbabwe's deputy Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, said a growing number of people faced "utter starvation" if African states did not achieve economic self-sufficiency, specifically, he believed, self-sufficiency in food.

Mr Muzenda said food production per head in sub-Saharan Africa had fallen by up to 20 percent in the last two decades, while the need for food imports was increasing by eight percent a year as a result of population growth.

These imports were placing African states' balances of payments under critical stress, dashing all hopes of real development investment.

One of the oldest and least pretty of economic theories is called "the iron law of wages".

When wages go up, the early economists said, the labouring classes become more affluent, thus are able to raise more children to adulthood. This leads in due course to a glut of labour on the market, which forces wages down — so less labourers' children survive and the whole vicious cycle of human misery begins again.

The question needs to be asked: Are we seeing a version of this "iron law" in operation today in the economic relationship between the developed and underdeveloped peoples of the world, the so-called "north-south" dispute?

When their economies are booming, the great industrialized nations seem to have plenty of surplus cash with which to compete in bargaining for South African gold, Zambian copper, Zimbabwean tobacco or Ethiopian hides and skins.

They also have surplus products which they are happy to export to the poorer countries at low prices. They invest in long-term capital projects such as the Kariba Dam, or they give apparently gratuitous humanitarian aid.

Under the impact of this tide of surpluses from the developed nations, there is wholesale dislocation of traditional production patterns and traditional checks on population growth.

But at the earliest signs of recession, the underdeveloped peoples are the first to feel that the tide is going out. Again and again they are left high and dry, with their economies geared to meet a pattern of demand that no longer exists in the industrialized world.

However, they have also developed a very rigid pattern of demand for the basic necessities with which to feed, house, clothe and educate their exploding populations.

Fickle

For a time in the 1970s it seemed the oil producers might be an exception to the rule, but with the slump in the oil price it now seems to have been proved that the terms of trade must always be against the Third World peoples who sell primary products, and heavily in favour of the industrialized communities with their wheat and butter "mountains", their wine and milk "lakes".

Along with its fickle demand for products such as gold and tobacco, the developed world has a requirement, nearly as erratic, for another "primary input of the production process" — migrant labour.

As anyone ever treated in a British hospital knows, the National Health Service relies heavily on "Commonwealth immigrants" to staff it. A black Zimbabwean doctor sent home because his work permit is not being renewed in the present climate of government economies will feel just as resentful as a Mexican fruit-picker repatriated from California, or one of the hundreds of unskilled Turkish "gastarbeiter" deported last month from West Germany.

But Marxist-style analyses of purely economic factors fail, because highly relevant to understanding the roots of "north-south" conflict is the extraordinary two-way traffic of people that arises between developed and underdeveloped parts of the world — something conspicuous today on the streets of Harare.

One may see a black Zimbabwean looking (and talking) like an English city gentleman, or a recent young immigrant from Europe obviously "gone bush".

The underdeveloped world continues to be, as it always was, a place both of exile and of sanctuary for all sorts of people who feel they do not fit into the developed world from which they come.

The most conspicuous here at present are the idealistic volunteers, jocularly nicknamed "Third World groupies", who go about telling Zimbabweans the wealth of Europe and America is rightfully theirs since, they claim, modern industrial societies were founded on the 18th-century African slave trade. Their strident pronouncements, which are music to the ZBC's ears, are reminiscent of the prophecies of old which told the Goths and the Vandals they had the moral right to plunder the granaries of Rome.

Meanwhile the industrialized urban society for its part is a place of sanctuary (or exile) for the person from the underdeveloped world, a place of escape from the harsh disciplines and rigid hierarchies of traditional society.

Many black Zimbabweans, having worked their way up from tribal goat-herd to respected Western white-collar worker, are for the sake both of themselves and their foreign-born children reluctant to return home.

Zimbabwe's Minister of Local Government, Mr Enos Chikowore, told CDA delegates, who included representatives from Western Europe, North America and Japan, that unless Africa's development battle was won the full meaning of independence would remain forever incomplete for the continent.

Warning

He might have added — and this should be a sobering thought — that a microcosm of this relationship between the developed and underdeveloped worlds was contained in the relationship between the "black" and "white" areas of Rhodesia between 1890 and 1980.

Political leaders from the underdeveloped areas have now won control of the whole society, but the resources of the developed areas, particularly their human reources, have been decimated in the process. The conquest has brought no quick answer to the problems of general underdevelopment.

The horrors of the Rhodesian war and its legacy of wanton destruction which are an all too recent memory of this deeply scarred society, should be a warning to the world in general of what could happen on a vast scale if developing peoples are not helped to bring their populations back into balance with new production techniques, evolving a new social order to meet the challenges of the modern world.

Argus 9/11/84

Zimbabwe senator dies in hail of bullets

Argus Foreign Service

HARARE. — A Zimbabwe senator and member of the ruling Zanu (PF) party central committee, Senator Moven Ndlovu, has been murdered by armed dissidents at his home in a Beitbridge township.

The leader of the Senate, Senator Joseph Culverwell, confirmed the killing and said he had been told Senator Ndlovu had been shot eight times.

Senator Culverwell deplored the killing and described it as "an appalling tragedy".

About 100 people have been injured in factional clashes which broke out there after the killing last night.

AFTERMATH

The Ziana news agency reported that the senator was gunned down by two dissidents at his home in the Dilibadzimu township in Beitbridge.

Supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party were attacked in the aftermath of the killing and property was set on fire.

An informed source in Harare said a group of men had gone to Senator Ndlovu's home and told him that some dissidents had been captured and that he was to come out and see them. As he opened the door he was gunned down.

In recent months leading officials of Mr Mugabe's party have been targets for armed gangs and a number have been killed.

INSIDE: Weather

With enough money, MNR could have ousted Machel, says new book

If arms, money and other help had been available, the Mozambique National Resistance movement could have overthrown President Samora Machel's regime in Mozambique in the late 1970s, says a new book on the Rhodesian war.

And, the book adds, it could have installed a government sympathetic to the then white government in Rhodesia (and, presumably, to South Africa).

The book is "The elite, the story of the Rhodesian Special Air Service", by former Rhodesian journalist Ms Barbara Cole.

It says the concept of the MNR was the product of the innovative Rhodesian military command.

★ ★ ★

Faced by a hostile Mozambique which was hosting increasing numbers of Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army, the Rhodesians came up with the idea in 1976 of establishing a black anti-Machel resistance movement in Mozambique.

The Central Intelligence Organisation was given the brief, with the task of setting up a body which would challenge the existing authority in Mozambique and at the same time help the Rhodesian forces in its actions against Mr Mugabe's army.

The idea that Mr Machel might eventually be overthrown and a sympathetic government installed never became more than an idea.

It was always a fairly low-level effort, given meagre assistance, but nevertheless remarkably successful in many ways.

Though Rhodesia to the end denied officially that it was linked to the MNR, it was responsible for the conception, the birth and the formative early years of the movement, says the book.

The first move was the establishment of an undercover radio station, The Voice of Free Africa, using a huge, old-fashioned 400 kw transmitter nicknamed Big Bertha and sited at Gwelo (now Gweru) in the Rhodesian Midlands.

So successful was The Voice, says the book, that the Central Intelligence Organisation was faced with the embarrassing situation of having countless Frelimo deserting to join the resistance, but being unable to find it because it existed in name only.

The book says several countries around the world, watching the Mozambican situation closely, then came up with enough finance to arm the handful of recruits who had so far gathered.

The training of recruits began on an isolated farm at Odzi, near Umtali (now Mutare).

Once the rebel leadership had been established the MNR began launching offensives, with often amazing success, and the response to recruiting became overwhelming, the book says.

Soon the MNR was providing the Rhodesians with a wealth of intelligence on Robert Mugabe's army movements and camps.

★ ★ ★

By the beginning of 1979, the SAS was operating with the MNR, at first in a training and advisory role and later in joint actions.

The MNR proved invaluable, both in guiding troops to the targets and in gathering intelligence.

The next step was the establishment, with SAS help, of MNR bases inside Mozambique, at which anti-Machel elements could rally.

The MNR, often with the SAS alongside, met with growing success as its campaigns spread.

But on the Rhodesian side political peace was being worked out, with the ceasefire and all-party, British-supervised elections on the horizon.

Mr Machel, says the book, had saved the Lancaster House talks by persuading Mr Mugabe to stay talking at the conference table.

To repay the favour, the British put a stop to the rebels' Rhodesian-based radio station.

The Voice of Free Africa went off the air in February 1980.

The rebels' training camp inside Rhodesia was quietly closed down, and the Central Intelligence Organisation and SAS connection with the rebel army came to an end as Zimbabwe came into being.

It was not, however, the end of the MNR, now 5 000-strong, and it carried on its campaign against Mr Machel with help from other sources.

"While the MNR had provided an excellent intelligence network, the plan to overthrow Machel and install a goverment sympathetic to Rhodesia had been overtaken by time and events," says the book.

"And yet, say Central Intelligence Organisation officers, it might well have been different.

"Had the necessary arms, money and other resources been available when the idea was first mooted and a definite time-scale been set, they feel they would have been able to accomplish the aim."

The book, to be launched on Sunday, the anniversary of Rhodesia's UDI, is being published by Three Knights Publishing, in conjunction with CNA, which has exclusive rights in South Africa on the book for six months.

The initial print order is a high 15 000.

Barbara Cole spent four years researching the book, tracking down former SAS men living in 15 countries, as well as Special Branch and Central Intelligence Organisation officers and politicians.

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The book documents the history of the SAS through the early days in the Western Desert to the formation of the Rhodesian SAS for service in Malaya through the Federation, the UDI era and finally the decolonisation of Rhodesia by the British in 1980 and the end of the regiment.

The MNR experience is just one small part. — Sapa.

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THE SAS MASSACRE THAT NEVER WAS

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S. times 11/11/84



Pete and Barbara Cole with her new book — Picture: JUHAN KUUS



ROBERT MUGABE: 'He moved from house t house but the SAS moni tored him'

By JACK DEWES

THE crack Rhodesian SAS had a secret plan to assassinate Robert Mugabe and wipe out his guerrilla army, a new book says.

Troops were positioned and briefed to carry out the massacre at a given command ... but it never came.

The troops were on standby to execute the plan from the moment the Rhodesian ceasefire took effect in December 1979. And they were still standing by, frustrated and angered, when Zanu triumphantly took power in April 1980.

The plan has been disclosed by Mrs Barbara Cole, the author of a book titled "The Elite — The Story of the Rhodesian Special Air Service".

Mrs Cole says Zipra — the armed wing of Zapu — and its leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, were to have been spared. Afterwards, Mr Nkomo would have been given the opportunity to form a coalition government with Bishop Abel Muzorewa, then Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, and former Prime Minister Mr Ian Smith.

The standby order came from the commanding officer of the SAS, Lieutenant-Colonel Garth Barrett, says Mrs Cole. Whether he was acting on instructions from any higher authority is not clear.

Massacre

As soon as the SAS received its orders, says Mrs Cole, men leaped into action. In double-quick time the SAS was ready to kill Mr Mugabe and massacre Zanla forces.

Day by day they waited for the command to strike, and each day they made further and finer preparations, spying on Zanla — Zanu's armed wing — and secretly deploying arms in Harare, then Salisbury.

Mugabe and his army were to die — amazing claim in book

Mrs Cole says other units were alerted to massacre Zanla's "boys from the bush" massed at 16 assembly points throughout the country. Those "boys" had come exceedingly carefully out of the bush, fearing they would be wiped out.

Mrs Cole says the whole of the Zanla hierarchy was in Harare at the time the plan was formulated. A secret codeword, which has not been disclosed, was to activate the assassination.

Her husband, Mr Pete Cole, who played an important part in the plan and was an SAS lieutenant at the time, says: "There was never a specific date. It went on and on — the best-planned operation of the entire war, as everyone believed."

Mr Cole says Zanla would have been attacked "in the early hours of one morning", whether they won the election or not.

"My target was to have been Simon Muzenda (Mr Mugabe's deputy). I knew exactly where Muzenda stayed, exactly where his car was, exactly what weapons were in his place.

"We were able to do reconnaissance from the air. We were able to walk around Muzenda's house in the guise of Wombles (elderly police reservists) who were policing the city.

Target

"We had more information on this target, from my own point of view, than I had ever had on any other target previously. We could not possibly have failed.

"Another big target, bigger than my own, was a building at the University of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia where many Zanla and Zipra troops were housed.

"We had the whole floorplan. We knew who slept in which bed, whether he had a weapon. This was going to be the first time that tanks would be used in that war. The tanks had been moved into Salisbury, they were on standby and could go into action in two or three minutes.

"Robert Mugabe would have been nailed by A Squadron. Who the commander of that squadron was, we better not say. Mugabe was at his house in Quorn Avenue in Mount Pleasant (a suburb).

"He had been staying at different houses from time to time, but A Squadron had been monitoring him for months."

Would Mr Mugabe's wife have been killed as well?

"I couldn't really say. If his wife had been in the house there would have been the possibility that maybe she would have died as well. But our plan was for political and military targets, never to kill civilian personnel.

"Instructions to the SAS were that if there was any possibility [illegible] tion — would come out an be held in a holding area."

"Zanla was fully expecte to fight it out. In that cas three storeys of the buildin would have been totally de molished and nobody woul have stood a chance of ge ting out."

Says Mr Cole: "The SA would not have hesitated moment if the command ha come. Part of our role was t boost morale at that time, t be seen armed at the street corners of the main part o the city, to give confidence t the white population.

Morale

"We stood on the street corners and tuned our radio to the local frequency. W heard at 9am the announce ment that Mugabe had no only won the election but ha been enormously victorious

How close the SAS came t an order to attack Zanla i

Minister clears police of murder cover-up

FOUR senior Zimbabwean police officers, said by a Bulawayo magistrate to have conspired to conceal the murder of four people by Fifth Brigade soldiers, "acted correctly under the circumstances", Zimbabwe's Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, has told Parliament.

Last month Bulawayo's senior regional magistrate, Mr Gordon Geddes, appealed to the Attorney-General, Mr Godfrey Chidyausiku, to

By MICHAEL HARTNACK
Harare

press charges against the police officers as well as the four Korean-trained soldiers whose arrest he ordered pending permission to have them prosecuted for murder.

Mr Mubako told the House of Assembly on Friday that the four soldiers would be charged with murder, but the allegations against the police officers "had been thoroughly investigated" and there was "found to be no justification for charging them".

Mr Geddes said in his October 4 inquest judgment that an off-duty Ndebele-speaking army officer, Lieutenant Edias Ndhlovu, his wife, Jennifer, and two unidentified black civilians were killed by Fifth Brigade troops who stopped them on the main Bulawayo-Victoria Falls road "as if the troops were hunting wild animals with spears".

Mr Geddes found that, when Lt Ndhlovu's unit failed to gain police co-operation in investigating his death, a Hwange-based magistrate, Mr George Romilly, braved personal threats to clear a massive official smokescreen which had been intended to obliterate all record of the killings.

Mr Romilly was told by Fifth Brigade commanders they were above the law, while the police inspector in charge at Lupane, near the scene of the killings, said he was told by superiors he was "blind" for the duration of anti-dissident operations in the area, and "would be told when to look up".

Mr Geddes said those responsible for the cover-up plot included a former commander of the police support unit, Senior Assistant Commissioner T Svaruka, the former officer commanding Matabeleland North province, and Assistant Commissioner Noah Mvere, as well as a chief superintendent and a superintendent.

On their orders, Mr Geddes said in his judgment, official police files were falsified or deliberately mislaid, references to the killings pasted over in police occurrence books or pages deleted.

Assistant Commissioner Mvere, who has since left the police following his conviction for breaking his wife's leg during a domestic dispute, telephoned Mr Romilly threatening to have him detained for subversion.

then shooting wasn't on."

Would Mr Nkomo have been killed as well?

"The target was Mugabe and Zanla," Mrs Cole says. "At the university there was a mixture of Zipra and Zanla troops. But the difference in this plan was that the opportunity would have been given for Zipra to surrender.

Fight

"The SAS was going to surround the place with stormtroopers who would call on Zipra to come out and surrender. It was fully expected that Zipra, having been given the word — prior to the ac-

whether the order was a ploy to cheer up the SAS, who in turn, would bolster the civilian' morale. Secretly it may have been decided long before that if Zanu won the election it would have won the country as well.

RDM

IL, Monday, November 12, 1984

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10 hurt as new violence flares in Zimbabwe

By MICHAEL HARTNACK
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — Zimbabwe suffered its second outbreak of violence in 48 hours when supporters of the Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe and his rival, Zanu-founder the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, clashed at the weekend in Masvingo (formerly Fort Victoria).

Zanu (Sithole) officials said 10 people were hurt in violence in Masvingo on Saturday night and the acting leader of the party in Zimbabwe Mr Phineas Sithole, the local provincial secretary Mr Nelson Diamini, and deputy national organising secretary Mr Timos Mafunga had been detained.

Mr Sithole is in self-imposed exile in Britain.

No government comment was available on the reported arrests.

The scene of the renewed violence was 200km north of the border town of Beit Bridge, where widespread rioting occurred on Friday as Zanu (PF) Women's League and Youth Wing members wreaked vengeance for the assassination of a member of Mr Mugabe's Central Committee, Senator Moven Ndiovu, by dissidents believed to be supporters of the opposition Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

As Beit Bridge returned to normal, the latest clashes occurred in Masvingo's Mucheke township when Zanu (Sithole) members attempted to hold a meeting in preparation for yesterday's internal party elections.

Zanu (PF) Youth Wing members are allegedly to have beseiged a carpenter's shop where the meeting was taking place and violence continued until police arrived.

There were no reports of faction fighting from other parts of Zimbabwe over the weekend, but the Minister of Justice, Mr Eddison Zvobgo, alleged that minority parties were deliberately fomenting trouble in the run-up to next year's general election.

Mr Zvobgo claimed Sithole supporters had arranged their election for November 11 as a provocative celebration of the 19th anniversary of Mr Ian Smith's unilateral declaration of Rhodesian independence from Britain.

Meanwhile in Harare yesterday government representatives boycotted Remembrance Sunday services at the Cenotaph in Harare's main park for the fourth successive year.

This has been done since independence because the government associates Remembrance Sunday with the UDI anniversary.

Last month the government censured the Harare City Council's plans to demolish the Cenotaph — as a reminder of imperial wars — saying it honoured those who died fighting fascism, which Zanu (PF) opposed.

How different R

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BILL McLEAN, in how the "innovati inspired the for

The Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) movement could, had adequate arms, money and other assistance been available, have overthrown the Machel regime in Mozambique in the late 1970s and installed a government sympathetic to the then white government in Rhodesia (and, presumably, to South Africa), claims a new book on the Rhodesian war.

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Though Rhodesia to the end denied officially that it was linked to the MNR, it was responsible for the conception, the birth, and the formative early years of the movement, says the book.

The first move was the establishment of an undercover radio station, the Voice of Free Africa, using a huge old-fashioned 400 kilowatt transmitter nicknamed Big Bertha, sited at Gwelo (now Gweru) in the Rhodesian Midlands.

So successful was The Voice, says the book, that the CIO was faced with the embarrassing situation of having "countless" Frelimo deserting to join the resistance — but being unable to find it because it existed in name only.

The book says "several countries around the world", watching the Mozambican situation closely, then came up with enough finance to arm the handful of recruits who had so far gathered.

The training of recruits began on an isolated farm at Odzi, near Umtali (now Mutare). Once the rebel leadership had been established, the MNR began launching offensives, with often amazing success, and the response to recruiting became overwhelming, the book says.



Mozambique's President Samora Machel — how close was the MNR to overthrowing him?

Soon the MNR was providing the Rhodesians with a wealth of intelligence on Zanla movements and camps. Avd when Frelimo began using Zanla forces against the MNR, they started to hit back.

By the beginning of 1979, the SAS was operating with the MNR, at first in a training and advisory role, and later in joint actions. The MNR proved invaluable, both in guiding troops to the target with their local knowledge, and acting as "faces" among the local population, gathering intelligence while the SAS remained under cover.

ferent Rhodesian story could have been



ent Samora Machel — R to overthrowing him?

BILL McLEAN, in Johannesburg, reviews a book that discloses how the "innovative Rhodesian military command" in 1976 inspired the formation of Mozambique's rebel movement, the MNR or Renamo.

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The next step was the establishment, with SAS help, of MNR bases inside Mozambique, at which anti-Machel elements could rally. The MNR, often with the SAS alongside, met with growing success as its campaigns spread.

But on the Rhodesian side, the political peace was being worked out, with the ceasefire and all-party British supervised elections on the horizon.

Machel, says the book, had saved the Lancaster House talks by persuading Robert Mugabe to stay talking at the conference table. To repay the favour, the British put a stop to the rebels' Rhodesian-based radio station. The Voice of Free Africa went off the air in February, 1980.

The rebels' training camp inside Rhodesia was quietly closed down, and the CIO and SAS connection with the rebel army came to an end as Zimbabwe came into being.

It was not, however, the end of the MNR, now some 5 000 strong, and it carried on waging its campaign against Machel, with help from other sources.

"While the MNR had provided an excellent intelligence network, the plan to overthrow Machel and install a government sympathetic to Rhodesia had been overtaken by time and events, says the book. "And yet, say CIO officers, it might well have been different.

"Had the necessary arms, money and other resources been available when the idea was first mooted and a definite timescale been set, they feel they would have been able to accomplish the aim."

The CIO, it adds, still felt Machel could have been ousted, Zanla expelled from Mozambique, "and the Rhodesian war could have been all over bar the shouting by 1978-79".

Ths book was launched last Sunday, November 11 — the anniversary of Rhodesia's UDI.

Barbara Cole spent four years researching the book, tracking down former SAS men living in 15 countries, as well as Special Branch and CIO officers and politicians, and sifting through masses of secret files and information smuggled out of Zimbabwe, she says.

The book documents the history of the SAS through the early days in the Western Desert (during World War Two) to the formation of the Rhodesian SAS for service in Malaya, through the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and the UDI era and, finally, the decolonisation of Rhodesia by the British in 1980 and the end of the regiment.

The MNR experience is just one small part. But it remains very close to Barbara's husband Peter, a former SAS Lieutenant. "When the Cabora Bassa line is blown up and the lights go out in our Amanzimtoti flat, I always think: 'I wonder if that was one of the blokes I taught?'". — SAPA.

Violence gathers momentum

Call for peace in Zimbabwe has a more urgent ring

STAR 14/11/84 362

HARARE — The call this month by Zimbabwe's Catholic bishops for a peace initiative has been given added emphasis and urgency by the killing of Senator Moven Ndlovu, a member of the ruling Zanu (PF) central committee.

The bishops appealed for help in communicating with the dissidents to establish what they were fighting for and offered to mediate between them and the government.

This raises the fundamental question of who speaks for the dissidents.

Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has said their god is Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo, and that Zapu has chosen to seek power through the bullet.

That, he said, was why he could no longer have Zapu Ministers in his government.

But Mr Nkomo and the dismissed Zapu Ministers have consistently disclaimed any association with the dissidents, whose anti-government activities started in earnest 2½ years ago.

Sporadic outbreaks of violence first claimed outside attention with the ambush of two freight agents on the main Bulawayo-Beitbridge road in March 1982.

By Robin Drew,
The Star Bureau

The outbreaks followed the dismissal from the Cabinet of Mr Nkomo and two other Zapu Ministers and the arrest of top Zapu officials Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and Lieutenant-General Lookout Masuku, both of whom are still in detention despite their acquittal on treason charges.

The dismissal of the Ministers and the trial of the Zapu officials centred on the discovery of huge arms caches on Zapu-owned property which was confiscated by the government.

Desertions from the national army of former guerilla fighters of Mr Nkomo's Zipra force swelled the ranks of the rebels, whose campaign hit the world headlines with the abduction of six foreign tourists in Matabeleland in July 1982.

The kidnappers wrote a ransom note demanding the release of General Masuku and Mr Dabengwa, the return of Zapu property and an end to harassment of Mr Nkomo.

By the beginning of 1983, 70 people had been killed.

During 1983, another 120 people were murdered and up to the end of July this year a further 45 had fallen prey to dissident killings.

The approximate death toll now of 250 includes 40 members of the white farming community in Matabeleland.

Scores of rapes, hundreds of armed robberies and horrific instances of mutilations and beatings have been recorded.

And there are unknown numbers of victims of security force operations, aimed at quelling popular support for the rebels, in which hundreds of people have perished.

Mr Nkomo, Mr Ian Smith and other Zimbabwe politicians have frequently urged the government to establish a high-powered commission for just such a purpose.

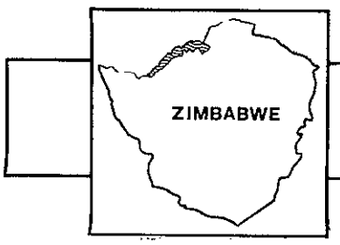
The Government's response has been that it is clear that Zapu is to blame.

There are fears in Zimbabwe now that the run-up to the general election due to be held early next year will see an intensification of violence.

But there has been no sign that Mr Mugabe intends to follow any course other than tough retaliatory action and further counter-dissident security operations.

Mugabe forcing Nkomo into a political wilderness

(362) C-Times 22/11/84



Michael Hartnack
Reports from Harare

FOR 99 days out of the hundred the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, seems content to conform to what appears to be his own desired self-image, the paternal varsity don, the doyen of the senior common room.

On the 100th day Mr Mugabe can work himself into a passion and reveal a highly emotional underlying nature.

The measured, deliberate way in which Mr Mugabe deals with all the crises in his cabinet usually seems calculated to leave his opponents with the feeling that they may have something to gain by continuing to cooperate with him. The public appearance of a final break is avoided.

Dismissed

In marked contrast was Mr Mugabe's wrathful reaction to the assassination at Beitbridge last week of Senator Moven Ndlovu, a member of the Zanu (PF) central committee.

When he arrived back in Harare from Senator Ndlovu's funeral, Mr Mugabe summarily dismissed the last two Zapu members of his cabinet, accusing their party's hierarchy of direct responsibility for the murder despite all the denials issued by the Zapu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The Zanu (PF)-Zapu alliance, forged during the Rhodesian bush war, was finally at an end. Mr Nkomo must now feel that the door to the Zimbabwean corridors of power has been slammed shut in his face for as long as Mr Mugabe controls the right of admission.

Violence

Mr Nkomo is largely to blame for this impasse since he has, from long political habit, adopted exactly the same attitude to the terrorist tactics of dissidents that the British miners' leader, Mr Arthur Scargill, adopts to picket-line violence outside the strikebound collieries.

Mr Scargill deplores the violence but says it is all provoked by the police and by the intransigence of the government in failing to negotiate with him on his own terms.

The similarity of Scargill-Nkomo political tactics is no mere coincidence, but the methods Mr Nkomo found so effective in the late 1950s and early 1960s in putting pressure upon successive British governments, and through Whitehall upon the Rhodesian government, cut no ice with Mr Mugabe.

They can only work upon authorities who hold grave inner reservations about the limits of their moral right to use coercion. Mr Mugabe has no qualms at all, being monumentally convinced that he is the leader of the Zimbabwean people's struggle for development and justice, within his own interpretation of the terms.

In short, Mr Nkomo's tactics have been an outmoded relic of the colonial era, and he is beginning to realize the appalling weakness of his position where a totally resolute opponent holds the apparatus of the state at his disposal.

There was a confession of impotence in Mr Nkomo's shrill reaction to the news that Mr Mugabe had sacked the Zapu ministers: "If he wants to ban the party, let him go ahead. If he wants to arrest us, let him go ahead. If he wants to kill us, let him go ahead."

Putting aside the disputed question of who was responsible for Senator Ndlovu's murder, and Mr Mugabe's apparently impetuous response to the killing, it appears the Zimbabwean leader may have followed in the footsteps of his Rhodesian predecessor, Mr Ian Smith, who repeatedly fell victim to the propaganda distortions of his own sycophantic broadcasting media.

Since the Zapu congress last month Mr Mugabe's men have not stopped talking about Mr Nkomo's alleged plan to form an anti-Zanu (PF) coalition with Mr Smith, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole.

Unless Zanu (PF) is relying on Central Intelligence Organization briefings, to which the overseas press are not privy, these accusations seem to be based on a misunderstanding of what Mr Nkomo actually said at the congress.

Misunderstood

Those who were present to hear Mr Nkomo gained the impression that by his reference to the formation of a "broad national front" he was not suggesting any anti-Mugabe league, but hinting, in an almost pathetically suppliant manner, that in return for a slightly bigger slice of the political cake, Zapu — or at least Mr Nkomo himself — would be prepared to acquiesce to Mr Mugabe's one-party state.

If this was Mr Nkomo's meaning and he was wilfully misunderstood then Mr Mugabe has lost a golden opportunity for getting his own way at remarkably little political cost.

Civil war

Since independence Mr Mugabe has proved himself a past master in the art of using his lavish patronage prerogatives to maintain peace and political stability. British politics have not seen Mr Mugabe's equal at this game since the days of King Charles II and the first British Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole.

Those two British rulers, like Mr Mugabe, were trying to prevent a recurrence of open civil war in a situation of incipient rebellion, and it was said of Walpole that he knew the price of every member of the House of Commons barring six.

One does not know what Mr Nkomo's political price would have been to assist at the funeral rites of the Lancaster House constitution but he seemed, pretty clearly, open to an offer.

Those of Mr Mugabe's ardent supporters here who have publicly insisted that Mr Nkomo has been bent solely on confrontation since the Zapu congress have done their Prime Minister no favours, and if Mr Mugabe has been influenced by the emotional climate of blind anti-Nkomo feeling they have created, he may live to regret it.



Mr Joshua Nkomo



Mr Robert Mugabe



Mr Arthur Scargill



Mr Ian Smith



Bishop Abel Muzorewa

Three whites freed after 80 are held in Zimbabwe

STAR 22/11/84

362

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Three white residents of Beitbridge who were among 80 people detained after the murder of Senator Moven Ndlovu on November 9 have been set free, Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe told Parliament yesterday.

But Mr Mugabe made it plain to the House that he was not happy at being questioned by an independent white member about the arrests in Beitbridge.

The police were only doing their job, he said.

"If each time one or two whites are arrested, questions are asked here, we grow suspicious," said Mr Mugabe.

CUSTODY

The Prime Minister said that up to yesterday 22 of the 80 originally arrested were still in custody.

Of the three whites — Mr Raymond Roth, Mr Lou Watson and Mr Mervyn Kluckow — he said: "They were not not arrested for nothing.

"Let us not assume that because people of a different colour are arrested, it is done on a racial basis. The police act on information but if the evidence is unsustainable, people must be released."

Beitbridge is still suffering from the aftermath of the murder of the senator when gangs of Zanu (PF) supporters turned on Zapu members.

The national news agency, Ziana, reported that some people who fled the border town after the rioting have not yet returned.

Unease in run-up to Zimbabwe's elections



MUGABE . . . Zanu head.

HARARE — There is a certain unease to be felt here as the somewhat prolonged run-up to Zimbabwe's first post-independence national elections begins.

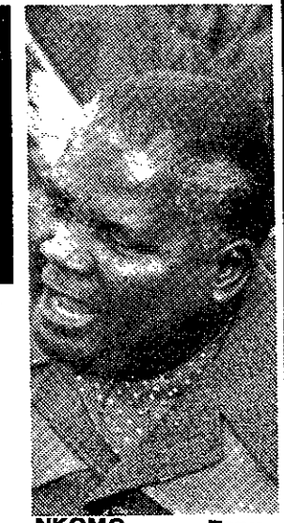
Of supreme importance to the general elections, due in February but likely to be postponed for at least two months, will be how the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) Party fares in the western provinces of Matabeleland, the stronghold of Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu).

Elections for the district councils which administer the peasant farming areas, began last month. They are conducted on a party political basis and are a keen indicator of polling next year.

Violence

In several areas of Matabeleland, violence erupted after council elections. Allegations have been made in the House of Assembly of polling irregularities and this week the Government froze district council elections in Matabeleland North.

A political blitzkrieg by Zanu in the Midlands, the province adjacent to Matabeleland, appears to have obliterated Zapu support there. The province has long represented the borderline where support for either party is more or less equally divided.



NKOMO . . . Zapu head.

In addition to Zanu's determined political campaigning to edge Zapu out, mob violence by Zanu women and youth wing members has driven Zapu underground.

Curious

In Matabeleland south, a curious mixture has emerged. In the Beitbridge district council, 11 of the 12 wards were won by Zanu. The area has also traditionally been a marginal one, because of the predominance of the Venda-speaking people, historically at odds with the nearly one million Ndebeles who dominate the rest of Matabeleland.

Zanu has campaigned hard in the area through John Mbedzi, a former Zapu Central Committee member and a fluent Venda speaker who defected to Zanu after Mr Nkomo failed to nominate him as a parliamentary candiate in 1980.

The district council elections are distinct from those in the border town where two weeks ago Zanu Central Committee member Senator Moven Ndlovu was gunned down. Zapu won all seats on the town council a week before the murder and Zanu demonstrators promptly closed down the council offices. All six councillors are in detention for alleged involvement in Senator Ndlovu's assassination.

Curfew

In Matobo district, Mr Nkomo's home, Zapu comfortably took all 18 wards despite the presence there three months ago of Government security forces enforcing a curfew.

In Insiza district next door, Zanu scored a seeming victory over Zapu's traditional support, taking all 12 seats. But the district is the home of volatile Zanu politburo member Senator Enos Nkala, the only Ndebele in the Zanu inner sanctum.

In Gwanda district last week, Zapu won all 18 wards, and a few days later gangs of youths in the town's high density area of Jahunda fought night battles on the streets. One man was injured, Zapu's offices were set on fire and the home of five other Zapu members were damaged.

Guerillas

In Bulilimamange district, a wedge west of Bulawayo running alongside the Botswana border for 200 miles, the election officer raised eyebrows when he announced that all the candidates stood as independents, and none had been sponsored by the contending parties.

Up until this year, guerillas crossing from their bases inside Botswana would have to pass through Bulilimamange, and exerted a strong influence, as did the Government forces deployed there against them.

The latest victim was a headmaster and recently elected Zanu official who was shot dead by guerillas last month.

The freezing of elections in Matabeleland North has not been explained. However, it follows complaints by Zanu Central Committee member Callistus Ndlovu, who defected to Zanu earlier this year, that Zapu was carrying out political intimidation in the province.

Queue

District council elections are not conducted by secret ballot, nor have they ever been. Voters simply queue up behind the candidate of their choice, or they gather on election day and vote by show of hands.

Zapu MPs in the House of Assembly have demanded the discontinuation of this system, called "acclamation," because they say it is wide open to intimidation.

Conversely, the argument goes, how free of intimidation is the secret ballot when voters in a constituency can be threatened with the direst consequences should a candidate of the opposition win? — London Observer Service.

Women on trial for killing their babies after being raped

Soldiers and rebels 'rape' Matabeleland

362 Star 4/12/89

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — The three women standing forlornly in the dock of the High Court in Bulawayo mirrored the tragedy of Matabeleland and the suffering of its rural people.

All had been charged with killing their new-born babies, and had pleaded guilty.

The infants they decided they could not live with had all been conceived as the result of brutal rapes by armed men — dissidents and government soldiers — in the strife-torn rural areas of the province.

A 25-year-old woman from Lupane was jailed for five years after she described to the court how she had hit her baby on the head with a hoe shortly after giving birth, and had thrown the corpse into a dustbin and tried to burn it.

She said in mitigation that she had been raped on three occasions while staying with relatives in the Bembesi area — once by an army soldier and twice by dissidents.

She fled to Bulawayo for safety and later discovered she was pregnant.

Afraid that people would accuse her of having slept with dissidents, she decided to kill the child, she said.

Another woman, who said she was 21 but was considered much younger by the court, said she had been staying with her grandmother in a village in the Kezi area of southern Matabeleland.

Bandits visited the village on three occasions, and each time she was raped by the rebel leader.

She was accused of being a "sellout" because her brother was in the army.

She ran to the nearby government-run farm near Antelope mine, where she was employed as a casual labourer. There she discovered she was pregnant.

Early this year, the estate was visited by security forces on anti-dissident operations. The soldiers called all the pregnant women together and told them to explain their pregnancies.

The woman said she was assaulted by the soldiers who told her to get rid of the child as they did not want to see a baby "fathered by the dissidents".

Shortly after the birth of the child, she decided to kill it by strangling it with a piece of cloth.

She then dumped the body in a disused toilet.

That night, other women on the estate learnt she had killed the child and beat her up before handing her over to the police.

The woman told the court she would have kept the baby but was afraid and confused.

She killed the baby because she was afraid the soldiers would kill her because the child's father was a dissident.

She said she could not go to Bulawayo because of the curfew and could not return to her grandmother's village because of the dissidents.

She was jailed for 12 months.

DESPERATE

The third woman, a 23-year-old from Nkayi, was sentenced to four years' jail after she admitted putting her new-born baby into a cardboard box and crushing it with a piece of metal. She told the court she had been repeatedly raped by a soldier in the Nkayi area.

She had eventually fled in desperation to Bulawayo to escape the soldiers, she said.

Caught in the middle between the two armed sides, the women are often forced by the dissidents to cook for them and later abused by the army for "sheltering dissidents".

Because of the security problem, the government has curtailed many of its development, health and welfare programmes which are most beneficial to women and their children.

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Mugabe attacks US for 'deceit'

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — Zimbabwe and the United States may be teetering towards another diplomatic crisis following a scathing attack by the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, on the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Dr Chester Crocker.

On his return from last Friday's frontline leaders' summit in Tanzania, Mr Mugabe reinforced his reputation as the most outspoken of the six leaders by accusing the United States and South Africa of "fraudulently deceiving" the other frontline leaders into thinking Angola's MPLA government had accepted the principle of "linkage" between SWA/Namibian independence and a Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

President Eduardo dos Santos had in fact rejected the "linkage" proposal ouright, he said.

The US is currently sponsoring a R360-million aid programme here and has previously expressed its displeasure over Zimbabwe's unabashed hostility to its foreign policy.

There was a pointed cutback in help last year when Zimbabwe refused to condemn the Soviet shooting down of a Korean airliner.

But in his latest attack on US policy towards South Africa, Mr Mugabe said the frontline leaders were "wiser" after hearing President Dos Santos's version of negotiations with Dr Crocker than they were left by the Assistant Secretary of State on a visit to their capitals.

"Our conclusion is that the United States and South Africa are acting fraululently on the whole question, and the sooner the international community reverts to the Security Council for ways and means of implementing United Nations Resolution 435 the better," said Mr Mugabe.

He said the frontline leaders found it "peculiar" that Dr Crocker declined to convey to the South Africans President Dos Santos's outright rejection of the US-backed proposal that all Cuban troops should be withdrawn from Angola within 12 weeks, leaving only civilians whose presence would be monitored.

'Arrogant reply'

"They (the Americans) refused to report the American reply to South Africa saying it would kill the negotiations ... whereas South Africa's completely unjustified and arrogant reply is accepted by the United States and conveyed in happiness.

"That position to us is absolutely peculiar and serves to underline what we have said before about the United States' so-called constructive engagement," he said.

Indefinite jail for 'SA spies'

CAPE TIMES 13/12/84 362

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — Two alleged South African spies held here for the past three years appear to be doomed to indefinite detention despite their formal acquittal in the High Court last year on Official Secrets Act charges.

Mrs Justice Mavis Gibson yesterday rejected a plea by the two former officers of Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organization, Phillip Hartlebury, 32, and Colin Evans, 29, for a fresh review of their imprisonment by "ministerial order" under the 19-year-old state of emergency.

In a public judgment handed down in the High Court after a secret hearing in October, Mrs Justice Gibson noted that the South African trade mission in Harare had admitted in diplomatic exchanges that Evans and Hartlebury were in Pretoria's employ.

She stated: "It would be inconceivable that the South African Government, having gone to the lengths that it did to secure the release of the applicants, and having run the risk of incurring the diplomatic opprobrium that such disclosures would have incurred, would not wish to continue to use the services of the applicants in some other suitable manner at home or abroad."

Nothing would stop them, once released, from going to South Africa to work against Zimbabwe again, she said.

She said lawyers had failed to prove that Zimbabwe's detainees' review tribunal had acted in bad faith by refusing to recommend the release of the two after the last secret hearing of their case in May.

The judge said the South African Government had offered 115 Angolan prisoners-of-war in exchange for Evans and Hartlebury, and when this offer failed threw in "a Russian spy" as an additional bargaining counter.

When bargaining proved useless, South Africa sent an unsuccessful military "rescue mission" in August 1982 in which four former Rhodesian soldiers were killed by Zimbabwean security forces in the Sengwe tribal area of southern Zimbabwe, the judge said. South African defence headquarters claimed the patrol had crossed into Zimbabwe without authority.

Lawyers for Evans and Hartlebury are studying the judgment to see if it offers grounds for an appeal.

RDM 24/12/84 (362)

Zimbabwe churches in peace call

By MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — The heads of every major Christian denomination in Zimbabwe have joined in a Christmas campaign to demand an end to pre-election political violence in the country.

Among their avowed aims are the signing of a solemn covenant by all political and tribal leaders to forswear inciting their followers to violence.

"A dark cloud is sailing across the country causing panic, terror, fear, insecurity and hopelessness as more and more people lose respect for life, human dignity and human rights," warn the churchmen.

An advertisement by the church heads takes up nearly half a page in yesterday's "Sunday Mail", and says as momentum builds up towards next year's scheduled general election a violent spirit or "Ngozi" is taking possession of the hearts and minds of many Zimbabweans.

In Shona tribal religion an "Ngozi" is a revenge-seeking poltergeist.

"If it is not exorcised the pre-election days will be bloody, destructive, costly and wasteful," warn the denomination heads, who have formed a "continuation committee" to pursue their goal.

Zimbabwe's Roman Catholic bishops, who have clashed with the Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe over their denunciations during the past year of dissident violence and state counter-violence in Matabeleland, were represented at the meeting of more than 30 church leaders in Harare last week which decided to launch the campaign.

The meeting was chaired by the Presbyterian Moderator of Mashonaland, the Rt Rev Herbert Chikomo, and inspired, said the Anglican Bishop The Rt Rev John Hatendi, by an initiative from the former Southern Rhodesian Prime Minister Mr Garfield Todd.

Drastic fiscal controls pay off in Zimbabwe

29/12/84

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Mercury Correspondent

HARARE—The drastic import restrictions and exchange control clamps imposed by Mr Robert Mugabe's government last March have combined to yield a dramatic improvement in Zimbabwe's balance of payments position, reports the December issue of RAL Merchant Bank executive guide to the Zimbabwean economy.

The publication said final figures for 1983 showed that the value of Zimbabwean exports increased by 19 percent following the devaluation of the Zimbabwean dollar in December 1982.

In the first six months of 1984 the value of exports increased by 25 percent compared with the first six months of 1983.

'For the whole of 1984 the value of exports could well reach R1 700 million,' the magazine predicts.

The publication said of stringent exchange control allocations the value of imports fell from R1 352 million in 1982 to R1 327 million in 1983. In view of inflation running at 15 to 20 percent according to unofficial figures, this represents a massive drop in real terms.

In the first six months of 1984 the value of imports increased by seven percent to R712 million compared with R666 million in the first half of 1983.

Treble

RAL said 'for the whole of 1984 imports are unlikely to exceed R1 437 million'.

'Consequently the trade surplus of R111 million in 1983 could treble in 1984, possibly reaching R375 million.'

The RAL review said the position of Zimbabwe's 'invisibles' account was rather more difficult to estimate as balance of payments figures for 1983 had not yet been published. The impact of Zimbabwe's devaluation of external freight and port dues was difficult to assess.

'It seems reasonable to expect an increase in net payments of about R25 million on this account in 1983 and a further increase of about R18,75 million to reach a net outflow of about R181 million in 1984,' the publication said.

It said the Government's controversial action in freezing remittances of incomes, rents and dividends to former residents was officially estimated to have saved the country about R216 million.

The publication forecast that the net outflow on current account, estimated to be R500 million in 1983, was expected to fall to about R31 million in 1984.a

'This small deficit is likely to be more than offset by capital account transactions giving rise to an overall credit balance for the first time since 1979.'