

ZIMBABWE - GENERAL

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# Zimbabwe's troubled university loses its head

By Paul Moyo 11/8/91

THE philosopher Jakob Bronowski said there exists an ancient, unspeakably bitter and unending warfare between intellectual leadership and government.

Nobody seems quite sure whose side Prof Walter Kamba was on during his 10 years as the first black principal of the University of Zimbabwe, but for the Chancellor, President Robert Mugabe, Kamba could not have chosen a worse moment to announce his retreat from the firing line. Standing beside Mugabe at this year's graduation ceremony Kamba complained there had been "too many fingers in the affairs of the university, non-professional fingers, with a wide variety of agenda."

Mugabe appeared more monolithic and remote than usual but students cheered as Kamba, a Scottish-trained jurist, made clear reference to the storm over the 1990 University Amendment Act, which gives the government wide powers to decide who may teach, who may study, and what course contents must be.

As if replying to accusations he has been too close to the ruling Zanu (PF), Kamba protested: "I am a professional at heart, by experience, dedication and commitment."

When Kamba took over, the Mount Pleasant suburban campus was the most fanatical source of support for Mugabe's Zanu (PF). Today (and

many observers claim this explains recent legislation) it is a hotbed of anti-government agitation.

Zimbabwe's official news media have mysteriously obtained internal reports on student indiscipline, and used these to brand the university "a den of hoodlums". A student "Mafia" was terrorising the men's residence and any women who ventured on campus, said The Herald.

The Herald published a letter from an undergraduate who claimed: "The students representative council has become a Zimbabwe Unity Movement forum. Mbanje (dagga) is sold by student 'jazzmen' openly."

"It appears most of our lecturers in certain departments are recruited because of their socialist or Marxist ideological inclination. We, the students suffer this, especially if you argue against Marxism. Where then does academic freedom exist?"

The Herald was less eager to headline problems when members of the student Zanu (PF) branch — now defunct — beat up white pedestrians in the city centre following the death of Mozambique's President Samora Machel. They were not prosecuted.

In the same year, a lecturer departed following allegations he obtained higher marks for women students in return for sexual favours.

Some veterans of the University of

## MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

Rhodesia, which defiantly set itself up against Ian Smith's government as "an island of non-racial learning", say campus autonomy was compromised soon after independence when certain faculties began recruiting "special advisers" to help make key appointments. These advisers turned out to be cabinet ministers.

Meanwhile the number of students on campus quadrupled, in line with Mugabe's drive to increase primary and secondary school enrolments from 800 000 to 2.6-million.

In 1989 the university was closed for six months, following violent protests against unpunished ministerial corruption, but students have repeatedly backed away from threats of expulsion knowing there are 7 000 disappointed applicants for places each year.

The most outspoken old-style Marxist on campus is law department chairman Dr Kempton Makamure. Other academics timidly refused to give interviews, but Makamure loudly accused the state of "inflicting an ever-present sense of fear of academic security among

both staff and students."

"Cape Town, Natal, Wits, now enjoy more academic freedom than us," he claims.

Sociology professor Angela Cheater (formerly of the University of Natal) has resigned in protest against the University Amendment Act, as has Dr Anthony Reeler, of the department of psychiatry.

Yet a woman graduate said it was neither politics, nor the breakdown in discipline, that was currently eroding standards, and driving abroad the brightest teachers and students.

"You can get sloshed out of your mind, not pitch up to deliver lectures, and have a situation where at the hint of any trouble, staff desert the campus. But the library is the essence of the university."

"Two years ago students were told to replace books on the shelves themselves because the staff could not keep up. The library has now deteriorated to a point where you just could not study at this university for a master's degree."

"You queue for hours on a Saturday morning to get texts photocopied, only to be told the machine can do only four or five pages, and back you go to the end of the queue."

"We are losing all the best people who you would want to help with your dissertation."

"Plagiarism is now a big problem because the library has insufficient books, while students can get an inflow of books from America to reproduce."

Administrators often appear "at war" with teaching staff. She struggled to concentrate through one examination while enraged candidates shouted outside. They had been excluded for lack of chairs and desks, but were allowed to sit the same paper later, against exam rules.

Academics are now acutely nervous about who will succeed Kamba, and how long the university may lack a principal.

The names of the secretary to the Zimbabwean cabinet, Dr Charles Utebe, and the chief executive of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, Dr Simba Makoni, have been mooted.

Curiously, an overview reveals that the university's problems are akin to those of most Zimbabwean institutions (the railways, the police, hospitals, and so on): intense pressure of population on limited facilities, insufficient new capital, insufficient technical skills, unnecessary political interference, and energies wasted in ruinous ideological squabbles. A second (technical) university, being constructed in Bulawayo, will relieve pressures, but is likely to replicate some of the problems.

## Harare praise for De Klerk's move on funds

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, has welcomed the moves by President de Klerk to restore confidence shaken by the disclosures of secret funding of Inkatha.

Dr Shamuyarira said Mr de Klerk's actions had gone some way to demonstrate good intentions.

The removal from their security positions of General Malan and Mr Vlok, and more importantly, the measures to remove the secret slush funds were steps in the right direction, he said.

The next step should be discussion between the various political groups and the Government on the new constitution.

"The feeling at the recent OAU ad hoc committee meeting in Abuja was that enough time had been spent on preliminaries. It was time now to move to the constitutional dispensation. President de Klerk's actions have gone some way to making this possible."

● The slush fund scandal

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# Zimbabwe's budget secrets

610m 2/8/91.

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ZIMBABWE'S record R9 605bn annual budget, presented to parliament on July 25, revives anxious questions about the will of President Robert Mugabe's government to grasp the nettle of reducing expenditure on subsidies, on parastatals, on security, and politically controversial projects.

"I am overwhelmed by the budget," quipped one Zimbabwean economist, after seeing budget papers stating that the bureaucracy will continue to grow by 2,581 posts to 191 497, despite the assertion of senior finance minister Bernard Chidzero that it must be trimmed by at least 25%. At independence in 1980, there were only 40 000 civil servants. New recruits were given forms demanding: "State your political background."

Heading a long list of worrisome (and increased) budgetary outlays is R60.2m for "special services", buried in the allocations for the cabinet.

Never reported in the local media, never permitted to come up for debate in the Zimbabwean parliament, "special services" is the vote for Mugabe's secret police, the feared Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO). In 1990-91, the provision grew 25% and is up 18% again this year although growth of the general defence

vote has been limited to 6%.

How the sinister "special services" budget has grown, first in Rhodesia and then Zimbabwean society, can be seen by examining the estimates for 1971-72, the first year of Ian Smith's disastrous bush war, when the late Ken Flower received a trifling 825 000 Rhodesian dollars (R970 000 at contemporary exchange rates) to spy upon and harass suspected government opponents.

A R12.9m overall saving has been made in this year's vote for the fiercely controversial "ministry of political affairs", which assists Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) party, but only by virtue of the deletion of last year's grandiose R15.9m plan for compulsory national service for all school leavers, which came to nothing (yet the money was apparently spent).

Continued direct channeling of R31.4m in taxpayers' money to the party has been condemned as undemocratic and against the spirit of the World Bank-approved economic

## MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

liberalisation programme.

With the continuing war in Mozambique, defence and "special services" absorb R1,044bn or nearly 11% of the budget, while education at R1,371bn (up 12%) remains the largest single outlay.

Surprisingly, only R12.9m is set aside for Mugabe's plan for far-reaching land redistribution, which he says will include purchases of the entire 6-million hectare maize and tobacco belt. Zimbabwe's 4 000 commercial farmers privately see this omission as a reassurance that nothing precipitate is intended, despite removal of their constitutional right of appeal against nationalisation.

The agricultural finance corporation receives R18.6m to make good monies never repaid by small-scale farmers.

Agricultural subsidies, chiefly aimed at keeping down the cost of

food for lower income families, total R212.8m. In line with government's price rationalisation policy, the R23.6m budgeted increases in subsidies do not match Zimbabwe's 26% inflation rate.

Subsidies to the perennially debt-ridden Zimbabwe National Railways have been trimmed more drastically by R91.1m to R127.7m.

The state farming corporation, Arda, now with a million hectares of formerly prime farmland under its control, requires a R14.6m payment, and Air Zimbabwe, R22.9m (a R15.2m increase).

The Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Company receives R119.4m (an extra R33.5m).

Other recipients of Chidzero's bounty are the government-owned hotel chain, ZITDC, which receives R3.2m, the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (R8.5m) and national news agency, Ziana (R860 000).

International financiers have endorsed the principle of Chidzero's R61.9m provision for public assistance, cushioning the effect of struc-

tural adjustment for the ultra-poor. Repayments on loans increase nearly 100% by R565m. Observers say this reflects planned investment in employment generating industries under the structural adjustment programme.

Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries president John Deary welcomed the positive trends in the budget, but expressed doubts that concessions of personal tax would halt the exodus to Botswana and SA of skilled Zimbabweans.

The minimum level of income tax was raised by 33% to an income of R4 128 a year. The top rate of tax, payable on incomes above R38 700, is reduced from 60% to 55%.

Company tax is to be reduced to a flat rate of 42.5%.

Representatives of all Zimbabwe's private sector bodies have agreed with the Commercial Farmers' Union, which described the budget as a "confidence-building budget", but there is concern that many of the inherited abuses remain a year into the start of economic liberalisation. Should Chidzero achieve his dream of succeeding Javier Perez de Cuellar at the UN secretariat, no successor would have the stature to impose reforms where Chidzero had failed.



# KEN OWEN ON SUNDAY

the next government. That is the nature of man.

Already, the most alarming feature of the ANC's policies is its desperate hostility to anything that might curb the power of the central government, which the ANC plans to use for social engineering on a scale matched only by apartheid. And they don't want interference from liberal ninnies.

THE Nationalists have at last grasped the point: they had better tidy the place up before they hand it over. The realisation has created an extraordinary set of political circumstances in which the ruling elite perceives its own best interests to be served, not by its habitual corruption

and privilege, but by an austere sense of justice.

Foreseeing the loss of power, they see expediency as well as virtue in doing unto others as others will soon be doing unto them.

That is why we have been hectored all week about the need to make sacrifices to overcome the great deprivation that exists all around us. We are told that we can quarrel about the methods to eradicate deprivation, but there can be no argument about the need to do so.

Quite right. Some forms of sacrifice are overdue, and some may well be beneficial. For example, the declining literacy and numeracy of white children has coincided with shrinking class size and a multiplication of soft options; it may do good if

Registration Act loaded with evil symbols: pencils in the hair, dividers, the examination of nails, and all the foul accoutrements of classification — that De Klerk's promise to now to have been a point. This is illusion. The party was already well past no return on a course that of the Act inevitable. mere politics: the technical method and timing, the of law-making. In way is clear to create a of Parliament, in this switched from ideology to questions of governance. Nationalist leaders denounced apartheid as had never had anything and warned solemnly of to be made by rich cry "hooray". In the first right to set about correcting injustices of the past second place, it is expedient. is morality so plainly. This country is destined a social revolution as political transformation,

and the nature of this double transition depends greatly on the order in which changes occur.

For example, if the military officers' corps remains lily-white and overwhelmingly Afrikaans, as it is now, the army will be purged (within five years?) as it was purged of English officers after 1948.

If the judiciary remains lily-white, the courts will be quickly crammed with judges of dubious qualifications, just as the Nationalists packed the bench with judges whose qualifications (in the words of the outstanding barrister, Sydney Kentridge) were not always evident to the legal profession.

If white schools have 15 pupils in a class when power shifts and black classes 60, then every white pupil will find himself surrounded very soon by a majority of black children, without time or opportunity for adjustment. And so forth.

Moreover, the successor government — whatever its ideological hue — can be relied upon to misuse power in exactly the same manner as the National Party has done, and to use the same unjust laws for that purpose.

Every example of atrocious behaviour, or tyranny, or corruption, or the abuse of power by Nationalists will be gravely put forward as justification for similarly atrocious behaviour by

ment schemes, and job programmes, launched by the state whenever it does not know what else to do, but productive, wealth-creating industrial jobs.

On this front, things are coming together. Austere monetary policies have begun to curb the ruinous inflation of the past two decades (more effectively, I believe, than most economists will yet acknowledge), sanctions are falling away rapidly, and excess capacity in transport and electricity generation gives the country a competitive edge.

The repayment of foreign debt, painful though it was, has left the economy lean and hard, and the effects are beginning to show in the export performance. That this will be a hard year is universally acknowledged; but the chances are good that towards the end of 1991 South Africa will begin its first long, low-inflation, production-led growth cycle since the 60s. If that can be achieved, this country will show its astonishing strengths.

But growth, while it is the most effective long-term way to overcome poverty, will not suffice in the short term. The needs are simply too urgent, and expectations are greater. If the transition from apartheid to democracy is not to be mindlessly disrupted, the government will have

to move very quickly in some areas which are traditionally and correctly within its purview.

The first, obviously, is education and training, but even that is an intractable task, and a long-term investment. The second is shelter and land. The third is residual health care for the poor. And if any of this is to succeed, there is a need to rehabilitate the police force in order to ensure personal security in a time of great fear and continuing disorder.

THE politics of the coming year will be dominated by the constitutional negotiations. The all-party conference looks like beginning within months, and it is bound to generate turbulence in the streets as each party's followers try to bring pressure to bear on the negotiations. The ANC will resort to mass action; the communist-led unions will strike; the CP-led farmers will have picnics in the streets of Pretoria. The government's best weapon is to govern, and to govern justly. President De Klerk has, perhaps unwittingly, put his party into an odd position where it best serves its own selfish interests by being unselfish. The new sanctimony of the Nationalists may be hard to bear, but don't complain: this is the way democracies are born.

reduced teachers to state effort to teach grammar and maths — fancy stuff. of farm subsidies has farmers lack the capital to succeed on they have been sus- rigged markets and -protected industrial- about to suffer much fate, and the trade the new labour elite escape the effects. is no more than the . The only way to on the general Africans is to create make-work "employ-

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**BCCI's high interest  
lured Zimbabwe Rail**

Harare 2/8/91.  
HARARE — Zimbabwe's state-owned railway stands to lose US\$85m because of the shutdown of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International in Britain, it was reported yesterday.

The railway, of neighbouring Zambia also faces losses of about US\$28m, Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper said.

The Herald, published in Harare by the state-owned Mass Media Trust, said a total of US\$113m raised from the liquidation of the assets of a former colonial railway company was banked with BCCI in London in 1985 because of "the very high rate of interest" offered.

Cash raised from the liquidation of the British-registered Rhodesia Railways company was transferred to BCCI from National Westminster.

BCCI offered 11.5% interest on fixed deposits raised by the liquidation.

It said official liquidator Bernard Leigh Gadsden had been asked by the Zimbabwe Transport Ministry "to make representations to officials handling the BCCI crisis in Britain to see if some of the money could be salvaged".

Subsidiaries of the scandal-hit BCCI in both Zambia and Zimbabwe have remained open.

The Zambian and Zimbabwean governments hold majority ownership of both subsidiaries and officials say they managed their affairs independently of the parent organization. — Sapa-AP.

# Kaunda, Mugabe in clash over SA

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia clashed yesterday over sanctions against South Africa.

President Mugabe's statement on sanctions was in direct conflict with one reportedly made the previous evening by President Kaunda in an address to Zambia's ruling United National Independence Party.

According to Ziana, the official Zimbabwean news agency, President Kaunda, who is chairman of the frontline states, called for sanctions to be lifted and for the ban on contact with South Africa to end "to start off the key dialogue on a new non-racial constitution for that country".

"What is happening in South Africa now is not just token symbols but realities," President Kaunda was quoted as saying.

The Zambian leader has reportedly been hesitating for the past year over the opening of a South African trade mission in Lusaka. The South African trade mission in Harare assumed in 1980 the functions of the former South African diplomatic mission to Rhodesia, but President



**CAMPAIGN TRAIL ...** President Kaunda canvassing for votes yesterday before the UNIP congress. Picture: AP

Mugabe forbids ministerial-level contacts with Pretoria.

Yesterday's disagreement was the first blatant public divergence of views on South Africa between the two presidents.

In his speech to a conference of African socialist parties, President Mugabe said

Zimbabwe must continue to insist on sanctions against South Africa until the advent of an "administration that does not owe its existence to apartheid".

It was his most categorical commitment to indefinite boycotts since February 1990.

The Zimbabwean leader said "the confidence we had begun to develop in President De Klerk has been severely shaken" by "recent revelations of the South African government machinations in fostering division, violence and banditry among the black people".

Mr Mugabe said that although Zimbabwe welcomed reforms that had taken place in South Africa, it was still governed by a regime elected under apartheid laws.

In June, Zimbabwe asked South Africa to update its 1964 "most favoured nation" trade treaty, arousing expectations of a drastic policy change.

In his address, Mr Mugabe defended socialism, saying it was "a fundamental tenet of African society" that had been interrupted by imperialism and colonialism.

He warned that strikes and divisive nationalism such as those at present breaking out in Eastern Europe could bring chaos to Africa.

# Keep sanctions, says Mugabe

By 8/8/91  
MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe yesterday called for sanctions against SA to be retained, a call which conflicts directly with the position taken by Frontline states chairman and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda.

Kaunda yesterday said sanctions should be lifted and contacts with SA resumed "to start off the key dialogue on a new non-racial constitution for that country".

Mugabe and Kaunda have previously been thought by diplomatic observers to be at odds over Mugabe's more militant attitude towards SA, but yesterday's was the first blatant public divergence of views.

Kaunda has reportedly

been hesitating for the past year over the opening of a SA trade mission in Lusaka. In 1980 the SA trade mission in Harare assumed the functions of the former SA diplomatic mission to Rhodesia, but Mugabe forbids ministerial level contacts with Pretoria.

Meanwhile, Mugabe yesterday committed Zimbabwe to maintaining pressure for sanctions until the end of white rule in SA, slamming the door on immediate prospects of economic co-operation with Pretoria.

In his most uncompromising statement since President F W de Klerk began the reform process last year, Mugabe said the con-

fidence he had begun to develop in De Klerk had been eroded by the Inkatha funding scandal.

In his speech to representatives of African socialist parties Mugabe also defended socialist concepts which he said represented an African tradition interrupted by imperialism and colonialism.

He attacked the Mozambican rebel movement Renamo for attempting to take advantage of Zimbabwe's compliance with the Rome ceasefire agreement, under which Zimbabwean troops were withdrawn to designated areas.

Zimbabwe would continue to support the peace process despite Renamo attacks, he said.

Star 8/8/91

## Sanctions stay, vows Mugabe

Zimbabwe will insist on sanctions on South Africa until there is an "administration that does not owe its existence to apartheid", President Robert Mugabe said yesterday in his most categorical commitment to indefinite boycotts since President de Klerk started negotiations to end apartheid in February last year.

# Unite, (362) Mugabe tells 800,000 nation 12/8/91

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe yesterday joined thousands of Zimbabweans at the national Heroes' Acre here to pay tribute to freedom fighters who died during the country's war of liberation, Ziana news agency reports.

People started streaming into the acre as early as 6am.

They were entertained by choirs whose songs recounted the fallen heroes' contribution to the fight against colonialism, before dignitaries started to arrive.

## Heroes

Mugabe then delivered a speech in which he called on all Zimbabweans to unite and work to develop the country as one nation as this was what the heroes had fought for.

Wreaths were laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

This was followed by a tour of graves of Zimbabwe's national heroes by the president and senior officials. Sapa

progress on the Numsa demand on training, and settlement is possible on that issue," Kettledas said.

However, talks on Sunday ended in a stalemate on the question of a moratorium

council on Sunday, where it was decided to refer the dispute to mediation, he said.

Numsa represents about 5 000 striking workers out of a total workforce of 8 000, he added.

## Business looks at the future

*B. van 13/8/91*  
CO-OPERATION between big and small business is necessary for a better economy in the new SA, says Business Challenge CE Phil Khumalo.

With this in mind, his organisation is hosting a conference where representatives of companies, financial institutions and insurance houses will share views on the best way to approach the changing SA business environment.

The conference, with the theme "The present and post-apartheid economic outlook — the challenges

*THEO RAWANA*

that face business in the new SA", will be held in Johannesburg on August 30.

Speakers will include Finance Department special adviser Japie Jacobs, who will speak on the "economic perspective of the government" and Nafcoc executive director Mofasi Lekota on "conflict between big business and small business: what is the possible solution?"

Charter Life senior GM Martin Sweet will talk on "the Income Tax Act and

tax in the new SA — white fears", the SABC's new TV-2/3/4 head Madala Mphahlele on "the role of the media in facilitating changes in attitudes", and Free Market Foundation's Leon Louw on "new political implications for the post-apartheid climate".

Fabcos general-secretary Joas Mogale will speak about "existing opportunities for big and small business structures" and Black Management Forum president Don Mkhwanazi will deal with management integration.

## Mugabe calls on SA to reduce its arsenal

*B. van 13/8/91*  
HARARE — SA must reduce its massive military arsenal to assure its neighbours of their security in the sub-region, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said yesterday.

Ziana national news agency said Mugabe, who is also commander-in-chief of the Zimbabwe armed forces, was addressing thousands of people celebrating the country's Defence Forces Day in Harare.

Mugabe said while political developments in SA had provided hope of an end to

apartheid, they fell short of assuring Zimbabwe of its security.

Mugabe added Zimbabwe was perturbed that the superficial reductions in SA's defence budget did not in any way reduce the threatening size of the SA Defence Force. It was also concerned that Pretoria was developing more "awesome" weapons.

He said the Frontline states should maintain vigilance and continue with the measures necessary to further strengthen their collective defence. — Sapa.

# Weapons cut demand

*Sowetan*  
HARARE - South Africa must reduce its massive military arsenal to assure its neighbours of their security in the sub-region, Zimbabwean president Mr Robert Mugabe said yesterday.

The president, who is also commander-in-chief of the Zimbabwe armed forces, was addressing thousands of people celebrating the country's Defence Forces Day in Harare.

Mugabe said while political developments in South Africa had provided hope of an end to apartheid, they fell short of assuring Zimbabwe of its security.

"Zimbabwe will be assured of peace when apartheid has been practically

abolished and a nonracial democratic government is in place in Pretoria," he said.

Mugabe added Zimbabwe was perturbed that the superficial reductions in the South African Defence Budget did not in any way reduce the threatening size of the SA Defence Force.

Zimbabwe was also concerned that Pretoria was developing more "awesome" weapons.

"The current moves to scrap apartheid must run in tandem with moves to reduce its massive military arsenal before we can be assured of our security in this sub-region," said Mugabe. - Sapa



## Anti-Mugabe slogans at rally result in charges

By *David* 16/8/91 MICHAEL HARTNACK (362)

HARARE — Mathew Zvataida Magondhlo, 41, has been charged under Zimbabwe's Law and Order Maintenance Act for allegedly shouting "Smith was better than you" at President Robert Mugabe during his Heroes' Day speech last Sunday.

Magondhlo, who faces a possible seven years in jail under the Act Mugabe ironically inherited from Ian Smith's Rhodesian government, was not asked to plead when he appeared on Wednesday before magistrate Tapuwa Mandizha.

While Mugabe was delivering his address at Heroes' Acre, burial site of prominent figures in the fight to end white rule, Magondhlo allegedly shouted in Shona: "You are talking rubbish."

"Smith was better than you."

"Prices are going up all the time."

"Those fallen heroes you are talking about died for nothing."

Harare lawyers were astonished when the magistrate let Magondhlo out without bail until August 27 — a sign, they said, of relaxing political attitudes.

In the early years of independence, anyone overheard making even mildly critical comments about the government were detained indefinitely.

Prosecutor Jeremiah Kwenda said Magondhlo told police who arrested him that he was drunk.

# Spotlight on jailed spies

## Political Staff

THE return of 32 South African Government spies after their release by the African National Congress has put the spotlight on the fate of at least six other SA agents still held in a Zimbabwean prison.

Among them are SADF operatives alleged to have been involved in an attempt to assassinate former ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo in September 1987.

The ANC's announcement on Friday that it had released all people held or

imprisoned by the organisation raised questions about the fate of the prisoners in Zimbabwe.

Officials in Pretoria, Harare and the ANC were tightlipped on Saturday about this thorny issue.

A Foreign Affairs Department spokesman in Pretoria said no information was available and suggested the ANC and the International Red Cross may throw more light on the matter.

Sources say there are indications there may be more releases before the end of this year.

A negotiated release of the prisoners in Zimbabwe is believed to be possible - especially in the light of the release in November last year of convicted South African spy Odile Harington.

Harington (30) was jailed in Harare on November 27 1987 for spying on the ANC.

She was freed and flown home last Novem-

ber following years of effort - orthodox and unorthodox - by South African officials to win her release.

Five alleged agents for South Africa, who appeared in a court in Zimbabwe, were named as Kevin Woods, Barry and Guy Bawden, Michael Smith and Philip Conjwayo. All five were arrested following a bomb explosion in January 1988 outside an African National Congress house in

Bulawayo in which a man was killed.

Woods, Smith and Conjwayo are under sentence of death.

A sixth man, Rory Macguire, was found guilty of failing to report the presence of South African commandos and of aiding their operations inside Zimbabwe.

Another agent, Denis Beahan, was sentenced to life imprisonment for his part in an aborted 1988 attempt to spring the agents from jail.

The struggle goes on for a tribe that fought white rule, writes Robin Drew

# The more things change . . .

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**A**MONG the heroes who lie buried at the national shrine commemorating those who fought to liberate Zimbabwe from white rule is Chief Rekeyi Tangwena.

During the Rhodesian era, the grey-bearded chief became a symbol of resistance, a man who fought for years for his people's right to stay on their ancestral land in the mountainous country of Nyanga along the eastern border, land which had been earmarked for white settlement.

The chief's battle through the courts and on the ground attracted world attention until he led the tribe's children across the mountains into exile in Mozambique.

After Zimbabwe became independent in 1980, he was honoured with a seat in the Senate.

When he died in 1984, 10 000 people thronged Heroes' Acre to attend his funeral where, ringing tributes were paid to his bravery and his role as a great leader.

Today the Tangwena people are again engaged in a struggle with authority, but this time, with an organ of the black government, the same government which honoured Chief Rekeyi.

Once again the quarrel is over the occupation of land.

This time it is the Forestry Commission, a state body, which has won a court action to evict 107 families of the Tangwena tribe from an area known as the Bende Gap in Nyanga.

This week the property of 20 families was removed on the instructions of the messenger of the

court and dumped by the roadside. The police confirmed that more evictions were to follow.

The late chief's widow said she was unhappy with the government for ordering the people to go.

"The area these people are occupying belongs to us. We used to hold our important meetings there. It was there we mobilised our people to join the struggle. But now that Rekeyi is dead, people are told to get out. We are taken to court. My child, that is harassment," she told a reporter of the national news agency.

The dispute over occupation of Forestry Commission land had been simmering for years. Argument went to the Supreme Court which ruled in favour of the commission. The land this time is

wanted for seed potato production for the SADCC region.

In 1986, two years after Rekeyi's death, armed police burnt down huts at Bende. But as they had done in colonial days, the people rebuilt and refused to move.

In court the commission successfully argued that the Bende enclave had been assigned to it in 1958 under the Land Apportionment Act.

The Tangwena people were given to June 30 this year to leave. This period was extended by the government to the end of August and evictions have now started.

The Tangwena must be feeling with some bitterness that the more things change, the more they stay the same. — Star Africa Service □

SA 'may have  
informal role  
at summit'

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — The South African Government might have a role to play at the Commonwealth summit in Harare if sufficient progress has been made in the transition to a nonracial democracy in South Africa.

This was suggested yesterday by the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Chief Emeka Anyaoku, who stressed, however, there was no question of South Africa actually attending the meeting, to be held in October.

He told reporters he hoped and expected people from SA could be present "in the corridors" to brief Ministers informally on developments across the border.

But this would depend on what developments had taken place by then.

"If developments would make it politically practicable for SA officials to be here, I will not hesitate to pursue that line," he said.

The Commonwealth Secretary-General, who has been having in-depth discussions with President Robert Mugabe, chairman of the summit, said it should be made clear he was not intending to suggest South Africa would attend the meeting under any circumstances.

## Tekere open to SA aid

(362) ARG 2/19/81  
Argus Africa  
News Service

HARARE. — Zimbabwe Unity Movement leader Mr Edgar Tekere has said his party would gladly accept financial assistance from the South African Government, but denied reports from South Africa it had received money.

There was nothing wrong in accepting aid from Pretoria, "because we do not regard South Africa as an enemy."

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## Zimbabwe airlines (362) chief fired

Argus Africa  
News Service

HARARE — The general manager of Air Zimbabwe, Mr. Fungayi Musara, has been fired by the airline's board.

Transport Minister Mr. Denis Norman said the government supported the recommendations of the board which called on Mr. Musara to resign, failing which he would be dismissed.

The Herald reported today that Mr. Musara had declined to resign and had been fired.

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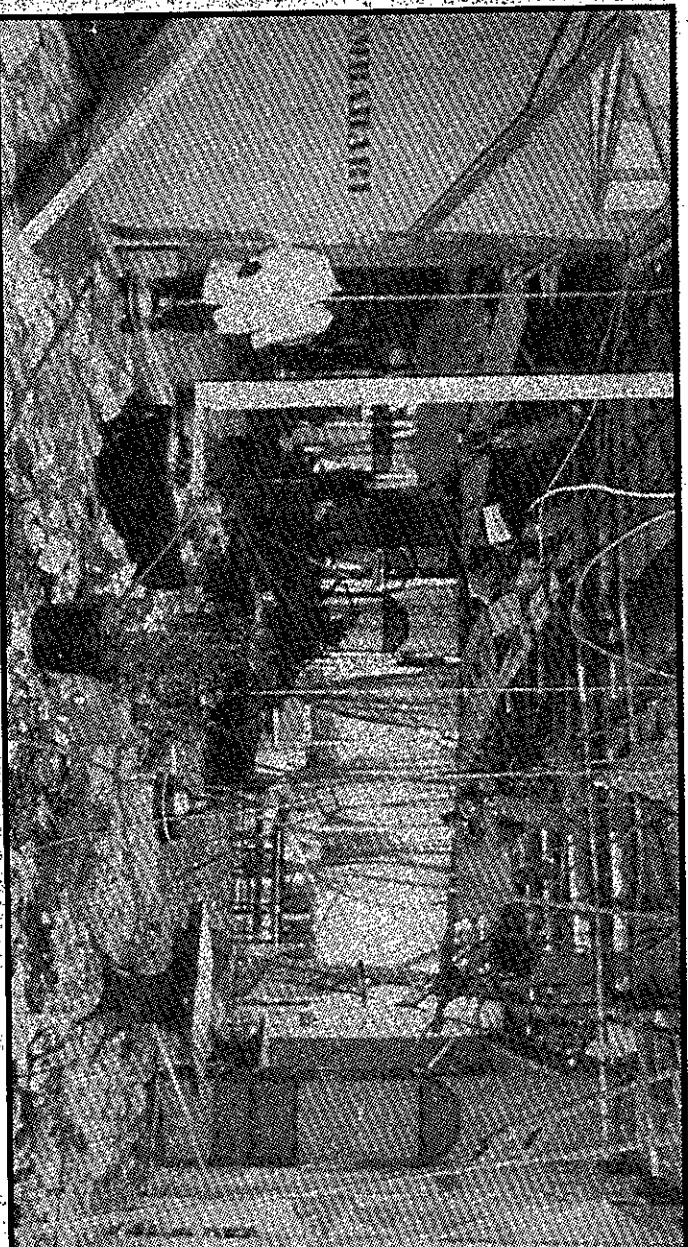
## NEWS



**POSSIBLE TARGET:** British Prime Minister John Major.



**HEADING FOR HARARE:** Queen Elizabeth II.



**TERROR BLAST:** A worker walks through the rubble in a restaurant at the Sheraton Hotel after a bomb blast injured three hotel workers and caused the evacuation of hundreds of guests on July 20.



**HOST LEADER:** Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.



**IMPRESSED BY BRIEFINGS:** Commonwealth head Emeka Anyaoku.

**Alert young men to keep sharp eye on comings and goings of Commonwealth leaders**



# Fist of iron for rare summit

**HARARE** — The Minders will soon be flying into Harare, and this time they will probably come in greater numbers than usual.

The Minders are alert young men, some in denim, whose spines are never still. Sometimes they carry walkie-talkie radios and have guns bulging discreetly under their jackets.

Sometimes they sit in back rooms and watch TV monitors and talk curly on telephones and radios.

Their job is to look after the security of their masters who will be coming to Harare in October for the meeting of Commonwealth leaders.

Some of the world's most powerful politicians will be in Harare for the meeting, and so will Queen Elizabeth.

The Commonwealth summit is always one of the greatest gatherings of potential terrorist targets, and this one may be one of the most nerve-racking for the Minders.

There will be more of them than usual at this year's Commonwealth summit because tensions have been raised by recent developments of the kind that make Minders worry.

First there was the detonation of about 2.5 kg of high explosive on the ground floor of the Sheraton Hotel in Harare early on the morning of July 20.

This modernistic building, sheathed in gold-coloured aluminium and resembling a huge cash register, adjoins the international conference centre which will be the venue for the

## AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

meeting of leaders from 48 of the 50 Commonwealth countries.

Within hours of the explosion, Zimbabwe's Security Minister Dr Sydney Sekernayi conceded that the explosion could be connected to the forthcoming summit, an act of terrorism designed to upset arrangements and embarrass President Robert Mugabe's government.

But a month after the event, government officials confessed to being "as much in the dark as ever about the culprits or their motive".

The speculation in diplomatic circles is that the bombing might have been a Middle East spin-off, with suspicion centred on Iraqi agents.

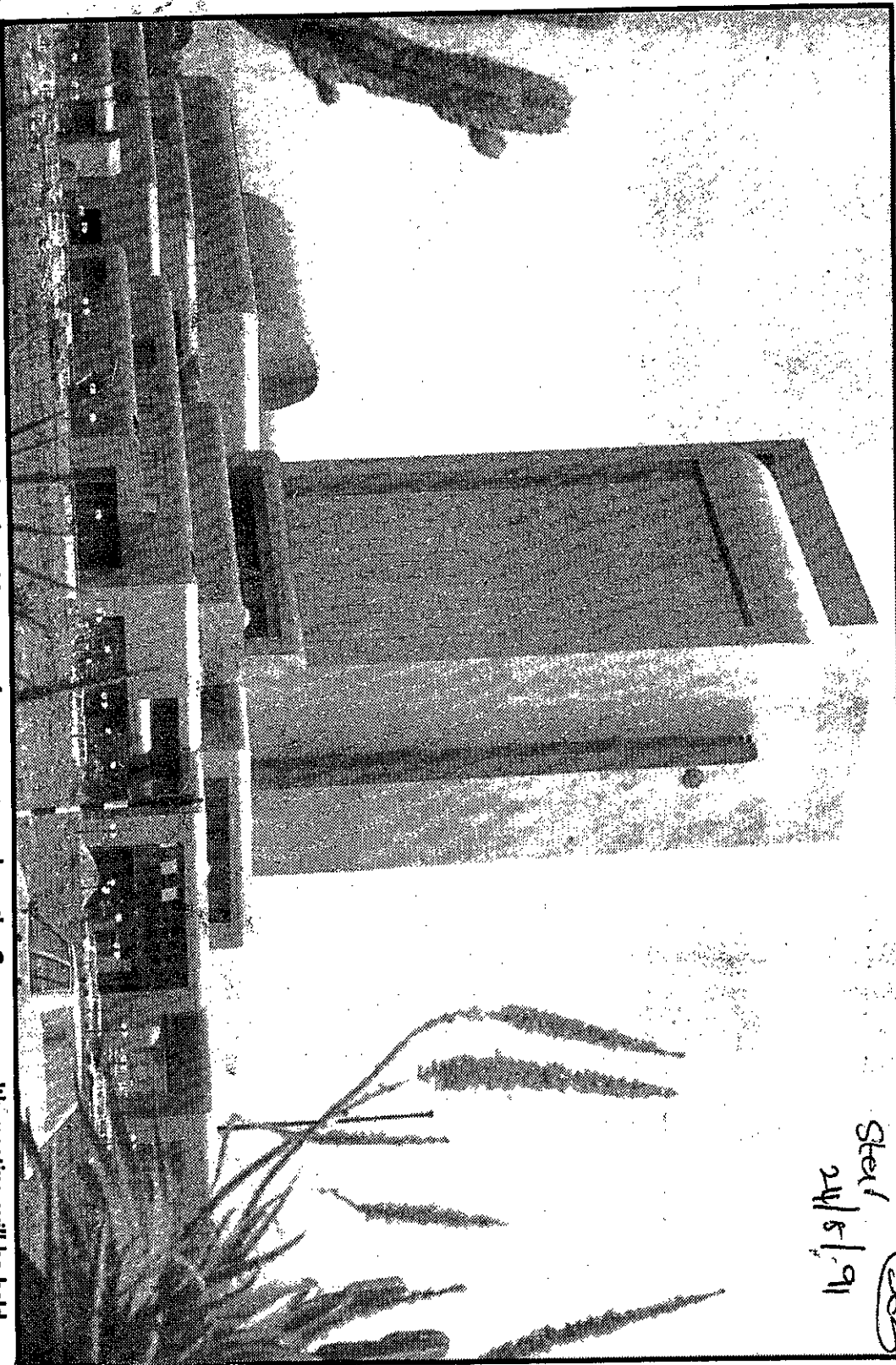
One reason for this is that at the time of the bombing, Kuwait's newly established embassy was operating from the 16th floor of the Sheraton.

The Zimbabwean government, which owns the hotel, made no secret of its opposition to Iraq's ill-fated invasion of Kuwait.

Since the Sheraton bombing, there have been reports in the British press of official fears that the Queen and British Prime Minister John Major might be the targets of a joint assassination plot by the IRA, the PLO and Iraq.

There has been no official confirmation of these reports. But the Sheraton bombing certainly raised awareness of the security situation to a level not previously contemplated.

An international effort has been mounted to ensure as much security as possible in a



**SUMMIT VENUE:** Harare's Sheraton Hotel and 4 500-seat conference centre, where the Commonwealth meeting will be held.

high-profile event such as the Commonwealth summit.

The British authorities are working even more closely with the Zimbabweans, who have also had the benefit of advice from a Canadian team. British Army bomb disposal

and detection team have been to Harare, as have members of units specially trained to deal with terrorism.

Coincidentally, the first authorities to arrive at the scene of the Sheraton blast were British bomb disposal personnel. They

had to come down only nine floors, as they had moved into the hotel the night before.

Members of Zimbabwe's own Central Intelligence Organisation are known to have been attending courses in Britain. And new security equipment has

been installed at the international airport and elsewhere, some of it with the help of German specialists.

At a different level, police details are now stationed in the foyers of the main hotels, checking incoming baggage.

The public have been urged to keep their eyes and ears open for anything suspicious.

General security at the Commonwealth summit and for the visit by the Queen is the responsibility of the host government, but the close security around the individual personalities will be conducted by their own teams.

The Queen, who arrives in Harare on October 10 from Namibia for a six-day state visit preceding the Commonwealth meeting, is expected to stay at State House while she is in Harare. This is the old residence of the former governors of the Colony of Southern Rhodesia but is not an official residence of Mr Mugabe, whose home is across the road.

This is an area where the security presence is at its most visible, with heavily armed troops constantly patrolling the streets while razor wire tops the concrete walls surrounding the gardens.

Harare has had its share of bombings since independence but until the Sheraton blast, they were all connected with attacks on ANC properties or government installations, and were attributed to South African destabilisation.

There have been other scares but nothing came of them.

One concerned the discovery of a member of the Irish Republican Army whose presence here was thought at one stage to be connected with the visit to Zimbabwe by Margaret Thatcher when she was prime minister.

However, well-placed sources say the IRA activity then was connected with criminal activities involving the smuggling of drugs and gems and did not amount to a threat to Mrs Thatcher.

During the Gulf War earlier this year, security authorities were alerted to suspicious behaviour by two recently arrived Iraqi nationals who said they were on holiday but spent a lot of time cruising past the American Embassy across the park from the Monomatapa Hotel where the men had booked in.

They were picked up and quietly removed from the country.

This week Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emek Anyaoku, from Nigeria, has been holding in-depth discussions with President Mugabe about arrangements for the summit and the topics for discussion.

I asked him for his views on the security arrangements in view of the Sheraton blast.

He replied: "Let me say straight away that acts of terrorism occur in different parts of the world. It is not an exclusive phenomenon for Harare. We have witnessed acts of terrorism in many countries, many capitals."

"I have been very impressed by all the briefings I have received in the past few days as to awareness of the importance of security arrangements by the authorities in Zimbabwe and have no reason to think the incident to which you referred will in any way affect the confidence in the Commonwealth heads of government in being here."

As secretary-general, Chi Anyaoku said it was not his job to be involved with the intimate details of security.

But naturally he wanted to ensure the host government was doing everything it could. "I am leaving here very satisfied with all I have been told he said."



# Literacy explosion <sup>362</sup>

*(Times 25/8/9)*  
HARARE: Up to 2.5-million illiterate Zimbabweans would be able to read and write by the year 2000, Education and Culture Secretary Isaiah Sibanda said yesterday.

# 'Demand handover of power'

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Sowetan 26/8/91

OPPRESSED people in South Africa should demand the transfer of power, President Robert Mugabe told Azapo president Pandelani Nefolovhodwe in Zimbabwe last week.

Nefolovhodwe, who had a consultation with internal leaders of the Black Consciousness Movement after a week-long visit to Zimbabwe, said he and BCMA chairman Mosibudi Mangena met Mugabe for an hour.

"Mugabe said demanding little things like the release of prisoners or the repeal of certain laws gave State President FW de Klerk credibility.

"He said we should demand nothing less than the transfer of power.

"He also said we should be wary of the various forces at play during negotiations, because there are many hidden agendas.

"Certain sections of the international community did not want Mugabe's Zanu-PF to be part of the negotiation process and tried everything to get them to opt out.

"But they stayed because the interests of the oppressed community come first."

Nefolovhodwe said they met delegations of the Nigerian, Libyan, Egyptian and Indian governments.

Nefolovhodwe said Azapo consulted the exiled BCMA and the Pan Africanist Congress at Kadoma on the Patriotic Front which will be launched in Cape Town. - Sowetan Reporter

# Business must open up to world competition

B/Oday 21/8/91.

BUSINESS has a unique and special contribution to make to the welfare of society. In business we have considerable freedom to mould the conditions under which our people live and work.

Free markets are democratic and responsive to individual need. There is no alternative to competition to establish fair returns. We need to believe these things and to translate them into practice. We must face up to the fact that all too often we in the business sector have sought privilege and protection to the detriment of the consumer. The new SA deserves better.

How the business community in SA reacts to the changing situation is of vital importance. If you react with the negative elements in society, and reinforce the spirit of conflict rather than compromise, you will make it that much more difficult to secure the future you all desire. If on the other hand you act with confidence, lead and inspire your staff and support the process of change and adaptation, you will help ensure a positive and negotiable outcome. Never underestimate the power of ordinary people acting in concert.

If you look at examples of successful societies, they are all characterised by a sense of patriotism and national pride. The Japanese, the

Germans, the French and the Americans are all clearly recognisable as people who have a deep and emotional commitment to their countries.

Black political leaders in southern Africa should be careful to give due recognition to the role which white nationalism has played in the development of our countries.

In Rhodesia, white Rhodesians were intensely patriotic. We reacted to the challenge of sanctions by throwing our entire weight into the battle for economic stability and growth. We succeeded. The economy of Zimbabwe was established by business organisations which were committed to the country. For us, home was not somewhere in another part of the world but a place to which we returned every evening.

However, since the transfer of power in Zimbabwe, the government has done little to encourage white patriotism. This is a serious mistake as, even though there are only about 120 000 white Zimbabweans left in the country, they play an important part in the economy.

For those whites who have had the courage and commitment to remain in Zimbabwe, life is very different to what it was. Whites are now actively discriminated against. Our young people find it difficult to obtain jobs, bursaries and scholarships. Our

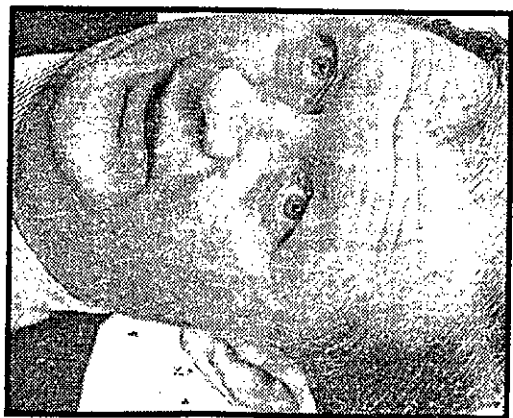
## EDDIE CROSS

young business people are denied promotions and find it difficult to secure concessional financing for new ventures. Scarce resources such as foreign exchange and motor vehicles are allocated on a discriminatory basis. Very few whites remain in the public sector.

I can accept some of this as being necessary to balance the books against many years of discrimination against blacks. However, the danger is that this process will destroy what is left of white patriotism. If this happens, a powerful force for promoting development will have been lost and all Zimbabweans will be poorer as a result.

The situation in SA is potentially even more precarious. If the black leadership undermines the patriotism of white South Africans towards their country they will be doing not only themselves and their country a disservice but they will be, in many respects, jeopardising the future.

It is important to establish and maintain the commitment of all South Africans to the future of the country. It is important that that commitment be maintained not only in economic and political terms but



□ CROSS

also in emotional and cultural terms. We must accept that it will be necessary to have a period of positive discrimination after political transition, to redress decades of discrimination against black South Africans. With the transfer of power, black South Africans will legitimately demand full participation in the SA economy. This can be only at the expense of the other communities in the short term. To minimise the damaging effects

of such pressures, you will need a period of rapid and sustained economic growth. It is time that African leaders recognised this and stopped playing political games with the sanctions issue. Nobody can really deny that SA is on the new road, and what you need now is help, not hindrance.

There are also things that you can do — you need to accelerate the privatisation of state enterprises, open up your economy to competition and, now that the gap between the commercial and the financial rand has closed, make the rand convertible.

This will not only have the effect of keeping the value of the rand down but will also give your business community confidence and encourage international companies to recognise that SA is back at the table and ready to play.

The future of this continent is in our hands. Others can help, but only we can deliver. Trust and empower the individual working within free markets and your new democratic structures. Lead from the front and you will have nothing to fear.

□ Cross was the first MD of Zimbabwe's Beira Corridor Group Company. This is an edited extract from his speech at the Business Day Business Achievement Award banquet in Sandton last night.

## LETTERS

## AFRICA

# Rule of law alive and well — judge

ROBIN DREW (362)  
Argus Africa  
News Service

HARARE. — More than a decade after independence, the rule of law is alive and well in Zimbabwe despite fears that it would be eroded.

Confirmation of this has come from the Chief Justice, Mr Justice Gubbay, a British-born advocate who took over the position from Mr Justice Dumbutshena when Zimbabwe's first black judge retired last year. **ARC 27/8/91**

In a recent address to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Mr Justice Gubbay said it was a matter of pride that Zimbabwe maintained a system under which the courts would uphold the rule of law.

"It is a matter of pride, too, that when the courts have declared the law, the other organs of the state have abided by the decision however unpalatable it may be considered.

"It is very important that this should be so because the alternative is the ghastly dictatorships or rule by decree that the world has seen where the executive or any other organ takes complete control," he said, adding that sometimes conflicts arose which amounted to an abuse of power.

"In Zimbabwe there have sometimes been conflicts between the various organs but these have never been serious and they have always been more apparent than real and certainly have never been prolonged or sustained."

Where conflicts had occurred in Zimbabwe, they had been because of a misunderstanding.

In some cases the judiciary had appeared to be arrogant but there was never any intention to usurp the power of parliament.

## Rape figures soar in Zim

**HARARE** — Nearly 1 500 cases of rape are reported to Zimbabwean police every year, and most victims were girls under 14, it was reported yesterday.

The youngest victim was a three-month-old baby raped by her father.

— Sapa

(362) CT 28/89

## Zimbabwean

dollar slipping  
Star 28/8/91  
against rand

By Michelle Mallespard (362)

Zimbabwe's dollar, not so long ago on a parity with the rand, is slipping fast and will affect the economy of that country owing to its limited foreign exchange supply, says Nora Hill, MD of Export Marketing and Management Consultants.

The Zimbabwean dollar has slumped against the rand. Yesterday it was quoted at between Z\$1.30 to Z\$1.325 to the SA unit.

"We do not import a lot of goods from Zimbabwe, but rather export a fair amount to it — so we should benefit," says Mrs Hill.

However, she says, if it becomes too expensive, the orders from Zimbabwe will fall off and trade decrease.

Unofficial exchange rates of the Zimbabwean dollar to the rand are far removed from the published rates.

One source says the introduction of the Open General Import Licence a few weeks ago has resulted in the black market exchange rate sliding to alarming proportions.

"We can now get up to Z\$2.75 for R1 on the black market and we are expecting it to go up to around Z\$5 by the end of the year," he says.

The effect can be seen in the price of goods in Zimbabwe. A car bought in SA for R50 000 can fetch up to Z\$180 000.

"Deprived of certain goods for a long time, Zimbabweans are prepared to pay high prices for scarce commodities," he says.

## Share analysis and accurate forecasting — 3

Directors with vested  
Star 28/8/91  
interest inspire confidence

The groundwork has been completed when the analyst has collated all relevant data and assessed economic trends.

He is now ready to start determining the company's future prospects.

Before beginning analysis of the financial results, he needs to investigate factors which are not quantifiable but could affect a company's performance.

These include:

## ● Management.

A continuously changing board of directors and senior management team is likely to undermine the confidence of shareholders and the share could be adversely affected.

The recent problems experienced at furniture retailer Rufen when chief executive Geoff Austin resigned saw the share drop to 80c from a previous trading band of between 120c and 140c.

A long-term association between directors and the firm always inspires confidence, especially if the directors have a vested interest in the company through personal share holdings.

## ● Demographics.

It is essential to understand the company's target market.

This provides a better insight into the business's cyclical nature.

For instance, if it targets the middle to upper income group,

A 10-part series by Jacques Magliolo on methods used by stock exchange analysts to predict company performance.

The firm's sales turnover will be evenly distributed throughout the year.

It becomes easier to forecast results if the stage of the company's business cycle can be determined.

## ● Product cycles.

In assessing possible changes in turnover growth, it is important to know how demand for the company's product range is affected by cyclical movements.

Retailers experience the greatest volume of sales during the last three months of the year, while service companies are less cyclical and turnover growth is evenly distributed throughout the year.

Another variable that requires investigating is long-term product cycles, such as companies producing fashion garments.

The problem of determining the effect of cycles on turnover growth becomes more complex when the company has trading partners in another country.

This partner is likely to be in a different cycle phase, making demand and supply predic-

tions more difficult.

## ● Spread of investments.

Most companies have a number of subsidiaries which are also listed on the JSE, although they do not necessarily produce the same goods.

It is imperative, therefore, to complete the same analysis on all the listed subsidiaries.

The analyst compiles an organisational chart of the entire group, including major shareholders, percentage control of each listed and non-listed company and in which sectors these companies are operating.

This highlights the diversification of group investments, strengths and weaknesses in organisational structure and whether its shareholders could provide a "safety net" through financial assistance during recessionary conditions.

## ● Mission statement.

A review of the company's past financial statements should reveal whether it is conservative and methodically achieving its targets, whether its main aim is growth through acquisition or if it is simply not attaining its goals.

Although it is difficult to place a value on these factors, they do provide an indication of a company's inherent strength and ability to overcome financial problems.

And, they are essential when forecasting financial results.

## Zimbabwe 362

### citizenship law to be enforced

HARARE — The status of thousands of white Zimbabwean citizens is in doubt after the decision of the authorities to apply the law which bars dual citizenship.

When the law came into effect in 1985, people had to renounce their foreign citizenship on a Zimbabwean document. But the governments of their countries of origin did not recognise this and it did not affect their status in those countries.

But now Zimbabweans born elsewhere who apply to renew passports are told to produce letters from offices of their original countries stating that they are no longer citizens. It is known that hundreds have decided against formally renouncing their original nationality.

## Border town thrives on illegal exports

51 Day 30/8/91  
MUTARE — The Zimbabwean town of Mutare does not seem to have any problem in getting whisky and prawns — thanks to the long Mozambican border and surrounding dense bush.

The apparent lull in Mozambican rebel activity along the eastern Zimbabwe border has led to increased cases of smuggling and an upsurge in illegal visitors, national news agency Ziana reported yesterday.

It seems that most people crossing the

border are illegal.

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Mutare police and immigration officials said 2 911 people were arrested in the first half of 1991 for illegal border crossings, compared with 1 616 businessmen who crossed legally in that time.

The most common items reaching Mutare illegally are fish — mainly prawns, tinned salmon, sardines and tuna — colour television sets, whisky, wines and canned beer. — Sapa.



## (362) ARA 2/9/91 Aids screening leads to outcry from Zimbabwe counsellors

### Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Screening of prospective employees to weed out those carrying the Aids virus is increasing in Zimbabwe and causing concern among counsellors opposed to the practice.

The Minister of Health, Dr Timothy Stamps, has condemned HIV screening but there is as yet no legislation to halt the practice.

Ms Helen Jackson, a founder member of the Aids Counselling Trust, said if the testing for HIV-positive applicants became standard practice the consequences would be disastrous.

She said countless thousands of adults at the peak of their working lives would be lost to the economy. People with the HIV virus could be healthy for many years.

A major chain of retail stores, Edgars, says prospective managerial employees must be tested if they are to qualify for life insurance cover provided by the company.

A spokesman said the company was also concerned about the impact on its pension fund.

"We have a responsibility to protect the investments of its members," he said.

The company said it would not screen current employees unless directed to do so by an appropriate authority.

But it said the company had the right to choose the most suitable candidate and might require would-be employees to undergo medical examinations to assess suitability.

The question of screening for Aids has been given widespread publicity.

A new monthly magazine, Horizon, headed its article "Infected job-hunters face discrimination" and said the Aids epidemic had become so serious that increasing numbers of employers were screening applicants and employees because of fears that their work forces would be decimated by the disease.

Aids stigmatisation would rise and prevention strategies would suffer. In short Aids sufferers would be driven underground and the national awareness and education campaign would be virtually destroyed.

**UK aid for Zimbabwe**

THE British government had set aside Z\$25m to help Zimbabwe host the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in October.

The aid package includes contributions to Harare airport's new air traffic control system, and the training of Zimbabwean security personnel who will be on duty during the meeting. The meeting is expected to draw leaders from 51 countries.

REPORTS: Own Correspondent, Business Day Reporter, Sapa.

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## Industrialists sign co-operation pact

HARARE — The Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) and its Mozambican counterpart, the Associacao Industrial de Mozambique (Aimo), have signed an industrial agreement to facilitate trade between the two countries, Ziana news agency reports.

In the agreement signed by CZI president John Deary and Aimo president Inocencio Matevele in Harare both parties undertook to furnish regular information regarding the development of their national economies and to communicate macro and micro economic data of mutual interest.

They will also render institutional collaboration and co-operate in schemes of mutual organisational support.

The two groups also pledged to

- ☐ Furnish reciprocal assistance to duly accredited companies and their respective economic agents operating in either country.
- ☐ Undertake market and economic viability studies and perform other studies to identify sectors and areas for potential investment activities, the formation of joint ventures and the promotion of foreign trade.
- ☐ Advise identified companies of the action to be taken regarding representation in trade fairs, meetings and other entrepreneurial promotion activities.
- ☐ Encourage the participation of businessmen from either country in courses, seminars and apprenticeship programmes available in the respective countries. — Sapa.

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## Harare plans not to import maize this year

Argus Africa News Service

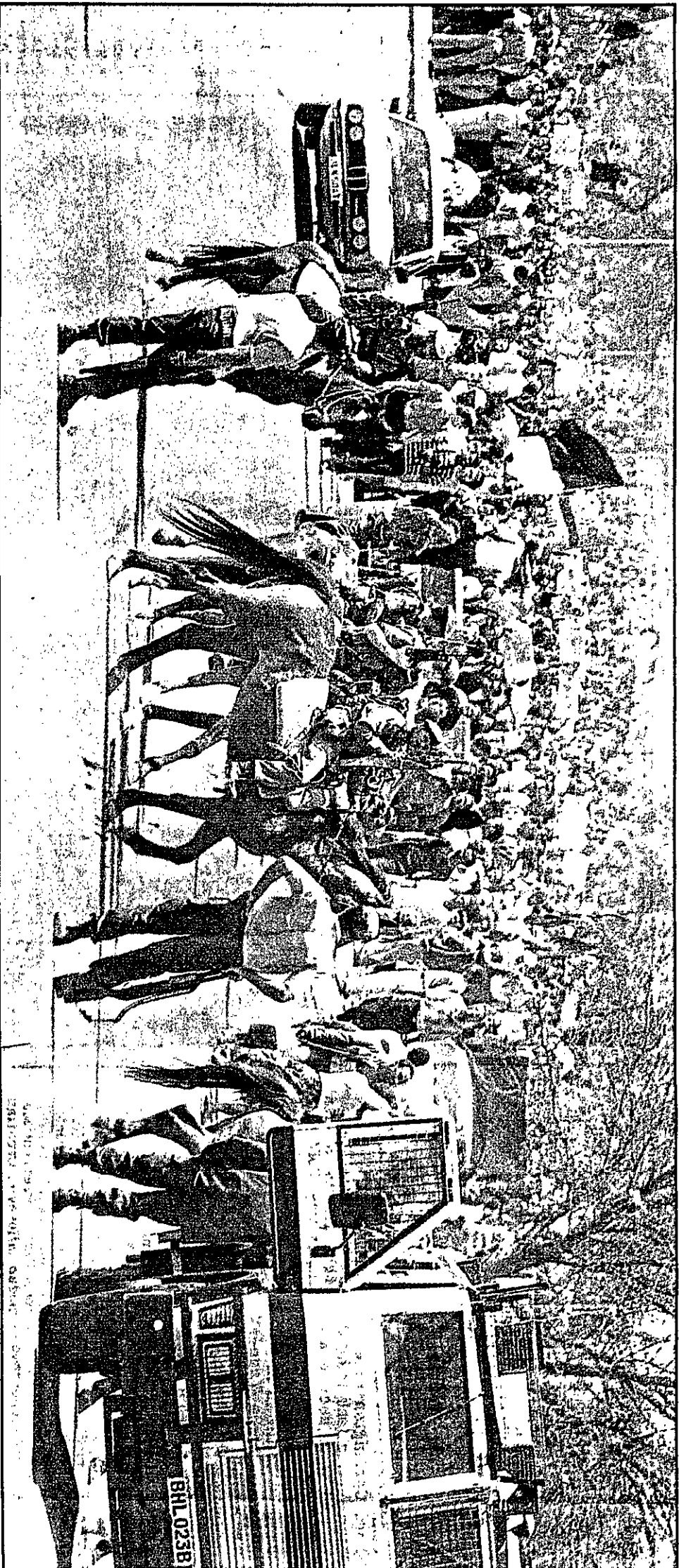
HARARE. — Zimbabwe still hopes it may be able to get through the year without having to import maize, though stocks are perilously low.

Mr Renson Gasela, general manager of the Grain Marketing Board, said maize was still being delivered to the board's depots and it appeared as though the critical stage had passed.

But he said this would not be known for sure for another fortnight.

Maize production has fallen alarmingly because producers say the controlled price does not make it a viable crop and because of a poor growing season in many areas.

Last month the government announced a 20 per cent increase for next season's crop and a bonus for early delivery of maize.



Face to face . . . police and SADF troops watch Soweto marchers protesting against murder and mayhem.

Picture: Stephen Davimes

# Thousands march in protest over slayings

By Stan Hlophe

Thousands of Soweto residents marched yesterday in protest against last week's killings.

The march, organised by the Ministers United for Christian Co-Responsibility (Muccor), was led by MK chief of staff Chris Ham, Azapo's projects co-ordinator Lybon Mabasa, Winnie Mandela, ANC's Women's

and SADF men on horseback monitored the procession.

The march started from Ipelegeng community centre, went via Soweto City Council headquarters and ended at the Moroka police station.

Marchers, mainly from White City, Mshenguville and Motolo — where the latest wave of violence left at least 60 people dead — carried ANC and SACP

present "illegitimate" Government was removed from power.

Mr Mabasa said most people were tired of dying and crying, and wanted peace.

A memorandum was handed to town clerk Elizabeth Sithole and Soweto police liaison officer Colonel Jac de Vries. Mshenguville Crisis Committee chairman Floyd Mashele insisted a response was expected

of Soweto has taken the decision that this counter-revolutionary violence unleashed upon our people by forces against democracy must come to an end.

"The purpose of our march is to highlight the plight of the families of those who have been killed and the more than 500 who have been forcefully displaced from Mshenguville by Inkatha v ilantes after the

## Zimbabweans to benefit from rise in pensions

Argus Africa News Service

(362) AUG 5/91

**HARARE.** — Thousands of Zimbabwean pensioners living in South Africa will be among those to benefit from an announced increase in pensions.

The increases are from 10 to 11 percent depending on the amount of the pension. They will be backdated to July 1, 1991.

People who will benefit include those covered by the Public Service (Pensions) Regulations, the War Pensions Act and the War Victims Compensation Act.

# A city dying of thirst

*Swelam 5/9/91*  
**BULAWAYO** - This graceful, white-painted city, set in the cracked plains of Matabelerland, is dying of thirst.

Stringent rationing has cut each inhabitant's water allowance by two-thirds. Nearly printed signs hanging in windows around town plead: "Save water and save the city."

Residents complain that the government in faraway Harare, known here as *Bamba Zonke* or the "take-it-all" capital, is doing nothing to save Bulawayo's 850 000 people and about three million others who live in the surrounding countryside.

"We are on the verge of death and can no longer allow some people the luxury of procrastination," said Matabelerland North.

Provincial governor Jevan Maseko. His province has suffered more than a decade of scarce rainfall.

Traditional animosity between the Ndebele people of southern Zimbabwe, and the Shona northerners, who dominate the Harare government, has kept tensions on both sides short.

Local officials are trying to jog Harare into accepting a plan to divert water from the powerful Zambezi River, on Zimbabwe's northern border some 500km from Bulawayo. But after five years, the government has not been persuaded.

"In the short term we can only hope and pray that we get good rains this coming season," Mike Ndubwa, town clerk and the city's chief

administrator, said. "But in the middle and long term, the government must appreciate our crisis and approve the Zambezi water project."

"We have no water here . . . and the only way we can survive and develop is to source our water from the Zambezi," added Ndubwa.

Maseko said a green belt of maize, cotton, wheat and vegetable fields would emerge "from this desert" if it were under irrigation. Otherwise, disaster looms.

"If significant rains do not swell the dams this year, Bulawayo will run out of water during 1992," the outspoken *Financial Gazette* news-

paper said in a recent editorial. In August, there was less than 10 months' supply of water in Bulawayo's four dams.

which were less than 30 percent full. The *Financial Gazette* added: "It now seems as if government's stand is: 'We don't believe you are terminally ill, but even if you are we don't care.'"

To support their arguments that Harare hasn't cared, residents say the government held out for years before giving Bulawayo vital foreign exchange to buy pipes to bring water to the town from dams further afield. The project is now under way, but water in the dams is drying up. Senior government officials in Harare have backed the Zambezi project in recent months but the government is reluctant to pay up, because it says an estimated bill of R1.5 billion makes the plan "prohibitively costly," *Supa-Reporter*.

# Non-aligned nations now in a quandary

362

Star 5/9/91

ACCRA — The 103 nations of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) opened their first post-Cold War meeting yesterday amid doubts about the future of the organisation, founded 30 years ago to balance the scales between communism and capitalism.

"The very life of the movement is being threatened," said Zimbabwe Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira when he arrived in the Ghanaian capital.

All member nations, except the Bahamas, have representatives, totalling 700, to the 10th meeting.

The member nations represent nearly half the world's population and occupy two-thirds of the seats in the United Nations — but contribute only eight percent to global economic output.

"We need to find our place in the new international order so that we don't get marginalised," said Ghanaian Foreign Secretary Obed Asamoah.

The collapse of communism and halt to the Cold War brings into question the very existence of the movement which former Yugoslav President Josip Tito helped found in 1961.

Stalwart non-aligned supporters such as Zimbabwe President Robert

Mugabe have been forced to review their positions.

Mr Mugabe, who was chairman of the movement from 1986 to 1989, had said he never would accept aid with strings attached from the East or the West.

With the demise of the East bloc and its military aid and barter trade with his nation, he and other leaders are accepting Western aid tied to economic reforms, democratic politics and government accountability.

Dr Asamoah said non-aligned nations would have to move away from huge military expenditures and strengthen their fragile economies to improve the lives of their peoples. Member states are plagued by poverty, instability and conflicts.

The four-day meeting will concentrate on the movement's role in world affairs, how to strengthen the UN, human rights and the environment.

Critics say the organisation has achieved little, noting its lack of involvement in conflicts in member states Iran and Iraq and in the peace settlement in Angola.

● Indonesia will be the next chairman of the NAM, Mr Asamoah announced at yesterday's meeting. Indonesia will take over from Yugoslavia in 1992. — Sapa-AP-Reuters.



## NEWS

# Platteland farming

*Star 7/9/91 (362)*  
SOUTH Africa's agriculture is in a mess. Production is not much better than Third World standards, according to some reports.

Dries Bruwer, Conservative Party member of Parliament for Lydenburg, speaking at this week's annual meeting of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, warned of the total collapse of farming in the platteland.

He blamed the Government for not helping the country's 60 000 farmers sufficiently. Farmers owe nearly R18 billion in loans.

Some sources intimate that South African farmers are incompetent and lack acumen.

Compared with Zimbabwe's white farmers, and even perhaps with some of its peasant farmers who farm land similar to platteland, yields by South African farmers are only half as good.

In Tanzania and Ghana, where Western technological advice is being used, yields in some places are greatly improving.

## JAMES CLARKE

The Star's agricultural correspondent, George Nicholas, earlier this year revealed that Zimbabwe had in 30 years trebled its dryland maize yields to 6 tons a hectare. Its "Ten Ton Club" farmers — those who get more than 10t/ha — often hit 13 tons.

A recent survey in The Economist says Zimbabwe's yields are among the best (dryland) yields in the world.

In the same 30-year period, South Africa's farmers moved from 3.5t/ha to barely 2t/ha, according to Nicholas — yields on a par with the Third World.

Zimbabwe's farmers, according to various reports, appear more professional, more businesslike and less inclined to call for help when the weather lets them down. Yet three-quarters of their land is considered agriculturally "risky".

Zimbabwe's wheat yields are four times SA's; groundnuts are double, as are soybeans, sor-

ghum production is one-third higher, and sunflower oil and tobacco yields are double.

Brian Huntley, Roy Siegfried and Clem Sunter, in their recent book "South African Environments into the 21st Century", were not only critical of South Africa's low yields but said 20 tons of soil was lost for every ton of grain produced.

South Africa's 9 million head of cattle are so mismanaged that the country has to import meat. Zimbabwe has only 1.5 million head, but suffers less pasture damage, feeds its 9 million population — and exports.

According to a recent conference on agricultural production (at Arusha in Tanzania) "Zimbabwe and Zambia are the current leading exporters of food in Africa". It gave a lot of credit to small peasant farmers.

*Star 7/9/91 (362)*  
grain covered demand and even allowed exports.

It appears some reports might be painting an exaggerated picture concerning the contribution of black farmers in Zimbabwe.

Robin Drew of The Star African Service reports that the government of Zimbabwe is bent on acquiring another 6 million ha of white-owned "commercial farming" for resettlement even though resettlement areas "have largely failed to live up to expectation".

Zimbabwe's government information service (ZIS) this year put out an article which was very critical of collective farms.

In one case (Mukuvapasi Collective Co-operative resettlement scheme in the Chetgut area), 43 families were given 1 000 ha of farmland on which a white farmer had grown rich on cotton and maize. This year only 16 ha were cultivated — and the farmers were asking for food.

The article called for a more selective process in choosing farmers to settle on prime land.

Anthony Evans, a successful farmer and Rhodes scholar, writing in The Star last year, warned that South Africa should not use a heavy hand in expropriating land for blacks.

Stories of large tracts of unused white-owned farmland were myths. But, he said, the recession would cause much good farmland to come on to the market at reasonable prices.

The big question is, who in South Africa has the skill to farm it?

# going to seed

# Zambians clash over economy

LUSAKA.— The Bank of Zambia and the Central Statistical Office (CSO) have differed sharply on forecasting the country's economic performance.

Last week Bank of Zambia governor Jacques Bussieres defended the devaluation of the kwacha, saying it allowed Zambian producers to become more competitive and that inflation had been reduced from 150% to 73%.

CSO director David Diamango has reacted sharply, saying the inflation rate stood at 101.4% and warning of the danger of misleading the international community and the Zambian public.

"The Bank of Zambia is working in isolation and not in consultation with CSO on vital economic issues," said Diamango in a statement.

Meanwhile Zimbabwe's central bank has announced measures to control rising inflation: curb money supply, cut imports and encourage saving.

Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe governor Kombo Moyana said the base lending rate for commercial and merchant banks had

been increased to 17.25% from 15% and that for finance houses by three percentage points to 21%.

He said a 50% advance deposit would be required for imports worth more than Z\$15 000.

Inflation rose to a rate of almost 25% by the end of June from an estimated 16% at the beginning of the year and money supply grew by nearly 35%. The central bank did not give a figure for the previous money supply growth.

Moyana said the high rate of inflation and money supply needed to be conquered.

He said a significant rise in private sector credit was responsible for the increase in money supply while inflation had been pushed up by last year's high wage rises, the continuing depreciation of the Zimbabwe dollar and the recent lifting of controls on consumer prices.

"The thrust of this monetary policy will continue to be that of stimulating savings, and control of inflation and monetary expansion to promote growth," Moyana said.

— Sapa-Reuter.

BSB/Reuter 1984

Star 11/9/91 (362)  
**Ziana in a mess, says MP**

HARARE — A Zimbabwean parliamentary committee yesterday called for the reorganisation of the national news agency, Ziana. Johnson Ndlovu, MP for Gwanda North, said the future of Ziana was at stake. — Sapa.

# Outcry in Zimbabwe over removals

HARARE — Displaced tribesmen from Zimbabwe's Eastern Highlands and squatters from an inner Harare suburb have taken action against forced removals by the authorities.

A group of 2 000 people living in plastic and cardboard shacks in Old Mbare plan urgent High Court action to prevent the Harare City Council from trying to evict them before Britain's Queen Elizabeth visits the city next month.

Town clerk Edward Kanengoni says the Queen's itinerary would bring her

MICHAEL HARTNACK

and the international media within view of Old Mbare.

Lawyers acting for the squatters say judgment could be obtained today.

There was an outcry last year when police burned the homes and possessions of several hundred squatters, including six former white Rhodesian soldiers, in Old Mbare. They were taken to Chikurubi Prison but later released.

Meanwhile, a 16-member delegation from the

Tangwena tribe in the Eastern Highlands has arrived from Nyanga after police and sheriffs evicted 107 families from the Bende Gap area, owned by the parastatal Forestry Commission.

They demanded a personal interview with President Robert Mugabe, but this was refused.

Delegation leader Mathew Makanyanga said Local Government Minister Joseph Msika and Environment Minister Herbert Murerwa had promised to visit Bende Gap next week.

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sure from the UK and US

First  
page

Fm 13/9/91 (362)

ZIMBABWE Fm 13/9/91

## Structuring adjustments

Zimbabwe's structural adjustment programme is up and running — into difficulties. The US\$700m in additional aid over two years, pledged by donors in Paris in March, has not started to flow, but imports have risen sharply and the balance of payments is under severe strain. (362)

Donors are holding back the release of aid pending an agreement between the main donor (World Bank) and Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe, which has said for the past seven years that it doesn't need an IMF agreement, is apparently now anxious to secure an Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF) which will mean longer-term money at concessional rates.

With a string of costly structural adjustment failures behind them in Africa, both the bank and the IMF are determined to make the Zimbabwe programme work.

Apart from the sharp deterioration in the balance of payments, Harare policymakers are worried about escalating inflation. The rate of price increases accelerated from 15,5% in 1990 to more than 22% in the first half of the year.

It will get a good deal worse before it gets any better — money supply growth of 26% was recorded in the first half of 1991 with a trade-weighted depreciation of the Zimbabwe dollar of more than 25% so far this year, almost half of it in the month of August alone. Last week, the central bank tightened

monetary policy, pushing up rates across the board. But a 17,25% prime lending rate is still way below inflation.

The budget deficit is still running at close to 8% of GDP.

There are no balance of payments figures for 1991 yet but those for 1990 suggest the outcome was substantially worse than the estimated \$180m deficit. The 1991 deficit is likely to be closer to \$500m than the \$350m forecast and this has forced Harare to borrow heavily abroad. One estimate is that the debt-service ratio will jump from less than 25% this year to more than 30% in 1992, as repayments on short-term borrowings fall due.

Growth, estimated at 2% in 1990, seems likely to increase to 3,5% in 1991, largely on the back of the doubling in the value of tobacco production. The flue-cured crop is up 20% in volume, with prices averaging Z\$11/kg compared with Z\$6,50 last year.

Tobacco exports will boom, though not until very late in the year, as merchants have been holding back deliveries to exploit the tumbling exchange rate. Tobacco will be worth about Z\$1,9bn in 1991 — more than double last year — and this will more than offset output lost to drought in maize, cotton, wheat and sugar.

Next year, the economy is likely to slow as government tightens monetary — and probably also fiscal — policy. But good rains would give the economy a substantial boost which, while obviously desirable, would nevertheless mean an even tougher monetary stance if inflation is to be checked.

Reform is beset with political as well as economic roadblocks; there is no enthusiasm for the programme in President Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF party. More than half his backbench MPs have spoken against it.

Against this background it's hardly surprising that rumour is rife that Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, architect of the strategy, will quit politics soon. He is one of six Africans shortlisted by the Organisation for African Unity to replace

Perez de Cuellar as UN Secretary-General. Even if he doesn't get that job — and the Egyptian nominee is favourite — after 12 years as a Minister, Chidzero is likely to seek new pastures, leaving his successor to make the structural adjustment programme work.

## Zim squatter eviction thwarted

**HARARE.** — Local authorities in Zimbabwe's capital have been temporarily thwarted in an attempt to "clean up" the city in preparation for next month's visit by Queen Elizabeth.

An application to the High Court by the city council yesterday asked for the right to flatten the Tashinya squatter slum in the township of Mbare — home to 194 families. The application was motivated by the fact that the queen will visit the area before the Commonwealth summit, and the slum is "an eyesore".

"Pictures of and comment on the camp on the televisions and in the

newspapers of many countries of the world would inevitably cause severe embarrassment to Zimbabwe," said the council's affidavit.

Mr Justice Denis Robinson rebuked the applicants, saying they were "anxious to sweep the respondents (the squatters) under the red carpet to be rolled out for her majesty's visit to Harare".

Only one squatter had been correctly served with an eviction notice, and the court ordered him to vacate the site. The council was given 10 days correctly to serve eviction notices on the remaining families. — Sapa

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## UDI's constitutional conundrum explored

8/04/16/9/91 (362)  
THE JUDGE, THE PRINCE AND THE USURPER — FROM UDI TO ZIMBABWE by Benny Goldin, QC (Vantage Press, \$16.95)

AT 1:15pm on 11 November 1965, Ian Smith unilaterally declared the independence of the colony of Southern Rhodesia from the UK and sought to establish permanent white rule.

UDI signalled the start of a protracted guerrilla war which culminated in the Lancaster House talks and the formation of the Republic of Zimbabwe in 1980. It also sparked off an intriguing 15-year battle between the British and Rhodesian governments for sovereignty over the territory.

Goldin served as a High Court judge during this unique process of decolonisation. His book looks at some of the complex legal and constitutional issues faced by the courts.

While Smith's government was the de facto sovereign power, the judges of the High Court had sworn their allegiance to the queen prior to the declaration of UDI. Since Britain was not prepared to concede independence to the colony, the judges found themselves serving the crown while upholding the laws of the government that had usurped power from the crown.

It was left to the High Court judges to sort out the constitutional conundrum for themselves. The moral and ethical dilemma that arose from this dual allegiance is exhaustively explored by Goldin, whose style does justice to the complex legal questions raised in the book.

Unfortunately the book is heavy going for the layman but is a must for those studying or practising constitutional law and those interested in African history.

RAY HARTLEY

## Grain board sues farmers for buying chicken feed

HARARE — Zimbabwe's poultry industry, on the brink of a crisis because of a shortage of soya beans for chicken feed, is being sued for alleged illegal purchases of the grain by the organisation that cannot supply enough of it. Three other companies are being sued. The board was contemplating buying 10 000 tons of soya from Zambia because of a serious decline in soya production.

A report in the Herald newspaper last week said the parastatal Grain Marketing Board — Zimbabwe's sole legal purchaser of grain — had successfully sued the country's top chicken producer, Crest Breeders International, for R1.4m for buying

Commercial Oilseeds Producers' Association CE George Hutchinson said: "They (the poultry industry) are doing this because they are desperate to meet the shortfall."

Local soya expressing capacity was 160 000 tons a year, he said, but only 110 000 tons was produced. The R421/ton producer price for soya beans had remained static since 1989, and it was possible farmers' lack of interest in the crop would see production of only 75 000 tons this year, he said. —fSapa

# Zimbabwe devalues: SA boon

APC 19/9/91

**TOM HOOD**  
Business Editor

HOLIDAYS in Zimbabwe will become cheaper for South Africans as a result of a four per cent devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar.

Goods imported from Zimbabwe will also become cheaper.

A rand now buys Zim \$1.41, while a dollar is worth only 70c in South African money.

The dollar has plunged by 30 percent since January, when both currencies were at par and is now at its weakest level against major currencies.

The latest devaluation by the Zimbabwe Reserve Bank is the biggest one-day drop in years.

Business sources in Harare said the government faced heavy balance of payments pressure. Exporters were holding back to take advantage of the falling dollar and importers were bringing in goods in unexpected quantities to beat rising foreign currency costs.

# SOWETAN

Building the Nation



OLIVER TAMBO... has acquired a property in northern suburb of Sandhurst.

## Top ANC officials buy in luxury belt

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

IF property owners had any doubts about their property rights under any ANC government of the future they need to look no farther than the organisation's leadership acquisition of property.

According to Camdon Group's managing director, Mr Scott McRae, the ANC reportedly has international property interests of some R700 million.

vidual members have been buyers of up-market properties.

In South Africa the organisation recently acquired Shell House, Johannesburg, as its headquarters in a multi-million-rand deal; and on the residential front indi-

McRae says for exam-

ple, an SACP secretary has acquired a property in Observatory, Johannesburg and former ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo has bought a home

in Sandhurst, Sandton, in the heart of the so-called white "rink and manure belt."

He says: "ANC president Nelson Mandela himself lives in a luxury home with his wife, Mrs Mandela, in Soweto."

Camdon's had also been approached by the ANC in connection with property deals, he revealed.

However, if experience in South Africa's neighbouring states was any guideline, whites had no reason to expect that their property rights would be infringed.

Indeed, property rights had been enshrined in the constitutions of Namibia and Zimbabwe and in general values had appreciated.

In one instance, for example, a home in Harare sold for R90 000 at the start of independence was now selling for 10 times that amount.

deprived, he says.

A senior ANC spokesman had told Camdon's that any suggestion along these lines was "propaganda."

"There is no question of confiscating white property."

"It would seem that multiproperty ownership will be entirely the prerogative of the individual, if he can afford it; and again, such ownership would be protected - although this privilege could attract taxation," he said.

### Basic need

The ANC's policy is to address a basic need for housing among the million or more South Africans who presently do not have proper housing.

"This implies re-directing more of the country's resources into housing."

"This policy did not mean dispossessing those who already owned property in any way, whether by force or by coercion."

"What the ANC policy

duction of taxation of what could be described as luxury property.

"Just how luxury property would be defined is a moot point."

"Moreover, any legislation of this nature would undoubtedly have a difficult passage through Parliament and, even if finally approved would, in my view, be watered down in any event and could well prove to be quite tame," McRae said.

He added: "I prefer to be an optimist on this issue and to take my cue from what has happened to property in neighbouring Namibia and Zimbabwe, where values have soared under the regime and property ownership is firmly entrenched."

"I would in any event hope that the ANC policies will mellow should they come to power."

"Property ownership is, after all, one of the basic ways of creating wealth and I would hope that any future ANC-dominated government would wish to encourage such ownership in the interests of the population as whole, rather than simplistically confiscate existing property wealth and so impoverish the country as a whole."

# Children hungry<sup>(362)</sup> in land boasting plenty

HARARE. — Although Zimbabwe is one of the few countries in Africa that can feed itself, many primary school children in urban and rural areas and on commercial farms are hungry, undernourished and have stunted growth.

Ziana news agency reports that in his 1990 report, Harare medical officer of health Dr Lovemore Mbengeranwa said cases of malnutrition among children in the former black townships remained high in spite of supplementary feeding schemes and intensive nutrition education campaigns.

Mrs Rossie Mbidzo, principal of Hatcliffe Primary School, said Tatenda, an 8-year-old who was having serious problems at school, finding it difficult to concentrate and fainting regularly, was not the only child at the school whose classwork was affected by malnutrition.

Many others fainted and teachers had had to buy milk for their pupils on several occasions.

"We have had fewer fainting attacks, better class contribution and more children actively taking part in sport at the school since 1988, when the council began giving soup to the children," said Mrs Mbidzo.

Cups were eagerly held out to teachers during tea breaks for a cleanliness inspection. Each child received 200 mm of soup daily.

"It's tasty, better than any of the food we get from home. I even miss the soup during the school holidays," said Alice, 7.

The city council used to conduct growth assessment programme on infants in the low density areas. Normally, no major problems — except obesity — were found in the area.

But for the past 11 years the council has been examining children from poor neighbourhoods. Most are severely malnourished.

Mrs Claire Zunguza, a council nutritionist, said most of the urban children received a 10th of the calories they needed and this had a serious affect on their health.

"In 1989 we began a supplementary feeding programme at 16 schools in Harare where pupils were found to be undernourished after we had assessed their growth for some time," she said.

The worst affected areas were Mabvuku, Tafara, Hatcliffe and Dzivarerekwa high density areas. These were the known low income communities with social problems.

## Voters prefer their beer to politics

Argus Africa  
News Service

HARARE. Apathy is  
upsetting Zimbabwe's  
politicians.

Veteran nationalist Dr. Joshua Nkomo could only attract 500 children and a handful of adults to a rally at a weekend meeting in his constituency in Bulawayo.

He told the tiny crowd: "Your vote is your voice. People should know that you are the backbone of the government and for the government to be strong they need to support it in every effort."

He added: "It is pathetic to note that most people prefer to go to beer gardens instead of attending important meetings like this one."

Immediately after independence in 1980 tens of thousands of people travelled vast distance at weekends to hear their leaders speak.

By the mid-1980s groups from the ruling party's youth wing were often forcing people to attend meetings — and now even President Robert Mugabe addresses half-empty stadiums on public holidays.

## Zimbabwe dollar <sup>star</sup> 19/7/91 devalued (362)

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank devalued the local dollar by four percent against major currencies yesterday.

Dealers said this was the biggest one-day drop in years and left the currency at its weakest.

The local unit was fixed at mid-rates of 4,00319 against the US dollar, 6,55586 against the pound and 1,411331 against the rand.

Economists said the Zimbabwe dollar had depreciated by 17 percent between the end of June and late August on a trade-weighted basis in a move to give it a realistic alignment and boost exports under the government's five-year economic reform plan.

Business sources said the government faced heavy balance of payments pressure, with exporters holding back to take further advantage of the falling dollar and importers bringing in goods in unexpected quantities to beat rising foreign currency costs.

— Sapa-Reuters.

## SA gets tough with Harare at trade talks

**MICHAEL HARTNACK**

HARARE — Economic sources believe that senior SA officials at talks on Tuesday to renew a preferential trade treaty between Zimbabwe and SA confronted the Harare delegation over President Robert Mugabe's stance on sanctions. (362)

The negotiations opened in Pretoria on updating the most-favoured nation trade treaty Mugabe inherited from Ian Smith's Rhodesian government. 15/04/1979

Sources in Harare believed the SA negotiators told the Zimbabweans that to finalise a new trade agreement, Mugabe would have to rescind his 11-year ban on government contact at ministerial level.

At the one-day meeting, senior public servants from SA's Commerce and Foreign Affairs departments apparently queried Mugabe's continuing campaign for sanctions and his expected demand at the October Commonwealth summit in Harare for SA to remain isolated.

Last month Mugabe told African socialists meeting in Harare that he had "no choice but to insist on the maintenance of economic sanctions and other forms of pressure against SA ... until such time as an administration that does not owe its existence to apartheid is in place".

The Zimbabwean delegation was headed by the deputy secretary for trade relations and export promotions in the ministry of industry and commerce.

Sources believe it significant the six-member team included an under-secretary from the ministry of lands, agriculture and rural resettlement, and a law officer from the attorney-general's office.

SA is a major destination for Zimbabwe's processed farm exports, particularly textiles, and the prime source of vital inputs for its agricultural industry.

Economists believe the Zimbabweans told their hosts they were relying on expansion of the present R2bn-a-year trade relations with SA to bring the current R42bn five-year structural adjustment programme to fruition.

The existing agreement, dating from 1964, sets tariff rebates at levels rendered unrealistic by inflation, and its lists of rebatable trade items need revision because of economic expansion. No date has been set for the next round of talks.



## Zimbabwe <sup>362</sup>

### \$ devalued

CT 19/9/91  
HARARE. — Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank devalued the local dollar by 4% against major currencies yesterday, the biggest one-day drop in years, dealers said.

"This has left our currency at its weakest level," one dealer said.

Economists said the Zimbabwe dollar had depreciated by 17% between the end of June and late August on a trade-weighted basis.

SA, Zim in <sup>362</sup>  
key trade talks

HARARE — Negotia-  
tions began in Pretoria  
on Tuesday between SA  
and Zimbabwean offi-  
cials on renewing and  
up-dating the "Most Fa-  
voured Nation" trade  
treaty.

Sources here believe  
the SA negotiators told  
the Zimbabweans that to  
finalise a new trade  
agreement, an 11-year  
ban on contact at minis-  
terial level would have  
to be rescinded.

# Community prepares for war

362  
19/9/91

**MEMBERS!** In the rocky, barren and dry valleys of southern Zimbabwe, a tiny community of black South African descent is sharpening its spears and beating war drums to fight for its land.

About 4 000 Fingos are resisting government plans for a "new village-and-plot-settlement pattern" on the giant farm given to their ancestors by Mr Cecil Rhodes.

"If they want a fight they will have it," said spokesman Mr Caleb Sompence. "We are prepared to fight with everything at our disposal."

Fingo location in Mbe-mbe district, 50km north-east of Bulawayo, is the scene of a bitter land dispute which has dogged the community for years.

The Fingos accuse some senior government officials of plotting to take over the location to build weekend homes near Bulawayo. Rhodes rewarded 177 South African men and

their families, who escorted his Pioneer Column from South Africa as porters, with the freehold ownership of a 10 000-hectare farm.

Each man was given 4.5ha - four hectares for farming and half a hectare on which to build a home. The remaining property, to which all men had equal access, was for social facilities like schools and clinics.

The gift makes the Fingos the only peasants among Zimbabwe's about 10 million people who have title deeds in a communal farming area. The ownership is backed by a law passed in 1914.

The government, which legally owns the rest of the peasant farming area where more than 80 percent of the

population lives, recently angered the Fingos with plans to reorganise their land. It accuses them of reducing the area to a wasteland.

"Even where people legally own their property ... the government is the final custodian of the people's common heritage," said a ministry of local government official who refused to be named.

"We cannot leave things as they are at Fingo," he said.

The official said Fingo's overcrowded and haphazard layout should make way for properly planned residential and farming plots to enable the administration to provide adequate social services.

Crop production has fallen drastically over the

years due to soil overuse, trees have been razed for firewood and vegetation has disappeared due to too many livestock, he said.

"At least half the people here should go."

In recent months the government has resettled hundreds of volunteers in neighbouring districts but the rest are resisting.

"We can only move to the new resettlement areas if they give us title deeds there. Otherwise we are staying here and how we survive is not anybody's business," said one old man, who also refused to be named.

Sompence, secretary of the Fingo community representative committee, said the government's accusations against them "are true of every communal area."

"The fact that we have title deeds for our lands does not make us any less tribesmen," he said.

In the 11 years since independence from Britain, President Robert Mugabe's

government has been unenthusiastic about awarding title deeds in communal areas, only recently giving in to heavy pressure from the business community to do so in 55 commercial growth centres.

Fingo is a cluster of scattered huts, sickly animals and, in the agricultural season, wilting crops. Sompence said the government's reorganisation plans would "desecrate our ancestors' graves" and disadvantage those who had built decent homes and installed electricity and piped water at their current settlements.

"We need to resolve the question of compensation before anything is done," he said.

Across the Limpopo river, the Fingos' distant relatives are resisting removals from what the South African Government calls "illegal settlements" in the same way that the Zimbabwean Fingos are doing. - *Sapa-Reuter.*

**We are prepared to fight with everything at our disposal.**

**Zim  
clan  
won't  
move  
off  
land**

# Trading partners with snarls

By 20/9/91

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PRETORIA's suppressed irritation with Harare has begun to show.

It emerged in official accounts of the meeting this week in Pretoria between South African and Zimbabwean officials over a request from Zimbabwe for a revision of the preferential trade agreement between the two countries.

The South Africans appear to have taken a somewhat firmer line than usual in expressing Pretoria's irritation at what they see as the uncompromisingly sour face presented by Harare when the rest of Africa is beginning to smile on President de Klerk's reforms.

It seems unlikely at this stage that this irritation will lead to a deterioration in the already strained relations between the two governments. But a lot may depend on what Zimbabwe does at the Commonwealth summit in Harare next month.

According to official sources, the South Africans made it known a little more plainly than they have in the past that they find it odd that the Zimbabweans should seek better terms under the agreement (which is essentially what the Pretoria meeting was all about) at the same time as opposing the relaxation of international economic sanctions.

They pointed in particular to Zimbabwe's key role in persuading the Organisation of African Unity to maintain sanctions at its summit in Abuja, Nigeria, in June. President Mugabe himself led that attack and pushed it home, even though ANC leader Nelson Mandela was there trying to get sanctions conditionally softened.

Zimbabwe is seeking better trade terms with South Africa at the same time that it is opposing the relaxation of sanctions, reports GERALD L'ANGE.

Ironically, this happened at about the same time as Harare began seeking better trade terms from South Africa.

The Zimbabweans were impelled into that seemingly contradictory action by the knowledge that improving trade with South Africa is a key pillar of the economic restructuring programme on which Mr Mugabe's government is depending to save Zimbabwe's struggling economy.

The trade agreement benefits both parties, but it is of much more benefit to Zimbabwe, which does most of its trade with South Africa. The Republic counts its trade with Zimbabwe as a comparatively small part of its overall foreign business.

## Widening gap

The imbalance is likely to increase rather than lessen if the Zimbabwe dollar continues to weaken against the rand, as economists predict.

Seemingly to emphasise their irritation, the South Africans said that if the agreement were to be revised, it should be signed by a cabinet minister and not by a senior public servant, as in the past. This was ultimately not expressed as an ultimatum, only as a point of view.

It amounts to no more than an objection to President Mugabe's consistent refusal to deal with Pretoria at ministerial level. But it plainly is an objection that could quickly become

an ultimatum if Pretoria were to come to believe that its interests were no longer served by taking a tolerant attitude.

The South Africans suggested that Pretoria's tolerance might be severely tested if the Zimbabweans pursued what is seen almost as their hounding of South Africa at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) which opens in Harare on October 16.

It seems inevitable, however, that Zimbabwe will do just what the South Africans don't want them to do at CHOGM.

Britain, which still regards itself as the senior partner in the Commonwealth, is said to be trying to get the South African issue played down at CHOGM, fearing that the progress towards a negotiated solution in South Africa could be set back if the Commonwealth nations play political football.

There is worried remembrance of the 1979 CHOGM in Lusaka, which led to the Lancaster House conference and independence for Zimbabwe. The British, it seems, do not think that kind of approach is what is needed for the entirely different South African issue.

The Zimbabweans, however, take a different view. In the first place, they think they are morally right. In the second place, they do not think they are out of step with the rest of Africa in demanding the maintenance of sanctions, and point out that the Abuja resolution on sanctions won general support.

And in the third place, it is argued, you can't very well have a CHOGM right next door to South Africa and virtually ignore the issue.

South African Director-General of Foreign Affairs Neil van Heerden does not believe that CHOGM 1991 will be anything other than a predictable expression of opposition to the South African Government.

As it is being held in Harare, and given "the expectations we have of the Zimbabwe government's attitude, one must assume that CHOGM must to some extent be a captive of the Harare syndrome, if I can call it that", he said.

## Great store

Mr van Heerden, who described CHOGMs as "pre-programmed love-ins of a particular kind", appears not to attach much importance to the Harare meeting.

Mr van Heerden made it plain in the interview that South Africa is prepared to go to some lengths to establish good relations with Zimbabwe.

"We are setting great store by the possibilities of normalising relations with Zimbabwe," he said. "But right now we have no reason to be optimistic about the prospects."

The Zimbabweans appear to be slightly puzzled by the South African attitude. There is a suspicion in Harare that the displeasure of the South Africans arises partly from their having over-estimated Zimbabwe's influence in Africa and the rest of the world.

Perhaps CHOGM 1991 will show whether this impression is correct. — Star Africa Service. □

# SA gets firm with Harare over trade

Star 20/9/91

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2477

## Political Staff

The South African Government told Zimbabwe officials in Pretoria this week that a preferential trade agreement which they are seeking depends on an improvement in attitude to South Africa.

Representatives of the Department of Trade and Industry, Foreign Affairs and Agriculture bluntly told a Zimbabwean delegation that South Africa wanted to normalise trade and political relations, but this was not possible in the light of Harare's continued hostility towards Pretoria.

Sources said they made it clear that a renewed preferential trade agreement, which Zimbabwe requested in June, hinged on a change of attitude.

It is understood that the Zimbabwe team stressed that the success of its domestic policy of economic liberalisation — freeing it from state control — rest-



Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe.

ed heavily on its upliftment.

Vital to this was trade with South Africa, and concessions were needed to enable it.

It is understood the South African officials raised the Zimbabwe hardline position on continued and increased sanctions on South Africa.

They reminded the Zimbabweans of a harshly-worded draft resolution they produced

at a Commonwealth meeting in June targeting South Africa — at the same time as Harare officially requested a renewal of favourable trade terms.

The Pretoria officials said also that they would be monitoring events at the Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) summit in Harare from October 10 to 22 to determine Zimbabwe's attitude.

Sources said the Zimbabwe delegation, understanding perfectly that much depended on an analysis of Zimbabwe's role at CHOGM, undertook to report back the South African Government's sentiments.

Another implication of what the Pretoria officials said was that the 11-year-old ban by President Robert Mugabe on ministerial contact between the two countries would have to be dropped.

No date has yet been set for a second meeting of the delegations.

● Trading partners —  
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# Harare testing Pretoria's tolerance

By GERALD L'ANGE  
Argus Africa News Service

**P**RETORIA'S suppressed irritation with Harare has begun to show.

It emerged in official accounts of the meeting last week in Pretoria between South African and Zimbabwean officials over a Zimbabwean request for a revision of the preferential trade agreement between the two countries.

The South Africans appear to have taken a somewhat firmer line than usual in expressing Pretoria's irritation at what they see as the uncompromisingly sour face presented by Harare when the rest of Africa is beginning to smile on President De Klerk's reforms.

It seems unlikely at this stage that this irritation will lead to a deterioration in the already strained relations between the two governments. But a lot may depend on what Zimbabwe does at the Commonwealth summit in Harare next month.

According to official sources, the South Africans made it known a little more plainly than they have in the past that they find it odd that the Zimbabweans should seek better terms under the agreement (which is essentially what the Pretoria meeting was all about) at the same time as they are opposing the relaxation of international economic sanctions against the Republic.

They pointed in particular to Zimbabwe's key role in persuading the Organisation of African Unity to maintain sanctions at its summit in Abuja, Nigeria, in June. President Robert Mugabe himself led that attack and pushed it home even though Nelson Mandela was at Abuja trying to get sanctions conditionally softened.

Ironically, this happened at about the same time as Harare began seeking better trade terms from South Africa. The Zimbabweans were impelled into that seemingly contradictory action by the knowledge that improving trade with South Africa is a key pillar of the economic restructuring programme on which Mr Mugabe's government is depending to save Zimbabwe's struggling economy.

The trade agreement benefits both parties but it is of much more benefit to Zimbabwe, which does most of its trade with South Africa than to the Republic, which counts

its trade with Zimbabwe as a comparatively small part of its overall foreign business.

The imbalance is likely to increase rather than lessen if the Zimbabwe dollar continues to weaken against the rand, as economists predict.

Seemingly to emphasise their irritation, the South Africans said that if the agreement were to be revised it should be signed by a cabinet minister and not by a senior civil servant as in the past. This was apparently not expressed as an ultimatum, only as a point of view.

It amounts to no more than an objection to Mr Mugabe's consistent refusal to deal with Pretoria at ministerial level. But it plainly is an objection that could quickly become an ultimatum if Pretoria were to come to believe that its interests were no longer served by taking a tolerant attitude.

The South Africans suggested that Pretoria's tolerance might be severely tested if the Zimbabweans pursued what is seen almost as their hounding of South Africa at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Chogm for short), which opens in Harare on October 16.

It seems inevitable, however, that Zimbabwe will do just what the South Africans don't want them to do at Chogm. Britain, which still regards itself as the senior partner in the Commonwealth, is said to be trying to get the South African issue played down at Chogm, fearing that the progress towards a negotiated solution in South Africa could be set back if the Commonwealth nations play political football with the issue in Harare.

There is worried remembrance of the 1979 Chogm in Lusaka, which led to the Lancaster House conference and independence for Zimbabwe. The British, it seems, do not think that kind of approach is what is needed for the entirely different South African issue.

The Zimbabweans, however, take a different view. In the first place they think they are morally right. In the second place they do not think they are out of step with the rest of Africa in demanding the maintenance of sanctions and point out that the Abuja resolution on sanctions won general support.

And in the third place, it is argued, you can't very well have a Chogm right next door to South Africa and virtually ignore the South African issue.

(362) MGT 23/9/91

South Africa's Director-General of Foreign Affairs, Neil van Heerden, does not believe that Chogm 1991 will be anything other than a predictable expression of opposition to the government.

As it is being held in Harare, and given "the expectations we have of the Zimbabwe government's attitude, one must assume that Chogm must to some extent be a captive of the Harare syndrome, if I can call it that," he said in a recent interview.

Mr Van Heerden, who described Chogms as "pre-programmed love-ins of a particular kind", appears not to attach much importance to the Harare meeting.

Given the attitude expressed by the South Africans at the Pretoria meeting, however, Pretoria may feel constrained to react more sharply than it has in the past if Mr Mugabe leads another charge against the dying dragon of apartheid at Chogm, as he did at Abuja.

Mr Van Heerden made it plain in the interview that South Africa is prepared to go to some lengths to establish good relations with Zimbabwe.

"We are setting great store by the possibilities of normalising relations with Zimbabwe," he said. "But right now we have no reason to be optimistic about the prospects."

"The government in Harare has remained more or less unrepentant, if that's the right word, in their approach to South Africa. Unwilling to change."

"Yes, there has been the odd complimentary remark about President De Klerk's reforms but that has not found any concrete echo in our bilateral relationship."

"Maybe if one looks at the trading figures one can say that has got better but I think that is something that runs on a separate track."

"If we look at the political signals coming out of Harare we have no reason to be more optimistic. They appear to have stayed locked into the orbit they are in."

The Zimbabweans appear to be slightly puzzled by the South African attitude. There is a suspicion in Harare that the displeasure of the South Africans arises partly from their having over-estimated Zimbabwe's influence in Africa and the rest of the world.

Perhaps Chogm 1991 will show whether this impression is correct.

(362)

# Zimbabwe Star 23.9.19 drops import requirement

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe is understood to have dropped its controversial proposal requiring importers to deposit with the customs department half the value of goods coming into the country under the open general import licence system. The proposal, aimed at controlling the flood of goods, drew strong protests from the business community, including the newly formed Indigenous Business Development Centre.

The Business Herald reported last week that the bank had apparently decided to drop the plan. Economists said it would have stoked inflation and damaged the structural adjustment programme.

Importers would have had to borrow money at commercial bank rates and leave it with the government for six months during which it would have earned no interest.

Donors who had promised Zimbabwe \$700 million have not so far come forward with the money and are awaiting World Bank reaction.

A World Bank team is now in Harare evaluating the economic reform plan.

# Bishop (362) Abel Muzorewa visits SA

FORMER Zimbabwe prime minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa has said politics has no place in Christianity.

Muzorewa heads the United Methodist Church in southern Africa.

In a radio interview Muzorewa also said his church did not accept the ideology of apartheid.

He said that he was praying for peace and freedom in South Africa.

Bishop Muzorewa is attending the synod of the church in Cape Town.

*Sapa.*



## AFRICA

### Harare plans a fuel pipeline <sup>(362)</sup>

HARARE — Zimbabwe is to build a fuel pipeline linking the eastern city of Mutare and the capital Harare following the signing of a loan agreement between Petrozim (pvt) Ltd and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

Under the agreement signed last week, the IFC will provide two loans totalling \$32.7m towards the overall estimated pipeline cost of \$66.4m.

Mutare is the terminal for the country's only fuel supply pipeline from the Mozambican port of Beira. *B10am 23/9/91*

The pipeline, which officials expect to be completed by late 1993, will relieve a considerable strain on the country's road and rail haulage of fuel.

Zimbabwe does not have an oil refinery and imports all its refined fuel products, primarily through the key Beira Corridor pipeline.

A representative of the IFC, the World Bank's private-sector investment arm, said the first direct loan of \$16.7m was close to the maximum it could provide from its own resources in percentage terms. The IFC has syndicated the other \$16m loan to other lenders to make up the total.

The Herald newspaper said of the overall cost, \$53.2m would be in foreign currency and the balance raised locally. — Reuter.

### Zimbabwean police raze shacks

HARARE — Armed Zimbabwean police last week swooped on about 300 squatter families near Chiredzi and burned down their homes and property, according to Ziana news agency.

The families were said to have been served with eviction orders by acting district administrator M S Tavaruva who told them they had to leave by September 10.

A source close to the squatters said

the burning of the homes on Friday appeared to have been a response to a letter sent to the acting district administrator by the squatters' lawyers appealing against the eviction orders.

Tavaruva reportedly did not respond to the letter from the lawyers and is said to have authorised the police to burn down the belongings of the families who are now living in the open.

The squatters have lived on the land since 1979. — Sapa.

### Airline fights court costs

HARARE — Air Zimbabwe chairman Reg Austin has filed an opposing affidavit in the Harare High Court case in which former general manager Fungai Stanley Musara has sued the corporation for wrongful and unlawful dismissal.

National news agency Ziana reports that on September 6 the court issued a temporary order interdicting or restraining the corporation from appointing a new general manager.

It also called on the corporation to show cause why Musara should not be reinstated with full benefits.

In his affidavit, Austin said Air Zimbabwe had been forced to come to court to oppose this petition "in so far as costs only" were concerned.

Austin said the corporation had since applied to the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare for authority to dismiss Musara.

In a letter on September 6 to Musara's legal advisers, Austin said he had been advised "this decision on the application has not been finalised and accordingly, it is confirmed that your client continues to be on leave enjoying the associated privileges including the use of the motor vehicle ..."

Musara's lawyers acknowledged receipt of a Mercedes Benz, but said Musara had not been provided with a driver, "which was the normal entitlement".

They said the corporation had not reinstated Musara to his management position "and all the rights which go with it", and had not lifted restrictions preventing him from entering the corporation's premises and travelling without informing the chairman.

Air Zimbabwe will on October 10 oppose the order of costs granted to Musara on September 6. — Sapa.

# World Bank aid for Zimbabwe petrol pipeline

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Star 24/9/91

By Hugh Robertson  
Star Bureau

Generale and the Swiss  
Banking Corporation.

WASHINGTON — The International Finance Corporation, the World Bank's private sector division, is to help finance a \$66.7 million (about R186 million) underground petrol pipeline in Zimbabwe which will link Harare with the oil terminal in Beira.

The 204-km pipeline will run from Harare to Feruka, where it will link up with the existing pipeline from Beira. It will be completed within 24 months.

In a statement yesterday the IFC said its contribution to the project would be in the form of a \$23 million (R64.4 million) loan to Petrozim Line (Pvt) Limited.

It has also played the key role in mobilising other loan finance through a syndication of banks headed by Hill Samuel Bank, Societe

The pipeline is the first utility to be constructed in Zimbabwe with significant private sector financing and will be owned and operated by Petrozim Line, a joint venture between Lonrho and the National Oil Company of Zimbabwe (Pty) Limited.

According to the IFC, the pipeline will "provide a transportation system which is virtually maintenance-free and less vulnerable to failure and infrastructural problems of ground transportation".

At present all Zimbabwe's petroleum is distributed by road and rail from the Feruka terminus of the line from Beira.

The IFC has helped to finance 21 private sector projects in Zimbabwe at a total cost of \$480 million (about R1.3 billion).

# Nkomo in trouble over vow to pay debt

HARARE — Zimbabwe Vice-President Joshua Nkomo is in trouble again over unpaid debts — the third time this year — according to Bulawayo newspapers. *Star 24/9/91*

Yesterday's reports said Martha Silundika, widow of George Silundika, a one-time executive of the former Zapu party, and a national hero of the war against white rule, has been summonsed for non-payment of debt because Mr Nkomo has failed to meet a

promise to pay the debt for her. The report said Mrs Silundika had wanted to sell part of her residential property in Bulawayo to pay the cost of a wall around her home, but had been dissuaded from selling by Mr Nkomo, who promised he would meet the bill.

The R10 000 was due at the end of last year, but nothing was received by the building contractor.

Lawyers representing Mrs Silundika had written to Mr

Nkomo, reminding him of his promise, the reports said.

Mrs Silundika is being charged 18 percent interest on the outstanding cash, and will also have to pay the cost of the contractor's legal bill because Mr Nkomo had defaulted on his promise, the reports said.

In April, Mr Nkomo was sued for R25 000 by a Bulawayo company over non-payment for work on two of his ranches, and again in July for R13 000 owed to another contractor. — Sapa.

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# Three years on Death Row and still hoping for freedom

ROBIN DREW  
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Three men behind the high concrete walls of Zimbabwe's maximum security prison at Chikurubi near here will soon mark the passing of three years on Death Row.

They are the South African agents Kevin Woods, Michael Smith and Philip Conjwayo, convicted in November 1988 of the murder of Robert Mwanza who died when the car he was hired to drive blew up outside an ANC house in Bulawayo.

Woods and Smith, in their mid-30s at the time of the attack, said before the death sentence was passed that they had acted on behalf of the people of South Africa who were victims of ANC murderers.

Early next year it is expected that their appeal against conviction and sentence will come before the Supreme Court. The records of the trial are ready.

At the same time Woods and Smith will appeal against their conviction and 40-year sentence imposed after a second trial for their alleged part in the bombing of ANC properties in Harare.

But speculation persists that before then a political decision

will be made to free them in the light of the sweeping political changes in South Africa, including the release of political prisoners, a category in which the three men view themselves.

A lawyer who has represented them, Mr Robin Hartley, says that while he is hopeful that the Zimbabwean government will free them, there are no substantial indications that this action will be taken.

Through their lawyer the condemned men have on a number of occasions appealed to the governments of South Africa, and Zimbabwe and to the ANC to exercise influence.

Hopes were raised a year ago when the South African Odile Harrington, jailed for spying on the ANC, was released by Zimbabwe.

Earlier a black South African agent, Leslie Lesia, accused of supplying the ANC with a booby-trapped TV set which exploded, killing a woman, was sent home from Harare after the state of emergency expired. He did not stand trial.

Woods, Smith and Conjwayo are not South Africans and their conviction was for murder. But the men insist that their alleged

offences were of a purely political nature.

In the past amnesties granted by President Mugabe have excluded agents serving foreign governments.

No doubt some of the speculation arises from the visit next month by the Queen. A suggestion that prisoners should be freed to mark the visit was, however, greeted with derision.

There is also the Commonwealth summit, at which South Africa's relations with Commonwealth countries will be debated in view of the moves towards negotiations in South Africa.

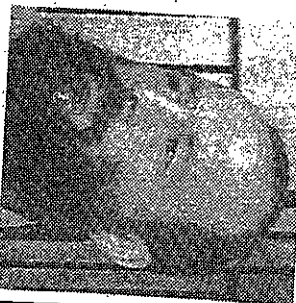
Meanwhile, Woods, a former officer in the Central Intelligence Organisation of Zimbabwe, Smith, who served in the Rhodesian and South African armies, and Conjwayo, a special branch officer in the Rhodesian police, are said to be encouraged by recent events.

Their lawyer said they were in reasonably good spirits, thin but healthy. After their appeals to improve their conditions they are now allowed two hours' exercise out of their cells every day.

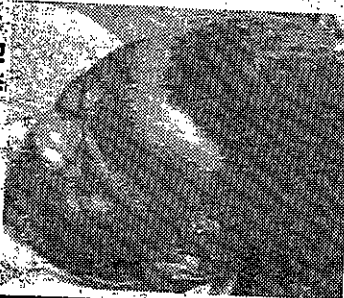
They are allowed books and newspapers and have also been studying the trial records.



Michael Smith



Kevin Woods



Philip Conjwayo

CITY/1

# Zimbabwe urged to speed up reform

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa News Service

**HARARE** — The Zimbabwe government has been urged to get on with implementing its economic reform programme by a leading financial commentator here, Professor Tony Hawkins.

Mr Hawkins who heads business studies at the University of Zimbabwe has said the more protracted the process of reform, the greater the pain.

"There is much to be said for the big bang approach that avoids many of the snags now being experienced in the gradualist phasing out of import controls."

"More to the point, the more the authorities back away from tough decisions on inflation, the higher inflation becomes and the harsher future policies will have to be," he said, in an article in the independent financial

**Zimbabwe is slipping gradually into the sort of financial mess seen more often in countries north of the Zambezi. To get back on track a leading financial commentator suggests some painful medicine.**

*Star 25/9/91*

**Gazette.**  
Economists generally have said the recent increase in interest rates was not enough to tackle spiralling inflation, now said to be more than 30 percent.

Mr Hawkins said a policy of allowing interest rates to follow inflation up, rather than using them to push inflation down, was a case in point. It was bound to mean a longer period of high nominal interest rates than if inflation had been tackled vigorously at the outset.

On the prospects for success of the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP), Mr Hawkins said it had a dis-

mal track record in sub-Saharan Africa.

The policy had worked only in Mauritius but that was a special case which could not realistically be replicated across the mainland.

Failure in Africa had much to do with inappropriately designed strategies, imperfectly applied and all too often sacrificed at the altar of political expedience.

But there could be no going back to Zimbabwe's pre-ESAP days and there was no realistic alternative to structural adjustment. Under the old policy, unem-

ployment had quadrupled in a decade, real wages fell, while investment ratios declined to their lowest levels for 40 years or more.

The budget deficit averaged 10 percent of GDP, imposing an intolerable burden on the balance of payments, the capital market, and on the future fiscal strategy. An introspective, increasingly inefficient manufacturing sector, denied spares, modern technology and competitive rivalry was failing to deliver.

Zimbabwe's structural adjustment programme has come under fire from trade unionists and some analysts who say it puts the country at the Mercy of institutions like the World Bank and the IMF.

## No going back

Mr Hawkins said in his article: "ESAP's critics are at their analytically weakest when it comes to prescribing an alternative. The notion that there can be any going back to the homegrown experiment of the 1980s is fatally flawed."

"There was no adjustment. Furthermore, once controls are dismantled, there is no going back. People may complain about the tyranny of structural adjustment, but there is no political support for a return to the tyranny of direct controls on the economy."

Mr Hawkins said ESAP grew out of recognition by donors that supporting good projects in weak, ill-managed economies was a recipe for failure.

It was designed to create what was now called an enabling environment by stabilising the macroeconomy, and restructuring incentives through trade and financial liberalisation.

## Its dollar is crashing

**HARARE** — The Zimbabwe dollar fell to its lowest level yesterday against hard currencies after an unprecedented rapid drop of 14 percent in the last week.

According to the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, the dollar fell 3.3 percent overnight against major currencies and stood at Z\$1.55 to the rand, Z\$4.4 to the US dollar and Z\$7.64 to pound sterling.

Economists feared the sudden fall in the currency's value was creating panic among importers, and cited a surge in the demand for foreign currency to purchase foreign goods on the new open general import licence (Ogil), exacerbating an already dangerously negative balance of payments.

The government is committed to the steady devaluation of the dollar as part of its radical economic reform programme, but some economists said they believed the Reserve Bank may have exceeded exchange rates recommended by World Bank advisers who are scrutinising Zimbabwe's adherence to the programme as a condition for loans.

They said the sudden drop could be a deliberate effort by the Central Bank to stem the huge demand for foreign funds for imports.

"The increase of the last week is like 14 percent tax on imports," said one banker. "But its just panicking people into a massive import spending spree because they don't know when this devaluation is going to stop."

The Zimbabwe dollar has dropped by a massive 45 percent since the beginning of the year.

ZIMBABWE

362 (10/25)

## Restructural rethink

FM 24/9/91  
Harare is awash with rumours about the likely recommendations of three teams of visiting bankers and economists from the IMF, World Bank and African Development Bank. Not surprisingly, they are reportedly deeply split over how tough they should be in imposing new conditions on President Robert Mugabe's government.

Evidence that all is far from well is widespread. After falling 12% in August, the Zimbabwe dollar slumped 7% in the week to September 20. Tobacco prices have eased and are now averaging a good Z\$4/kg less than at the end of August.

Trade figures, released mid-month, show imports up 60% last year and, while there is some scepticism about the accuracy of the trade statistics, it is quite clear that a serious foreign exchange crisis has arisen. Which is why rumours of tough IMF conditions are

*continue*

## ECONOMY & FINANCE

FM 24/9/91

sweeping the capital. British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd who swung through Harare earlier in the month to urge Mugabe to cool the rhetoric on SA sanctions at next month's Commonwealth Conference, made little secret of how Whitehall sees aid to Zimbabwe. No World Bank agreement, no UK aid, was the Hurd message. (362)

According to the rumour mill, Zimbabwe is negotiating for a US\$400m IMF loan, which will be agreed only if Harare is prepared to cut government spending, reduce the civil service and push up interest rates. The signs are that a reluctant Zimbabwe government will agree to the fund's terms, since there is no viable alternative.

Zimbabwe has borrowed heavily in recent months to finance rapidly rising imports now allowed on open general licence. Exports, other than tobacco, are severely depressed and there is no reason to expect any improvement in the foreign currency situation until the aid promised at the Paris donor meeting in March starts to flow. That — as Hurd warned — will not happen until Zimbabwe signs on the dotted line with the World Bank and possibly also the IMF. It's a bleak situation.

Ministers seem at a loss to know what to do. Early this month interest rates were pushed up by 2.25 percentage points in the case of prime bank loans, but almost all deposit rates remain substantially negative to the tune of 8%-10%.

Some officials complain that Ministers are too preoccupied with the forthcoming Commonwealth summit in Harare to make crucial decisions on the economy. Certainly Mugabe seems fixated with the details of the summit, rather than economic management which, to be fair, has never interested him greatly.

Economists warn that, even if the World Bank and IMF can patch up a deal with government, aid funds will start flowing only next year, implying that foreign exchange will remain short for the next six months and probably a good deal longer. Against this background, it is doubtful whether Harare can meet the structural adjustment programme targets. There is even speculation that the country will have to rethink the entire programme before seeking substantially increased aid from Western donors in Paris early next year.

## 'Whenwes' ask Harare if they can return

ROBIN DREW

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — A new twist has been added to the "Whenwe" title given ex-Rhodesians who went to South Africa after Zimbabwe's independence.

The "Whenwes" are those hoping to return after a decade in South Africa.

The Weekend Gazette said there had been a sharp rise in those applying to return to Zimbabwe from South Africa.

It said that every week more than 100 applications were made for residence permits, many from people who emigrated to South Africa.

The deputy chief administration officer, Mr. Spencer Nhari, said former residents had to satisfy the same criteria as other immigrants. It

was not true, that the authorities were refusing permission for them to return.

A person with substantial funds prepared to invest at least \$150 000 (R450 000) could obtain a permit, as could the parents or grandparents of a resident who had the means for their permanent support.

The spouse of a resident or minor children would also be granted permits.

Temporary residence permits could be issued to those with scarce skills who were unlikely to displace people from employment.

As many as 100 000 whites left Zimbabwe at independence in 1980 or shortly afterwards. Those who return will find the home they sold for \$30 000 (Zimbabwe) difficult to obtain at more than 10 times the price.

Star 28/9/91

## Zimbabwe eases visa rules

HARARE — Zimbabwe has relaxed its restrictions on visas for South Africans and other nationals. A spokesman for the Immigration Department in Harare confirmed yesterday that it was now issuing multiple-entry visas valid for six months to all applicants, including South Africans. (362)



# Waterless Bulawayo 'could collapse'

ROBIN DREW  
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second largest city, could die from lack of water, according to concerned residents who want President Mugabe to declare the city a "disaster area".

The city council has approved more cuts in supplies to householders and said it would reduce water to government institutions by half to bring home the seriousness of the situation.

Abattoirs, dairies, the railways, power stations, army installations and a proposed university of science and technology will be affected by the cut in water supply.

Bulawayo wants the government to proceed urgently with a scheme to pipe water to the city from the Zambezi River, 350km to the north.

A South African team of consulting engineers said an underground pipeline could be laid within a year at a cost of up to R600 million — depending on the size of the pipe.

The engineers undertook a feasibility study commissioned by Matabeleland North Provincial Council after earlier efforts failed to get the government to back the study.

The Minister of Water Resources, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, said he was a disciple of the scheme but told parliament that successive governments had got cold feet ever since piped water from the Zambezi was first suggested 80 years ago.

Experts said that unless heavy rains fall by the end of 1991, Bulawayo will run out of water. The existing dams have supplies which will last until early next year. A second pipeline is under construction to one of the dams but this will take two years to complete.

A former mayor of Bulawayo, Mr Mike Constandinos, told an emergency meeting earlier this year:

"The possibility of Bulawayo collapsing is real. People would have to be relocated."

It has also been suggested that water may have to be brought to the city of nearly one million people by rail. Only essential services may be allowed to continue.

## SA cement 362 to Zimbabwe

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwe's State Trading Corporation has decided to import SA cement because Zambia's Chilanga cement factory has failed to fulfil orders, the Financial Gazette says. Zimbabwean cement factories say their machinery is too old and their capital base too eroded by state-controlled prices for them to keep up with demand. Zimbabwe State Trading Corporation spokesman Emmanuel Gamanya reportedly said a contract was signed last October for Chilanga cement to supply Zimbabwe government construction projects with 40 000 tons a year at \$48 a ton. Zambia was able to fill only between 10% and 25% of the order. *10/20/79* Gamanya said it was found that the Zambian cement was unsuitable for road and bridge construction. The State Trading Corporation had decided to import from Mafikeng, where 1 500 tons a day could be supplied at R117,6 a ton. *11/10/79*

# Rhodies yearn for home

HARARE A new twist has been added to the 'whenwe?' title given ex-Rhodesians who went to South Africa after Zimbabwe's independence.

Now the 'whenwe?' people are those hoping to come back to Zimbabwe after a decade in South Africa.

According to the *Weekend Gazette*, there has been a sharp increase in the numbers applying

to come back here from South Africa. The paper said every week the department of immigration received more than 100 applications for residence permits, many from people who emigrated to South Africa.

Deputy chief immigration officer Mr. Spencer Nhari said former residents had to satisfy the same criteria as other immigrants. It was not true, however,

that the authorities were refusing permission for them to return.

A person with substantial funds prepared to invest at least R435 000, here could obtain a permit as could the parents or grandparents of a resident who had the means for their permanent support.

The spouse of a resident or minor children would also be

granted permits.

Temporary residence permits could be issued to those with scarce skills who were unlikely to displace local people from employment.

As many as 100 000 whites left Zimbabwe around the time of independence in 1980.

Those who do come back will find the homes they sold difficult to obtain at 10 times the price.

# Whites keen to return as Zimbabwe dollar crashes

HARARE — Whites who emigrated around the time of Zimbabwean independence in 1980 are now applying at the rate of more than 100 a week for "resumption of residence", according to a government spokesman.

The crash in the value of the Zimbabwean dollar is largely responsible, say financial sources.

They say many of those applying to return may be pensioners, now unable to live in SA off Zimbabwe dollar remittances. The 45% drop in the currency's value in the past year also makes Zimbabwe attractive to pensioners with rand incomes. In 1980, R1 bought 90c but today, Z\$1,75.

However, 30% inflation renders home-making difficult. In 1980, houses in Harare's former white suburbs sold for R20 000 or less, but today they are hard to find under R250 000.

Deputy chief immigration officer, Spencer Nhari also disclosed that Zimbabwe had recently introduced a multi-entry permit system for SA visitors, reciprocating an SA concession granted in July.

3/10/91  
MICHAEL HARTNACK

Single entry visas valid for three months have been replaced by the automatic grant of a visa permitting any number of entries into Zimbabwe over a six-month period.

Zimbabwe's tourist industry is currently booming, due entirely to revived SA traffic.

Nhari told the Weekend Gazette that to cope with the flood of applications for "resumption of residence", mainly from South Africans, his department had streamlined procedures to reduce processing time from three months to one.

"There's a general belief that we are refusing them permission to come back, which is not true," he said.

Some 200 000 whites emigrated during the 1972-80 Rhodesian war and ensuing first years of Zimbabwean independence, including 20 000 to 30 000 elderly people reliant on Zimbabwean pensions.

The last major influx was in the mid '80s when about 8 000 whites came back due to reviving political and economic confidence, and deep-

ening recession in SA. (362)  
The refusal of officials, under a 1984 Zimbabwean citizenship act, to renew passports of whites they believed permanently resident in SA, caused many emigrants to adopt SA nationality, which, under the Act means they have no claim to Zimbabwean citizenship or domicile, even if born there.

Nhari said indefinite residence permits were routinely granted to under-18 children of Zimbabwean residents.

Residence permits were also granted to persons importing foreign funds of \$150 000 which they would live on without competing for employment with Zimbabweans.

Temporary residence permits and work permits (valid for two years) were given to those with scarce skills who could prove they were not displacing qualified Zimbabweans.

At a Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries conference in 1987, an official said government policy was to recruit expatriates with "no previous connection with the country" to fill such posts as the government had found that they were "easier to control".

# Pensioners sink with currency

Star 2/10/91

Own Correspondent

**DURBAN** — More than 20,000 Zimbabwean pensioners living in South Africa are pinning their hopes on an economic miracle or the benevolent intervention of the British government as the plummeting Zimbabwe dollar tears their income to shreds.

Former residents of the onetime British colony of Rhodesia who derive an income in Zimbabwe dollars — most of them retired civil servants — have watched in helpless dismay for the past year as the relaxation

of strict exchange control regulations by the Mugabe government, as part of a World Bank economic reform programme, has led to a precipitous drop in the value of the Zimbabwean currency.

Following a gradual decline to reach parity with the rand 11 months ago, the dollar has slipped increasingly quickly.

It fell by as much as 20 per cent last week and on Friday was quoted by Standard Bank at about ZD1.75 to the rand — or 57 South African cents to the Zimbabwe dollar.

A pensioner whose Zimbabwe-dollar income has not been adjusted for the past year, in other words, stands to re-

ceive about R57 for every R100 he got 12 months ago.

John Redfern, honorary secretary of the Rhodesia Association of South Africa (Rasa), said moves were afoot to persuade the British government to establish a fixed exchange rate to apply to the pensions of British subjects who served the former Rhodesian government.

"A body in the UK known as the Zimbabwe Service Pensioners' Group is negotiating with the British government on behalf of British citizens who served the Rhodesian Government," he said.

"They aim to arrive at a fixed exchange rate similar to that used for Federal pensions

(paid to former employees of the government of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland which existed from 1954 to 1963).

Whitehall was being asked to meet the difference between the fixed rate and the market rate, as it did for federal pensioners whose incomes were fixed at a rate of ZD3.45 to the pound.

The market rate is closer to eight to one.

Mr Redfern cautioned that such a scheme was unlikely to come about in the near future.

And even then, he said, it might well apply only to British citizens.

He alluded to a similar group lobbying the Zimbabwe govern-

ment but said these moves were sensitive.

"The less said the better," Mr Redfern said.

He appealed to financially well-off ex-Zimbabweans to assist former compatriots relying on Zimbabwe-dollar pensions — either directly or through any of the six branches of his association.

The association, which has about 3,000 members paying an annual subscription of R12 a head, gave ad-hoc assistance in needy cases.

"We've seen a drastic increase in such cases in recent years, not only because of the exchange rate but as a result of redundancies affecting ex-Zimbabweans as the South African economy has deteriorated."

"Two weeks ago we bought 10 days' worth of groceries for a destitute family who had spent their last cent."

"We are using trust monies to buy a house in Pretoria which we will rent to six or eight retired people who are unable to find affordable accommodation."

"But we can't do this sort of thing without support."

"We appeal to people who think Rasa is a lot of when-we's telling war stories to show their human side and be generous."

# Gloom in Zimbabwe as the dollar plunges

Star 2/10/91

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service



Robert Mugabe . . . foreign exchange controls eased.

**HARARE** — The plunging Zimbabwe dollar has brought home the extent of the financial crisis Zimbabwe finds itself in as it struggles to introduce economic reforms after a decade of over-regulation.

Galloping inflation, officially put at more than 25 percent, and the drain on foreign reserves following the trade liberalisation moves have forced the Reserve Bank to allow the dollar to dip sharply.

Last week alone the Zimbabwe dollar dived 10 percent against the US dollar to bring the effective devaluation since the beginning of the year to more than 35 percent.

Travel agents confirm that some intending holidaymakers have cancelled trips overseas. The annual holiday allowance of 450 Zimbabwe dollars now buys less than £60 (R300).

Zimbabweans have long been used to staying with friends or relatives but even the pocket money from the devalued travel allowance is not enough now to pay for a single night out.

Zimbabwean pensioners living outside the country will suffer badly from the falling dollar. Up to last year the dollar was worth more than the rand. But in the past few months it has been falling steadily until last week when the downward slide steepened.

South African tourists coming to Zimbabwe will benefit. A tourist arriving today with R1 000 would get more than R1 600 at the official rate.

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## Sluggish

Financial commentators here are urging the government to take new measures to combat inflation and protect the balance of payments which has deteriorated due to sluggish exports and surging imports.

Standard Chartered Bank said in its latest review that swift measures were needed to tighten monetary and fiscal policy if there were to be an agreement with the IMF.

But even if current talks with the World Bank, the IMF and the African Development Bank went well, it would be months before aid started to flow to ease the exchange crisis.

# New twist - now 'Whenwe's' have a yen to go home

Star Africa Service

(362)

HARARE — A new twist has been added to the "Whenwe" title given ex-Rhodesians who went to South Africa after Zimbabwe's independence.

Now the "Whenwe" people are those hoping to come back to Zimbabwe after a decade in South Africa.

According to the Weekend

Gazette, there has been a sharp increase in the numbers applying to come back here from South Africa.

The paper said every week the Department of Immigration received more than 100 applications for residence permits, many from people who had emigrated to South Africa.

The deputy chief immigration officer, Spencer Nhari, said for-

mer residents had to satisfy the same criteria as other immigrants.

It was not true, however, that the authorities were refusing permission for them to return.

A person with substantial funds prepared to invest at least \$150 000 here could obtain a permit, as could the parents or grandparents of a resident who had the means for their

permanent support.

A resident's spouse or minor children would also be granted permits.

Temporary residence permits could be issued to those with scarce skills who were unlikely to displace local people from employment.

As many as 100 000 whites left Zimbabwe at about the time of independence in 1980 or

## 'Till five years us do part' <sup>362</sup>

Star  
Star Africa Service 2/10/91

**HARARE** — Marriages of convenience will have to last at least five years in Zimbabwe under new conditions for spouses who use matrimony to obtain residence.

Immigration officials said there had been many cases of people entering into marriages of convenience which ended in divorce within a few months — by which time a foreigner had a residence permit and job.

In future, if couples separate or divorce within five years, or the marriage is annulled, the permit will be cancelled.



# Mugabe remains SA's arch enemy

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Sowetan 3/10/91

NEW YORK - President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe has reaffirmed his credentials as an implacable foe of South Africa, with a harsh UN speech in which he even questioned State President FW de Klerk's intentions.

He also disputed whether the Government could be "an impartial umpire" in negotiations on a new constitution.

His remarks were accorded even more than

usual importance in the UN on Tuesday because he will be presiding over the forthcoming Commonwealth summit conference in Harare, for which the South African situation is a major item.

The bitter cold-war tone of Mugabe's statement disappointed diplomats who had hoped for a more restrained and sympathetic response to the profound changes under way in South Africa.

The upcoming Commonwealth summit conference in Harare and his Finance Minister Mr Bernard Chidzero's ambition to become the next UN secretary-general had been expected to encourage a kinder, gentler Mugabe.

In the event, not so.

If Chidzero were to succeed Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, the South African question would be among the issues high on his agenda.

## Third World aims to bargain at 'earth summit'

South (South side) 3/10-8/10/91

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**T**HE countdown to the Brazil-UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) or "earth summit" — which will bring together world leaders to map out global strategies — has already started in Zimbabwe.

An environmental expert here says if Third World countries are to walk away with any meaningful gains from the 1992 earth summit, now only eight months away, they must define their national and regional environmental problems.

Environment and Development Activities (ENDA) programme manager Davidson Gumbo has said at past environmental meetings that Third World countries have been unable to bargain with the developed nations because they have failed to research and identify problems like environmental mismanagement specific to their continents, and failed to come up with necessary baseline information.

In Africa, where most governments are struggling with structural adjustment programmes to shore up ailing economies, little, if any, funds have been set aside in national budgets for environmental issues.

African countries hope to walk away from the earth summit with funding to enable them to implement recommendations, Gumbo says.

Zimbabwe's environment minister Herbert Murerwa echoes Gumbo's views: "We think that out of the summit will come a statement on the world status of the environment, and that the summit will bring to world attention the issues of the environment."

"One hopes that programmes and projects will emerge from which some funding will come for the region."

Gumbo says countries in the region must stipulate their own terms for the use of environmental funds, rather than bowing to the dictates of donors.

"Money is raised in the north for environmental problems in the south. But the south's problems are not answered, because that money is stipulated by people who define themselves as friends of the earth, and who want the money used for their specific projects."

High on donors' lists has been the conservation of wildlife and the channeling of funds to areas which could lead to the alleviation of poverty. With the absence of information, human resources and technology, arguments from the south on the environment have been based on extrapolations of work being done in the north, which may or may not apply because the realities are often different, adds Gumbo. — AIA

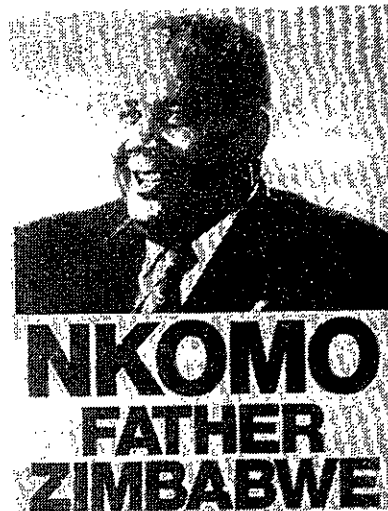
October 3 to October 8 1991

Who liberated Zimbabwe? Zanu-PF, Robert Mugabe's ruling party, or the Zapu party of his coalition partner Joshua Nkomo? Zimbabweans are re-examining the official version of their history and some are asking whether colonialism was ever really defeated, says IDEN WETHERALL:

# How not to be

## 'a nation of

# sycophants and robots'



**Z**IMBABWEAN historians have been accused of "timidity, sectarianism and outright opportunism" by Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, former intelligence chief of Zapu's armed wing Zipra, and now Deputy Minister of Home Affairs.

The charges were made at a recent conference on "Zimbabwe's War of Liberation" organised by St Anthony's College, Oxford, and the University of Zimbabwe.

Coming 11 years after the end of the war, and three years after the historic unity agreement between Zanu and Zanu, the conference — where representatives of previously opposing sides calmly debated their often conflicting accounts of the war — reflected the new political climate in Zimbabwe.

Previously, mistrust persisted between ZANU and ZAPU, which had fought the war separately. Despite their 1977 Patriotic Front alliance, each went to the polls in 1980 as distinct political parties.

As a result of growing tensions, the newly independent ZANU-controlled state faced a protracted insurgency by ZAPU dissidents which was suppressed at considerable cost to life and liberty.

Dabengwa himself was incarcerated from 1982 to 1986 following Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's purge of ZAPU adherents from government. Since his release, Dabengwa has established a formidable reputation for straight talking on human rights issues while also addressing many painful legacies of the war period.

Calling for a new class of scholars who would withstand threats and intimidation to report the facts, "especially purported facts and actions of political leaders", Dabengwa warned that anything less would "lead to a nation of sycophants and robots".

Dabengwa's own contribution to a revision of the standard account is to establish a new date for the start of the guerilla war.

Whereas ZANU has always claimed that its battle of Chinhoyi inaugurated the armed struggle in April 1966, the former guerilla chief asserts that ZAPU's fighting units engaged Rhodesian security forces on forays into the country as early as 1965, the year UDI was declared.



IN THE BUSH: Soldiers during the Zimbabwean war of independence

Dabengwa also provides a vigorous defence against some ZANU-aligned critics of ZAPU's links with the ANC.

The Batoka Gorge campaign of August 1967, which saw a joint ZAPU-ANC task force of 100 men penetrate north-western Zimbabwe, and the Sipolilo campaign of 1968 led to criticism subsequently that such collaboration invited SADF participation in the war.

Dabengwa argues that the SADF was in fact already active in the defence of Rhodesia by 1967.

Pretoria's strategists reasoned that South Africa's frontline lay along the Zambezi and that support for Rhodesia would keep the ANC at bay in Zambia.

ZAPU facilitated Umkhonto we Sizwe's transit to South Africa in part,

Dabengwa suggests, because insurgency in South Africa itself would draw the SADF back across the Limpopo.

There was no intention of having ANC guerillas fight in Zimbabwe.

"The fighting the ANC did in Zimbabwe was rather imposed on them by the Rhodesians and South Africans who attacked them as they sought to pass through to South Africa," Dabengwa says, pointing out that after 1968 the ANC rarely used Zimbabwe as a transit zone, yet the SADF remained stationed in the country until independence in 1980.

Dabengwa remains convinced today that the decision to assist the ANC in 1967/8 was the right one.

Beyond considerations of national self-interest, the common character of their struggle, he argues, dictated mutual support.

Also debated at the history conference was the social composition of Zimbabwean insurgent cadres, currently the subject of research by Jeremy Brickhill, former ZIPRA officer and now doctoral student at St Anthony's College.

Brickhill, who was seriously injured by a CCB car bomb four years ago, concludes that because ZIPRA forces were drawn largely from the industrial working class

(including Zimbabweans resident in South Africa), ZAPU as a party was therefore disposed towards a more secular ideology than its rival ZANU.

With a peasant recruitment policy, particularly in the rural north-east, ZANU's armed wing ZANLA was inclined to emphasise traditional beliefs and respect for rural culture.

This is not to suggest that ZAPU ignored traditional beliefs. Over a period of 30 years ZAPU leader Joshua Nkomo defined and reconciled a variety of interlocking currents, which included a resurgent cultural nationalism in Matabeleland owing much to African religious ideas, according to Professor Terence Ranger.

Observers of the current political scene will be interested to note the admission by Minister of Education Fay Chung that ZANU adopted Marxism-Leninism after 1971 to attract student recruits. This reflects a new di-

mension to the emerging official line that ZANU eagerly embraced the ideology of those states offering material support to the liberation struggle.

Analysis of objective conditions in colonial society appears to have been superseded by ideological "flavour of the month" explanations in the current intellectual vacuum. Fay Chung's participation in the conference and her candid approach to discussion of sensitive issues, it must be said, did much to create a sense of progress for those attending.

"Who won the war?" was perhaps the most contentious question raised. Professor Ray Roberts asked whether the victory could be seen as a mere holding operation by the whites while they adjusted to majority rule. Indeed, did their present affluence suggest that they might in fact have won?

This invited more serious examination of the post-war state to determine the extent of liberation as an active process. Where does wealth reside? How was power exercised after liberation? These, said Roberts, were pertinent questions for conscientious investigation.

Dabengwa challenged professional historians to take the lead in asking such difficult questions.

"Unless our scholars can rise above the fear of being isolated and even victimised for telling the truth, we shall continue to feed on half-truths and naked lies that will not help unite our nation," he said.

With ANC and PAC representatives attending, Dabengwa's remarks will no doubt resonate beyond Zimbabwe's borders.



Idan Wetherall is a Zimbabwean historian, writer and editor, specialising in contemporary issues in Southern Africa.

**The Herald** NOON EDITION

CALL TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE AFTER ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

**MASSIVE WIN FOR MUGABE**

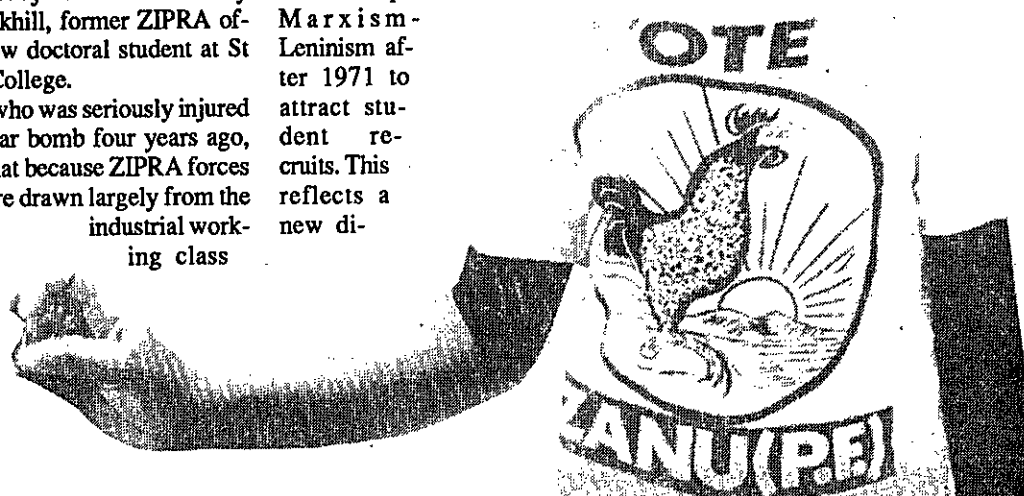
57 seats go to ZANU (PF)

**ELECTION THE RESULTS**

I'm jubilant: Mugabe calls on Governor

Nkomo accepts the outcome

BISHOP SHOCKED AND PIZZED







## Boesak warns of 'biggest mistake'

South 3/10-8/10/91

From Mono Badela  
Johannesburg

**T**HE newly elected chairperson of the ANC in the Western Cape, Dr Allan Boesak, thinks that there is a lot of support for the ANC within the coloured community but that even more people are sitting on the fence. Immediately after the regional ANC conference last weekend Boesak shared a platform with ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela at a rally organised by the ANC branch of Eldorado Park, west of Johannesburg.

He warned thousands of coloured people that they would be making the biggest mistake of their lives if they supported the National Party.

"De Klerk hesitates to say sorry for apartheid. He calls it a mistake. But how can you take away people's humanity and call it a mistake?"

"You join the NP and you join them with their mistake and you will therefore be making the biggest mis-

take of your life," he said.

Answering a question about apparent NP inroads into certain coloured communities in the Western Cape, Boesak said, "What we see being mentioned now is pure guess work."

"Surveys that bring out this type of analysis are but wishful thinking. It is true of course that the NP does have some support within the coloured communities in the Western Cape — mainly from the ranks of Labour Party supporters."

"I would say there is a lot of support for the ANC but there are even more people, a large group of people, who are sitting on the fence and are watching all the parties and have not yet made up their minds. Those are the people we have got to target."

"The ANC has got to find a way of spelling out its policies in a way that people can understand and secondly in a way so that the people can identify with it."

"There are people who think the ANC is a kind of radical organisation — an image that has already been rectified in a certain sense. I would not say that there is a need for more moderation. There is rather a need for the kind of radical fundamental political participation that the people have seen in the past — say during the UDF days."

Earlier this year Boesak reportedly said that he was hesitant to join the ANC because of its links with the South African Communist Party (SACP) and the ANC's position on the use of violence in struggle.

"Many of those areas I pointed out to Mr Mandela as problem areas as I heard people relate them to me. Many have been solved but many of them are now clearly seriously being addressed within the ANC."

"It was really through the choice of the people that the decision was made to make myself available for the chairmanship of the region. I was with them the whole of Friday in my office, and the decision to make myself available was taken early on Saturday morning."

"I don't know what the future holds for me but all I know is whatever contribution I want to make I will now make within the political sphere. If that helps not only the ANC but the entire political process in the country then I will be grateful."

# Mandela: 'We're facing a critical situation'

South 3/10-8/10/91



POINTING THE WAY: Nelson Mandela giving his opening address

PICS: YUNUS MOHAMED

## An edited version of Mandela's speech:

**W**E ARE facing one of the most difficult periods in the history of the liberation struggle and we have to think carefully of the strategy we use to carry on our shoulders the entire community we represent. We are going to be called upon to conduct elections within less than three years. We are going to compete with, among others, the National Party.

"They are the best organisers in this country. They have a very efficient machinery and they are on their toes. They have already started organising for a general election."

If we are thinking of making an impact in that election, we have to think very carefully about our strategy.

We must not confuse popularity with leadership. A person may be popular yet have no qualities to lead at this particular moment.

The position is that 54 percent of the population of this area is composed of coloureds, 25 percent Africans and 21 percent whites. Our regional executive committee must try as far as possible to reflect this situation.

There was a survey published a couple of months ago which showed that De Klerk is more popular among coloured and Indian people in this country than the leaders of the ANC.

If that is the situation then we must see how we should address this situation and how to win the support of the coloured and Indian communities and white democrats of this country."

But I say we are facing a critical situation if we create power structures in such a way that our non-racial policies are not reflected in the executive committee we elect.

The National Party has only 20 organisers. We have hundreds of organisers and we must streamline our machinery and set up our executive in such a way that it enjoys the sup-

port of all the different sectors of the community.

Is the 54 percent reflected here? Is it not because of mistakes we have made? Have we created the impression that this is an organisation for Africans? Are we not giving that impression in the structures we create?

Cliques are one of our most serious weaknesses. There is nothing wrong with coming to conference and saying you want a certain person to be put on the executive.

What is not acceptable is character assassinations and to make slanderous attacks against another comrade when he is not in a position to respond.

These attacks are made seriously and clandestinely, and good people can have their reputations destroyed completely because of gossiping.

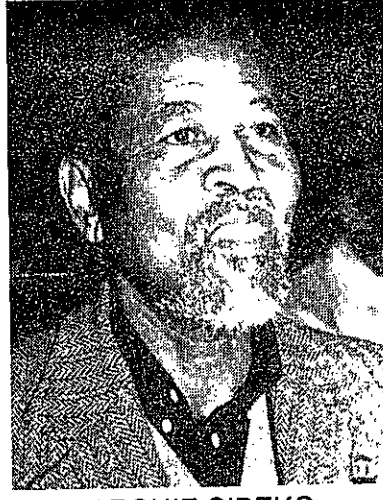
Cliques must be destroyed at all costs. We must develop the knowledge of how to handle problems. Many people think it is their duty to criticise other people.



TONY YENGENI



CHRISTMAS TINTO



ARCHIE SIBEKO



EBRAHIM RASOOL



WILLIE HOFMEYR

## Marked change in new ANC regional exec

South 3/10-8/10/91

**E**LECTIONS dominated the conference. Lobbying, which had begun weeks before, continued for much of the first day's proceedings with the list of nominees changing almost hourly as people were persuaded to either accept or decline nominations.

Some delegates polled after Mandela's opening address felt he had made unfair references to certain leaders he would have liked to see elected onto the new executive.

"The speech was virtually a vote for Allan Boesak," said one delegate angrily.

"Nonsense," said another. "All he did was deliver a few home truths

which the Western Cape badly needs, it was fantastic."

"Everything he said about cliques and character assassination was true. We can't deny that these things are happening here."

But whether it was due to, or despite, Mandela's intervention, the regional executive committee elected at the conference was markedly different from the outgoing one.

Most delegates expressed satisfaction with the "top five" officials, saying they were the best people for the job.

Others believed there was a possibility for conflict between some of the officials who would serve them in

the coming year. The vote for chairperson, split between Boesak, Archie Sibeko, Christmas Tinto and Tony Yengeni, was eventually won by a small margin.

According to sources, Boesak received 119 votes, Sibeko 84, Yengeni 69 and Tinto 67.

The election for vice-chair was split between six people and was won convincingly by Sibeko.

Yengeni was elected general secretary, Mr Willie Hofmeyr assistant secretary and Ebrahim Rasool treasurer.

Quite a few delegates expressed concern at the lack of women both nominated and elected to the "top

five" posts, but pointed out that few branches had come to the conference with nominations for women and that women nominated at conference had declined.

The 20 additional members would serve the organisation effectively, most delegates said, although some again expressed reservations that only four women were elected.

Some delegates said they were extremely satisfied at the fact that Boesak and Rasool, both regarded as religious leaders in the Cape, had been elected as officials.

This would assist in wooing the coloured community, which had shown some reluctance to become involved

in the ANC. Some delegates had reservations at the fact that union nominees, particularly Mr Salie Manie of the South African Municipal Workers Union, did not make the executive.

However, this was countered by the argument that labour officials had not been involved in the affairs of the ANC in the past year and could therefore not be expected to win votes at the conference.

"All in all, we have to make the best of what we've got. As far as the conference was concerned, its only mandate was to elect the best people among those who made themselves available to the ANC for the coming year," a delegate summed up.

# Mugabe (362) vitriol Star 3/10/91 threat to pact

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

**HARARE** — Zimbabwe may find South Africa unwilling to revise the trade agreement between the two countries because of its reluctance to tone down its calls for continued international pressure against the vestiges of apartheid.

Analysts believe Zimbabwe's efforts to get more favourable trade terms have not been helped by President Robert Mugabe's hardline speech to the UN this week, in which he called for pressure on Pretoria to be maintained.

His comments put paid to any hopes that he would send new signals on the South African issue when Commonwealth leaders gather in Harare later this month.

His UN address also seems to dash hopes for an early normalisation of relations between Harare and Pretoria.

At a meeting in Pretoria last month at which Zimbabwe sought improved trade terms under the existing bilateral agreement, it was made clear they would have to drop their hostile posture if there was to be any progress.

Zimbabwe asked for the meeting because, under its economic reform programme, it is anxious to boost its exports — and South Africa is an important market.

The clash between the attitude of officials of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and that of spokesmen on foreign relations is a clear indication of the division in government over policy towards South Africa.

Diplomatic circles say the Cabinet is divided over approaches to South Africa.

● In his speech, Mr Mugabe said the critical question was not whether apartheid laws remained on the statute books, but whether the country became non-racial and democratic with all the people enjoying equal citizenship and the right to take part in government.

## **Zimbabwe acts to prevent marriages of convenience**

*Sowetan 4/10/91 (362)*

HARARE - Marriages involving Zimbabwean nationals and foreigners will in future have to last for at least five years.

Immigration officials said there had been many cases of people entering into marriages only to divorce within a few months - by

which time the foreigner would have obtained a residence permit and a job.

In future, if within five years the couple separate or are divorced or if the marriage is annulled, the foreigner's permit will be cancelled, and

# Anger as Harare squatter camp gets demolished

(362) ARG 4/10/91

ROBIN DREW, Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Tempers have flared in Zimbabwe over the demolition of a squatter camp which the Queen would have passed on her journey through Harare, a city she last visited 44 years ago.

The Queen expressed a wish to see some of the sights she first saw on the 1947 Royal tour when she visits Zimbabwe next week for a 10-day stay. She will meet Commonwealth leaders who are in Harare for their biennial summit.

Efforts have been made to tidy up the capital city and its inhabitants, some of whom it is felt should be kept out of sight, for the time being at least.

There have been roundups of prostitutes and street children and, probably before the Royal party arrives, blind beggars — a familiar sight in the centre of town — will find themselves as guests of the social welfare department.

This activity has not gone down well with local commentators.

A columnist in a weekly publication said, "We have prostitutes, street kids, vagrants, shanty-dwellers, people who live in those little tin shacks outside the houses of the Old Bricks, New Lines, Joburg Lines, New Location and New Highfield.

"There is no way we can wish these ugly structures away until Queen Elizabeth and the visitors have gone. Let them see what a poor, developing country struggling to better itself is like. Let them see we have Aids which we are fighting with limited resources.

"Let them see the real Zimbabwe, warts and all."

This plea fell on the deaf ears of the City Council which proceeded with eviction notices for squatters in two settlements which were cleared and the inhabitants moved to a municipal farm.

The town clerk had argued that the presence of the squatters during the Queen's visit to the suburb would have caused severe embarrassment.

The Herald newspaper slammed the council, accusing it of brazen arrogance and of ignoring the rights of the poor and downtrodden.

## FW to hit back at Mugabe - claim

(362) *Star 5/10/91*  
(14)  
LONDON — President de Klerk is to release detailed figures about the extent of Zimbabwe's trade with South Africa and its dependence upon economic co-operation.

According to the London-based political bulletin, Africa Analysis, the move is in retaliation for President Robert Mugabe's continued obstruction of SA's drive for friendly ties and increased trade with the rest of the continent.

The publication says in a report from Harare that Pretoria plans to release these figures just ahead of the start of the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Zimbabwe. "The aim will be to cause maximum embarrassment for Mugabe, who, as leader of the host country, will chair the conference," the report adds.

It claims the SA Government is "irritated" that the agenda of the summit — being held so close at hand — is loaded

with items about apartheid. It holds Mr Mugabe at least partly to blame for this emphasis.

Africa Analysis claims the latest turn of events is "being kept under wraps for the moment".

"Mugabe has been warned that De Klerk insists that he must now make a public visit to South Africa if he wants a renewal of the preferential trade agreement between the two countries.

"The very least De Klerk will accept is an official visit by Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira as the start of a process 'to normalise relations'."

The bulletin claims that, while the economies of both countries are in a fragile state, experts advising Mr de Klerk believe the Zimbabwean leader is going to have to "blink first".

GARNER THOMSON



# Forced removals make Harare fit for Queen's visit

S/Times 6/10/91 - 362

WITH four days left before the arrival of Queen Elizabeth, Zimbabwe's capital has witnessed a wave of forced removals outdoing anything seen in the days of UDI.

"The authorities have thumbed their noses at the courts," protested advocate Brian Matyszak.

Mr Matyszak defeated moves by the Harare city council to evict families living in plastic shanties alongside a route due to be travelled by the queen.

A British diplomat said the queen's name had been wrongfully "dragged into" disputes which concerned only the Zimbabwean authorities and the country's 1.2 million homeless.

Pleading pressure from President Robert Mugabe's government, the municipality by-passed a High Court ruling and imposed hated influx control and anti-vagrancy laws inherited from Ian Smith's rule.

In a series of pre-dawn raids reminiscent of the opening of Sir Richard Attenborough's film *Cry Freedom*, Zimbabwean police and municipal security guards blitzed four settlements around the capital.

Thousands of men, women and children were forced on to trucks and taken to hessian shelters on a council-owned farm 30km from the city.

## Squalid

The largest operation was against 600 people in the Epworth mission area on Harare's eastern outskirts, where Sir Richard filmed a simulated South African police raid on illegal migrants for *Cry Freedom*.

Yesterday, bulldozers flattened brick-and-asbestos houses and surrounding gardens. The occupants paid thousands of rands to Zanu (PF) Party officials in the early 80s.

The three other blitzed settlements consisted only of squalid plastic shelters, which were broken down.

One camp was close to the heavily guarded mansion of fugitive Ethiopian dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam in Harare's exclu-

By DON JACOBS  
Harare

When Mr Matyszak last month won his civil action against the Harare city council on behalf of squatters in Old Mbare township, Judge Denis Robinson accused the authorities of trying to sweep the homeless "under the red carpet to be rolled out for Her Majesty".

Zimbabwe's state-controlled news media as

S/ Times 6/10/91

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**DISPLACED, HARARE STYLE . . . squatters and their belongings await removal to Norton, 30km from town**

recently as Wednesday voiced general public sympathy for the homeless, with the main national daily newspaper, The Herald, calling them "the wretched of the earth".

It highlighted a denial by Mr. Mugabe's senior Minister of Local Government

and Zanu (PF) chairman, Mr. Joseph Msika, that the municipality had been ordered to move them.

"For the Harare city council, the poor and down-trodden of the earth have no claim to any rights," raged The Herald's editorial column.

It said the impending arrival of the queen and 50 Commonwealth heads of state could never justify removal of squatter families "to some far-off place where they would be left to fend for themselves".

But following yesterday's raids, and in an

apparent response to pressure, The Herald performed an amazing about-turn, saying: "Those involved in the removal of the squatters ought to be congratulated."

The removals were "positive and pragmatic", it said.

## Harare changes tune on citizenship

Star Africa Service

Star 7/10/91

(362)

Uncertainty about the status of Zimbabwean citizens who held dual nationality has been removed with the government's decision to lift the requirement that they again renounce their foreign citizenship.

Under Zimbabwe law dual citizenship is banned, but the renunciation has up to recently been on a Zimbabwe document.

People who had signed this document were told to renounce their foreign citizenship again, this time on the forms provided by the foreign governments which would then have to provide letters confirming that the Zimbabweans were no longer citizens of those countries.

People who were reluctant to do this were refused Zimbabwe passports. Many of South African and British origin gave up their Zimbabwean citizenship.

Now, however, Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi has instructed officials to stop asking for proof of renunciation and to accept the Zimbabwean form.

The Minister told Weekend Gazette that he was sympathetic to the plight of those who had encountered problems.

Some people had intended to challenge in court the demand that they renounce their foreign nationality again.

The law requires them only to renounce foreign citizenship on the "prescribed form" issued by the Zimbabwe government.

# Commonwealth needs new focus

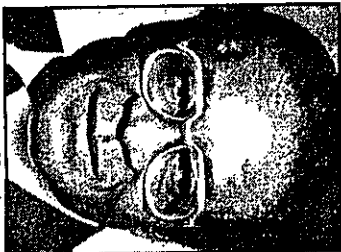
**W**ILL NEXT week's Commonwealth conference 'make any meaningful contribution to international affairs, or has this multi-nation organisation become a boring, ineffective one-issue body?

This question may well be asked as the heads of governments representing a large slice of the world's population pack their bags for Harare for the 40th biennial meeting which is increasingly regarded by many as little more than an expensive rhetorical exercise.

For decades, the single overriding issue among the leaders, or their representatives, of this exclusive political club was southern Africa and how to shed the minority white governments for Rhodesia and South Africa.

Two Rhodesia evolved into the black state of Zimbabwe after the 1979 Lusaka conference, and then the spotlight swung to South Africa, so much so that all other topics were given little more than cursory attention.

However, for this year's conference, which runs from October 16 to 22, there has been a groundswell movement to agree to South Africa's being on the agenda, but to limit discussion and concentrate on other, more pressing issues. But with Zimbabwe as the host nation, it is probable that President Robert Mugabe will use his privileged position as



President Robert Mugabe... will likely use privileged position to talk about apartheid.

chairman to talk about apartheid, the need to retain sanctions, and generally maintain his customary hostile attitude towards his southern neighbour. He underlined this in his United Nations speech last week, even though he still wants the continuation of a favourable trade agreement from Pretoria for his country.

He will no doubt be supported on sanctions to a varying degree by several of his counterparts, but an alternative view is that enough is enough. The sands of time have shifted: apartheid is yesterday's cause, with white minority rule

on the way out.

Besides, what more can government leaders add to their already well-recorded views on the matter?

Even at the UN, interest appears to be diminishing. The secretary-general has placed 'the politics of apartheid' on its agenda for debate during its current session, but it is item No 37 — hardly a priority rating.

Showing what can only be regarded as undisguised contempt for these Commonwealth conferences, Neil van Hearsten, South Africa's Director-General of Foreign Affairs, recently dismissed these gatherings with the remark that they were little more than 'pre-programmed love-ins or a particular kind'.

Nevertheless, Britain in particular is anxious to centre much debate on such topics as human rights, the promotion of good government, environmental development, and the overall future of the Commonwealth and its people.

For the first time in more than a decade, Margaret Thatcher will not be leading the British delegation, in combative mood and ready to handbag all who do not accept her view of the world.

For that, many delegates will no doubt be thankful. In particular, the mental bruises they received at a particularly stormy conference in 1987, when they

See 7/10/91.

If it is to have any credence as an influential international organisation, the Commonwealth must deal with matters other than South Africa at its conference to be held in Harare next week. **FREDERICK CLEARY.**



Premier John Major... tactful, but persuasive on issues he feels strongly about.

had the temerity to disagree with her ultrarigid stand over South Africa. Still have not healed.

Her successor, John Major, has a more diplomatic, less emotive style. But as he has shown in his 11 months in office, he is equally firm and persuasive on issues he feels strongly about.

Concerning this country, Mr Major will be adhering to his predecessor's policy that sanctions are counter-productive. President de Klerk is an honourable man who can be trusted, and that his administration is now well past the

point of no return in its move towards a new constitution and the election of a government based on universal franchise. In the opinion of Downing Street, only the arms embargo should remain for the foreseeable future.

There should now be a more constructive approach, with financial investment, strong trade ties and the lifting of academic, scientific, sporting and cultural boycotts.

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told the UN General Assembly that no one who studied this country's population growth measure against economic production, or who visited the black townships, could doubt the urgent need for help. He said the Commonwealth should, at the Harare meeting, consider how to give practical assistance to South Africa.

However, Britain may face an uphill battle. Already the Commonwealth's influential and popular Secretary-General, Chief Eneke Anyaoku, has maintained in his annual report that the step-by-step policy on sanctions should be maintained for the immediate future.

ANC president Nelson Mandela is due in Harare during the conference, not officially or even as an observer, but his visit will not be coincidental and no doubt he will be hovering near the corridors of power, ready to support the sanctions lobby.

On human rights, a Commonwealth-appointed committee of experts published a report this year, the results of which it hopes will be debated and acted upon.

This report notes that too often the Commonwealth has turned a blind eye to abuses by member countries, where women and children are exploited and where governments have discriminated against opponents.

The report noted that the Commonwealth record on human rights was poor. More



Chief Eneke Anyaoku... thinks step-by-step policy on sanctions must be kept up.

than half its members had not signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and only 11 had ratified the Convention Against Torture.

This year, Amnesty International cited abuses in six Commonwealth countries:

- India: 'Rampant' abuses by the security forces in the Punjab.
- Pakistan: Introduced new forms of punishment considered cruel and degrading.
- Sri Lanka: 'Thousands' of people have 'disappeared', many executed by government forces.

● Maldives: Many people detained for criticising the government. Reports of ill-treatment of prisoners.

● Nigeria: General concern about the situation, particularly about the execution of 69 prisoners after an attempted coup. Children as young as 14 sentenced to death.

● Malaysia: Government opposes 'rehabilitated' by being held in indefinite detention without charge or trial.

If the government leaders slide over this embarrassing yet important subject, as they have done in the past, then their detractors will have cause to feel vindicated.

Last year Namibia became the 50th member of the Commonwealth. Other black states, including Mozambique, are showing an interest in joining, and it is probable that, under a new government, South Africa is likely to reapply for membership of the club it left 30 years ago.

Much of Africa is in a political and economic mess. With such a strong representation on the continent, a vibrant, progressive Commonwealth organisation free of cant could help it recover.

The successor to the old British Empire faces a mid-life crisis. Next week in Harare should give an indication of which way it is heading. □

## Zimbabwe's adjustments on track

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — The World Bank representative in Zimbabwe, Christiaan Poortman, says he is happy with the way the programme for economic structural adjustment in Zimbabwe is progressing.

A World Bank team has completed an appraisal of economic reforms which are being undertaken, including the recent rapid devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar.

Business Herald reports that the way has been cleared for the disbursement of a US\$125 million loan from the World Bank to support the structural adjustment programme.

This will help ease the shortage of foreign exchange caused by the surge in imports under the open general import licence system.

The loan is also crucial to the unlocking of US\$700 million pledged by donor countries and agencies in Paris in March.

## America Express to trim its workforce

NEW YORK — American Express Co, the financial and travel services giant, is to cut 1 700 employees and take a one-time charge against earnings of \$265 million to restructure its travel-related services division.

New York-based American Express said it would scale back activities that were not critical to the division, close at least two offices and revamp certain operations.

It blamed the recession for hurting the division's operations, partic-

ularly receivables on loans to consumers.

The job reductions amount to about three percent of the division's worldwide work force.

The restructuring will result in a third-quarter net loss of \$50 million to \$75 million for the division, but will cut its ongoing operating costs by about \$100 million a year.

The travel-related services unit is an American Express core business alongside its charge cards and Shearson Lehman brokerage subsidiary. — Sapa-Reuter.

## Treuhand to sell off hotels

BERLIN — East Germany's Interhotel chain, the most lucrative asset in the former communist state, will be sold in November, the government's Treuhand privatisation agency said yesterday.

A Treuhand statement said the agency and its advising investment bank SG Warburg were now reviewing bids for

the 33 hotels in 14 east German cities.

The agency had still not decided whether to sell the group, worth up to three billion marks (\$1.8 billion), to one bidder or to split it up.

A Treuhand source said seven bidders, from Britain, France, Germany and the United States, were in the final round. — Sapa-Reuter.

WASHINGTON — President George Bush has called for a cut in capital gains tax and lower regular tax rates on income.

# Liberation groups ready for Harare

Dwefan 9/10/91

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**BLACK** liberation movements will trek to Harare for the Commonwealth summit next week to argue it is too soon to hold a wake for apartheid.

ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela and PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetu will tell the leaders of Britain and its former colonies that, while white supremacy finally may be dying after a life of 300 years, it has not yet breathed its last.

They will insist that the 50-nation Commonwealth maintains pressure on the Government through trade and economic sanctions until blacks are assured of an equal place in a nonracial democracy.

The liberation movements will be represented at the summit opening on October 16 mainly by the ANC, PAC and Azapo. They differ about the point at which black equality will be assured.

But they do agree that change is not yet irreversible, despite the protestations of President FW de Klerk and the Inkatha Freedom Party.

Almost 4 000 dead in a year of black township warfare has hardened a belief in these movements that apartheid is making a last stand.

While De Klerk blames a naked black power struggle, they say State undercover agents are pitting black against black in a secret war to maintain minority rule.

"The biggest obstacle (to black rule) is the South African Government," says ANC deputy

## FOCUS

SAPA-  
Reuter

head of international affairs Mr Stanley Mabizela.

De Klerk argues that, by freeing black political activity and dismantling the legislative pillars of apartheid, his Government has set South Africa firmly on course for democracy and merits the lifting of sanctions hobbling the biggest economy in sub-Saharan Africa.

He says South Africa desperately needs help to alleviate the homelessness, unemployment and hunger that fuel unrest.

The Commonwealth, which led the world in applying sanctions, is expected to pat him on the back by lifting so-called people-to-people embargoes - tourism, visa restrictions, cultural and academic exchanges and air links.

Sporting contacts will be eased on a selective basis as integration takes place on playing fields.

But, in response to the black liberation movements' deep suspicion of the Government, Commonwealth foreign ministers meeting in India last month demanded that Pretoria ensure the

impartiality of its police and army and clamp down on white right wing terrorism.

They linked a phasing-out of sanctions to "real and practical steps" to end apartheid, rather than promises.

A western diplomat close to the ministers' thinking said that, while Western businessmen were pushing for a quick end to sanctions, Commonwealth leaders were perturbed by the violence, particularly "hit squad" assassinations of black activists.

"There is recognition that change has taken place, but let's see something more tangible on the ground. Everything is not yet okay in the state of South Africa," the diplomat said.

The ministers recommended the summit lift financial sanctions - key to economic growth - only when agreement is reached on a democratic constitution.

Other embargoes, such as trade and investment, should be lifted only when "appropriate transitional mechanisms had been agreed which would enable all parties to participate fully" in negotiations.

All-party talks on a democratic constitution are expected to begin by the end of this year or the beginning of next.

Mabizela said in an interview that the ANC had no problems with easing sports and cultural boycotts.

Its position on the major sanctions had crystallised into lifting all trade and financial restrictions immediately after an interim government of national

unity was formed to rule the transition to democratic elections.

"We are pleading with the international community to maintain sanctions until then", he said.

PAC secretary-general Mr Benny Alexander said his organisation did not believe De Klerk would agree to an interim government.

It would urge the Commonwealth to maintain pressure until blacks had voted with whites to elect a constituent assembly to draw up a post-apartheid constitution.

The PAC will lobby the summit to fix such a vote as the point of irreversible change.

The De Klerk Government opposes both an interim government and a constituent assembly. Ministers repeatedly stress they have agreed only to black power-sharing, not a handover to outright black majority rule.

South Africa withdrew from the Commonwealth, because of apartheid, exactly 30 years ago and the issue has consumed every summit since.

Commonwealth officials hope the Harare summit will be the last to be dominated by South Africa. The organisation may then turn its full attention to other critical issues, such as democracy, development, drugs and Aids.

But more than a few analysts in South Africa fear black-white differences on the shape of a democratic nation may still be outstanding by the next summit in 1993.

# Discreet security for big bash in Harare

B1 Day

9/10/91

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10

HARARE — Commonwealth head office personnel are cooing that the Commonwealth heads of government conference due to start here next week will be one big, happy family gathering, but the old hands who remember Harare's 1986 non-aligned movement summit are more sceptical.

The July bombing of the Sheraton Hotel, adjoining the conference centre, has revived fears of Arab, Sikh or Irish assassins.

With British security experts at work behind the scenes, Zimbabwean precautions are likely to be more effective and less obtrusive than the 1986 "overkill".

At this time of year, the former "white" areas, where the Commonwealth dignitaries will stay, appear to drown in a blue delirium of Jacaranda blossom and heat haze.

But for the poor, in the "black" areas, the royal visit and Commonwealth summit are already memorable for the hardship of more than a thousand evictions and demolitions.

The conference takes place in a vastly different world context compared with the last meeting in then Rhodesia, in 1979.

No longer do Nato members walk in fear of Third World states that might, if offended, give bases to Soviet nuclear submarines and bombers.

A strange, perhaps ugly, note of truculence has crept into the conversation of First World financiers as they lay down the law on Third

MICHAEL HARTNACK

World economic problems.

When British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd visited Zimbabwe last month to finalise arrangements for the queen and the Commonwealth leaders, he was brutally frank. He confirmed Britain was withholding the initial R50m support it pledged to Zimbabwe's R42bn structural adjustment programme, until a World Bank team reported the way was "clear for reform".

The Commonwealth summit must not be allowed to degenerate into "another negative scrappy round about sanctions", said Hurd.

The developed states wanted topics other than SA to dominate the agenda — such as the world trend towards human rights and the accountability of governments to their people".

Sources here say the 50 heads of government may skirt around the topical subject of "interventionism" in Africa today. French and Belgian troops are in Zaire, the Nigerians (with American backing) are in Liberia and the Zimbabweans (with British backing) in Mozambique.

Namibia will take its seat as a full Commonwealth member, in what African leaders hope will be a dress rehearsal for the re-admittance of SA at the next conference in 1993.

The ANC's Nelson Mandela and PAC's Clarence Makwethu will be special guests at the conference.

## Pik queries future of Commonwealth

CANBERRA — South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha said yesterday the Commonwealth might have no role once the South African issue was settled.

Botha, on a three-day visit to Australia, told reporters that while he thought the Commonwealth was important, apartheid and SA had helped bind its members together.

"You only have to look at their agendas of the past 20 years to find out yourself what a decisively important role the South African issue played," Botha said.

"It would be interesting for me to see what else beyond fighting apartheid they have done as an organisation for the member states," Botha said.

The Commonwealth groups about 50 former British colonies which meet annually to discuss common problems. South Africa, which left the Commonwealth in 1961, will again be on the agenda at the heads of government meeting in Harare, starting on October 16.

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said yesterday trade representatives would visit SA soon.

He told Parliament the visit would be important "in preparing ourselves for what we hope will be a very quick situation in being able to lift trade sanctions just as soon as there is some major progress on the constitutional front."

He said the trip was discussed at a meeting with Botha on Monday.

The country's major business group, the Confederation of Australian Industry, last week deferred a mission to SA until there were clearer signs that sanctions would be lifted. — Reuter.

See Page 15



# Harare spruced up and CHOGM-ed for Commonwealth heads' visit

Harare is in a tizz as it prepares for Queen Elizabeth's visit and the Commonwealth heads of government. The squatters have been hidden, the prostitutes have gone underground and a spanking new hotel will be finished in time. As a new phrase puts it, "everything is CHOGMed". **MAXWELL CHIVASA** reports **(362)**

*South*  
9/10-16/10/91.

**A**NYONE arriving in Harare will immediately realise a big event is on the cards. CHOGM is the catchword. There is even a new verb in honour of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting scheduled for October 16 to 22.

A visitor to Harare coined the phrase: "Everything is CHOGMed," he said, referring to preparations which have changed the face and pace of the capital.

Harare has been sprucing up every possible corner a visitor's eye might fall on. With water rationing in force because of insufficient pumping systems at the water-works of the capital, the municipality has been accused of breaking its own restrictions. Municipal workers have been watering flowers along the main highway and the Harare International Conference Centre, the CHOGM venue.

Squatters in Harare have been hidden, as it is feared they might embarrass Queen Elizabeth II when she visits the city with her husband Phillip.

the Duke of Edinburgh. About 196 squatter families live two to three kilometres south of the capital. The city's health authorities have described living conditions in the squatter camp as a health time bomb.

The removal of squatters has warned the prostitutes who normally loiter in the central city in search of clients. They appear to have gone underground. During preparations for the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in 1986, they were rounded up and dumped in a remote resettlement land.

A similar clean-up is taking place in the Victoria Falls resort where the heads of government will go for a weekend retreat. The police here are serious about the CHOGM. They have arrested 56 people suspected of being criminals or smugglers. The people were mostly illegal hawkers or were not carrying identity cards.

Hoteliers are bracing themselves for big business. Many hotels have been undergoing refurbishment. A new ZIM\$150-million hotel has been built at Victoria Falls. It will be ready for CHOGM use. There is a rapid clean-

up of the townships underway here too.

Gifts and cash for the meeting have been pouring in at about the same pace as occurred before the NAM summit. Most significant are the computers and vehicles being sent by Commonwealth member states like Canada, New Zealand and Britain.

Canada has been giving advice and has promised ZIM \$10-million worth of equipment plus two computer specialists to train 22 computer operators.

New Commonwealth secretary general, Nigerian Chief Enmeke Anyaoku has been in Harare and Victoria Falls to check final preparations and was apparently pleased. He was accompanied by the Commonwealth secretariat responsible for preparations.

This will be the first CHOGM meeting since Anyaoku's appointment as secretary general.

Crucial subjects to be discussed at the meeting include the Commonwealth's future role as well as democracy, non-racialism, human rights

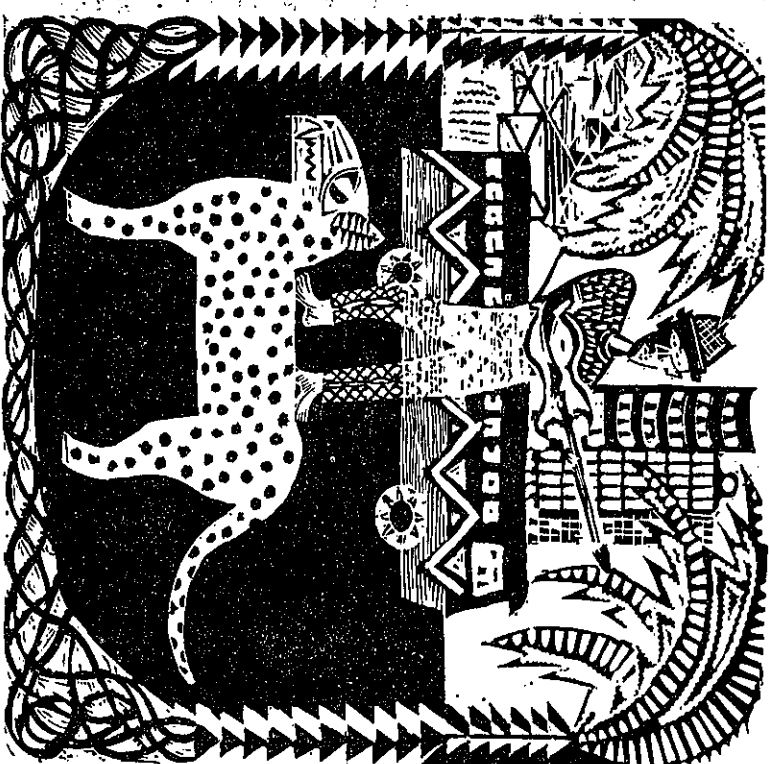


ILLUSTRATION: TONY PINCHUCK

and accountability to government.

The decision to have a high level appraisal of the Commonwealth's future in the changing world was made at the 1989 CHOGM in Malaysia.

At least 10 heads of government under the chairmanship of Malaysia were selected to make the appraisal and these will meet on October 14 — the eve of CHOGM — to take a final

position before the meeting begins.

There will be another executive session on October 17 from 9.30 am to 1 pm in the conference centre's main conference hall. Afterwards the Queen will meet heads of delegations. President Mugabe, who is expected to take the chair of the CHOGM, will host a banquet followed by a cultural show and entertainment — AIA



Commonwealth 'seeks only democracy'

# No SA-bashing here — Mugabe

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Pretoria should not regard the Commonwealth summit in Harare next week as a ganging-up against South Africa, President Robert Mugabe said yesterday.

The Zimbabwean leader, who chairs the week-long meeting, struck the softest line he has yet taken on South Africa when he spoke before the summit.

Mr Mugabe said: "We are not gathering here to form a front against South Africa. We are not doing that at all."

"Zimbabwe was chosen as the venue for this conference to be as close as possible to South Africa."

"But it doesn't necessarily mean we are going to have artillery placed here to launch an attack against South Africa."

He added: "We will discuss South Africa. We want to see democracy there. We cannot pretend that because President de Klerk, who is liberal, is in power that democracy has come to South Africa by virtue of his being in power."

"He has got to take the necessary steps to bring about democracy for us to believe he is truly democratic. That is what we are waiting to see."

"The Commonwealth has a role to promote that process. What are we going to do? The reason we have invited the ANC and PAC is for us to be able to exchange ideas with them on what they think we can do."

Mr Mugabe was asked about the possibility of South African Government leaders being present.

He said the ANC and PAC had been asked because it had become a tradition to do so.

"If any other persons are

to be invited that will have to be a decision of the heads of government. If they want others to come, we as the host country will not object."

On sanctions and past differences with Britain on this issue, Mr Mugabe said that now he did not think there were any differences.

## Rewarded

"They agree that sanctions are necessary but also think it necessary to give encouragement to the Government in South Africa so that they do not see sanctions as vindictive."

No one disagreed with Britain, he said, on the approach that correct steps should be rewarded and that President de Klerk should not be made to feel a culprit.

"I think all countries are agreed that some measure of alleviation of sanctions is necessary. Sanctions on sport have gone to a great

extent. But we must see much more done by the De Klerk regime in terms of the actual constitutional dispensation for South Africa."

"Once we know the road to democracy is irreversible, then there won't be any need for sanctions. The difference now is when they should be lifted."

Mr Mugabe, who clashed with Margaret Thatcher at several previous Commonwealth summits, said he was sorry she would not be coming to Harare.

"I had hoped Mrs Thatcher would have been here," he said, laughing.

The Zimbabwean leader said the views on South Africa of her successor, John Major, who will be paying his first visit here, were in conformity with those of many others.

"There is very little difference between him and the rest of us on South Africa," the president said.

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# Cannon polished, slum cleared before Queen arrives

HARARE — Zimbabwe is making it clear that it holds Queen Elizabeth II and the Commonwealth she heads in very high esteem — high enough to admit that some bits of British colonialism are worth commemorating.

In the surge of anti-colonial passion soon after independence in 1980, the council of the southern town of Masvingo (then Fort Victoria) ordered the demolition of a memorial to the men who died in the two world wars.

But last week the 13-pounder field gun, a World War I relic, that was toppled off its stone plinth in 1980, was trundled out of a gov-

ernment storehouse, painted, polished and put back on the plinth, along with the plaque commemorating the fallen.

"It was taken down in error," confessed a council official. "We thought it had something to do with Ian Smith's regime."

But he would not go as far as to admit that the timing of the memorial's restoration had anything to do with the Queen's arrival.

Yesterday, Harare's main streets were transformed with thousands of Union Jacks fluttering next to the Zimbabwean flag, on the top of lofty standards just above

a large portrait of the smiling monarch. (362)

"We will give her as warm a welcome as she can get," said President Robert Mugabe yesterday morning.

One fly in the ointment has been the controversial removal of 500 squatters from Mbare township on the city's southern outskirts, an operation that deeply embarrassed the government after town clerk Edward Kanengoni announced that the army camp was on the Queen's route, and had to be demolished or else it would be seized on by journalists attached to the entourage

eager for controversy.

Furthermore, the three main hotels to be used by heads of states are all in various stages of repair. The five-star Sheraton had its ground floor public area demolished by a bomb in July while Meikles in Harare and the Elephant Hills in Victoria Falls are in the midst of renovation.

But officials, who have been given almost total responsibility for organising the Queen's visit, are delighted with the complicated itinerary, organised down to the minutest detail. — Sapa.

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ZIMBABWE FM 11/10/91

## Cold turkey (362)

Zimbabwe's business community is shell-shocked by the combination of rapid devaluation — 42% so far this year — and a huge rise in interest rates. Both were inevitable, but business has been taken aback by their speed and extent. In the first half-year, the Zimbabwe dollar depreciated by a sedate 9% on Standard Chartered Bank's trade-weighted index but in July it fell 7.5%; in August, 12% and in September, 23%.

Whether the authorities were working towards a particular target is not clear, but at the end of last month the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe let it be known that it would keep the Z\$5=US\$1 parity for the time being.

The devaluation coincided with talks with the World Bank and the IMF on loans to support the five-year structural adjustment programme. Teams from both institutions left far happier about the prospects for successful reform than when they arrived. As important as devaluation, has been the belated tightening of monetary policy; but now short-term money market rates have soared above 30% from 10% nine months ago.

Money supply was tightened when the central bank announced the partial closure of its rediscount window. It is rediscounting some trade bills only at penal rates while refusing to rediscount others altogether. At

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## ECONOMY & FINANCE

the same time, it turned the monetary screw by raising the statutory reserve ratio to 12.5% from 10% and declaring it non-liquid.

This takes effect in mid-November, but already finance and hire-purchase companies, building societies and even merchant banks have had to stop lending. "If they are not careful," says one bank economist, "they will bring the whole economy shuddering to a halt."

A merchant banker warns that, unless the authorities rethink their strategies, interest rates will reach 45% in November, when the new ratios come into play.

Clearly, the central bank does not want to see rates at such high levels and some relaxation is inevitable but, for the moment, a psychological shock is being administered in the hope that it will break inflationary expectations and discourage import demand. There is no enthusiasm in government for positive real interest rates — with inflation estimated around 25% — but some action to slow money supply growth was called for; many bankers wonder whether the authorities realised just how effective it would be.

Money supply — up 35% in the year to June — has been driven by the rediscounting of tobacco bills. Something like Z\$2bn is tied up in tobacco financing, with the bulk held by the central bank. This overhang will stay in the market for at least another three or four months until the tobacco is exported.

Then a real credit crunch will set in, as a substantial portion of tobacco export proceeds will have to be used to repay maturing short-term foreign debt.

At the same time, seasonal borrowings will be high as farmers finance crops. When 1992 sales start, tobacco experts say the industry will need Z\$4bn-Z\$5bn, as the crop will be larger — at least 185m kg, against this year's 167m. Local currency prices will be much higher, too, thanks to devaluation.

Tobacco men speculate that the central bank will have to borrow offshore to finance next year's crop or radically reverse the monetary policy it has adopted in recent weeks. Either way, the money market is in for a bumpy ride. So is the stock market which, on any yardstick, is overpriced and ready for a significant downward adjustment.

On the balance of payments front, a 10% surcharge has been imposed on all open general import licence imports. There is now a 10% minimum tariff on all imports and manufacturers' import rebates have been abolished. These moves are intended to choke off import demand, but are unlikely to do so as effectively as devaluation, which has really stunned importers.

These measures were enough to satisfy the World Bank and African Development Bank, both of which will lend Zimbabwe US\$125m to fund reforms. The IMF may lend \$400m over three years but whether this

will be low-cost Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility money, as Zimbabwe hopes, or higher-priced Extended Fund Facility cash remains to be seen. The important point is that, after weeks of confusion and indecision, Zimbabwe has at last taken the plunge. ■

## Mugabe ends sports boycott

64 pay 11/18/91  
MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — In his first major concession on sanctions, President Robert Mugabe indicated this week the SA sports boycott was at an end. (362)

The Zimbabwean leader's hard-line insistence on the need to maintain Pretoria's total isolation was crucial to deciding the stance of the six Front-line states. (362)

Mugabe told a news conference on the eve of the Commonwealth heads of government meeting that there was now no major point of difference between his views on sanctions and those of Prime Minister John Major's British government. (362)

He said the Commonwealth must give some encouragement each time the South Africans did correct things.

Meanwhile, Britain's Queen Elizabeth arrived in Harare yesterday to lend her traditional presence to the summit. A stiff high veld breeze whipped around her as she stood on the dias with Mugabe for the traditional exchange of anthems.

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**W**HEN young Princess Elizabeth visited Salisbury in 1947 with her parents, the king and queen of England, she drove through the city's main African township in an open car. Young black school-children lined the township streets waving little Union Jacks.

Many of those children became African nationalists and supported the war which brought majority rule to Zimbabwe. Now the government is frenetically cleaning up the capital city for Elizabeth's return, this time as the queen is to preside at the opening of the Commonwealth summit from October 16 to 22.

Anxious to make a good impression, the Zimbabwe government has left no pothole un-  
paved, no major building unpainted, no street unswept and no squatter's fragile shack un-  
muddled.

Because Queen Elizabeth is going to visit Mbare township, the Harare city government decided it must rid the township of some 400 squatters' shacks. In a court application the city government stated it would be "an embarrassment" if the queen should view the squatters' shacks.

# Can Harare's summit offer more than glitz?

The queen of England will be there. So will all the Commonwealth leaders. But can the summit live up to its intentions of promoting good governance and human rights or is it as cosmetic as the cleaning of Harare's streets?

By **ANDREW MELDRUM**

village. The High Court rejected the application, but the city went ahead and removed the squatters to a farm some 70km away.

Despite protests of human rights activists and non-governmental organisations, nothing is going to get in the way of making Harare pretty for the exalted visitors.

Harare's streets have never been safer. Day

and night, patrols of four and five policemen stroll along every block both in the city centre and the adjacent Avenues district of apartment blocks and hotels. Their mission: to clear the streets of the prostitutes and *tsotsis* who have come to claim the area as their own.

An unwary Namibian delegate to a Harare conference was stabbed to death in the Avenues just a few months ago and that must not happen during the Commonwealth summit.

Such patently cosmetic changes can be expected from any government prettifying its capital for an international summit. However, these actions can also be perceived as evidence of arrogance towards the Zimbabwe people by the Mugabe government.

In the months leading up to the summit, Harare's government-owned newspaper, *The*

*Herald*, has published cynical, even angry, letters to the editor about the government's blinkered concentration on the foreign visitors at the expense of Zimbabweans.

It's not the first time their leaders have gone a little summit mad: the same frantic clean-up took place in September 1986, when the 101 leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement came to Harare for a self-congratulatory pow-wow.

Commonwealth organisers have decided the focus for the Harare summit will be the need to promote the principles of good government and respect for human rights. The problem is the enormous gap between the moral high ground the Commonwealth hopes to stake out as its own and the actual performance of some of its member governments, particularly those in Africa.

Kenya's Daniel arap Moi will be hearing high-flown sentiments about human rights that, if espoused by an opposition politician in Nairobi, he would declare subversive.

Malawi's Life President Hastings Kamuzu Banda will be trotted out by his handlers — Official Hostess Cecilia Kadzimir and her uncle, Official Translator John Tembo — seemingly oblivious to the fact that Banda's title alone is a flagrant contradiction of the principles of good governance that the Commonwealth hopes the summit will endorse.

While Zambia's political system is teetering on the brink and its economy has long since collapsed, President Kenneth Kaunda has manoeuvred to postpone the national elections until the end of October and to maintain the State of Emergency in his country so that he may attend the Commonwealth summit. Even though his image as Africa's premier anti-apartheid statesman is badly tarnished, the Commonwealth summit can provide him one last waltz with the queen and a suitably stately send-off from his fellow leaders.

Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has skillfully ridden the democratic wave that has swept through Africa in the past 18 months, leaving many fallen regimes in its wake. To avoid being swept away by that tide, Mugabe adroitly shelved his plans to legislate a one-party state, publicly renounced his beloved socialism and has implemented a painful structural adjustment programme to open Zimbabwe's stagnant economy to market forces. These changes have been made so smoothly that they barely caused a ripple on the surface of what remains a de facto one-party state.

With the same finesse Mugabe may well be able to turn this Commonwealth summit to his advantage. The recent diplomatic to-and-fro between London and Harare indicates that all sides are eager to avoid another impasse over South African sanctions. Instead, a dramatic shift in the Commonwealth's approach towards South Africa could be the result if Mugabe should invite a high-powered South African delegation to attend the summit as observers.

African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela and his Pan Africanist Congress counterpart, Clarence Makwetu, are certain to be invited. But it does not appear that President FW de Klerk and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi are going to attend.

A South African delegation bringing together the government with the leading African nationalists would make the Commonwealth summit a truly major event. Mugabe could get round the distaste of receiving South African officials — which he has steadfastly refused to do since 1980 — by saying they were not representing the Pretoria government as such, but were part of a delegation of major players in the upcoming negotiations to draft a new constitution for South Africa.

The presence of any Pretoria officials at the summit would mark a new Commonwealth role on South Africa. Bathed in the favourable limelight of international publicity, the South African delegation could agree, if only vaguely, to enter a round of constitutional negotiations, all in the name of the Commonwealth's new drive for "good governance".

This would stake out a potent new Commonwealth position on South Africa. It would also place Zimbabwe, lately far behind events, back in the ring as a mediator in the South African transition.

International summits rarely produce such momentous results. Yet in 1979 the Commonwealth summit in Lusaka came forth with an overwhelming consensus on the Rhodesian conflict that is credited with bringing about the Lancaster House talks and Zimbabwe's independence within a year.

Such a fantastic turn of events is needed if the Harare Commonwealth summit is to be remembered as something more than a glittering set-piece of ageing and out of touch African leaders in stark contrast to the angry democratic forces shaking Zaire, Togo and so many other regimes on the continent.

# Door to 'club'

Star 13/10/91

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## Brendan Seery

THE Commonwealth summit, which starts in Harare on Tuesday, will mark the beginning of the end of South Africa's long and damaging isolation.

The door that Hendrik Verwoerd slammed shut 30 years ago will be opened a crack as the "club" of former British colonies prepares to take a new active role in the formation of a "new South Africa".

Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Enoka Anyaoku set the tone yesterday on his arrival in Harare when he said the organisation is ready to mediate in South Africa.

"It will be for the parties in South Africa to give us the signal," Ziana national news agency reported Chief Anyaoku as saying.

"The Commonwealth has always been willing to do what it can to bring about in South Africa the establishment of a non-racial democracy. This time we hope this meeting is going to advance events in South Africa," the chief added.

The Harare meeting will probably also be the last time South Africa will be forced to watch from the sidelines. The next time the Commonwealth calls a summit, South Africa could again be a full member.

The most tangible result of the Harare gathering will almost certainly be the lifting of "people to people" sanctions, including restrictions on travel for South African passport holders, direct air links and bans on contacts between officials.

And, behind-the-scenes, there are likely to be moves towards formal

Commonwealth initiatives echoing the Eminent Persons Group safari in 1987.

While it is expected that the ANC will deliver strong warnings to the Commonwealth countries not to go too far too fast on lifting restrictions against Pretoria, there is a growing feeling among influential nations like Nigeria — whose leader General Ebrahim Babangida is current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity — that the South African problem must be solved soon.

The omens were good this week that the 50-nation body would be making new moves on South Africa:

- Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe pledged that the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting would not be used as a platform to pillory South Africa.

- Queen Elizabeth, on her arrival in

Harare, made a startling break with tradition by taking a political line in a speech urging Commonwealth leaders to give South Africa "every encouragement" on its way to a democratic non-racial constitution.

- British Prime Minister John Major called for the return of the country to the Commonwealth, saying that it was her "rightful place", praising President F W de Klerk's elimination of apartheid, and saying now was the time for an end to international isolation.

- A Canadian official predicted that the summit would end visa restrictions and bans on contacts between officials, as a prelude to lifting trade embargos against South Africa.

The last time a full Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting was held in this part of the world was 1979, in Lusaka, Zambia, when that country

major topic of discussion behind closed doors.

ANC president Nelson Mandela is certain to have his work cut out for him meeting all those who wish to be briefed on the latest situation in South Africa.

South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha will also have been doing strenuously lobbying of his own on his trip this week to Australia and New Zealand. The two countries are key players in the Commonwealth and diplomatic observers say the timing of Mr Botha's trip there was no coincidence.

Away from the glare of publicity in Harare, President Mugabe — who has personal experience of the destruction wrought by political and tribal rivalries in his own country — will take the opportunity to try to get the ANC and the PAC to move closer together.

was considered to be the "frontline" of the struggle against white Rhodesia. After that summit, the wheels were set in motion for Lancaster House and the final settlement which led to the birth of Zimbabwe in April 1980.

Political scientist Professor Peter Vale of the University of the Western Cape said he believed the Harare summit would be "South Africa's Lusaka".

Although the situation in Zimbabwe in 1979 was different from that in South Africa today, Professor Vale said he felt there could be the same "formalisation of a process" which would lead eventually to the resolution of the South African problem.

Political and diplomatic observers note that despite the fact that the South African issue is being played down on the Harare summit agenda, developments south of the Limpopo will be a

# swinging open

# Harare ready for big time

C [Pres 13/10/91] 362  
By TREVOR GRUNDY

SOUTH Africa after apartheid, human rights in the 50-member Commonwealth, a continuing North-South economic dialogue and the world after the collapse of communism.

These will be the main subjects for discussion at the week-long Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Harare next week.

Hundreds of Commonwealth delegates are flying into the capital city's airport, recently fitted with new radar equipment supplied by the British Government.

Lawns are immaculate, buildings sparkle with fresh paint and squatter camps have been demolished along a route to an African market which the Queen will visit.

On the Harare horizon there is the shimmering Sheraton Hotel and the nearby Harare International Conference Centre where the Commonwealth leaders will meet between October 16 and 22.

CHOGM chairman will be Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, who has taken a consistently hard line on sanctions and South Africa.

But at a press Conference at State House on

Wednesday the President, now 67, appeared calm and certain that the question of sanctions and South Africa would be over soon. "It's a question of time," he said.

Representatives from the ANC and the PAC will be at the conference and it is still possible that delegates from other organisations such as Co-satu - even the South African Government - will be invited to offer advice to the Commonwealth leaders.

The CHOGM comes at a time when sanctions against South Africa are falling away rapidly.

Zimbabwe, for example, has seen its trade with South Africa double since independence in 1980 and is about to buy 100,000 tons of South African white maize to alleviate a widespread grain shortage.

Nearly every Commonwealth country in Africa has strong, unpublicised economic links with South Africa.

The general feeling is that South Africa, which walked out of the Commonwealth 30 years and

six months ago, will be back for the next CHOGM. Human Rights will be up for discussion with the Commonwealth looking for a new role once the apartheid question has been solved.



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# 'Rain Queen' asked to stay on

BULAWAYO. — Thousands of Zimbabweans in the parched south-west pleaded with Britain's Queen Elizabeth yesterday to stay longer after rain coincided with her overnight visit to this city.

People cheered and the queen said "Here we are" when a torrential downpour interrupted her speech to a reception at the city's civic centre late Saturday afternoon.

Zimbabwe's second-largest city, with one million people, has only 22 weeks of water left.

Showers began just as the queen said: "I pray that the drought may end soon and that you have ample rain in the coming year."

## Game visit

After attending a service at St John's Cathedral yesterday morning the royal couple left for the huge Hwange game reserve in western Zimbabwe for a private 24-hour visit.

They will return to Harare today and remain until Saturday while the queen, as titular head of the Commonwealth, meets individually each of the Commonwealth leaders attending a summit opening on Wednesday. — Sapa-Reuter



ROYAL SMILE ... Queen Elizabeth leaves St John's Cathedral, Bulawayo, with the Bishop of Matabeleland, Theophilus Naldi. Picture: AP

## Speech leak: Inquiry ordered by UK govt

LONDON. — An inquiry was ordered by Downing Street yesterday into the leak of a confidential draft of the queen's speech due to be delivered at the state opening of parliament on October 31.

Sir Robin Butler, the cabinet secretary, has been asked to investigate how the document was sent anonymously in a brown paper envelope to Mr John Prescott, the shadow transport spokesman.

It is the most sensitive of a recent spate of leaks

The Nation



# Nigerian lawyer barred

Own Correspondent

**HARARE.** — Delegates from South Africa and 14 of the 16 African states in the Commonwealth have strongly condemned Nigeria's military government for barring the country's leading human-rights lawyer from travelling here.

Mr Femi Falana had his passport confiscated at Lagos Airport on Friday as he was about to leave for the Commonwealth Africa Human Rights Conference, which hopes to put a manifesto for action before the 50 statesmen who gather here this week.

The delegates resolved that the "continued singling out of Mr Falana constitutes an unlawful and dangerous breach of an important common law principle".

Mr Falana was ordered to report to security police in Lagos, but conference sources believe he is still at liberty. The incident may prove acutely embarrassing

## Gleneagles to be lifted

**HARARE.** — Commonwealth leaders begin arriving in Zimbabwe today for their biennial conference intent on avoiding a repeat of the rows over South Africa that have marred previous summits.

A formal lifting of the 1977 Gleneagles Agreement, which prohibited sporting links with South Africa, is anticipated at Harare and a new agreement, facilitating contacts provided the sports are properly integrated, is likely.

Although Britain will once again oppose the retention of trade sanctions against Pretoria, Prime Minister Mr John Major is not expected to follow the path to confrontation so often taken by his predecessor Mrs Margaret Thatcher. There have been dramatic developments in South Africa since the 50-nation Commonwealth last met two years ago, most notably the release of Mr Nelson Mandela, who will be in Harare as an ANC observer. He is due to meet Mr Major for talks tomorrow.

Mr Major will argue that change is already well established in South Africa and economic help, not hindrance, is required.

But a report from a special Commonwealth committee to be debated in Harare recommends no let-up in the trade and financial sanctions until there are free elections.

The summit is seen by many as a watershed conference at which the Commonwealth will discover whether it can redefine its world role or become an increasingly irrelevant institution. — Daily Telegraph

weekend that the organisation was eager to mediate constructively in the South African search for peace.

### Power

Professor Nicholas Hayson of the Wits Centre for Applied Legal Studies warned delegates: "In my country there are significant concentrations of power in private hands which match the power exercised by public authority."

"There is every indication public apartheid may well be replaced by privatised apartheid," he said.

Delegates from both Zambia and Kenya highlighted the removal of the right to dissent under the one-party states which had operated in their countries for most of the past 20 years. The human-rights activists plan to confront the Commonwealth leaders with an appeal for the establishment of a permanent commission which will deliver a report to every future summit on the 50 member states' record on liberties.

## WCC visit marks end of ban

**JOHANNESBURG.** —

Decades of hostility between the government and the anti-apartheid World Council of Churches ended on Saturday when a delegation from the church body arrived here on its first visit to South Africa in nearly 30 years.

"This marks the beginning of a new period (in South Africa). This is a providential moment," WCC general secretary Mr Emilio Castro said on his arrival.

For 27 years the government has barred WCC officials from entering the country.

The WCC and the government fell out when the world body condemned racism in 1960, prompting the departure from its ranks of the Dutch Reformed Church and angering the government.

The WCC delegates are scheduled to meet President F W de Klerk as well as Mr Nelson Mandela and other black leaders. — UPI

## Queen breaks with tradition

15/09/91  
MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Queen Elizabeth has shelved the wreath-laying tradition during her Zimbabwe tour to avoid offending President Robert Mugabe's government, sources say.

Mugabe's protocol officers invariably take visiting heads of state to Harare's Heroes' Acre for a ceremony honouring the estimated 20 000 guerillas who died in the Rhodesian bush war.

When she toured with her father, King George, in 1947, the then Princess Elizabeth visited Harare's cenotaph commemorating Rhodesians who died in the First and Second World Wars. Government last year banned Remembrance Sunday services because the date coincided with UDI's anniversary.

The Commonwealth has a chance to prove its relevance, writes Sarah Helm

# More than a comfortable club?

for 15/10/91

THE meeting in Harare of Commonwealth heads of government this week is billed as the summit which will make or break the Commonwealth's reputation as an institution to be taken seriously.

For the first time, the 50 leaders, under a new secretary-general, will have the opportunity to decide what their organisation is, instead of feuding over sanctions and South Africa.

The omens for a harmonious conference, which could prove that the Commonwealth is more than a comfortable, if irrelevant, club, are good. Progress in South Africa has been recognised by all, and there will be a conciliatory John Major, not a fractious Margaret Thatcher.

Success, however, is not guaranteed. There is still plenty of room for antagonism over South Africa

and no certainty that the Commonwealth will find the will to seize real influence. Without a good row to focus on, the leaders may find themselves adrift in a sea of worthy intent.

It is impossible to exaggerate the determination of the British government to avoid a row over South Africa. The Foreign Office has let it be known that Britain is supporting Bernard Chidzero, the Zimbabwean Finance Minister, for the job of United Nations Secretary-General.

Conference host President Robert Mugabe, who controls the agenda and can hype up or play down South Africa, is said to be in "emollient mood".

The remaining division is now over when to lift sanctions. Commonwealth Foreign Ministers have agreed on a timescale for relaxing sanctions, which is slower

than the wishes of Britain and the EC. If this cannot be resolved, British officials concede they will have to take a dissenting view, although "if we disagree, about speed it isn't vital — no cause for a row".

The buzz phrase in Harare will be promoting "good governance", which means persuading governments to become more democratic, respect human rights and preserve the environment.

Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Nigerian Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, believes that the organisation's strength lies in political "networking" between countries with shared history.

He says outside intervention in the affairs of recalcitrant states will only work through the close contacts which have grown up within bodies like the Commonwealth.

The viability of this new role will depend on whether countries are prepared to point the finger at abuses by their own members, at torture in Uganda, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and The Gambia, at censorship in Singapore and Kenya.

Sensitivity to criticism is such that it is unlikely that the summit will make any firm resolutions.

However, the Commonwealth is clearly seen as a club worth joining, as applications for new membership show.

With South Africa's readmission coming soon, it would be dangerous for anyone to write off the Commonwealth's potential to grow in influence.

Nelson Mandela, president of the ANC, is expected to attend and he is likely to be present officially at the next summit, a living symbol of a human rights goal. — The Independent News Service. □

# Soul-searching in Harare

Apr 16/10/91

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**A**S THEY formally open their 28th conference today, the Commonwealth countries will undertake the most searching examination ever made of the purpose and future of the organisation.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeke Anyaoku has described this as the most important item on the agenda.

The deliberations of the representatives of the 50 member-countries will centre on the report of a 10-nation committee set up at the previous conference in Kuala Lumpur in 1989 to examine the issue.

Known as the High-Level Appraisal Group, this body was given the task of reappraising the Commonwealth's very reasons for existence, and mapping out a path for it to follow in the future.

Commonwealth officials stress that the study was made not because there were any doubts that the organisation should continue to exist, but to ensure it remained a viable and relevant body in the radically changed international political climate of today.

One of the most important changes in this climate has been the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, and linked to this is the growing international demand for human rights to be respected.

The appraisal group consists of the presidents or prime ministers of Malaysia, Singapore, Canada, Australia, Britain, the Bahamas, India, Jamaica, Nigeria and Zambia. Either through their report or independently of it, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Harare will have to address more directly than ever before the human rights question.

While this almost certainly will not involve anything that could be construed as interference in the domestic affairs of member states, it could put a brighter spotlight on human rights offences in these countries and result in indirect pressure for reform.

Central to the human rights issue is the growing support among the major aid donors in the West for the view that their economic aid to developing countries be made conditional

Commonwealth representatives meeting in Harare are charged with examining the very reasons for the body's existence and charting its future course, reports **GERALD L'ANGE.**

on the recipients respecting human rights in their own countries.

The human rights issue is seen by some observers as a likely successor to the dying issue of apartheid in South Africa, which has been a dominant one in the Commonwealth for many years and may have served as a useful glue to unite the disparate members of the organisation.

While it may be dying in South Africa, apartheid is still a major issue at the Harare summit. Some member countries appear insistent on raising apartheid to a major issue, and their efforts are expected to centre around the question of when and how sanctions against South Africa should be lifted.

The summit will consider recommendations by the Commonwealth foreign ministers, who met recently in New Delhi, for phasing lifting of sanctions, beginning with "people-to-people" sanctions such as travel and cultural exchanges.

The lifting of trade and investment sanctions was tied to progress being made towards a constitutional conference, and economic sanctions to agreement on a new constitution in South Africa.

ANC president Nelson Mandela and PAC leader Clarence Makwetu have been invited to Harare to consult the heads of government, and their advice will undoubtedly have an important influence on the summit's decisions.

The possibility of President de Klerk or some other South African Government representative being invited to Harare in the same capacity remained an open one yesterday.

Mr Enyaku said on Monday it would depend on delibera-

tions still to be conducted among the CHOGM delegates.

President Mugabe, the CHOGM host, has said he would raise no objection if the CHOGM invited Mr de Klerk. However, the ANC has made it known it would object on the grounds that Mr de Klerk's reforms have not yet gone far enough. This view, supported by the PAC, is likely to prevail.

Much is expected to depend on the stand taken by the British government, which is thought to favour some form of recognition of President de Klerk's reforms. The South African Government itself is believed to take the stand that it would attend only as a government in its own right.

**I**n a related matter, Mr Anyaoku has said the Commonwealth would be prepared to mediate in the South African dispute if the parties involved wanted it. President Mugabe, who will act as chairman of the conference, has supported the idea. But whether it will be discussed formally in Harare is uncertain.

Other items likely to feature on the CHOGM agenda, according to Mr Anyaoku, include a global political review of world events in the light of major changes since the Kuala Lumpur summit. There will also be a similar review of international economic issues.

Early fears on the South African side that President Mugabe's chairmanship would encourage hard-line decisions may have been revised somewhat by the relatively moderate tone adopted by the Zimbabwean leader at a news conference last week.

The atmosphere here is expected to be a lot more harmonious than at previous Commonwealth summits, where former British premier Margaret Thatcher's confrontational style left some delegations bruised and embittered. Prime Minister John Major's more diplomatic approach is likely to pour oil rather than gild into the workings of this summit. — Star Africa Service. □



Looking ahead . . . John Major (right) and Bob Hawke in Harare yesterday.

Picture: Associated Press

# Start talks now, Mugabe urges SA

Sowetan Africa News  
Service

**HARARE** - President Robert Mugabe today called on all South African leaders to put matters in perspective and to get on with the task of negotiating a new constitution.

Opening the Commonwealth Summit at a colourful ceremony, the Zimbabwean leader said



negotiations should take place without delay.

There was no alternative to dialogue.

He said the Harare Summit should do for South Africa what the Lusaka Summit in 1979 had done for Rhodesia when the way was opened for the negotiations which led to the birth of Zimbabwe.

The heads of more than 40 countries entered the ornate conference centre to the beat of drums and the rhythm of *mbira* musical instruments between

ranks of kneeling women.

Malawi's aging president, Dr Kamuzu Banda, fell heavily as he entered the chamber. He was helped to his feet and continued unaided to his seat where he was seen talking to colleagues on either side of him.

Five heads of delegations, including Britain's Mr John Major, expected a the opening of a special ceremony.

# Lots of agreement, not much action

W/Man 18/10 - 24/10/91

Leaders at the Commonwealth summit agree on the human rights issue, but they seem reluctant to agree on any specific measures.

**ANDREW MELDRUM** reports from Harare

**R**EGAL waves and royal jewels, motorcades of Mercedes, wailing sirens and traffic jams, speeches with countless references to cricket and Shakespeare, receptions, banquets, briefings and more heads of government than you could shake a stick at.

That gives a taste of the opening of the 28th Commonwealth summit in Harare this week. All but seven of the Commonwealth's 50 heads of government turned up, setting a new attendance record for the summits which are held every two years.

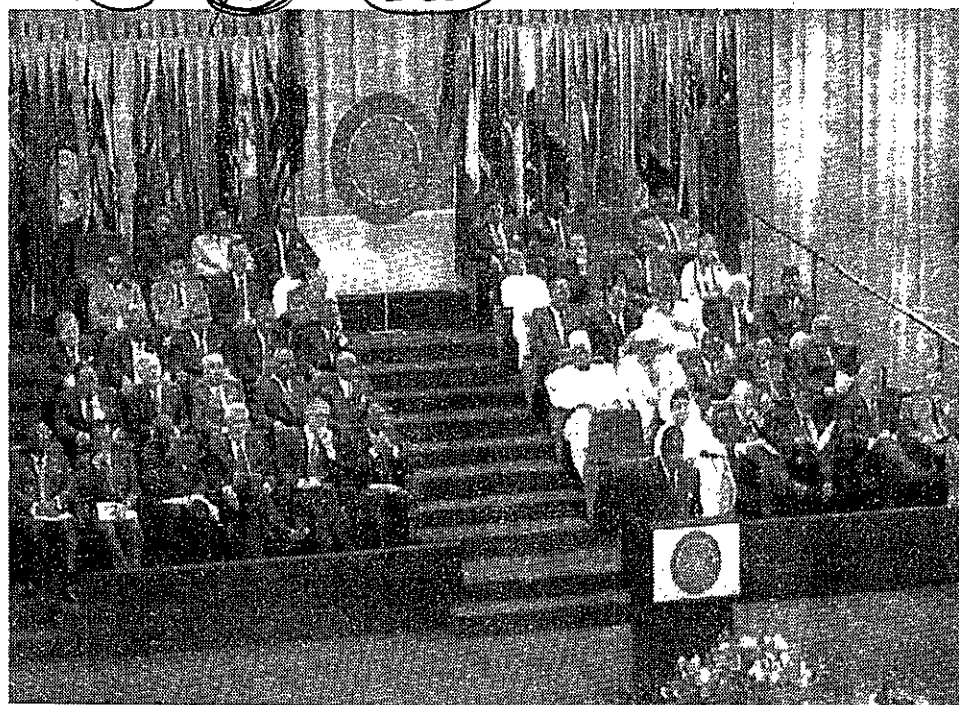
Of course, behind closed doors the Commonwealth leaders deliberated and discussed weighty matters like the future of South Africa, human rights, the need to encourage multi-party democracies ... and cricket.

The consensus reached during their meetings will be issued at the summit's close on October 22 under the name of the Harare Declaration, which is hoped to launch a newly revitalised Commonwealth, the group of former British colonies which has moved from empire to a voluntary and mutually beneficial association.

Even as the summit opened, hopes fizzled that it would produce a significant move forward towards South African constitutional negotiations.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda attempted to get the Commonwealth leaders to invite President FW de Klerk and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi to join them on their weekend retreat to Victoria Falls. Nelson Mandela and Clarence Makwetu were already present in Harare as observers. Such a meeting of "major players" in South Africa under the Commonwealth umbrella would have emulated the historic 1979 Commonwealth summit in Lusaka where Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo joined the leaders and agreed to enter into the Lancaster House talks which swiftly led to a new constitution and Zimbabwe's independence.

**B**ut Kaunda found little enthusiasm for his initiative from summit host Robert Mugabe and others. The final blow came with the arrival of Nelson Mandela on Tuesday and his firm rejection of Kaunda's plan. Mandela told British Prime Minister John Major, in no uncertain terms, that he was opposed to the invitation of any officials from Pretoria, according to British government sources. Kaunda's plans collapsed like a flat soufflé and the Zambian leader left



**OPENING CEREMONY ...** President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe giving his speech at the opening of the Commonwealth summit in Harare. Photo:AP

Harare in what looked like a huff shortly after the opening ceremony on Wednesday. Kaunda did not even stay for the Queen's state banquet that night.

Even with his trademark white handkerchief, Kaunda was uncharacteristically grave and tight-lipped in Harare. He was visibly shaken by the news on Tuesday that his son, Kambaranje, was sentenced to death for killing a woman.

Also, it must have been difficult for Kaunda to listen to all the praise for pluralistic political systems as he is waging a bitter campaign for his political survival in Zambia's first multi-party elections in 17 years.

So the South African initiative flopped before it even started. But that did not prevent Major and Mandela reaching a new agreement on ... you guessed it, cricket. The two leaders announced on Wednesday that they would work together to get South Africa to qualify for next year's World Cup.

Sanctions — whether to keep them or scrap them — were discussed but did not excite the same passions that divided the 1989 summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Britain still would like to see all sanctions lifted, but affable John Major withdrew the antagonistic sting that his predecessor, Margaret Thatcher, had given the sanctions argument.

And the pro-sanctions side has softened, too. Robert Mugabe, the staunchest sanctions supporter, has made it very clear he does not want

to see the Harare summit split over the sanctions issue.

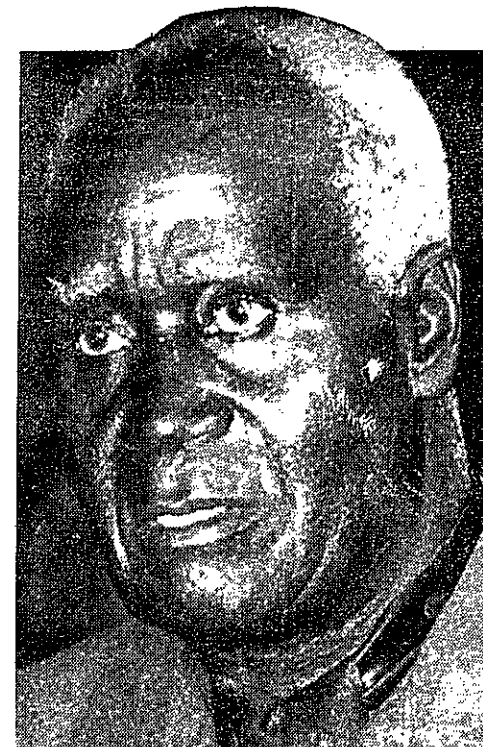
That leaves human rights and "good governance" as the focus for the Zimbabwe summit.

"The cry for freedom as well as the cry for justice stops at no border," declared Mugabe at the opening. "The Commonwealth of the 1990s should be a torch-bearer of democratic principles which so many expect us to uphold."

All other speakers echoed Mugabe's views, including John Major who said, "the Commonwealth is well placed to catch the tidal wave of human rights and democracy which is sweeping across much of the world. We can ride that wave. Or be carried along by it. We cannot ignore it."

**C**ommonwealth insiders say the organisation is looking for a new cause which can be pursued with the same fervour as the anti-apartheid movement has been supported since 1961. Yet activists say they are worried that nothing concrete will come from the Harare summit.

"We are disappointed because it looks like strong words in favour of human rights are all that we are going to get at the Harare summit," said Richard Bourne, director of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative. "But we will keep pushing for increased funding to support human rights and for the establishment of a standing Commonwealth commission on human rights."



**EARLY DEPARTURE ...** Zambian leader Kenneth Kaunda left the conference.

Commonwealth Secretary-General, Nigerian Chief Emeka Anyaoku, has already made statements saying that most member states are not ready for strict human rights measures. Indeed, three Commonwealth members are under military rule, five have one-party states and activists estimate that two-thirds of the member states do not have democratically-elected governments or democratic mechanisms to change those governments.

The strongest proponent of human rights among the leaders attending the Harare summit is Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara, who has appealed since the early 1970s for the Commonwealth to establish a human rights commission.

"A commission would prepare a report once every two years to present to the Commonwealth summits. It would not have any binding judicial powers on its members, it would just present its report," said activist Bourne. "We will be very lucky to get it approved by this summit, but we'll keep fighting for it right up to the end."

So it is not certain if the colour, festivities and fine-sounding words at the Commonwealth summit will produce anything more substantial than fine-sounding words on human rights, unless during the weekend excursion to Victoria Falls the Gambian president can convince his fellow leaders to agree to specific human rights measures.

## Police storm campus as students rebuke Mugabe

HARARE — Police firing teargas clashed with students for the second day running yesterday, raiding Harare university to crush anti-government protests at the Commonwealth summit.

Riot police who sealed off the university on Wednesday, after students tried to march on the summit, stormed the campus yesterday and flushed protesters out of hostels with teargas.

The students, who accuse the government of President Robert Mugabe of restricting academic freedom, said four of their leaders had been arrested and placed in Security Police custody.

The protests began the day after President Mugabe opened the summit with exhortations to the 50 Commonwealth members to practise the human rights values that they preach.

CRIS CHINAKA

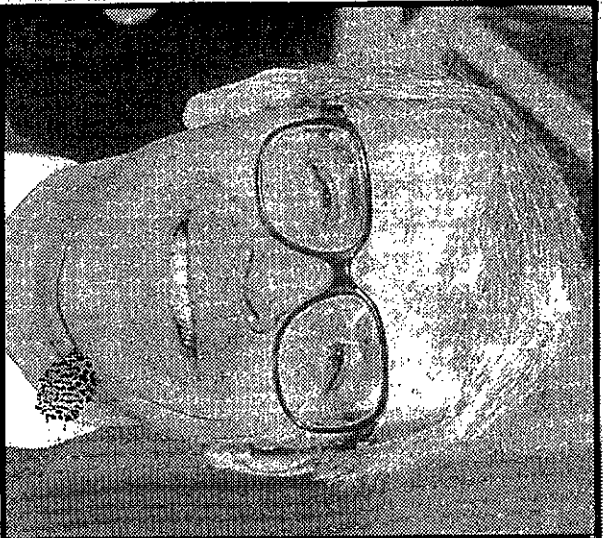
"We want a peaceful demonstration, leave us alone," one student shouted at the police. An officer remarked to reporters: "We will beat them until they learn some respect."

The protesters issued a pamphlet accusing Mr Mugabe's government of not respecting its own people.

"We voted for them, fought and lost our loved ones during the liberation struggle, but who is enjoying the fruits of all this?" the pamphlet asked.

Government ministers dismissed the students as hooligans bent on trying to cause trouble on Mr Mugabe's doorstep during the summit, which lasts until Wednesday. — Sapa-Reuters





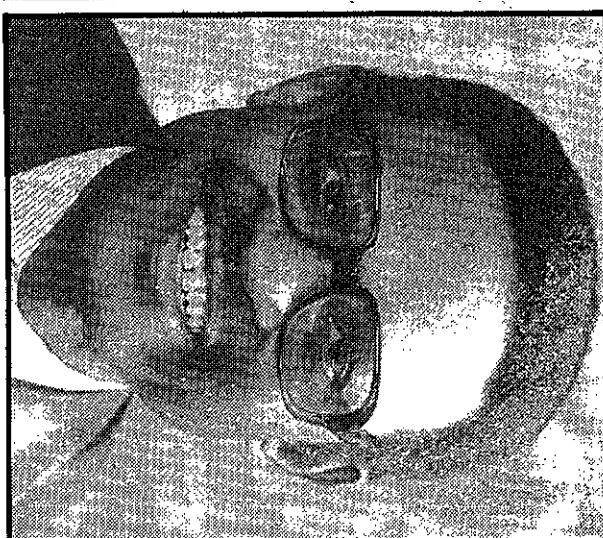
**JOHN MAJOR:** The British Prime Minister welcomed the radical changes that have taken place in South Africa.



**ROBERT MUGABE:** Zimbabwe's president set the tone at the Commonwealth meeting in Harare.



**F W DE KLERK:** His hopes of direct communication with Zimbabwe's leaders stand a chance of being realised.



**EMEKE ANYAKOU:** The Commonwealth secretary-general had words of praise for President de Klerk.

# Zimbabwe tones down anti-Pretoria rhetoric

**HARARE** — So far, sweet reason seems to have prevailed at the Commonwealth summit over South Africa, which in the past has been an explosive and divisive issue.

Nowhere was this better illustrated than in the decision of the largely government-owned Herald newspaper to devote a great deal of space to the views of President de Klerk, given to the editor-in-chief, Tommy Sibhole, in Pretoria two days before the opening of the summit in Harare.

The general tone of the speeches of leaders when dealing with South Africa has been moderate, and Zimbabwe in particular has gone out of its way to hold out, if not a friendly hand, then certainly not a clenched fist.

In the period leading up to the summit, officials in Pretoria had been forecasting that the Harare government would lead a diatribe against South Africa. But this was not to be. President Mugabe set the tone in a pre-summit news

conference when he said Pretoria should not feel that forces would gang up against it when the Commonwealth leaders got together.

## Threats

And when he gave his keynote opening address, Mr Mugabe adopted a positive tone, made no mention of sanctions, and urged the Commonwealth to be ready to assist South Africans to create a peaceful climate conducive to normal political and social life.

British Prime Minister John Major welcomed the radical changes that have taken place in South Africa, and the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Chief Emeke Anyakou of Nigeria, had words of praise for President de Klerk as well as for Nelson Mandela. The ANC leader himself was largely restrained in his comments.

Everybody appeared to be looking ahead, and not back to the bad old days when harsh words and threats made up much of the output.

As far as Zimbabwe-South African relations are concerned, recent events must surely result in a marked improvement. President de Klerk's wish to see direct communication between political leaders from both countries — something which President Mugabe has resisted up to now — stands a much better chance of being realised.

The phasing out of sanctions has been endorsed by Mr Mugabe and while the impact may not have any

real material effect, the symbolic significance should not be disregarded.

A core of Ministers in the Zimbabwean Cabinet is known to favour ministerial contact, if only to facilitate better economic exchanges and a trade agreement with improved terms.

However, the next move in the direction of diplomatic relations will probably come only after at least the beginning of constitutional negotiations in South Africa.



**F**OR four days this week ANC leader Nelson Mandela and President de Klerk were locked in a long-distance contest for the attention and favour of the Commonwealth leaders in Harare.

And the outcome was probably a draw.

Mr de Klerk may have come out slightly ahead, however, despite the disadvantage of not being physically there.

For Mr Mandela the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Harare provided a valuable opportunity to promote the ANC's cause in face-to-face meetings with Commonwealth leaders just north of the Limpopo.

But, not being a head of government, he was not allowed to address the plenary session, as some of his supporters at the conference had hoped he would be allowed to do.

Mr de Klerk, on the other hand, was not invited to the conference at all, despite efforts by his supporters, and therefore was unable to do the personal lobbying that is one of the most important activities of Commonwealth summits.

Yet he was in effect able to address the Commonwealth leaders through an interview published on the front page of Zimbabwe's main newspaper, *The Herald*, with the full verbatim text published on inside pages, on Thursday at the height of the conference.

The interview would have been read by most, if not all, heads of government and taken back to their capitals for further study.

As one foreign journalist remarked: "Mr de Klerk was able to address the Commonwealth leaders from his office in Pretoria."

While the interview contained nothing that South Africans do not already know, it was a summary of the South African Government's position on the main issues in the country.

It almost certainly gave some of the Commonwealth leaders a new insight into Mr de Klerk's policies.

Mr Mandela, for his part, enjoyed an advantage denied to Mr de Klerk in that he had a rare chance of exposure

# Long-range duel for world favour

*Star 20/10/91*  
**Gerald L'Ange** reports from Harare, where Nelson Mandela and F W de Klerk fought this week for the hearts and minds of the Commonwealth leaders. Mr Mandela was in the Zimbabwean capital and Mr de Klerk was not, but the contest was a close one.

to the massed international press.

He seized and exploited all his opportunities with gusto and style.

In a whirlwind four days the ANC president not only had talks with all the most important Commonwealth leaders and many of the lesser lights, but he also had a series of impromptu exchanges with the press when coming out of meetings with Commonwealth leaders.

In addition, he gave a formal news conference that attracted the biggest audience of journalists this Commonwealth summit has yet seen.

His main aim, especially in the private meetings, was probably to boost the ANC's image as the major force opposing apartheid in South Africa and strengthen its case for international support, especially financial support, without which the ANC would be hamstrung.

Mr Mandela was no doubt also aiming to persuade the Commonwealth leaders against what the ANC would regard as precipitate acceptance of President de Klerk's reforms before majority rule becomes inevitable.

His main target in this respect would have been British Prime Minister John Major, the most powerful Commonwealth leader and the one giving the most support, even if only partial, to Mr de Klerk.

He appears to have been singularly successful in wooing Mr Major, although as he himself acknowledged he had previously been in fairly regular telephone contact with Mr Major.

And the apparently warm relations between them must be attributed at least in part to the British Premier's personal style.

British diplomats confirmed that Mr Major set out at Harare to erase the harsh image created by his predecessor, Margaret Thatcher, and replace it with a friendlier and warmer one. But diplomats also point out that while the style may have changed the policy has not.

Mr Major's values and objectives are not radically different from those of the Iron Lady.

Thus Mr Major's opposition to sanctions against South Africa is as strong as Mr Thatcher's ever was.

Trying to weaken this resolve must have been one of Mr Mandela's prime aims. Whether he succeeded will not be known for certain until the final declaration of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 1991 is issued on Tuesday.

Only then will the rest of the world know for sure whether Mr Major moved his stance closer to the ANC's demands.

Mr Mandela said the ANC wanted to keep diplomatic, trade and financial sanctions in place until an interim government had been set up.

The oil and arms embargoes should be lifted only after a democratic constitution had been adopted.

For most of his stay in Harare Mr Mandela refused to talk to the press about sanctions, saying he did not want to do so until the Commonwealth leaders had completed their deliberations on the issue.

His reluctance may have had as much to do with a suspicion that the British might still try to influence the terms of the final declaration even after the Heads of Government debate on the issue had been closed.

There was, after all, still a whole weekend ahead. And the Commonwealth leaders are spending it relaxing at Victoria Falls, where they will be especially vulnerable to Mr Major's velvet-gloved arm-twisting.

Zimbabwe government sources have made it known that they expect the final communiqué to broadly accept the recommendations for a phased lifting of South African sanctions that were made by the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers recently in New Delhi.

Britain, however, is expected to register reservations, which will probably amount to dissociating itself from the recommendations.

The British government favours an immediate lifting of all but arms sanctions.

The Zimbabwean sources said Mr Major took a firm stand in favour of encouraging investment in South Africa to restore the damage done by sanctions and help get the new South Africa off to a stable and prosperous start.

This was supported by a reported statement by Mr Major to the BBC that Britain was pressing for a quick end to sanctions to help reverse the growing unemployment in South Africa.

Mr Mandela, too, said in an interview at Harare airport on his departure on Friday that while Mr Major was different from Mrs Thatcher his basic stance on sanctions was the same.

At his Heads of Government news conference Mr Mandela came out in favour of an immediate lifting of "people-to-people" sanctions, which include sporting and cultural exchanges and tourism.

This is in line with the New Delhi recommendations.

These in addition propose that trade and investment sanctions be removed when "appropriate transitional mechanisms have been agreed which will enable all the parties to participate fully and effectively in negotiations".

Under the New Delhi proposals, financial sanctions, which involve loans and are the most damaging of all, would be removed only when agreement is reached on a new constitution.





British Prime Minister John Major and his wife Norma visit the Victoria Falls during the weekend retreat by the Commonwealth heads of government. Picture: AP

## Absent FW gets a word in edgeways

HARARE — President F W de Klerk addressed the Commonwealth summit on Friday — without being there.

Leaders of the 50-nation Commonwealth awoke to be presented with De Klerk's message spread in an interview across three pages of Zimbabwe's only morning newspaper, the semi-official Herald.

De Klerk addressed crucial questions of constitutional change, sanctions, the transition from apartheid and even threw in a word of praise for the Commonwealth.

It was the first interview with an SA leader published by a Zimbabwe newspaper since independence in 1980.

"This is a major coup for the De Klerk," said one envoy. *Blm 21/10/91*

"He gets to address the summit even though he wasn't invited. He doesn't look the ogre he often is made out to be."

In the extensive interview De Klerk:

☐ Rejected accusations he was not doing enough to end warfare in the townships

and that his police and army were fanning the violence. *(21/10/91)*

☐ Said he wanted all groups to share power in a democratic SA and that he planned to be part of the winning party or at least a winning coalition; *(362)*

☐ Opposed an interim all-party government, but did not rule out other negotiated transitional arrangements;

☐ Declared sanctions should go because "I want to give the vote to everyone and I want to do it as soon as possible".

He said Foreign Minister Pik Botha had been misquoted when he was reported to have said last week that the Commonwealth might not be of any use once it lost SA as an issue.

"As a government we regard the Commonwealth as an important world body... it is obviously a body of international stature and I think Zimbabwe can be proud to have been selected to host this meeting," he said. — Reuter.

# Ian Smith still wages bitter, relentless war

Sowetan 22/10/91 (362)

SA Press Association-AP

HARARE - At 72, Ian Smith, Rhodesia's last white leader, is still fighting the war he lost - tilting bitterly at Zimbabwe's black rulers from his suburban home next door to the Cuban Embassy.

Down the road President Robert Mugabe, jailed by Smith for more than a decade and then hounded into exile, is hosting a week-long summit to launch the 50-nation Commonwealth on a path promoting democracy and human rights.

"It's a fraud. What are they going to achieve? Nothing. They've got nothing to talk about," Smith said of the meeting, which ends today.

"They're too busy feathering their own nests. These countries are riddled with corruption, incompetence, indolence, nepotism," he said, calling Zimbabwe "a de facto one-party state".

For him, the last 25 years have been a long saga of personal betrayal:

The failure of his 1965 declaration of independence from Britain to preserve white-minority rule.

The civil war that followed, which cost some 27 000 lives.

The 11 years since Zimbabwe achieved peace and international recognition.

"We could have won if we hadn't been betrayed by our friends," he says.

He ticks them off: Britain, Western countries kow-towing to the Organisation of African Unity and, bitterest of all, South Africa.

Its white rulers, weary of bankrolling Smith's losing war, threatened to cut this landlocked country's economic lifeline in a 1976 deal with then-US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

The pressure forced Smith into a series of negotiations which culminated in the 1980 peace agreement.

That Smith is free, dividing his time between his Harare home and the cattle ranch near where he was born in Shurugwi in central Zimbabwe, angers many blacks.

Some whites - their numbers reduced by two-thirds after independence in April 1980 - publicly identify with Mugabe's government.

Most whites stay out of politics.

"Maybe other people can overlook it (Mugabe's government), but I find it difficult to condone this

kind of evil," says Smith.

"If you allow yourself to be intimidated then you are letting one-party state dictators get away with it, and how can you live with that?"

But, increasingly, the

government ignores Smith. It turned a blind eye to his defiance last year of a ban on commemorating Armistice Day, which coincides with the November 11 anniversary of his declaration of independence.

With a handful of ageing friends from his old Rhodesian Front party, Smith laid a wreath in central Harare.

# Harare summit pledges democracy

*Sowetan 22/10/91*  
 HARARE — These are the fundamental political values that the 50-nation Commonwealth leaders pledged at the Harare summit, to uphold:

- Democracy, democratic processes and institutions which reflect national circumstances, the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary, just and honest government.

- Fundamental human rights, including equal rights and opportunities for all citizens regardless of race, colour, creed or political belief.

- Equality for women so that they may exercise their full and equal rights.

- Provision of universal access to education for the population of the countries.

- Continuing action to bring about the end of apartheid and the establishment of a free, democratic, non-racial and prosperous South Africa.

## Alleviation of poverty

- The promotion of sustainable development and the alleviation of poverty.

- Extending the benefits of development within a framework of respect for human rights.

- The protection of the environment through respect for the principles of sustainable development.

- Action to combat drug trafficking and abuse and communicable diseases.

- Help for small Commonwealth states in tackling their particular economic and security problems.

- Support of the United Nations and other international institutions in the world's search for peace, disarmament and effective arms control; and in the promotion of international consensus on major global political, economic and social issues.

- To promote development the Commonwealth leaders agreed that the central role of the market economy should be recognised in promoting sound economic management, there should be effective population policies and programmes, the freest possible flow of multilateral trade taking account of the special requirements of developing countries and action to alleviate the debt burdens of developing countries.

## Equal rights

The document also sets out fundamental principles including belief in the liberty of the individual under the law and in equal rights for all citizens, and belief in the individual's inalienable right to participate by means of free and democratic political processes in forming the society in which he or she lives.

Secretary-General Chief Anyaoku of Nigeria was pressed to say what action would be taken in member countries where human rights were violated, including his own country, but he said the leaders had merely set the scene for mechanisms to be put in place later.

The secretariat in the coming months would embark on ways of implementing decisions. That was when the mechanics would be looked at very carefully. - *Sowetan Correspondent*

# Major personal triumph for John While ailing Sally comes up trumps

Star 25/10/91.

The Commonwealth conference was a triumph for "not-so-grey" John Major, writes  
Foreign Editor  
FREDERICK CLEARY.

THERE IS precious little grey about John Major except his hair, which is still half black.

He is an adroit politician, an ebullient personality with a fluent speaking style and an accent which reflects his London upbringing.

Although a shorthand writer's nightmare as he races through prepared texts and answers questions, he enunciates with clarity and precision based on sound syntax, which must please custodians of the English language.

The youngest British prime minister this century may lack the colourful phraseology of a Macmillan, but at least there is an absence of the



Major... downgraded the South Africa issue and injected life to "more weighty matters".

scrambled non sequiturs of the George Bush variety.

The Harare Commonwealth conference could justifiably be ascribed as a success for Mr Major, as, either through dint of persuasion or a correct reading of the changing mood of his fellow heads of government, he saw his aim realised of having the South African issue downgraded from previous summits and restricted to one of several items on the agenda.

To him, attending such a conference for the first time as head of government, South Africa was yesterday's issue. He wanted thorough debate and decision on new, pressing matters: to make the Commonwealth a more constructive organisation than in previous years.

True, he was unable to convince the majority to follow Britain's example and lift virtually all sanctions immediately, which, in any case, is really an academic exercise as most member states carry no economic weight.

But he could take satisfaction that such weighty subjects as human rights, good government, the environment and the future of the Commonwealth were given a good airing. Whether there will be any follow-through by the respective governments is another matter.

An easy mixer — a vital ingredient in a politician's make-up — ready humour is a predominant factor of the Major persona. At one news conference he was asked

about the principle of one-party states.

With an eye to his own forthcoming election battle, he smiled and replied that he was against the concept — "but I have no objection to one party being in government a long time".

□ □ □



Childzero... can take credit for persuading Mugabe to move to a market-oriented economy.

drive to steer Zimbabwe back on the right lines." Prospects of the economy righting itself in the immediate future gain little support in most business circles, but one optimist is Transport Minister Dennis Norman. He talked enthusiastically about the railway network reducing a heavy State subsidy and paying its way in the next three or four years. The commercial company now responsible for the Beira Corridor project had upgraded the rail network from Mutare to Beira, and a Dutch company had deepened the harbour to accommodate larger container ships.

He conceded, however, that the civil war in Mozambique was still a major problem. Air Zimbabwe had extended its fleet and services, and work starts next year on a R400-million international airport for Harare.

□ □ □

Zimbabwean Finance Minister Dr Bernard Chidzero may be in the running for the post of United Nations secretary-general (although his prospects are fading), but in Harare his ratings are not too high. A former UN economics adviser, he may take credit for persuading the Mugabe government to switch, in principle at any rate, from a State-controlled to a market-oriented economy, yet he is considered a political lightweight.



Mugabe... Premier's wife showed her mettle when time came for her to do her duty.

President Mugabe's closest confidant is his Ghana-born wife, Sally. A person of reputedly strong political convictions, even her detractors could not help admiring the way this sick woman courageously did her duty when Queen Elizabeth arrived for her state visit. Holding her husband's hand, she walked slowly in torrid heat along the red carpet at the airport to greet the royal visitors. In the background an attendant carried a chair, on which she sat when the Queen took the royal salute, and two army medical orderlies were nearby with a stretcher and a parked ambulance.

□ □ □

Driving past Harare's Sheraton Hotel and noting the R16-million worth of especially imported, gleaming luxury German cars lined up to transport the visiting dignitaries around the city, (and which went later into the Zimbabwe government ministerial pool), a local citizen having no option but to struggle on with his ancient vehicle recalled an international conference held some years ago when 20 similar cars were deposited at Harare Airport with a minimum amount of oil in the sumps.

A large notice said the sumps had to be filled before the cars were used. Eager to be off in their new charges, all the drivers ignored the warning. The end result: only one managed the 10 km drive to the city. □

## Traders flock to fair in Bulawayo

By Day 25/10/91  
MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — SA companies have snapped up exhibition space at next April's Central African Trade Fair in Bulawayo following the removal of a Zimbabwean ban on their participation.

Trade fair GM Graham Rowe told the Zimbabwean Financial Gazette 27 SA exhibitors had confirmed their participation and another 20 were expected.

President Robert Mugabe's government has also rescinded 11-year-old bans on participation by South Korean and Taiwanese exhibitors, but they have not responded.

The presentation of an SA government stand at the fair was reportedly mooted by diplomats when they met their Zimbabwean counterparts in Pretoria last month, to discuss re-negotiation of the 1964 "most favoured nation" trade agreement Zimbabwe inherited from the Rhodesian government.

Zimbabwe's reaction is not yet known.

South Africans have not participated since 1979. Because of the increase in the number of exhibitors, only limited space could be offered each one, said Rowe.

## Germany aims for stronger SA links

By Day 25/10/91

BILLY PADDOCK

GERMANY hoped to develop and intensify economic co-operation and other relations with SA to help strengthen the economy, German Agriculture Minister Ignatz Kiechle said yesterday after meeting Foreign Minister Pk Botha in Pretoria.

Favourable political and economic development in SA would have a positive impact on neighbouring countries and could be a driving force for stability in the sub-Saharan region, he said in a statement.

Botha said he was pleased Germany would continue to contribute to southern Africa and other parts of the world in need of development despite the tremendous demands made on it in the reconstruction of east Germany in a new unified Germany.

During their meeting he had explained to Kiechle the difficulties of designing a new constitution and had emphasised the necessity of economic growth in southern Africa in order to support whatever constitution was agreed upon, Botha said.

"Without economic growth there will be no future for any of us in South or southern

Africa."

Kiechle said southern Africa should pull together economically and politically and only if SA survived would the rest of southern Africa have a chance.

Earlier Kiechle held discussions with President F W de Klerk on bilateral relations between the two countries.

De Klerk said they had exchanged information on the progress of German reunification and the economic challenges flowing from it. "I also gave him some indication of plans to improve agriculture in SA and broaden private property ownership through development schemes."

Kiechle said he and De Klerk had agreed peace was possible in SA only with economic development.

Kiechle also met Agriculture Minister Krael van Niekerk, ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa, members of the ANC Land Commission and representatives from other groups including agricultural, business and research organisations.

## Churches maintain stand on sanctions

CAPE TOWN — There should be no general lifting of sanctions against SA until violence was controlled and agreement reached on an interim government, representatives of local and international churches said in a major policy statement in Cape Town yesterday.

The document, known as the Cape Town Statement, is the outcome of a four-day conference held under the auspices of the World Council of Churches and the SA Council of Churches. The SA church was not competent to make these It called for the establishment of a decisions. — Sapa.



German Agriculture, Food and Forestry Minister Ignatz Kiechle examines a wooden African statuette at a curio shop in central Johannesburg yesterday. Kiechle, who is on three-day visit to SA, met President F W de Klerk, cabinet ministers and ANC officials yesterday. Kiechle said Germany hoped to help strengthen SA's economy.

Picture: ROBERT BOTHA



ONE of the brightest jewels in the crown of the British Empire, Victoria Falls, provided the spectacular setting for the leaders of the now independent Commonwealth countries to ponder the direction their club should take into the next century.

The resulting torrent of words added up to a few phrases spelling out support for human rights, democracy and sound economic policies among a flood of platitudes, panaceas and placebos. The thundering falls sounded far more momentous than the tinkling declaration produced by the 28th Commonwealth summit.

Indeed, the glittering summit produced little in the way of specific programmes to promote human rights and good government throughout the Commonwealth's 50 members. The fact that the meeting closed on Monday, a day earlier than scheduled, indicated the leaders had run out of steam.

A far more decisive outcome was expected when the summit opened. The announcement that the Commonwealth secretary-general, Nigerian Chief Emeka Anyaoku, would soon visit South Africa to investigate ways to help the negotiation process seemed much less than the dramatic breakthrough that Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and others had offered as a glimmering hope.

A gloomy disappointment settled over observers, including human rights activists and anti-apartheid crusaders, when it became clear that the gala meeting would wind up with a conspicuous lack of concrete plans.

But sober reflection on the summit's discussions and a realistic assessment of the nature of the Commonwealth itself persuaded some that significant accomplishments were achieved. The fact that human rights and democracy were endorsed by all 50 members as goals to strive for is a positive step, especially as those principles are currently practised by only about half the Commonwealth states. The summit also largely healed the rift over sanctions, as Britain agreed to stand close to the position of the rest of the Commonwealth rather than diametrically opposed to it, as at previous summits.

South Africa once again was a major issue at the summit. But the Harare summit was different in that South Africa was not the only substantial issue since the need to promote human rights provided for a provocative discussion.

Previous summits had been obsessed with the question of whether to increase sanctions against South Africa. The Harare summit focused on how to remove them. The sanctions debate did not create a bitter divide largely thanks to the success of British Prime Minister John Major's diplomatic, non-confrontational approach.

# Victoria Falls roars louder than the summit

w/ Mail 25/10-31/10/91

Amid the platitudes and placebos no momentous decisions were taken at this year's Harare summit. But the Commonwealth did emerge more united than before over the question of sanctions.  
By ANDREW MELDRUM

The presence of former British leader Margaret Thatcher at past summits produced an electric antagonism that bitterly divided the Commonwealth. Major's emollient ways did not make headlines but he favourably impressed virtually everyone at the summit.

"It's quite remarkable. Major used the same language as Thatcher, almost word for word, to appeal for an end to sanctions. Yet this time others nodded in agreement," said an observer who had attended three previous Commonwealth summits. "The reservation to the sanctions stand that Major inserted into the final communiqué was widely seen as a reasonable dissenting view, not a combative broadside designed to sink the whole plan."

Major won an important change in the way in which the Commonwealth's financial sanctions can be lifted in phases. He won approval for a clause which states that an interim government can decide if the time is right to lift financial sanctions. The draft version, written by the group of 10 foreign ministers who met in New Delhi, proposed that financial sanctions should only be lifted once a new constitution had been completely written.

"The financial sanctions are the most effective ones," said an analyst. "Once they are lifted South Africa will be able to get large loans from the IMF and the World Bank and that will make a big difference to the economy. An interim

government can be in place long before a new constitution is written, so it is a victory for Major to win that alteration."

At the Harare summit, South Africa was constantly spoken about as if it were a foregone conclusion that a new constitution and majority rule would be accomplished soon. If the unending rounds of township violence were referred to, they were described as temporary problems that would be solved on the road to a new constitution.

Not even African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela's angry accusation in Harare that President FW de Klerk bore responsibility for unleashing a police "killing machine" on the townships made much impact. The fact that the spiral of violence has already derailed the negotiation process and may well damage it beyond repair, was not seriously addressed.

"What can the Commonwealth do to stop South Africa's violence? We are outsiders and we can only encourage, I don't think we can find the solution," said a Commonwealth official. "De Klerk's inability to stop the violence has seriously eroded the goodwill that he had won in the Commonwealth. The general view is that he is just not able to rein in the police and army.

Others are becoming more suspicious. But most Commonwealth leaders still see De Klerk as the one they must look to, along with Mandela, to bring a positive change to South Africa."

British government officials expressed a similar opinion. "The violence is reprehensible but there is very little we can do from the outside," said a foreign office official. "We have offered assistance to improve police training, so police performance can be more responsible in the townships but we don't see much else we can do at this point."

It is easy to conclude that the Commonwealth summit amounts to much less than the roar of Victoria Falls, but the jury is still out. With determined, practical implementation by both the Commonwealth secretariat and its donor nations, the new declarations can result in effective promotion of democracy and human rights, as well as action to encourage the achievement of majority rule in South Africa.

"We hope South Africa will continue to move, and we will look for every opportunity to help the process of establishing democracy there," said a Commonwealth official.

"Assisting South Africa is a more specific goal than the more general aims from the Harare meeting of promoting democracy and human rights throughout the Commonwealth. We don't expect to get that done in two years. After all, it means getting right what the British Empire got wrong."

THE men of Zimbabwe are seeking out virgins for their sexual encounters. In a country where AIDS is rampant and where everyone has a relative, friend or employee with the disease, promiscuous men are looking for young, "clean" women for sex.

This is the finding of Dr Sunanda Ray, an executive member of the Women and AIDS Support Network of Zimbabwe.

As a result, there has been an increase in the number of girls from younger age groups who are sexually molested and abused, a Harare-based paediatrician said. This has pushed up the incidence of AIDS at schools.

The disease, having permeated Zimbabwe from trucking routes of the north, is now reaching critical levels. It has reached across the colour divide and into every level of society — even affecting high-ranking government officials.

For those in the medical profession, AIDS is part of daily life. Not only do doctors and consultants deal with AIDS at work every day, but almost all say they have lost relatives and friends from their own circles.

By early 1991, 7,441 people were reported to have fallen victim to AIDS — up from the 4,582 of 1991, says Dr Evaristo Marowa, co-ordinator of the National AIDS Control Programme. Between 500 000 and 700 000 are thought to be HIV-infected.

## DAWN BARKHUIZEN

The World Health Organisation believes this figure represents only 25 percent of the true number.

Mr Richard Hore, executive director of Zimbabwe's biggest medical and social service, said this was borne out by the fact that few of the people referred for blood tests reported to the pathology laboratories to be tested.

Over the past three weeks, one practitioner reported only eight of the 52 people referred to a laboratory had bothered to turn up for their tests.

AIDS has become the biggest killer of children in Zimbabwe. A local paediatrician said 70 percent of all children dying in Zimbabwe's hospitals were suffering from AIDS-related diseases.

Zimbabwe's Minister of Health, Dr Timothy Stamps, is on record as saying that the disease is "truly a knife at the heart of the nation" and had killed 30 percent of Zimbabwe's children before



tells how AIDS has swept like wildfire through Zimbabwe

they reached the age of five.

A paediatrician said: "When a mother brings in a sick child, I frequently find the entire family is riddled with AIDS."

## DENIED

Dr Marowa said diseases like shingles, usually occurring in the elderly, were beginning to manifest themselves in younger people.

He said TB had increased by 39 percent within a year — between 50 and 70 percent of TB patients were found to have AIDS.

In a bid to combat the



T-SHIRT WARNING: A municipal worker clearly

disease, the Ministry of Health has embarked on a massive AIDS education programme. Officials travel the countryside giving lectures and handing out condoms (more than 15 million last year).

While Dr Marowa believes the general level of awareness has risen to more than 85 percent, he does not expect behaviour patterns to change overnight.

Sister Norreen, a Catholic sister working with AIDS victims, said Zimbabwe was still in the "denial stage".

People were not sufficiently educated, said Father Chad Gandiya, chairman of the AIDS Counselling Trust. Condoms were frequently found strewn across the countryside and small children used them as balloons, he said.

A recent survey among prostitutes revealed that, while aware of the dangers of AIDS, the women did not use condoms because their clients resisted the idea.

Desperately poor, many of the street women said they had no alternative means of supporting themselves.

# Where a condom comes with your pay packet



... states his intentions with an anti-AIDS message

More frightening, however, is the number of people already suffering from AIDS. Officials travel the countryside giving lectures and handing out condoms (more than 15 million last year).

WHO projects a rapid increase in AIDS in the early 1990s. The standard United States Impact Model estimates that more than 1.7 million people — 20 percent of the population — will be HIV-positive by the year 2000. Of this number, about half would develop full blown AIDS within 10 years, perhaps all within 20 years, Dr Marowa said.

Dr Stamps has predicted that 14 percent of all children would be orphaned by the age of 10.

The government is planning to build orphanages to avoid a similar crisis to that in Uganda where AIDS has eroded the traditional African extended family to the point where children have no relatives to take them in.

Ugandan diplomatic sources said there were 50 000 homeless orphans in June.

For the medical aid societies, the impact of AIDS will be crushing. Clinics predict a 208 percent increase in the number of AIDS cases on its client roll within the next four years.

Mr Hore believes his organisation will collapse under the burden of AIDS.

Mr Myles Zato, Harare city council amenities director, said if the situation reached the same proportions as that of neighbouring Malawi — 35 percent of the population is infected and local priests are reported to be conducting 40 to 50 cremations a day — Harare would run out of cemeteries and coffin wood.

Apart from the human suffering, the disease also has disastrous implications for business because 60 percent of AIDS sufferers are between 20 and 40 and live in urban areas.

Employers, faced with the prospect of losing 60 percent of their workforce within the next 10 to 20 years, have started AIDS

education programmes on their shopfloors. Many of the big companies, including Guinness, hand out condoms with their pay packets every Friday.

For South Africans, the most ominous warning lies not in the repeated claims by Zimbabwean medical practitioners that South

# You can't trust just anybody to crash your car properly.



**Z**IMBABWE's environment ministry is concerned about conditions in areas where people are being haphazardly deposited as the government intensifies its resettlement drive.

The country's resettlement programme, which involves moving people from overcrowded to largely unpopulated areas, started in 1980. So far only 52 000 of the intended 162 000 families have been resettled on 3,2-million hectares of land.

Some 5,2-million hectares are needed to resettle the remaining 110 000 families. But more than 10 years after the first resettlement drive was launched, the government has admitted in an appraisal of its economic structural adjustment programmes (ESAP) that the exercise remains "highly skewed".

Last week, members of parliament called on government to create a commission to identify the weaknesses of the resettlement programme before a revised policy is set in place.

One area of concern is the increasing environmental damage in resettlement areas.

"Some of these areas have turned out to be badly degraded, and we would like to redress this situation and ensure that resettlement objectives are compatible with environment objectives, and educate people," says environment minister Mr Herbert Murerwa.

The major environmental problems facing Zimbabwe are land degradation, deforestation, desertification and overgrazing.

In overcrowded communal lands where there

## Haphazard settlements cause concern in Zimbabwe

South 3/10 - 8/10/91

exercise has been further frustrated by population pressure and by government following a "haphazard" process. 3/10 - 8/10/91

"Because of too many people and too many cattle and too much cultivation, sometimes in the wrong areas such as river banks and slopes, we find that the productivity of these areas now continues to decline," says Murerwa.

In some places there is now little difference between resettlement areas and communal areas, some of which are badly deforested with poor soil for cultivation. More than a million people remain in overcrowded communal areas of poor agricultural potential.

The government's intention since the passing of the land bill last December is to embark on a more organised resettlement programme on idle but productive land taken from commercial farmers.

At the moment, 4.5-million Zimbabweans live off the land in the communal areas.

To save people from being resettled in poor areas, Murerwa says there should be greater liaison between the ministry of the environment and the ministry of lands, agriculture and resettlement. — AIA/IPS

are no longer trees for people to build roofs for their homes or to use for fuel, they have been forced to heed the environment ministry's plan to plant trees — one a year.

The environment ministry also realises that there is a need to target young people for its education programmes.

Zimbabwe's resettlement

# Plan to slash civil service

362

S/Times

3/11/91

By DON JACOBS, Harare

PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe may reduce the size of his huge government by as much as 40 percent as an economic measure according to weekend reports.

Opposition leader Edgar Tekere has previously accused Mr Mugabe of diluting the representation of the people by appointing no fewer than 50 of the 150 ministers or provincial governors or drawing a bewildering array of tax-free cabinet, special allowances and entertainment squads of personally appointed armed bodyguards.

Senior Minister of Finance Dr Bernard Chidzero wants to cut Zimbabwe's 190 000-strong civil service by at least 25 percent under a World Bank approved R32-billion programme liberalisation programme, but Mr Mugabe is reportedly reluctant to implement redundancies that will make bitter political enemies.

## Strangle

Mr Ian Smith's Rhodesian government was supported by 40 000 civil servants.

The World Bank is understood to have made a strong stipulation that reduction of the size of the bureaucracy is as much part of liberalisation as reducing its power to strangle business enterprise with paperwork.

Vice-president Simon Muzenda has been charged with supervising the re-trenchments — distancing President Mugabe from damaging controversy.

News sources believe 10 000 civil servants would be retrenched in the next eight months but to date only limited numbers had been given notice.

Last week 50 officers of the former Ministry of Sport reportedly received redundancy notices. Their minister, Mr David Kwi-din, retains his perquisites, however, as a Minister of State with special responsibility for sport in President Mugabe's cabinet office.

# Genmin making study of Zambian mining

By Derek Tommey <sup>Star</sup> 6/11/91

Genmin, with substantial interests in gold, platinum, manganese and coal, is investigating the Zambian mining industry and its prospects, says finance director Philip Rademeyer.

He said yesterday the group had received an invitation in August from a close aide to then-President Kenneth Kuanda to have a look at Zambia's mining industry.

This was followed by a one-day visit to Zambia by senior officials, including chairman Brian Gilbertson, and a subsequent visit by a project team.

This team is now back in South Africa and preparing its report.

Mr Rademeyer said Genmin's next step would be to get in touch with Frederick Chiluba, the new president, to see whether he still wanted the report.

Mr Rademeyer emphasised that Genmin was not asked to look specifically at Zambia

Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM), the giant copper producer, which is the economy's prime mover, but at the mining industry as a whole.

However, mining analysts said yesterday that any report on Zambia's mining industry must deal with the problems facing ZCCM.

They said Zambia's prosperity depended on making the mining industry in general and ZCCM in particular prosperous.

Senior mining officials in Lusaka say the future of the min-

ing industry will depend on the new government's ability to attract foreign capital, reports Sapa-Reuter.

They say that ZCCM's operations have been affected by lack of investment and a lack of funds for spares.

"We cannot get it right if we stay as we are," says a senior official.

"There has been a deliberate policy in the past to keep out foreign investors."

According to Zambian sources, the new government, which was elected on Sunday, has indicated it will split ZCCM, commonly referred to as a "state within a state", into smaller units and encourage privatisation.

One of the first moves of the new government on Monday was to send paramilitary forces to seal ZCCM's Lusaka headquarters.

ZCCM, 51 percent state-owned, took over the successful copper mines then being operated by Anglo American and the RTZ group when Zambia attained independence.

## Disease threat to Zimbabwe beef 362

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Only a few months after reporting victory in a prolonged war against foot-and-mouth disease, Zimbabwe's R100m-a-year meat export industry has been imperilled by a fresh outbreak.

All shipments of beef, pork and dairy produce to the EC were yesterday halted following confirmation of foot-and-mouth disease in the Mvurwi area (formerly Unvukwes), about 100km north of Harare.

Three years ago the EC banned Zimbabwe's money-spinning imports under the Lome Convention as the worst foot-and-mouth outbreak in 20 years ravaged the commercial cattle herd.

*8/10/91 6/11/91*  
Zimbabwe enjoys an 8 100-ton volume quota, which earns precious hard currency and is exported by air, avoiding rail and port bottlenecks which bedevil the rest of the landlocked country's world trade.

Dr Stuart Hargreaves, Zimbabwe's director of veterinary services, said the new outbreak appeared confined to one farm. Intensive investigations to trace the source of infection were in progress.

The virus was thought to have come from Zimbabwe's midlands, he said.

"The outbreak appears well contained. The cattle on the farm and the immediate surrounding farms have been vaccinated," said Hargreaves, who has won international acclaim for his work in rendering Zimbabwean beef fit to meet critical export standards.

Hargreaves said the disease had affected 200 of the 900 cattle at the Mvuri farm.

# Zimbabwe (362) wants debt write-off

HARARE — Zimbabwe yesterday urged creditor nations to write off its debts as a measure of support for the structural adjustment programme it is implementing, the Ziana news agency reported.

The call was made by Finance, Economic Planning and Development senior secretary Elisha Mushayakarara when he signed and exchanged letters cancelling Zimbabwe's debt of Z\$61 million to Switzerland with the Swiss ambassador.

"At the Paris donors' consultative meeting in March, Switzerland said a decision had been taken to convert Sfr18.25 million (Z\$61.9 million), being the loan components of the first and second Swiss mixed credits to Zimbabwe, into outright grants as part of its support for the economic reform programme," Mr Mushayakarara said.

The debt conversion would have a positive effect on the balance of payments situation as it offset payments which were now due.

"The measure will, therefore, ease our debt burden and the foreign currency which should have been used to service and repay the loan will now be used to support our trade liberalisation programme," Mr Mushayakarara said, adding that this was the second time Zimbabwe had benefited from the conversion of loans into grants. — Sapa

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### **Mugabe seeks German help**

BONN — Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe arrived in Germany yesterday seeking greater investment from Europe's richest nation to help his country's five-year economic reform plan. (362)

Mugabe hopes to win German investment to help the programme, designed to loosen tight state control of the economy, boost economic growth and curb rising unemployment. 2 (pay) 12/11/91

The World Bank-backed scheme, costing \$16bn, needs \$3,5bn in foreign currency to succeed.

# Zimbabwe buys SA maize

HARARE -- Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe has given belated consent to a US\$15m deal between the SA Maize Board and Zimbabwe's parastatal Grain Marketing Board (GMB) for urgent imports to stave off famine. (362)

The 100 000-ton deal, confirmed yesterday by GMB chairman Cephas Msipha, came as SA withdrew its application for readmission to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). (362)

Sapa reports the move came after the Organisation of African Unity urged its members in FAO to reject SA's application, saying Pretoria had not moved far enough in dismantling apartheid. B/day 12/11/91

MICHAEL HARTNACK

Diplomats said SA backed down when it realised it could not muster the necessary two-thirds majority.

Sources say SA will begin deliveries of maize soon, much to the anger of Zimbabwean maize farmers who pleaded earlier this year for more realistic state-controlled prices. Zimbabwe will pay R450 a ton in hard currency for the SA maize while local growers get R155 a ton, with a promise of R180 a ton next year.

The GMB applied for government approval for the deal several weeks ago.

□ To Page 2

## Maize

An SA Maize Board spokesman declined to comment on the sale. B/day 12/11/91

As a result of Mugabe's "cheap food" policy, popular with urban voters, commercial maize production has fallen from up to 2-million tons a season 10 years ago to 600 000 tons in the current intake period. Zimbabwe is thought to need 900 000 tons a year for self-sufficiency.

SA is believed to be considering supply to Zimbabwe of an additional 50 000 tons from its strategic maize stockpile if there is a good crop this season.

One of the last acts of former Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda's government

was to mortgage 1992's copper production to SA for \$46m worth of maize. Zambia's stocks were due to run out in October, while Zimbabwe's would have lasted to February without the import deal. (362) Maize

Zimbabwe is also buying a consignment of SA sorghum to sustain beer production.

Zimbabwe's once massive maize stockpile has been eroded by agreements to send shipments over the past year to Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia.

Zimbabwe's specific task within the 10-nation Southern African Development Community is to ensure food security. □ From Page 1

September 13 1991

# Details of '80 Harare plot to kill prince

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

362

Star 13/11/91

HARARE — Claims of an abortive plot to blow up Prince Charles and other dignitaries at Zimbabwe's independence celebrations in April 1980 were first made in June of that year by State Security Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa.

This week Mr Mnangagwa, in a television documentary "The Hidden Hand" due to be screened in Britain by Channel 4 tomorrow, went further than he did in his first disclosures by claiming that explosives had actually been placed at the stadium where Prince Charles handed over the instruments of independence in the presence of world leaders.

Mr Mnangagwa said the bombs had been found 24 hours before the ceremony.

In June 1980 Mr Mnangagwa first revealed the existence of assassination plans when he told newsmen that arms, including surface-to-air missiles and various explosive devices, had been found in a truck outside Harare two days before the independence ceremony.

He said at the time that the plotters had intended "to assassinate the country's new leaders and foreign dignitaries who were attending the celebrations". He added that "reaction-

ary whites" had brought the weapons into Zimbabwe from South Africa.

A week later the South African diplomatic mission was closed on President Mugabe's orders, although trade links were maintained and a trade representative was allowed to remain in Harare.

Intelligence sources in Harare active at the time of independence say they were not aware of the discovery of explosives in the stadium as claimed by Mr Mnangagwa.

The Minister made no mention of this at his June 1980 news conference. The weapons, he said, had been found in a Ford Cortina truck.

In London, South African Ambassador Kent Durr dismissed as "absurd nonsense" claims that South African-backed agents planned to kill Prince Charles and 50 heads of state.

Royal and diplomatic protection sources claim to have no knowledge of a plot.

● Four jailed South African agents — Kevin Woods, Michael Smith, Philip Conjwayo and Barry Bawden — intend protesting to the British High Commission in Zimbabwe against the intended screening of the documentary.

Last month legal steps were taken to prevent publication of interviews filmed with prisoners in Zimbabwe's top-security prison. The matter is due to come before the High Court.



BRIEFING

# Zambia's warning for

# Mugabe

362

Star 13/11/91

**I**N THE wake of Kenneth Kaunda's defeat in Zambia, Zimbabweans are taking a critical look at the performance of their own government led by Robert Mugabe.

A leading critic of the government, Dr Jonathan Moyo, a political science lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe, has said that justifiably or not, people are already drawing damning parallels between Mr Mugabe and Dr Kaunda and between Zanu (PF) and the United Independence Party (Unip).

Commenting on the delay of several days before Harare sent congratulations to President Frederick Chiluba in Lusaka, Dr Moyo said this gave credence to the growing view that Zimbabwe's ruling party was embarrassed by what had happened in Zambia because the

party's leadership was fundamentally opposed to democracy.

Within Zanu (PF), as was the case within Unip, it had become all too common and rather irritating to hear some party supporters and leaders swear that they could not imagine anyone else being president but Mr Mugabe. This was nonsense.

"Yet, in Kaunda's Zambia, as in other states like Zimbabwe, the leader, the party and the State were fused into one and the same being," said Dr Moyo.

Now Zambians have to live with the reality of another leader. Dr Kaunda had to pack his bags and go to his farm, testimony to the old wisdom that all political parties die at last of swallowing their own lies.

Dr Moyo, writing in the independent Financial Gazette, said

Many Zimbabweans feel that the recent ousting of Zambia's President Kaunda was embarrassing to Robert Mugabe and the ruling Zanu (PF) because the party is fundamentally opposed to democracy.

ROBIN DREW of The Star's Africa Service reports.

countries such as Zimbabwe and Kenya were to a greater or less degree one-man states in which dubious policies and appointments were routinely made either by directive from, or in the name of, the president. States like this tended to be nervous about popular elections and their outcome.

The Zimbabwean political scientist urged Mr Chiluba not to follow the example of other heads of state in the region who had allowed their households to

loot State coffers.

"He should refuse to be called 'comrade' by anyone in or outside his country. He should put an end to Dr Kaunda's culturally depraved and offensive practice of making women and children line up, kneel, sing and dance for him during State occasions and especially upon presidential departures and arrivals at airports.

"As part of a generation of African leaders, Mr Chiluba should know that necessary ce-

remonial honours for a head of state should be performed by the armed forces only."

The Financial Gazette ran an editorial alongside Dr Moyo's hard-hitting views and said it was clear from the events in Zambia that no political party or leader was indispensable.

"People have the power to get rid of inefficient, corrupt and abusive leaders and parties and replace them. Zanu (PF) must take heed of these lessons and begin to take people's wishes seriously. Ultimately the people hold the key to their political life," said the editorial.

The paper said the tragedy of Zimbabwe's multiparty politics was that none of the opposition parties which had sprung up had the leadership able to convince the electorate it could be



Mugabe . . . armed bodyguards and barbed wire.

trusted with running the affairs of the country effectively.

It also said there was little value in the constitutional provision for other parties to exist when the police denied them permission to hold political meetings and wings of the ruling party intimidated and harassed opponents.

There has also been mounting criticism in the letters columns of independent publications of President Mugabe's practice of having heavily armed escorts around him complete with siren-screaming outriders.

One writer asked: "What price freedom and ideology when our leaders hide behind armed bodyguards and barbed wire? What lesson from the Queen who shunned the wailers and with head held proudly rode in an open car?" □



Kaunda . . . found to be far from indispensable.

## Mugabe woos the Germans

*Sowetan* 13/11/91  
BONN - Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe on Monday night appealed for German financial support for Zimbabwe's Economic Structural Adjustment Programme, the Ziana news agency reported yesterday.

At a state banquet hosted by German President Richard von Weizsaecker, Mugabe said Zimbabwe needed to raise \$3,5 billion from external sources for the programme.

Mugabe said Zimbabwe hoped to raise \$12,5 billion of the \$16 billion required for the five-year programme from internal sources.

The president, who is on his first state visit to a unified Germany, told the banquet Zimbabwe's export drive when it came to fruition would not only benefit the country but all its trading partners, particularly those in the region.

(362)  
He paid tribute to Germany for its support for Zimbabwe since independence, saying the German government had committed more than Dm900 million in bilateral aid to Zimbabwe.

Mugabe said he hoped Zimbabwe and Germany would soon finalise and conclude negotiations on a bilateral investment protection agreement. - SA Press Association

commitment to change.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

*bloan 15/11/91*  
**Mugabe in state visit to India**

NEW DELHI — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe arrived in New Delhi yesterday to begin a three-day state visit of India during which he will receive India's greatest honour, the Jawaharlal Nehru Award, according to the Ziana news agency. (362) (P)

The award is given for outstanding contribution to the promotion of international understanding, goodwill and friendship among the peoples of the world.

## India honours Mugabe

NEW DEHLI - Zimbabwe President Mr Robert Mugabe arrived in New Delhi yesterday to begin a three-day state visit to India during which he will receive India's greatest honour, the Jawaharlal Nehru award. (362) (29)

Hundreds of Indian nationals lined the 10km route from the airport to get a glimpse of the president who flew in from Berlin. Sorefan 15/11/91

On arrival at the presidential palace, Mugabe was received by Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataraman and inspected a guard of honour to the sounds of a 21-gun salute.

The Jawaharlal Nehru award is given for outstanding contribution to the promotion of international understanding, goodwill and friendship among the peoples of the world. - Sapa.

# OAU bungles in UN call to bar SA

By DON JACOBS  
Harare

OAU militants have made another classic diplomatic howler — barring South Africa from rejoining the United Nations Food and Agriculture Authority on the same day Zimbabwe concluded a vital R45-million deal for maize from SA.

Diplomats here compared it with President Robert Mugabe's classic gaffe three months ago, when he asked Pretoria to renegotiate his "most favoured nation" trade agreement, inherited from Mr Ian Smith's Rhodesian government, on the same day he urged world leaders to maintain sanctions.

In September, SA came to the rescue of Zambia with a R1.2-billion maize deal, averting the imminent prospect of famine.

## Currency

SA was hoping for re-admission to the FAO, which is headquartered in Rome, at a meeting in the Italian capital last week, but the matter was deferred for two years as a result of strong pressure from OAU states, including Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe's parastatal Grain Marketing Board may run out of maize in February as a result of a pricing bungle.

Diplomats here see the bungle as the work of Zimbabwe's 190 000 bureaucrats, who face a 25 percent reduction in numbers.

Economist John Robertson, breaking a 20-month silence last week, noted that President Mugabe's government was still absorbing 60 percent of Zimbabwe's Gross National Product.

Civil service redundancies could inject an immediate R600-million into the economy, with speedy benefits for the two million unemployed, said Mr Robertson.

Mr Robertson was silenced on the orders of Zimbabwe Reserve Bank governor Dr. Kombos Moyana in March 1990 after he attacked mismanagement of exchange rate

# Critical spotlight falls on Mugabe

Sowetan 18/11/91

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Sowetan Africa News Service

**HARARE** - Following Kenneth Kaunda's defeat in Zambia, Zimbabweans are taking a critical look at the performance of their own government led by President Robert Mugabe.

A leading critic of the government, Dr Jonathan Moyo, a political science lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe, has said that justifiably or not, street folk are already drawing damning parallels between Mugabe and Kaunda and between Zanu (PF) and Unip.

Commenting on the delay of several days before Harare sent a message of congratulation to President Chituba in Lusaka, Moyo said this gave credence to the growing view in the street that Zimbabwe's ruling party was embarrassed by what had happened in Zambia because the party's leadership was fundamentally opposed to democracy.

Within Zanu (PF), as was the case within Unip, it had become, all too common and rather irritating to hear some party supporters and leaders swear by God or their spiritual media that

they could not imagine anyone else being president but Mugabe. This was nonsense.

"Yet in Kaunda's Zambia, as in other one man states like Zimbabwe, the leader, the party and the state were fused into one and the same being," said Moyo.

Now Zimbabweans had to live with the reality of another leader. Kaunda had had to pack his bags and go to his farm, testimony to the age old wisdom that all political parties die at last of swallowing their own lies.

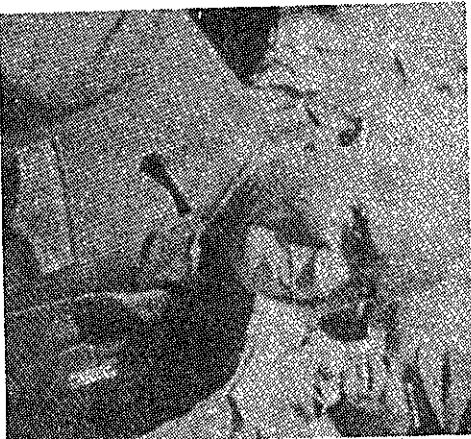
Moyo, writing in the independent Financial Gazette, said countries like Zimbabwe and Kenya were to a more or lesser degree one man states in which

dubious policies and appointments were routinely made either by directive from, or in the name of, the president because of the dominance of the personality of the head of state.

States like this tended to be nervous about popular elections and their outcome.

The Zimbabwean political scientist urged the new Zimbabwean leader, Frederick Chiluba, not to follow the example of other heads of state in this region who had allowed their households to loot state coffers.

"He should refuse to be called 'comrade' by anyone in or outside his country. He should put an end to Kaunda's culturally depraved and very offensive



KENNETH KAUNDA

practice of dehumanising women and children by having them line up, kneeling and dance for him during state occasions and especially upon presidential departures and arrivals at airports.

"As part of a generation



ROBERT MUGABE

of African leaders, Chiluba should know that necessary ceremonial honours for a head of state should be performed by the armed forces and not by poor women and children organised by political hoodlums and opportunists."

He had an opportunity to show old guard African nationalists that a head of state should not only get the respect he deserved but should show respect for the people he leads.

A 21-gun salute was enough without lining up

half naked women and children to dance on empty stomachs.

The Financial Gazette ran an editorial alongside Moyo's hard-hitting views and said it was clear from what had happened in Zambia that no political party or leader was indispensable.

"People have the power to get rid of inefficient, corrupt and abusive leaders and parties and replace them with their own choice. Zanu (PF) must take heed of these lessons and begin to take people's wishes seriously. Ultimately the people hold the key to their political life," said the editorial.

The paper said the tragedy of Zimbabwe's multiparty politics was that none of the opposition parties which had sprung up had the leadership able to convince the electorate it was serious enough to be trusted with running the affairs of the country effectively.

It also said there was little value in the constitutional provision for other parties to exist when the police denied them permission to hold political meetings and wings of the ruling party intimidated and harassed opponents.

# Threat to 'overvalued rand'

SHARON WOOD

AN OVERVALUED rand could see Zimbabwe's exports to the lucrative Botswana market compete strongly with SA's exports, Nedbank economist Magan Mistry said in the latest Guide to the Economy.

Both Zimbabwe and Botswana had devalued their currencies this year, resulting in an overvalued rand against the two currencies in terms of purchasing power parity. *Buy 19/11/91*

Purchasing power parity, or the real effective exchange rate, adjusts the nominal exchange rate by changes in the price levels in the two countries and shows whether the currency is overvalued or undervalued.

Over the long term the undervaluation or overvaluation of a currency was likely to have an impact on the pattern of trade, with manufactured products likely to be affected very early, Mistry said.

Two-way trade between Zimbabwe and Botswana was R252m in 1987, while two-way trade between SA and Botswana was

R1,76bn.

Zimbabwe devalued its currency by more than 30% against the rand in September and October this year, reaching Z\$1,77 a rand on October 2 from Z\$1,3425 in mid-September last year. *(362) (10)*

The devaluation occurred as part of the economic reform programme under the guidance of the World Bank and the IMF.

Botswana followed Zimbabwe and devalued the pula in an attempt to widen the country's narrow export base by specifically promoting manufactured exports. The country's three main commodities accounted for over 90% of export earnings.

Mistry said part of the benefits of the Zimbabwean dollar devaluation would be neutralised as imported inflation started to push up domestic prices. With prices rising faster, further devaluations of the Zimbabwean dollar were possible.

The Botswana pula was unlikely to appreciate further against the rand, he said.

## SA for major business role in Zimbabwe

Business Staff

(362) AG 21/1/91

SOUTH Africa is poised to become a major industrial player in Zimbabwe, says Frank Read, managing director of the Merchant Bank of Central Africa.

Mr Read was speaking in Harare at the launch of trade relations between Alliance Peroxide, a Durban-based company, and Zimbabwe Petroleum.

Alliance Peroxide, manufacturers of green chemical hydrogen peroxide,

announced on that Zimbabwe Petroleum, part of the large Ximex group, had been appointed distributors of their product for Zimbabwe.

"The long-awaited rapprochement with post-apartheid South Africa is at hand, and industrial relations with South Africa are a natural and logical development for Zimbabwe," said Mr Read.

Hydrogen peroxide will be used in the textile and mining industries in Zimbabwe.

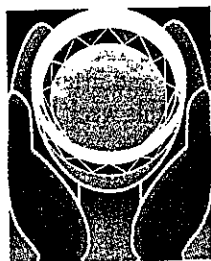


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# The spectre at the table

Economic reform may be too late for Mugabe to avoid Kaunda's fate



The slight figure of Zambia's President Frederick Chiluba is casting a long shadow across neighbouring Zimbabwe. His crushing electoral victory was welcomed by many in Zimbabwe, outside government as

well as in the ruling party — not from any animosity towards the unseated Kenneth Kaunda, but because Zambia's election may turn out to be a catalyst for the region.

Just how unpopular President Robert Mugabe's 11-year administration has become is impossible to tell. But there is no doubt that in urban areas the ruling Zanu-PF is in desperate trouble, hoist by its own petard of exaggerated and then unfulfilled expectations.

The urban worker — whose real wages are lower than 10 years ago, whose pay packet buys 10% less now than a year ago, who has to stand in queues for bread and buses and who is all too conscious that the fruits of independence are being enjoyed by the new elite of party officials — is fed up. This is not what he was promised at all.

The brave new world of socialist transformation is the butt of sour jibes; the promised redistribution of white-owned farm land has not happened; housing is scarce and costly; urban transport is a disaster; schooling and university standards have plummeted. Perhaps most important of all, unemployment has soared; less than 200 000 new jobs have been created since independence in 1980. During that time, 1.5m jobseekers have flooded on to the market. Unemployment has risen fivefold and is currently put at more than 20% of the work force.

The harsh reality is that Zimbabwe-style socialism has failed. This has forced Mugabe and the Zanu-PF hierarchy at last to listen to the eloquent pleas of Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero for an economic policy U-turn. Many of Mugabe's confidantes and advisers mistrust and resent World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) prescriptions; they would almost certainly have voted Chidzero down — as they have done so often in the past — had it not been for three crucial external developments:

□ First, the donors, including the World Bank and IMF, have stuck resolutely to their policy conditionality, making it crystal clear that without policy reform there would be precious little aid;

□ Second, the demise of communism in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe means it is no longer credible to seek salvation in socialism; and

□ Third, political reform in SA has alerted farsighted Zimbabweans to the danger that an unsanctioned and politically acceptable SA will pose to Zimbabwe's chances of attracting foreign capital and becoming a regional economic hub.

For these reasons, the reluctant reformers drew up a five-year Economic Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP). It was officially launched in Paris in March, when a total of US\$700m was pledged. Though Zimbabweans claim their programme to be "homegrown", it is typical of the 35 or so adjustment programmes in operation throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

If targets are met, the economy will be transformed by the mid-Nineties. Import controls are being phased out; money and capital markets are being liberalised; the exchange rate has been devalued more than 40% in the past year; the prices of all but 10 basic commodities have been partly or completely freed from control; the budget deficit is being cut from a horrendous 10.8% of GDP to just over 8%; public corporations are being commercialised and some will be privatised; and agricultural marketing is being deregulated.

After a hesitant start, reform has gathered momentum in the last five months and it is now obvious that there can be no turning back.

This is not to suggest the programme is popular; it isn't. The man in the street is hurting. Inflation, now at 23% and accelerating, is not being matched by pay-packets. Retrenchment is looming in the public sector



Mugabe ... time is running out

where government has pledged to lay off a quarter of its work force (excluding teachers and nurses). Redundancies are also in prospect in the public corporations sector, especially the much-overmanned Zisco steel complex and also the private sector, where the monetary crunch is just beginning to bite.

Money market interest rates have doubled in the last six months and are set to remain above 30% for the next two years at the very least. The Reserve Bank has still to bite the political bullet of freeing the building society mortgage rate, but this must happen soon. The societies are haemorrhaging as investors seek higher returns elsewhere. Government is clearly worried at the political backlash a higher mortgage rate will evoke — but with the IMF breathing down its neck it has no option.

Initially it appeared that the IMF would be kept at arm's length and Zimbabwe would finance its programme from bilateral donors, export revenues, modest private capital inflows and the World Bank and African Development Bank.

But these cosy expectations were revised when the balance of payments went into sharp decline last year. A forecast trade surplus of some \$350m turned into a deficit of \$70m last year and the balance of payments was in the red to the tune of \$600m. As more items have been put on open general import licence, so the import bill has surged; exports have stagnated, with the exception of tobacco, which has had its best-ever year. The probability is that the forecast external payments deficit for 1991 of \$350m will, in fact, exceed \$800m.

This sharp and unexpected deterioration in the balance of payments has forced Zimbabwe into the clutches of the IMF. Harare has made a \$400m deal with the IMF (see *Economy*), which with more than \$300m from the World Bank and the African Development Bank will ensure that the programme stays on track.

But the price will be high. The IMF will insist on tight credit ceilings that must mean higher interest rates and a slowdown in the economy next year, after growth of no more than 3.5% in 1991.

In terms of actual targets, the programme is running behind schedule, mainly on the institutional side. The ESAP envisages far-reaching public sector restructuring of the public service, as well as public corporations. While the Cabinet is said to have agreed on a plan to cut the number of ministries from 26 to 15, it's not easy to see so many Ministers voting themselves out of a job.

It has taken a long time, too, for government to set up the machinery for investigat-

ing the viability and operations of public corporations. Sensibly, this has been farmed out to Harare-based management consultancy and accountancy groups, but their reports are unlikely to be ready until the middle of next year. This means that it will be well into 1993 — at the earliest — before public corporation reorganisation can start.

Import liberalisation is way behind target too. By the end of this year, 50% of the country's imports were due to be on open licence. In fact, the figure is likely to be closer to 15%, with little chance of making up much ground next year unless exports expand far more rapidly than seems probable.

Most primary exports — tobacco, possibly gold and horticulture are the obvious exceptions — are headed for a difficult year. The announcement of another outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, following the serious setback in 1989/1990, could have a serious impact on beef earnings next year, though it may yet be isolated.

Inflation is higher than forecast and likely



*Kaunda ... first of the dominoes?*

to remain so; the full impact of devaluation — most of which took place in August and September — will not filter through to retail prices until next year, by which time mortgage lending rates will have risen; petrol prices will have increased; and many food prices will be moving relentlessly higher.

It is this spectre of rapid inflation (expected to be above 30% in the first half of next year), growing unemployment and retrenchment in the public sector that is giving some members of Zanu's politburo sleepless nights. Even if the adjustment programme stays on track, it is not going to solve Zimbabwe's daunting unemployment problem. The 5%

annual growth target in the programme would mean the creation of 30 000 new jobs a year — one for every 10 school-leavers.

Government is at fault here — both for leaving it so late before changing course and for dragging its heels on implementation. It was four years ago that Chidzero stated publicly that a new policy stance was needed. While the Cabinet wrangled over the details

before producing their own abortive plan a year ago, the ranks of the unemployed increased by more than 600 000. It was only when the World Bank stepped in and drafted the reform programme that policy credibility began to materialise.

Critics of the reform programme — students, trade unionists, disgruntled socialists and those bearing the brunt of growing hardship — have no real alternative to offer. Nor is there an organised political opposition or alternative government waiting in the wings.

Mugabe's greatest strength is the existing political vacuum. Edgar Tekere's Zimbabwe Unity Movement is a tribally based protest movement, deeply split over personalities and posing no serious threat. To date, the only public protest against government policy has come from university students; while trade unions are far from happy, they are weak and poorly organised and not a serious threat either.

Mugabe does not have to go to the electorate until early 1995, by which time he hopes that the worst of the structural programme's austerity will be forgotten; that the economy will be back on a strong growth path; and that the rise in unemployment will have slowed significantly.

Assuming that all goes to plan — and there is a great deal that could go wrong, as the recent setbacks to the balance of payments and on the inflationary front illustrate

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all too well — the electorate might be willing to give Mugabe a fourth term.

But today, that looks highly unlikely. While the Zimbabwean economy is far stronger than Zambia's and has one of the best chances — certainly in Africa — of making structural adjustment work, three years will not be enough time to reverse the

damage wrought by a decade of socialism. Economic liberalisation and political monopoly make uneasy bedfellows.

President Chiluba's electoral victory may yet be the spark for the emergence of a broad-based Zimbabwean political opposition, rather like his own Movement for Multi-Party Democracy, to challenge Zanu

in 1994/1995.

Even if the ESAP does meet its targets, the ruling party's excesses and failures of the last 12 years will not be easily forgotten or forgiven.

The crisis of unfulfilled expectations could easily overwhelm today's increasingly unpopular rulers. ■

ZIMBABWE FM 22/11/91

## The payoff (362)

Zimbabwe has negotiated in outline an agreement with the IMF for a US\$400m loan. The loan will be granted on highly concessional Extended Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF) conditions, as an Extended Fund Facility (EFF) or as a blend of the two.

It will be part of a major aid package designed to bolster the structural adjustment programme (see Leaders) which has run into problems with the steep balance of payments deterioration.

Details of the conditions have not been revealed but officials say there was tough bargaining in Harare last week, with IMF officials stunned at Zimbabwe's sudden, though apparently short-lived, reversal of monetary policy.

On November 11, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe reversed its policy stance by agreeing to rediscount trade bills and forced interest rates lower. Money market dealers were surprised and anticipated — correctly — that the downward pressure on rates would soon be followed by a stock issue.

The stock issue was launched at the end of the week on a partial tender basis at an

Continued

## ECONOMY & FINANCE

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effective yield to maturity of 24% for three-year paper. It is a partial tender because lenders may bid above the issue price of Z\$97.94 for Z\$100 of stock. Dealers expect government, which has not borrowed in the market (except for Treasury bills) since April, to raise more than Z\$150m.

The IMF is understood to have lectured the Zimbabweans on the need for a substantially tighter fiscal and monetary stance next year. With inflation running at 23% and heading higher in the wake of a 40% surge in money supply in the year to September, the IMF told Zimbabwean officials tight money, higher rates and a lower government deficit are essential.

In the third quarter of the year, officials say, government borrowing — on overdraft from the Central Bank — was running at almost Z\$2bn a year, well ahead of the

projected fiscal deficit of Z\$1.5bn.

Inflation will not peak unless government sticks to the IMF agreement and puts the economy through the tight money wringer. Officials worry that when — they no longer say, if — the home loan mortgage rate rises, there will be an angry political backlash.

Perhaps this explains why Joshua Nkomo, acting president in Mugabe's absence abroad, has made two tough speeches in which he revived the racial card.

He says 99% of urban land in Harare and Bulawayo is owned by whites and Indians. His figure is exaggerated but it diverts public interest from what is happening in the economy.

Nkomo, not noted for his grasp of economics, needs to be wary. Even if white landowners were to offer their properties for sale, few blacks could afford them, given infla-

tion, devaluation and higher mortgage rates. Nkomo, who has extensive business interests, is undoubtedly well aware of this but, with support for government visibly waning, land and race are about the only cards the ruling Zanu still has up its sleeve. ■

## Threats as writer's passport is seized

HARARE. — A playwright's passport has been confiscated and he has been threatened with arrest by Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organisation over a play critical of the government, according to a Harare report.

Denford Magora's play, *Dr Government*, opened in the city recently to local acclaim. It is an allegorical depiction of two doctors squabbling over a patient and is clearly seen as a clash between the ruling Zanu (PF) party and the opposition

struggling for supremacy over the country.

Mr Magora, who is studying drama in Canada, said he was visited twice by officers of the CIO in the last two weeks and questioned about the play.

On the first visit they told him that if one of the characters in the play represented President Robert Mugabe, "they would lock me up for putting his office in contempt".

Later, the two officers ordered him to hand over his

passport, telling him he would not be allowed to leave the country while an investigation into the play was underway.

He said they had told him they "wanted to establish my political persuasions and what motivated me to write the play and what I hoped to achieve by staging the play".

Attempts to obtain comment from the CIO were fruitless.

Zimbabwean law makes it an offence to ridicule the president. — Sapa. (3b2)

## Legalise abortion — doctors

SOME medical experts in Zimbabwe are urging the government to legalise abortion, making it safe and accessible to women.

Despite a vigorous population-control programme and a high awareness of contraceptives, illegal abortions are on the increase.

The only legal cause for an abortion in Zimbabwe is in a case where the woman has been raped, or where it can be proved that birth would endanger the life of the mother.

Each month between 300 and 500 illegal abortion cases were admitted at Harare's Central Hospital with complications, said gynaecologist Dr. Jonathan Kasule.

Many of these attempts ended in death from haemorrhaging, infection or kidney failure, often caused by the chemicals used to induce an abortion.

Reports Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC) director Alec Zinanga: "Women from all walks of life are having abortions."

Those women with enough money are having them cleanly done and those without have backstreet abortions and get themselves damaged."

Kasule said women between the ages of 16 and 22 accounted for 60 percent of illegal abortions.

"Most of these girls are in secondary

school, college or university and any unwanted pregnancy would mean, not only loss of career, but also a child that cannot be supported," he adds. From the age of 23, the number of cases declines, although married women are often forced to abort following contraceptive failure.

Comments Kasule: "Because of the restrictive abortion laws, people have no alternative but to go for backstreet abortions. What we see at the hospital is just the tip of the iceberg."

Illegal abortion was on the increase, despite the fact that Zimbabwe had one of the best population-control programmes in sub-Saharan Africa.

Zimbabwe's Traditional Healers' Association (Zinatha) president Gordon Chavunduka said: "The majority use traditional methods, but the people who do it (perform the abortions) are not regular Zinatha members. People tend to go to older housewives."

Zinatha did not allow its members to carry out abortions, because they are illegal, but Chavunduka said the legalising of abortion needed to be investigated.

Doctors say the increase in cases was causing an unnecessary drain on the country's medical resources and that special legalised clinics would take the pressure off hospitals.

# Legions of poor plague Mugabe

ZIMBABWE last week showed the strains of the widening gap between rich and poor.

By DON JACOBS  
Harare

While opposition mounted to a R270 000 tax-free gift to former president Canaan Banana — who got a R500 000 golden handshake when he left office in 1987 — Education Minister Fay Chung announced the reintroduction of the Rhodesian government's hated system of school fees. Parliamentary backbencher Sydney Malunga called the plan to charge R35 to R200 a year for schooling "foolhardy and callous" and "a recipe for an exit from government".

## Scandal

Former guerrilla Smith Marara contrasted the desperate poverty of many parents and schoolchildren with the massive tax-free allowances top Zimbabwean politicians had given themselves.

Ordinary Zimbabweans who earn more than R2 000 a month pay two-thirds of the excess in tax.

The unexplained extra benefit for Mr Banana is only the latest scandal involving a prominent personality. Others have been allowed to escape repayment of state loans, run up debts on ministry accounts and escape punishment for criminal offences.

Mr Banana, a former Methodist minister, has been a vocal exponent of Marxism since 1980.

He lives in a R600 000 mansion in Harare's exclu-

sive Mount Pleasant suburb.

The Financial Gazette disclosed last week that he had been involved in a succession of apparently profitable land deals, both before and after Mr Mugabe became Zimbabwe's first executive head of state in 1988. A plot that Mr Banana bought for R12 000 in 1989 was resold the same year for R210 000. Two months ago, he bought a R170 000 property in Bulawayo.

The Gazette said this was "proof the former president does not need the taxpayer's money to sustain a decent lifestyle".

Mr Banana enjoys the services of a government-paid domestic worker, a cook, a gardener, two drivers, a private secretary and an official Mercedes-Benz limousine.

## Shooting

His son, Michael Banana, an air force officer, was embroiled in a scandal over the fatal shooting of his girlfriend's former lover, but was never prosecuted.

The son of a poor Malawian migrant labourer and an Ndebele mother, Mr Banana was one of the few politicians from Matabeleland, stronghold of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu, to support Mr Mugabe's Zanu in 1980.

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# Tough lesson as Mugabe resorts to school fees

STAR 25/11/91

ROBIN DREW of The Star Africa Service reports from Harare.

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THE ERA of free primary education in Zimbabwe, reintroduced at independence 11 years ago, will be over next year for town dwellers under the government's programme to cut spending and put the economy on to a sound business basis.

The provision of universal primary education has been a proud boast of the Mugabe administration under the socialist banner, which has now had to be lowered somewhat because of the budget deficit of R900 million.

Under the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme, the government is trying to recover some of the costs in non-productive spending areas such as education and health. The reintroduction of fees

in urban areas is bound to cause resentment. The lifting of price controls on many items has already led to bitter complaints.

Because of the situation in rural areas, where 2 million people have applied for drought relief food, the introduction of school fees has been postponed.

Spending on education increased from 14 percent of the national budget at independence to 23 percent a decade later.

Under the structural adjustment programme the government is also committed to cutting the number of civil ser-

vants by at least 23 000 by 1995, but the retrenchment exercise is behind schedule.

Minister of State for the Public Service Dr Eddison Zvobgo said last week that the intention was to end up with a leaner and more efficient civil service, but it was a complex issue and one which had to be tackled with sensitivity.

He was intrigued, he said, by the retrenchment exercise in Brazil where 30 percent of civil servants had been told not to come to work, but were still paid their salaries. This had achieved immense savings in telephone bills and government transport expen-

diture.

In Zimbabwe's first decade of independence, the civil service expanded from 45 000 posts to 190 000. Public administration expenditure rose by 146 percent.

Dr Zvobgo said a review commission had found widespread corruption in the public service, a lack of co-ordination between ministries and a failure to decentralise which had caused frustration in the public and private sectors because of the time taken to reach decisions.

He said the political will to introduce economic reforms was there and the pain was

going to come. To cushion the effects of retrenchment in the civil service, a social fund of R12 million had been established.

Already one person in four of the labour force is out of work, and unemployment is worsened by the annual entry into the labour market of 200 000 school-leavers who cannot find jobs in the formal sector.

A principal aim of the economic reform programme is to stimulate growth to provide more jobs, but until industry has the machinery and expertise to become more competitive, the number of jobless will increase as firms which were protected in the strictly controlled economy go to the wall. □

By TREVOR GRUNDY

As many as three million people from Matebeleland in

Zimbabwe might have to be relocated this year because of one of the worst droughts to hit the province this century.

"Plea of a dying city"

read an advertisement recently in the *Sunday Mail*. "Over 3 000 000 people in Bulawayo and Matebeleland may be re-

located to other parts of the country as a result of the drastic water situation," it read.

The advertisement was placed by the Matebeleland Zambezi water project,

the brainchild of a group of Bulawayo and Matebeleland businessmen led by former Bulawayo mayor, Alderman Mike Constandinos.

The project hopes to raise over 900 million Zimdollars from the public and Western governments to construct a 450 km pipeline linking the Zambezi River to Bulawayo and its environs.

Matebeleland has normally survived on prayers, good luck and dams built mainly around Bulawayo.

# A 'dying' province's plea for help

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CP new 1/91  
24/11/91

Today businessmen, ranchers, industrialists and would-be inventors are tired of this hit and miss approach to survival and want massive government and foreign investment in the water project.

Dams are almost empty in the province and Mike Constandinos believes Bulawayo could collapse without massive help from Western governments.

"As Zimbabwe's second city, the death of Bulawayo would be a crippling blow to the economy. A large number of industries are based in the city and relocation would be a costly exercise, costing millions

of dollars. Factories must be built in areas with viable infrastructure, not to mention finding housing for all existing employees uprooted from their homes," the ex-mayor said.

One man demanding that the Matebeleland Zambezi water project be treated as a national problem is the chairman of the Media Trust, Dr Davidson Sadza, who praised the people of Matebeleland for contributing about 200 000 Zimdollars to the project.

"This Zambezi water scheme is one scheme which is not to be regarded as regional, provincial or a town

scheme. This is a national project," he said after a recent visit to Bulawayo.

To make matters worse, as part of its new Economic Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP) the government is cutting down on public expenditure.

"It is true that we are going to phase out drought-relief to able bodied persons. Those who want aid in future will have to work for it. This does not, however, include disabled people and the old, who will continue to receive free food," said John Nkomo, Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare.

When Queen Elizabeth II of England spoke during the Heads of Commonwealth meeting in Harare last month she prayed for rain and almost miraculously the skies opened and down it came. "Let's ask her to come back again," said a Zambezi Project fund raiser in Bulawayo this week, "either that, or let's mount a massive publicity campaign to tell the world how much we need water in Bulawayo and Matebeleland."

■ Don't miss next week's edition of City Press. Editor Khulu Sibuya, who this month attended a high-powered conference organised by the Mount Perlin Society in Prague, Czechoslovakia, writes about his observations of post-communist and socialist countries.

He will discuss the problems of nationalities in the transitional period, policies of the European Community towards newly liberated countries, and what people on the ground think about communist and socialist ideology.



RLD

## Zimbabwe acts to discourage monopolies

MICHAEL HARTNACK <sup>3/2</sup>

HARARE — Zimbabwe is to set up a monopolies commission and enact anti-trust laws, senior Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero announced yesterday.

Addressing members of the Indigenous Business Development Conference (IBDC) on the R42bn five-year economic liberalisation programme being carried through by President Robert Mugabe's government, Chidzero said vibrant competition ceased to exist with Rhodesia's 1965 unilateral declaration of independence.

Sanctions and resulting foreign currency controls had closed the Rhodesian marketplace, and customers had had to make do with sub-standard or over-priced goods. After 1980 independence, Mugabe's new government had been obliged to intervene strongly in the economy to redress inherited imbalances. *B/Dam*

By 1994-1995 only a few items would not be available on "open general import licence", but in the interim it was crucial for competition to be fostered.

A monopolies commission was being set up until the entry of new manufacturers enabled competitive conditions to be created, he said. *26/11/91*

A task force would study anti-trust legislation in developed and developing countries before Zimbabwe took action.

# Former Rhodesian pensioners struggling

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Thousands of former Rhodesian civil servants now living in South Africa are in dire straits financially because Zimbabwe has not increased their pensions in 10 years, according to the Rhodesian Association of South Africa (RASA).

Continued devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar also meant that about 6 000 pensioners had experienced a drop in income of up to 40 percent, RASA chairman John Redfern said.

He said the civil servants who had resigned under an incentive scheme shortly after Zimbabwean independence, were earning the same pension they had received in 1980.

One of the conditions of early retirement had been that the pension would not be increased monthly, but as a result of the devaluation of that country's currency, some pensioners are now receiving as little as R206 per month.

According to the Zimbabwe Railways Pensioners' Association, previous employees of this parastatal are also experiencing financial difficulties because they have not received pension increases in the past four years.

Honorary secretary of the Transvaal Branch of the Pensioners' Association, Stephen Allman (67), said the devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar had halved the average pension of former railway employees in the past eight months.

For example, a middle-order employee — someone about to get into management — was receiving a pension of R800 in March this year, but is now getting R400, he said.

In September the value of the Zimbabwe dollar dropped below the rand for the first time. It is now worth only 55 cents.

# IMF discipline for Zimbabwe policy

*6 (day) 28/11/91*  
 HARARE — The IMF has been called in to play a pivotal role in Zimbabwe's ailing structural adjustment programme, following a considerable hardening of attitude by donors and lenders.

Sources said yesterday that following a series of blunders, particularly in monetary policy, the World Bank and other donors are insisting that the IMF become involved in lending for the programme before any of their desperately needed funds are disbursed to the government.

Zimbabwe is seen by the financial observers as suddenly under unexpected control of the two institutions. This is a far cry from the original aim of the structural adjustment programme (SAP), revealed to donors in Paris in March as a "home-grown" programme that would only call on the IMF for a verbal endorsement of the programme to give it respectability.

"More and more the bank and the fund have moved into the driving seat," said a senior Western diplomat.

Harare's World Bank regional representative Christiaan Poortman said this week that a Zimbabwean government team would fly to Washington in the second week of December to negotiate the terms of a \$125m loan from the bank as balance of payments support for Zimbabwe. But, he added, "by that time they (the government) should have at least an initial go-ahead from the IMF on the programme".

Sources say that the IMF's support will be a condition of the World Bank loan, as well as the release of funding for the structural adjustment programme from many other donor agencies and countries who have been hanging on to disbursing cash

pledges until the loan is tied up.

An IMF mission wound up its work in Harare on November 15 after a week of hard bargaining with the government over a loan of about \$400m, on semi-commercial terms.

A government application for the loan to be granted at concessional rates of interest under the IMF's enhanced structural adjustment facility (ESAF), is to be heard in Washington on December 11.

Zimbabwe has become desperate for a major injection of foreign currency to rescue its critical balance of payments.

There has also been growing dissatisfaction with the government's performance with monetary reform.

Economists cite the announcement and subsequent abandonment of an ill-conceived import deposit scheme, the hasty handling of the 35% devaluation in August and September, the inadequate rise in interest rates and Reserve Bank purchase of government stock.

Much of this has accounted for an inflation rate of about 25% and a growth in money supply of over 40%. Economists say both factors are seen as severe threats to the programme, as well as a likely stimulus to already deep public discontent over the spiralling cost of living.

"With the emergence of stabilisation problems, the IMF is becoming more important," Poortman said. "Stabilisation is what their job is."

Donor representatives expressed pleasure at the IMF's imminent involvement.

"It's just what Zimbabwe needs," said one. "The discipline wielded by the IMF will keep the programme on target." — Sapa.

other donor agencies and countries who have been hanging on to disbursing cash

will keep the programme on target." — Sapa.

## Airline's corruption disclosed

6/00ay 28/11/91

(362)

HARARE — Senior management at Air Zimbabwe had whites removed from the crews of presidential flights to prevent them from "blowing the whistle" to President Robert Mugabe on corruption and mismanagement at the national airline.

This is one of a series of revelations to emerge from a confidential report on the loss-making airline published this week in the latest issue of *Parade*, an independent monthly magazine.

The report by an internal investigation committee led by chairman Reg Austin, which found itself being lied to at length by airline staff, has called in the police to investigate shady goings-on in the appointment of a European cargo agent and called for the dismissal of its general manager who ruled management "by fear".

It says: "What is absolutely clear is that the cycle of misinformation, secrecy, resentment, indiscipline, rumour-mongering and lack of professionalism is rife."

Air Zimbabwe GM Fungai Musara, who is noted in the report for having a tendency to mingle with ministers at Harare International Airport for the arrivals and departures of Mugabe "to portray importance and impress", was dismissed last

week after an extended wrangle with the Ministry of Labour and the High Court.

The report expressed alarm at the fact that airline staff were able to prevent Air Zimbabwe chief pilot Captain John Heap and a white stewardess from serving on presidential flights by pretending that Mugabe's office had ordered them off.

The only conclusion it could come to over such "bizarre" behaviour, said the report, was that staff wanted to prevent Heap "from having access to influential ears."

The report said the incidents "theoretically jeopardised" the safety of the president, and illustrated "the dangerous possibility of irrational or paranoid behaviour interfering with professional competence."

It details at length "the extraordinary sequences of ignorance and secrecy" in the search for a cargo agent in Britain that included the appointment of a Hong Kong businessman with no aviation experience.

There was no direct evidence of "kick-backs", the report said, but it was suggested that the police be called in to investigate the incident.

Attempts to obtain comment from Air Zimbabwe were fruitless. — Sapa.

## Togo troops grab broadcast centre

LOME — Soldiers in the West African state of Togo seized the radio and television centre yesterday and broadcast demands that a civilian government be dissolved.

Diplomats in radio contact with Lome said at least eight people were killed in two days of clashes in the Togolese capital. **8/29/91**

Other fatalities were reported near Togo's borders with Ghana, they said. Interim prime minister Joseph Koffi Koufifigoh said the move by the army amounted to a coup d'etat, and called for support from the country's democratic forces.

Troops loyal to military president Gnassingbe Eyadema, who was stripped of most powers by a national conference in August, seized the broadcasting centres at dawn and held them through midday, broadcasting a series of communiqués.

One monitored by the BBC said that the armed forces were demanding the dissolution of the transitional legislature, the High Council of the Republic, and of all political parties.

Sources in Paris said Koffi Koufifigoh, a human rights lawyer, was with France's ambassador, Bruno Delaye, in a Lome building surrounded by rebellious soldiers. — Sapa-Reuter.

# World pressure on Mugabe

**8/29/91**

**362**

**MICHAEL HARTNACK**

HARARE — The final draft of President Robert Mugabe's contentious land nationalisation law is almost complete — but may be held back because of its disastrous implications for Zimbabwe's international standing, say sources in Harare.

Last year Mugabe rushed through parliament a constitutional amendment denying (mainly white) commercial farmers any right of appeal to the courts against an announced 6-million ha takeover plan.

The Land Acquisition Bill, to establish the mechanics for this, understood to have gone into at least five departmental drafts, while internal economic distress has brought Mugabe's government into increasing unpopularity.

Parliamentary sources reported this week that the Bill was unlikely to be put before Zimbabwe's 150-seat House of Assembly at the current series of sittings, but the Financial Gazette quoted an unnamed senior official, who said the cabinet committee on legislation last week completed final amendments. Mugabe's Zanu (PF) controls 147 of the seats. Meanwhile, an IMF team, which

has just visited Zimbabwe, has voiced dissatisfaction with President Mugabe's implementation of a five-year economic liberalisation programme, previously agreed with the World Bank, and wants tougher controls on Zimbabwean government policy. The World Bank has backed its sister organisation, the IMF, and is making a US\$125m "seed finance" payment conditional on IMF approval of future Zimbabwean economic policy.

Zimbabwe's dramatic 47% devaluation of its currency, and the failure of the government to implement any real reforms in the highly politicised top-heavy bureaucracy, have been the most criticised aspects of the "structural adjustment" plan unveiled nearly two years ago.

Little has been done to reduce a civil service which grew from 40 000 to nearly 190 000 in the first 11 years of independence, and Mugabe continues to delay pruning his 57 member government, all of whom receive a complex system of tax-free allowances and perks.

Donors at a Paris conference earlier this year pledged \$700m to launch

the economic structural adjustment programme, although voicing private misgivings about Mugabe's continued talk of Marxist-Leninist goals and nationalisation of the 45 000 commercial farms which produce Zimbabwe's major export, tobacco, and most of its food.

The Financial Gazette says a government "land valuation committee" has been set up to agree a schedule of set prices for commercial land in various categories.

"The bone of contention at the cabinet committee meeting on legislation last Thursday was whether the formula for determining the prices of land is going to become part of the Land Acquisition Act," an official told the Financial Gazette.

"However, it was finally resolved that the land valuation committee had recommended that it would not be in the interest of the nation to publish the prices to be paid to farmers for their land because this would destabilise the industry" said the official.

Zimbabwe's major foreign exchange earner, tobacco, would suffer a crippling blow from expropriation of the 6-million hectares.

# Whites removed 'to avoid reports of corruption'

362  
REG 29/11/91

HARARE. — Senior management at Air Zimbabwe had whites removed from the crews of presidential flights to prevent them from "blowing the whistle" to President Robert Mugabe on corruption and mismanagement at the national airline.

This is one of series of revelations to emerge from a confidential report on the loss-making airline published in the monthly magazine *Parade*.

The report, by an internal investigation committee led by Mr Reg Austin, said the probe found itself being "lied to at length by airline staff".

The committee has called in police to investigate alleged shady goings-on in the appointment of a European cargo agent and has called for the dismissal of the airline's general manager who, the report claims, ruled management "by fear".

The report concludes: "What is absolutely clear is that a cycle of misinformation, secrecy, resentment, indiscipline, rumour-mongering and lack of professionalism is rife."

Air Zimbabwe general manager Mr Fungai Musara, said in the report to have a tendency to mingle with ministers at Harare International Airport during the arrivals and departures of Mr Mugabe "to portray importance and to impress", was dismissed last week after an extended wrangle with the Ministry of Labour and the High Court.

The report expresses alarm over the fact that airline staff were able to prevent Air Zimbabwe chief pilot Captain John Heap and a white stewardess from serving on presidential flights by pretending that Mr Mugabe's office had ordered them off.

The only conclusion it could come to over such "bizarre" behaviour, says the report, is that staff wanted to prevent Captain Heap "from having access to influential ears (Mr Mugabe's)".

The report said the incidents "theoretically jeopardised" the safety of the president.

Worse, they showed the frightening readiness to lie of professionals with such grave responsibilities." — Sapa.

# Harare moves again to grab white farmers' land

STAR 29/11/91

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Cabinet is soon to be presented with a draft Bill which will empower government to seize white-owned farmland and ignore the owners' claims for proper compensation.

The Financial Gazette, an authoritative independent weekly, said the Cabinet committee on legislation had met last week to put the final touches to the Bill that has been under secretive discussion within the government for almost a year.

The meeting approved the draft "in that it captured the spirit of government policy in providing for the compulsory acquisition of land," the paper quoted an unnamed senior government official as saying.

The revelation that the gov-

ernment is going ahead, despite almost universal condemnation, has come at a critical time as it is in the middle of negotiations with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund for loans to pay for an economic reform programme that has run into severe trouble.

Observers said the proposed legislation could severely jeopardise financing which is crucial for the country's economic survival.

In July last year the government announced plans to seize nearly 6 million ha of white-owned farmland and hand it over to peasant farmers.

The move was denounced, not only by the predominantly white Commercial Farmers Union, but by the judiciary, human rights bodies, and the diplomatic community, sever-

al of whom promised to shut down aid to the country if the plan went ahead.

The Cabinet committee had agreed that "it would not be in the interests of the nation to publish the prices to be paid to farmers for their land because this would destabilise the industry," the paper said.

Observers noted that the government appeared to have made a significant compromise by agreeing to set up an arbitration body, a suggestion it had flatly rejected.

The paper quoted the government official as saying:

"Once the Bill is approved, we will be able to buy land anywhere, as and when we want it, but at the same time ensuring that the price is based on a formula that we ourselves have worked out," he said. — Sapa.

## Peroxide for export

(362) (183)  
(SITIME 213455)  
ALLIANCE Peroxide, a R60-million venture between CG Smith Sugar and AECL, has won a contract to supply green chemical hydrogen peroxide to Zimbabwe. 1/12/91

Durban-based Alliance Peroxide was established in May to make hydrogen peroxide for the first time in Africa.

The peroxide will be marketed by Zimbabwe Petroleum, a member of the Ximex group. (7-8-91)

Hydrogen peroxide, which is environment friendly, is used as an oxidant in the textile, paper, chemical and water treatment industries.



## Zimbabwe's cost of living rockets

MICHAEL HARTNACK *362*

**HARARE** — Zimbabwe's central statistical office has recorded the largest leap in the cost of living since monthly records began.

Figures released last week reveal the index for higher income urban families, inhabitants of the former "white suburbs", rose more than 14 points in August to 426,7.

Figures for lower income urban families in the former "black townships" rose eight points to 470,4, as a result of increases in the prices of school uniforms, rents, electricity, firewood and beer, said a footnote.

Increases in the upper income bracket were caused by rent hikes and increases in fuel, lights, municipal rates and servants' wages.

The base year for both indices (100) was 1980, when Zimbabwe became independent. *B/day*

The government statistical office takes no account of Zimbabweans' increasing reliance on under-the-counter trade in items from SA.

With the removal of long-standing price controls under the five-year R42bn economic liberalisation programme agreed with the World Bank, Zimbabwe is currently thought to be experiencing about 30% annual inflation. *2/12/91*

Over the past year the Zimbabwean dollar has fallen from R1,10 to 0,56 cents on the official market.

Zagreb, while waiting for the arrival of Croatian

## Zimbabwe officials in murder scandal

HARARE — Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, his support at an all-time low, returned home on Saturday to face a fresh crisis — alleged corruption among top police and intelligence officers.

While Mugabe was attending the Group of 15 Non-Aligned Summit this week in Venezuela the police chief was forcibly retired, his successor charged with corruption and a top intelligence agent linked to an alleged murder.

Last year, Zimbabwe's first black police commissioner, Wiridzai Nguruve, was imprisoned for smuggling, stealing confiscated drugs and misusing government vehicles.

His successor, Henry Mukurazhizha, was retired prematurely this week amid allegations by newspapers that police were dragging their heels in a case involving a missing woman.

Rashiwe Guzha, 32, who worked for the central bank's computer department, was taken from work in a government car on May 30 last year after she threatened to expose top CIO officers for alleged corruption.

She has not been seen since, and her parents and their lawyers say they have proof she was murdered, allegedly by CIO agents.

National Security Minister and CIO chief Sydney Sekeremayi said the CIO and police were investigating the case. — Sapa-AP.

Circulars explaining the

# Kenya legalises opposition parties

NAIROBI — Kenya's ruling party yesterday agreed to legalise opposition parties, ending decades of single-party rule in the east African country.

The move was a startling political about-turn following months of internal and domestic pressure.

"From today, everyone is allowed to register their party," President Daniel arap Moi, 67, told about 3 500 cheering and foot-stomping delegates at a special conference of his Kenya African National Union (Kanu) party.

An appeal by Moi for party backing to repeal a constitutional clause banning all opposition movements was overwhelmingly passed by a show of hands.

A formal vote on the proposal was scheduled to take place late yesterday, but Attorney-General Amos Wako said its adoption was a mere formality.

For months Moi has stood out against a continent-wide move away from one-party rule, saying it would plunge the country into tribal chaos and wreck Kenya's relative economic success.

Moi denied the changes were being made under pressure, but said there were enemies within Kanu who needed to be flushed out and vowed the party would emerge even stronger.

"Some of us have joined the opposition. Getting them out is difficult. Many parties will not break our resolve or unity because

Kanu will remain popular," Moi said, adding he would remain head of the party and leader of the country.

"I will not run away into exile. I will remain here... I want Kanu to remain here for another 100 years," he said.

He told the party faithful the opposition would get no support.

Moi gave no date for elections, not due until 1993 although widely expected to be held early next year.

Kenya's parliament, originally due to recess on December 11, will extend its current sitting to push through the necessary legislation.

Moi's anti-reform stand had previously attracted widespread criticism from Western governments which last week suspended a decision to renew aid in 1992 for six months, pending progress on economic and political reform.

Opposition leaders have cautiously welcomed Moi's conversion, but suspect he is moving fast to outmanoeuvre them.

Political commentator Hilary Ngweni, editor of the Weekly Review, said many issues, such as a new electoral system, needed to be resolved, but said Moi "was back in the game and setting the agenda."

"Already the opposition are saying we must not move to elections too soon, but Moi knows the longer he prolongs the process, the stronger the opposition will be," he said. — Sapa-Reuter.

## Backdated pay rise for Robert Mugabe

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe has been awarded backdated increases of approximately 9% to his tax free salary and allowances at a time when many Zimbabweans are facing intense economic hardship.

The past year has witnessed a dramatic decline in the exchange rate for the Zimbabwean dollar, inflation of more than 30%, and unemployment now topping two-million.

In a bitterly unpopular move, the government announced last week the reintroduction of fees for tuition in state schools.

There is an outcry in Zimbabwe about a R230 000 tax-free additional payment to former president Canaan Banana, who received a R500 000 tax free golden handshake when Mugabe became Zimbabwe's first executive head of state in 1980. But protest against Mugabe's pay rise will be constrained by legislation which imposes a maximum seven-year jail term for bringing the president into disrepute.

Mugabe's basic salary was increased from July to R48 786 a year and his "cabinet allowance" to R21 800. He also receives a R4 400 "housing allowance", although he has two government-run residences, State House (formerly Government House) and Zimbabwe House, formerly the home of Rhodesia's prime ministers.

Although small when compared with other world statesmen's salaries, at Zimbabwe's current exchange rate, Mugabe's earnings are far above the average R1 000 a month which middle-ranking executives earn. The minimum wage for unskilled workers is R82 a month.

Executives and professional people earning more than R2 000 a month part with approximately 60% to the tax man under one of the most heavily burdened fiscal systems in the world. Politicians and civil servants are cushioned by a complex system of tax free allowances on top of basic salary.

18/Jan/91  
Sithole plans return (362)

FOLLOWERS of exiled nationalist Zimbabwean leader Ndabaningi Sithole have announced his imminent return to lead opposition to President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) government. Wiseman Zengeni, sole MP for Sithole's Zanu (Ndonga) party, said yesterday Sithole had notified him of his intention to arrive early in January.

# Zimbabwe, SA trade is booming

*Sowetan* 9/12/91 (362)

SOUTH African industry is likely to play a significant part in Zimbabwe's economy.

So says the managing director of the Merchant Bank of Central Africa, Mr Frank Read.

Speaking at the launch of trade relations between Alliance Peroxide, a Durban-based company, and Zimbabwe Petroleum this week, Read said the long awaited *rapprochement* with post-apartheid

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

South Africa was at hand, and industrial relations were a natural and logical development for Zimbabwe.

## Logistics

"South African logistics should give rise to a better import parity pricing policy, which per se will save precious foreign exchange and at the same time give reasonable

returns to Alliance to the company."

The company, manufacturers of green chemical hydrogen peroxide, has announced that Zimbabwe Petroleum, part of the large Ximot group, had been appointed distributors of their product for Zimbabwe.

Hydrogen peroxide will be used in the textile and mining in Zimbabwe, which together contribute

about 1,4 million Zimbabwean dollars in foreign earnings.

Read said that hydrogen peroxide added some 100 percent to the volume of gold which was extractable by other known process.

"I would estimate that for every dollar expended for the import of hydrogen peroxide, about four dollars extra will result in foreign exchange earnings."

## Sithole to return to Zimbabwe <sup>STAK</sup> 12/12/77

MUTARE — The leader of Zimbabwe's opposition Zanu (Ndonga) Party would arrive in Harare from self-imposed exile in the US on January 6, a party official said yesterday. (362)

The Rev Ndabaningi Sithole left the country in 1983 because of what he termed pressures. In the past he has been accused of plotting to overthrow the ruling Zanu (PF) government.

Mr Sithole, a founder member of Zanu and Zapu, has also been accused of aiding Renamo fighters in their bid to overthrow the Frelimo government in Mozambique. He has denied any such links. — Sapa

# Zim cabinet minister

## voices fears for life

362  
Sowetan  
13/12/91

HARARE - A Zimbabwean cabinet minister with a flair for the dramatic, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, claimed this week that his life was in danger.

Ushewokunze said he was being threatened because he was prepared to expose rampant corruption in the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority, the equivalent of Eskom.

Observers recall that

Ushewokunze made a similar claim several years ago when he said there was a tribal conspiracy to do away with him.

The minister, who has been involved in a running battle with the Zesa board, told parliament yesterday that he was a hunted man and there were people within and outside government who were employing mafia tactics to destroy or discredit him.

He said he had deposited a

document with his lawyers which would enable anyone to find out who killed Cook Robin if anything happened to him.

"One has to be extra-careful in Africa," said Ushewokunze, a medical practitioner and spirit medium, who has created storms in all the ministries he was run in the past decade.

Currently in charge of energy and water resources and devel-

opment, he claimed that top members of the Zesa board and management were sucking the authority dry.

"Big sharks and small piranha fish are feasting on Zesa," he said.

He alleged that foreign predators were manipulating the Zesa management to win lucrative contracts.

Sowetan Correspondent.

# Land-grab draft law ready

362 27/11/79  
HARARE. — Draft legislation to enable the Zimbabwean government to implement its aim of seizing six million hectares of white-owned farm land is ready to go to parliament, President Robert Mugabe said here yesterday.

Speaking to parliament in his annual address to the nation, Mr Mugabe said the bill would "facilitate acquisition and distribution of land faster than before".

Observers expressed surprise

at Mr Mugabe's announcement, as his cabinet was scheduled to consider the first draft on Tuesday.

Agriculture Minister Mr Witness Mangwende earlier told the Commercial Farmers Union the full draft was not being considered yet, but the "principle" of what he wanted in it needed cabinet approval.

Sources said this would allow the government to refuse to disclose the formula on which it calculated the value of land for com-

pensation and also to give the state the right arbitrarily to ignore the value of assets on seized land in the calculation.

Mr Mugabe gave no further details in his speech.

Good news for farmers, however, was the announcement that agricultural equipment, chemicals and fertiliser would soon be put on open general import licence, to enable them to import without time-consuming import licences. — Sapa



**B**ILL Zakaria, a 19-year-old street vendor, spent two years pounding the streets of Zimbabwe's second city looking for a job.

When he didn't find one, he did what the World Bank wants young people to do all over Africa - he set up in business on his own.

Armed with a loan of Z\$300 (about R250) from his sister, he began selling cosmetics outside a record shop on Bulawayo's Herbert Chitepo Avenue.

## Crammed

From his table crammed with lotions, cosmetics and hair creams, mostly imported from Botswana, Zakaria says he makes an average of Z\$70 a month (about R65).

That's not much, but he has managed to pay back part of his debt and has also started studying again to supplement his two O level passes.

But Zakaria's career in what economists call the "informal sector" looks as though it will be nipped in the bud.

Bulawayo City Council plans to clear the city's shop-

# Hawkers hit

## by red tape

C/PRESS 15/12/91

fronts of pavement vendors because, it says, they cause congestion.

However, Zakaria says the council ban will mean an end to the prospect of his acquiring more O levels at the private college where he studies with some help from his sister.

"I will just have to stop going to school because I cannot continue burdening my sister.

"After all, she is married and has her own children to look after," he says.

"Prospects of getting a job are very remote because there are just too many people looking for jobs.

"Although I was not making much, at least I was able to pay my fees and to buy a few things for myself.

"But now I will be de-

prived of all this," he said.

Zakaria is just one of 172 shopfront vendors in Bulawayo, according to the council.

Altogether in the city the number of licensed vendors and hawkers has increased dramatically from fewer than 4 000 in 1980 to more than 23 000 today.

The World Bank is trying to encourage African governments to follow the lead of Asian countries and make life easier for the informal sector - the hawkers, traders, repairers and craftspeople who have for centuries provided the backbone of Africa's market economy.

"Bureaucrats are much addicted to controls," the World Bank said in a major report on Africa's economic failures, which was pub-

lished in 1989.

The report urged governments to remove red tape and licensing requirements altogether on one-person businesses.

But in Bulawayo the colonial tradition of keeping the streets neat and tidy dies hard.

And those who pay the price are the jobless.

Economists say that even under the most optimistic scenario the formal sector of the economy - industry, services and agriculture - cannot expand fast enough to employ more than a fraction of them.

One Bulawayo economist, Eric Bloch, estimates that Zimbabwe, with a population of nine million, has around four million capable of working.

But only 1.5 million are employed in the formal sector, where only 100 000 new jobs have been created since independence in 1980.

Meanwhile more and more school-leavers flood the job market, especially in Zimbabwe where educational opportunities have expanded rapidly under former schoolteacher Robert Mugabe.

While 1983 saw only 30 000 school-leavers, this year there will be 272 000 and in 1991 the forecast is for 330 000.

However, fewer than one in 10 will find a job.

## Underground

Vendors say clearing them from the streets will simply drive them underground and worsen animosity between them and the police, who frequently arrest and fine the vendors.

The city's war over street trading has already claimed its first victims.

Last year Abednico Mlotshwa, 24, stabbed a policeman who confiscated vegetables he was selling at a Bulawayo bus terminus.

In February this year he was sentenced to death. - AIA

# Zimbabwe's reforms begin to pay off

STAN 16/12/91  
HARARE — Zimbabwe's economy grew a real 3,5 percent in 1991 after the launch of the country's economic reform programme in January, President Robert Mugabe said at the weekend.

This compared with growth after taking inflation into account of 2,1 percent in 1990.

"During the 1991 period exports increased by 15 percent, while the manufacturing sector experienced a growth rate of five percent," Mr Mugabe said in his annual state of the nation address to parliament.

Economic analysts said exports were boosted by a bumper tobacco harvest and high auction prices, and a drop of over 40 percent in the Zimbabwe dollar against major currencies, raising the value of key mineral

exports in local currency terms.

Mr Mugabe said the economy had started to respond positively to the government's five-year export-driven economic reform programme backed by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"The current thrust of liberalising the investment environment for both local and foreign investors, through relaxation of price and labour controls and streamlining of investment procedures, has started to bear fruit," the president said.

He said this year the Zimbabwe Investment Centre had approved 300 projects worth more than Z\$2 billion (\$400 million) with a potential to create 30 000 jobs, compared with projects valued at Z\$750 million (\$150 million) last year, with a potential of 10 000 jobs.

Mr Mugabe said the government had made progress this year in reducing the budget deficit, a key element in the economic reform programme.

He forecast a deficit for 1991/92 of Z\$1,46 billion (\$292 million), or 7,6 percent of projected gross domestic product (GDP), compared with a 1990/91 deficit of Z\$1,59 billion (\$320 million), or 10,3 percent of GDP.

The president said state-owned corporations — parastatals — were the main drain on the government.

Efforts were being made to stem their losses and make them work on commercial lines.

Delays in privatising some parastatals had been caused by certain legal provisions in their

Acts, which would need repeal or substantial amendment, he added.

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe's inflation rate had risen to 25 percent in 1991 from 13,3 percent in 1990.

He said the decontrol of prices had led to steep rises in the prices of commodities and the cost of transport.

The government had introduced monetary and other measures aimed at controlling inflation, including raising interest rates to discourage borrowing, he said.

An unprecedented upsurge in imports under the reform programme had also strained the balance of payments and the government had had to raise tariffs to control them, Mr Mugabe said. — Sapa-Reuter.

# Pay bills, soldiers in Zimbabwe told

STAR 16/12/91

362

HARARE — Members of the Zimbabwe National Army have been urged to refrain from activities that tarnish the army's image.

Acting army commander Major-General Vitalis Zvinavashe, speaking at the army commander's Christmas party in Harare, said this included paying for services rendered, and improving personnel management.

General Zvinavashe said the ZNA needed to improve its relationship with its equipment suppliers as it had earned a bad reputation for pay-

ing for services.

Instances of negative publicity were on the increase, and in most instances, army members were responsible.

One reason for this was the army's poor personnel management. Frustrated ZNA members went to the press because their channels of communication were blocked.

General Zvinavashe also warned soldiers to guard against traffic accidents and said there was room for improvement in the Aids awareness campaign. — Sapa

# Zim faces 'worst food riots ever'

362 CT 7/12/91

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — Zimbabwe faces the prospect of "the worst food riots this region has ever witnessed" as a result of a bureaucratic hold-up over importation of South African maize, the semi-official daily, the Herald, predicted yesterday.

President Robert Mugabe was forced six weeks ago to approve the belated purchase of an initial 100 000 tons of South African maize to prevent stock of the country's staple food running out in February next year, following a bungle over local producer prices.

But, with time running out to organise transportation of the R400 million order, Zimbabwe's Ministry of Finance is inexplicably delaying release of the money — and risking a South African cancellation of the order.

"What is to stop the South African Maize Board saying they have waited long enough for us?" chairman of the

Grain Marketing Board Mr Cephas Msipha asked yesterday, confirming the crisis.

"It is really worrying."

He said the finance ministry — run by a recent candidate for the United Nations secretary-general's post, Dr Bernard Chidzero — claimed they had no foreign exchange to pay South Africa.

Warned of the grave consequences of inaction, ministry officials reportedly said: "We do not work through threats."

In an editorial yesterday the Herald predicted impending panic buying of maize, similar to that which cleared supermarket shelves of sugar earlier this month.

The country is 40 000 tons of sugar shy of its needs due to lack of water for irrigation and smuggling of sugar abroad, where a quick foreign exchange profit is available on bags bought for 58c a kilogram here, the controlled maximum sale price.

# Zimbabwe facing an acute shortage of maize

HARARE — Zimbabwe may run out of maize in two months unless the government provides hard currency this week to pay for SA imports.

Cephas Msipa, chairman of the parastatal Grain Marketing Board (GMB), said yesterday that despite an agreement signed six weeks ago with the South African Maize Board for the import of

100 000 tons of white maize, the Ministry of Finance was stalling on providing the cash.

The GMB had planned for the maize to start arriving in January, but the government's delay in finding the R45 million has jeopardised plans.

"They have been saying they have no money. They are saying they are looking for it, but its get-

ting late," Mr Msipa said. "It's really worrying."

In October, President Robert Mugabe reluctantly approved the deal after warnings that the maize harvest would not be enough to meet local needs.

The Herald, the country's main daily newspaper, warned in an editorial this morning: "Failure to act promptly

could precipitate the worst food riots this region of the continent has ever witnessed."

With an acute shortage of sugar and cooking oil in past weeks, police were called out on several occasions to prevent rioting when small supplies of either commodity were delivered to shopping centres. — Sapa.

## Zimbabwe warned to act fast for SA maize

PRETORIA — The Zimbabwe Grain Marketing Board was warned yesterday to decide quickly if it wanted to secure imports of SA maize. (362)

Top maize industry sources were commenting on a report from Harare this week that bureaucratic hold-ups were threatening a 100 000-ton deal because time was running out to organise transport from SA.

The report also indicated that Zimbabwe lacked the R400m in foreign exchange to pay for the deal.

The sources said there had been fierce

GERALD REILLY

competition among other African countries for SA maize. ~~same~~

However, they said, the maize crop was already prejudiced by an early summer drought and could face another serious threat from drought-inducing El Nino conditions in the critical growing months of January and February. ~~the~~

The threat of a small SA crop could lead to the suspension of all maize exports to safeguard supplies for 1992 and 1993.

B/bury 18/12/91

# Zimbabwe tries to prevent maize panic

8/Dec 20/12/91  
HARARE — Zimbabwe's agriculture minister Wit-

MICHAEL HARTNACK

ness Mangwende has tried to avert a panic buying rush for maize meal, similar to those now taking place here for sugar, margarine and cooking oil.

"I want to assure the nation we are not going to run out of maize," he said, reacting to warnings from Zimbabwe's grain marketing board chairman Cephas Msipha that bureaucratic bungling was delaying an urgently needed 100 000 ton import contract with SA's maize board.

Msipha warned earlier this week that current maize stocks would run out in February, and the ministry of finance was holding up the SA deal claiming it had no funds.

Msipha feared the contract might fall through and the pro-government daily, The Herald, predicted "the worst food riots this region has ever witnessed" if the maize failed to arrive.

Mangwende said there was "absolutely no justification" for maize hoarding.

There have been repeated riots at stores here as customers fought for limited stocks of sugar put on sale, and similar scrambles for margarine and cooking oil. Bread queues are a daily fact of life.

Due to depressed producer prices, Zimbabwean commercial farmers moved out of maize last season, claiming they were being forced to subsidise the government's "cheap food policy" under which maize meal sells for R0,46a kilogram.

Poor rainfall combined with low producer prices reduced oilseed production, while lack of water irrigation and smuggling resulted in Zimbabwe falling 40 000 tons behind national sugar consumption needs.

Smugglers exchange sugar for scarce goods.

# Groups slam black birth control

362  
Sowe Jan  
20/12/91

HARARE - African women should not be forced into using contraceptives, and sterilisation should be for both sexes, Pan Africanist Congress of Azania African Women's Organisation activist Ms Ellen Mothopeng has said.

Zimbabwe's national news agency Zana reports that in the January issue of the magazine, Focus on South Africa, Mothopeng urged the Government to engage in campaigns which advocated smaller families but said it should not prescribe on the number of children African families should have.

"Most of our women have been offered contraception, such as depopvera, with little or no education on the side-effects, which have proved problematic," she said.

She called on the Government to come up with social education and social development programmes to improve the people's quality of life.

The vice-president of Azapo's women's section, the Imbeleko Women's Organisation, Ms Nomonde Jafa, said the outcry on how population growth would affect the country's economy showed how worried the capitalists were about their own pockets.

She said her people had always had large families while earning pitiful wages in a country riddled with unemployment. She wondered why large families should become an issue now.

"The outcry has to do with the whole question of unfair distribution of wealth among the country's inhabitants. And it's not our fault that there is an uneven distribution of wealth and resources," she said.

Instead of putting more money into manufacturing contraceptives, Jafa said the Government should invest in extensive education campaigns on an ongoing basis. Sapa.



## SA, Zimbabwe looking to drop visa requirements

South African and Zimbabwean officials are negotiating a bilateral agreement to lift all visa requirements between the two countries to boost tourism.

A decision on the issue is expected before the year ends.

The Department of Home Affairs refused to say whether negotiations were proceeding, but sources within the department acknowledged the two governments had entered into negotiations.

Zimbabwe Tourist Development Corporation director-general Nelson Samkanse has

confirmed that negotiations between the home affairs departments of both countries were under way.

"South Africans represent Zimbabwe's biggest tourism market, making just over 50 percent of our visitors."

"We are doing everything in our power to encourage tourism here — the fourth largest foreign exchange earner — and the latest changes to the political status of South Africa has now made it possible to lift artificial barriers like visas," said Mr Samkanse. — Sapa.

24/12/91  
SAPA

## Zimbabwe, SA 'in talks to ditch visas'

ZIMBABWE and SA are negotiating a bilateral agreement to lift all visa requirements between the two countries in a move to boost tourism, according to Zimbabwe Tourist Development Corporation director-general Nelson Samkanse. (362)

Sapa reports Samkanse said Zimbabwe was doing everything in its power to encourage tourism.

Political changes in SA had made it possible to lift "artificial" barriers such as visas, he said.

However, SA's Home Affairs Department denied yesterday that negotiations on lifting visa requirements were being held. (S10 day 24/12/91)

Samkanse said: "South Africans represent Zimbabwe's biggest tourism market, making just over 50% of our visitors."

"South Africans are regional visitors, which gives them access to local tariffs, which are less expensive than tariffs for international tourists, and the dropping of visa requirements is the logical next step."

WILSON ZWANE reports that a source at Johannesburg's Zimbabwe visa service said there had been reports from Harare that SA and Zimbabwe were negotiating the relaxation of visa requirements.

"There is nothing concrete as yet but we are optimistic that the visa requirements will be relaxed soon," he said.

He added that the Johannesburg-based Zimbabwe trade mission was issuing 50 000 visas every month. The cost of a single entry was R65, the source said.

# Rallies 'fade away and die' in Zimbabwe

Star Africa Service

HARARE — Political rallies organised by the ruling Zanu (PF) party in Zimbabwe faded and died this year, President Mugabe has admitted.

Slamming lethargy in the party, Mr Mugabe told the central committee that he had not addressed a single rally during 1991.

Calling for projects that would improve the people's welfare, he said "empty slogans and hollow speeches" were no longer appreciated.

The people wanted jobs and homes, transport and better facilities at growth points. More than anything else they wanted land.

## Suspicion

A Bill to come before Parliament would enable the government to take over under-utilised land, whether it was owned by blacks or whites.

Mr Mugabe said it was common knowledge that some government leaders and high-ranking officials had become vast property owners and entrepreneurs.

This had given rise to suspicion and doubts about the honesty of party leaders.

He also hit at members of the ruling party who had not given their full support to the economic reforms aimed at attracting investment and creating jobs.

He asked how those who opposed party policy in public or in parlia-

ment could remain members of the party.

Calling for the rejuvenation of Zanu, he said this would achieve the goal of a de facto one party state in which a "pragmatic socialist philosophy" would be followed — one that fully accepted a role for private enterprise.

President Mugabe's criticisms of his own colleagues come at a time when he too has been under attack in independent publications.

The latest issue of the Financial Gazette carries a scathing attack by a leading political commentator, Dr. Jonathan Moyo of the University of Zimbabwe, who said the president was out of step with the national mood.

Dr Moyo said Zanu as a political party had died because it was being led by an acquisitive political elite bent on possessing and plundering the national wealth without being guided by moral values.

He said the economic reform programme would not succeed because it was being spearheaded by "political sharks".

He accused public officials of pursuing pirate enterprises under the veil of the economic structural-adjustment programme.

Dr Moyo, a political science lecturer, said Zanu now existed only in the personification of Mr Mugabe and through the Ministry of Political Affairs using taxpayers' money and with the support of the Central Intelligence Organisation.

STAR 27/12/91 362

# Zimbabwe's reforms 'on course'

**HARARE** — Zimbabwe's five-year economic reform programme, launched last January, is generally on course, although inflation remains a major problem, says Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero.

"It is progressing satisfactorily, in some areas beyond our expectation," he told a news conference this week at which he announced some adjustments to the programme.

These included enhanced export incentives, tariff reforms and some relaxation in exchange controls.

International and bilateral donors had pledged \$700 million towards the programme in 1991 at a consultative meeting in Paris last March.

Mr Chidzero said negotiations had been completed with the World Bank, the African De-

velopment Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for loans totalling \$796 million, with disbursement expected by the end of next January, at the latest.

Japan, Britain and the US had also started to release funds, and more money was expected from other nations, pulling Zimbabwe out of a balance of payments crisis experienced earlier in the year.

Zimbabwe is seeking \$3,8 billion in assistance out of a total requirement of \$15,2 billion to finance the export-driven economic reform plan.

Mr Chidzero said another consultative meeting with donors would be held in Paris sometime next February.

"We feel reasonably confident our programme will be funded

adequately," he said, although he noted a slowdown in economic growth in OECD countries.

The major problem was monetary policy linked to inflation, which Mr Chidzero said the government was tackling.

President Robert Mugabe said earlier this month the 1991 inflation rate had risen to 25 percent from 13 percent in 1990, although some economists put it around 35 to 40 per cent.

A key to the reform programme is a cut in the budget deficit, and Mr Chidzero said a start would be made in the new year to slash civil service strength by 25 percent over the next four years.

Subsidies to state-owned companies were also being tackled to put them on a commercial basis, he said. — Sapa-  
Reuter.

## Christmas bonus for Zimbabwean shoppers

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30/12/91 MICHAEL HARTNACK 36210  
HARARE — SA hypermarkets and used car dealers can expect a brisk revival of purchases by Zimbabweans following the Christmas Eve announcement by Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero of a 78% increase in basic foreign spending allowances.

Economists believe that before the value of the Zimbabwean dollar crashed last year, informal sector traders were importing up to R100m in goods a year, mostly motor spares and consumer goods, for resale on the "parallel market" at a huge markup.

Traders in the northern Transvaal and Natal are expected to benefit most from Zimbabweans' improved spending power, which had been eroded by the 50% depreciation of their currency. In 1989 the annual Z\$450 "holiday" spending allowance exchanged at R1,10 to the dollar compared with R0,56 today.

On Christmas Eve Chidzero announced the annual allowance was being increased to Z\$800 (R448). This will benefit immediately the 200 000 "market women" who bring goods back from SA and Botswana for resale on the black market.

Chidzero also announced a doubling of the daily business travel allowance for exporters to R392. Applicants have to prove their foreign exchange earnings to the Zimbabwean Reserve Bank.

Chidzero said Zimbabweans would also be able to import private passenger vehicles up to six years old and worth up to R56 000 with "no questions asked".

# Zimbabweans face thirst, hunger and uncertainty in coming year

STA 31/12/91

362

**MORE** than anything else, Zimbabwe needs water as a New Year gift.

The country which was held up as an example of what a food-producing country should be for the region is facing critical shortages of essential commodities.

Poor rains are not only to blame: bad forecasting, and inadequate prices for products have played a significant role in contributing to the failure to be self-supporting.

But unless the country enjoys good rains in the first few months of 1992, today's problems will seem minor ones.

Three main centres — Bulawayo, Mutare and Masvingo — have only a few weeks supply of water left in their main storage dams. Zimbabwe's biggest dam

after Lake Kariba, Lake Mtrikwe (formerly Lake Kyle), now contains less than 2 percent of its planned water capacity.

The sugar industry on the Zimbabwe lowveld is in dire straits, with production down by half because there is no water to irrigate the crop.

Sugar, which Zimbabwe used to export, will now have to be imported along with maize, cooking oil and wheat.

Government officials say arrangements have been made to ensure adequate supplies of maize to tide the country over the period from mid-February to April when this season's harvest will start coming in. South Africa has agreed to supply at least 100 000 tons, but more will be needed.

Commercial farmers say that given the right price they can

**ROBIN DREW** of The Star Africa Service reports from Harare

grow more than enough maize. They point out that the imported maize will cost three times the price paid locally and will use scarce foreign exchange.

Discussions on a new maize price are to be held next month, but whether there will be a new minister of agriculture to conduct them is another big talking point.

In diplomatic circles an announcement of a smaller administration is expected before the middle of next month. Pruning of the top-heavy ministerial structure is regarded as an essential ingredient to reduce

government spending in line with the economic reform programme, which itself is dependent on foreign aid.

President Mugabe faces political risks in ditching some of his ministers, considering the unpopularity of the ruling party. At present there is no viable opposition, given the chaotic state of Edgar Tekere's Zimbabwe Unity Movement, which suffered defections during the year to a splinter movement.

Interest will focus in the coming weeks on the reception accorded veteran nationalist politician the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, who has promised to return early next month after seven years in the political wilderness, in exile in the United States. Spokesmen for his Zanu (Ndonga) party, which has one

member in parliament, say they have received assurances that he will not be harassed by the authorities. He has been accused in the past of plotting the overthrow of the government and of links with the Mozambican rebel movement, Renamo.

Mr Sithole was replaced as leader of the original Zanu party by Mr Mugabe in a coup led by detainees during the liberation struggle. He took part in the transitional government in the late 1970s before the short tenure of Bishop Muzorewa as prime minister, but suffered a crushing defeat in the 1980 independence general election.

Whether he will prove a rallying point for those groups which have become disillusioned with Zanu (PF) rule is an aspect which will be closely watched. □

# Reforms start to pay off

**HARARE** - Although 1991 was a tough year of belt-tightening for most Zimbabweans, it was not all gloom and despondency on the economic front, the domestic news agency Ziara reported yesterday.

Despite the hardships the programme caused for the country's low and middle-income earners, the reform had started to pay dividends.

The placing of inputs for the manufacturing industry on Open General Import Licence (Ogil) has ended some of the shortages which had become a common feature in the country, Ziara said.

Vital inputs such as tin-plate for

packaging, which had led to shortages of such commodities as toothpaste, baked beans and a host of others, ended when industrialists and manufacturers no longer had to go through a bureaucratic maze to obtain foreign currency as these had been placed on Ogil.

The government also placed more items on unrestricted Ogil, greatly easing the problems faced by manufacturers and ending shortages.

Announcing the new expanded Ogil list, Commerce and Industry Minister Mr Kumbirai Kangai said government had done so to address the problem of constant shortages.

So far, the number of products placed on Ogil had gone up to 25 percent, and government wanted to see this increased to 85 percent by 1992.

The reform programme also benefited consumers in that prices of certain commodities, which had rocketed, were beginning to stabilise, and in some cases drop, due to increased availability, leading to competition in the market.

According to Kangai, the prices of poultry products, travel goods, tinned foods, televisions and radios, among others, had dropped. - SA Press Association

ZIMBABWE - GENERAL

1992

JANUARY — MARCH.



# Playwrights back from fest

760 BY VICTOR METSOMERE

FOUR playwrights Peter Ngwenya, Joseph Skosana, Sinal Ndaba and Mike Manana are back from a theatre festival in Zimbabwe earlier this month.

They presented their own plays. Ngwenya, who heads the Soweto Youth Drama Society, presented *Where is My Son?* which boasts an all-woman cast of four.

Manana of the Yaka Afrika Artists staged *Cry For Unity* directed by Sponono Styles Mvula.

Joseph Skosana and his all-male cast in the Siyaphanda Players performed *The Cause*.

Ndaba's *DET Boys*. High was performed by members of his Sibikwa Players.

Other South Africans who took part at Linkfest '91 were

Sowetan 2/1/92.

the Akumani Rural Development Association, the Performing Arts Workers Equity and the Market Theatre Laboratory.

Ngwenya said he and his fellow South African playwrights also conducted workshops together with the Market Theatre Laboratory's Tale Motsepe and cultural workers from Durban.

This was the first time South Africans had taken part in the annual Linkfest, a project of the Bulawayo-based Theatre Project Resource, founded in 1986 by Canadian theatre worker, Eric Globerman.

## Share experiences

"The purpose of the festival, held at the McDonald Hall in Mzilikazi, was to give South African community-based theatre groups a chance to meet and share experiences with Zimbabwean contemporaries," said Ngwenya.

He said this was achieved through panel discussions, workshops and performances of drama, dance, poetry and music items.

"Zimbabwean groups were represented by the Zimbabwean Association of Community Theatre, National Theatre Association and the Bulawayo Association of Drama Groups. Famous Zimbabwean playwright, actor and director Cont Mhlanga also spoke at the festival," said Ngwenya.

All the performances were filmed for later screening by the Zimbabwean Broadcasting Corporation, said Ngwenya.

## Return trip

He said the South Africans had learnt a lot from the Zimbabwean experience and from the contacts established chances are that he and Manana could make a return trip soon. And more South African groups are likely to take part in Linkfest '93, according to Ngwenya.

"This is an important project which needs to be exposed. In this way we will be able as community workers to act as active watchdogs and educators in our community. There is also room through such projects to learn new and better tricks on how to develop the youth to be better artists," said Ngwenya.

Above all, Linkfest - according to Ngwenya - creates a healthy link among fellow Africans.



PETER NGWENYA

HARARE — Students at Zimbabwe's only university would be taught a lesson if they misbehaved as they had done in the past, President Robert Mugabe said in a New Year's message.

Lawlessness at the University of Zimbabwe campus had got so bad, he said, that females were frightened to use the communal library at night "because they were harassed and even raped by undisciplined students".

Mugabe, a former schoolteacher, said retiring university vice-chancellor

## Mugabe warns lawless students

362  
Sowetan  
2/1/92

Mr. Walter Kamba would not be replaced by a political appointee.

But he told a reception at State House on New Year's Eve that the 9 000 students were expected to behave.

"Let there be discipline among our children," he

said.

Thousands of students, protesting against even tighter state controls of the institution, in October clashed with riot police during the biennial summit conference of the 50-nation Commonwealth.

Mugabe, who is titular chancellor of the university, at the time accused the students of seeking to embarrass his government.

But he largely blamed troublemakers who were dodging studies, drinking heavily, taking drugs and harassing female students.

Sapa-AP

## Zimbabweans set record in SA visits

~~27~~ MICHAEL HARTNACK (362)

HARARE — A record number of Zimbabweans visited SA in 1991, the head of SA's trade mission in Harare, Nico Nel, said this week. *By day 3/1/92*

Visas issued to Zimbabwean businessmen fell to 73 000 last year from 237 000 in 1990 as a result of new procedures, but Nel estimated the number of visitors to SA rose by up to 20%. *(364)*

The steady flow of business between SA and Zimbabwe also prompted a Zimbabwean trade delegation to visit Pietersburg in October. A Northern Transvaal Chambers of Commerce delegation will pay a return visit to Bulawayo and Harare from January 18-20 to meet the Zimbabwe National Chambers of Commerce and the Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries.

Zimbabwean sources have also confirmed the arrival in Bulawayo of the first, 1 200-ton consignment of SA maize, brought by rail at a landed cost of R560 a ton to avert food shortages in February and May.

Due to "disincentive" prices to local growers — just over R130 a ton — Zimbabwe's once mountainous maize stockpile has been flattened.

Bureaucratic delays at the Zimbabwean Finance Ministry threatened to cancel the Grain Marketing Board's purchases of 200 000 tons of SA maize.

# No materials, so newspaper sales tumble (362)

HARARE — As The Herald newspaper celebrates its centenary this year, Zimbabwe's newsprint shortage seems to have begun to affect ordinary readers, the national news agency Ziana reports.

"Each time I get into town after 8 am I have to offer at least a dollar to buy the paper from workmates," a reader, Blessmore Mumvuri, said.

Long queues are a familiar sight in the city centre and elsewhere as people try to get a copy of the only daily paper, The Herald. Long past are the

days when one could find a newspaper after 8 am.

Thousands are having to share their copies with workmates, fellow bus passengers and neighbours as the number of newspapers reaching the streets decline.

"It's just impossible to get a copy of The Herald these days. We have to wait until the evening when my uncle brings a copy," said Nelson Bidhi, an unemployed youth staying with relatives in Harare's Sunningdale suburb.

Mr Thomas Dube, who works

for a Harare company, said the latest one could buy a newspaper was 6.30 am.

"After 7 am you do not find any paper. Even though the newspaper vendors will still be there with some copies, these are reserved for regular customers," he said.

The situation is much more critical in the population centres outside Harare and rural areas, where people rely on rural bus drivers, conductors and some shop owners.

Zimpapers, publishers of The Herald, reported in September

that circulation had plummeted from 136 108 at the beginning of 1990 to 109 618 copies per issue in June this year.

And Thompson Publications, publishers of Parade, the country's biggest-selling magazine, say they have been forced to print only 110 000 copies, when the market could absorb at least 140 000.

The country's sole supplier of newsprint, Mutare Board and Paper Mills, is unable to satisfy the ever increasing demand using its ageing mill. — Sapa.

## No bail in Zimbabwe kidnap trial

ZIMBABWE'S high court on Friday reserved indefinitely judgment on a bail application by a lawyer and former member of the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO), who appeared in court in connection with the disappearance of a Harare woman in May 1990. (362)

The court opposed the application of Collen Ndangariro Chingura, 28, on the grounds that Chingura would abscond or be eliminated by the CIO to silence him. CIP/192

Chingura has not been asked to plead to charges of kidnapping Rashiwe Guzha, whose mystery disappearance has been linked to the CIO.

Chingura's attorney, Mandé Baera, told the court Chingura had been made a "scapegoat" for Guzha's disappearance because he had resigned from his job as investigating officer at the CIO soon after the woman vanished.

THE hammer and sickle flag was lowered for the last time at Harare's Soviet embassy on December 29, President Robert Mugabe recalled his Moscow ambassador for consultations on whether to recognise Russia and its new sister states.

The giant golden star on Zimbabwe's own flag, meant to symbolise international solidarity, now seems incongruous — like the memory of Mugabe's all-too-recent plan to get Soviet MIG-29 ultra-sophisticated interceptor jets to confront the SADF. Yet Mugabe does not seem bothered that the ideological crunch has been kicked away from under his ruling Zanu (PF) party.

The first question that confronts Zimbabwe-watchers in 1992 is whether Mugabe can come to terms with the new political universe. In the 1980s the world Press took a simplistic view of Rhodesian prime minister Ian Smith as an anachronism who clung to ideas that were 50 years out of date. Now it is Mugabe's turn to be branded "yesterday's man" (again, simplistically). His past utterances about "Marxist-Leninist transformation", the desirability of a one-party state and his public excuses for Stalin, are quoted against him.

Mugabe and his advisers still seem convinced the motive for change in SA was "the armed struggle" and sanctions, rather than a massive rethink of Afrikaner political philosophy following the rout of communism in the Cold War. Mugabe's views on SA are going to be put to a practical test in the coming year if negotiations on a revised trade treaty reach finally on schedule. Pretoria is reportedly unwilling to sign a new "most favoured nation" pact if Mugabe persists in banning contacts at ministerial level.

Mugabe toned down his rhetoric on sanctions in 1991 but missed many opportunities inconspicuously to break the diplomatic ice with SA. If he has allowed politics to tie him up in economic knots in foreign relations, the same is even more true internally. Sources here say he may — after nearly 18 months' prevarication — announce in mid-January the

# Can Mugabe come to terms with the new world order?

810 611 92

MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

reduction in the size of his cabinet, which is essential for the success of his R42bn economic liberalisation programme, agreed with the World Bank and backed by the IMF.

Since coming to power in 1980, Mugabe's whole philosophy of government has been to "find jobs for people who might be a political nuisance to him. Thus the cabinet (five people 30 years ago) has swollen to a government containing a grand total of 56 vice-presidents, senior ministers, ministers, ministers of state, deputy ministers, deputy ministers of state and provincial governors, all with expensive entourages. The public service has expanded from 40 000 in 1979 to 190 000. On their application forms they were told: "State your political background."

In fairness to Mugabe, this system has been a lot cheaper in human suffering than deploying 40 000 white Rhodesian reservists with helicopter gunships. But it is wrecking our economy, 42% of recurrent government spending going to maintain the obstreperous bureaucracy.

Mugabe reportedly wants to reduce his cabinet to no more than 16, but fears those he must sack will become the leadership material that opposition forces have long lacked. Former guerrilla Edgar Lake of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM) has proved too erratic a personality to galvanise simmering pop-

ular discontent with runaway inflation, 2-million unemployed, and unpunished corruption. The 72-year-old Zanu founder, the Rev Nkomo, threatens to return in January from eight years self-exile in the US, but has discredited himself by his long association with intimidation and intrigue.

Mugabe feels only he can sustain his huge unwieldy coalition of factions personalities from Metabele-

land, from the Karanga people of southeastern Zimbabwe, from the dangerous borderlands with war-torn Mozambique and from the Zazulu of the central regions. At army headquarters Gen Rex Nkomo, alias Tapedananyi Muguru, continues to hold the fort and a great deal more, according to business sources.

The former Zanu leader, Vice-President Joshua Nkomo, 73, with his flair for nothing except political agitation, leads the ruling party dreamers who believe they can claw their way back into popularity at the expense of the 120 000-strong white and Asian community. Nkomo will have his efforts crowned if a land acquisition Bill is enacted soon allowing nationalisation of the 6-million hectares maize and tobacco belt. Nkomo also praises former Ugandan dictator Idi Amin's method of "redressing inherited colonial imbalances", which, he says, unfairly allow Asians to dominate urban trade.

If Mugabe pursues nationalisation he will kill Western support for his economic reforms more surely than by clinging to his "government by patronage" system. Yet to make whites and Asians whipping boys for economic distress must be a temptation if — as feared — the government's political will to reform fails. Looming behind every question of Zimbabwe's human resources is the HIV epidemic, now infecting 28.5%



□ MUGABE

of the working population, according to health experts. Every week someone prominent in the professions or middle management "dies after a short illness". To expel whites and Asians in such circumstances could be national suicide.

However, it is most doubtful the majority of black Zimbabweans would tolerate such an extremist course, and there lies Zimbabwe's great source of hope.

To Mugabe's eternal credit, he has, during his nearly 12 years in power, produced one of the most literate and sophisticated nations in Africa through massive spending on education. Before the impact of the AIDS epidemic, infant mortality rates, for example, were more than halved due largely to higher levels of education among young mothers.

It is in Zimbabwe's favour that demagogues of the Sithole ilk are now regarded with derision. Members of Zimbabwe's racial minorities trust the good sense and moderation of ordinary black Zimbabweans, if not the ruling party. Race relations remain excellent, despite rising economic distress.

Perhaps there is a way out of Mugabe's dilemma, and Zimbabwe's political-economic impasse.

When former head of state the Rev Canan Banana was given an extra R220 000 tax-free gratuity (on top of his 1998 R500 000 golden handshake) the Harare runner factory wondered whether Mugabe, 68, was planning to retire.

If Mugabe were to announce a date to step down (the next election is due in 1995), this could allow the evolution of a new coalition, a new cabinet, with a new and credible opposition to balance it as a government in waiting.

The head of the Central Intelligence Organisation, Sydney Sekaramayi, is thought to have Mugabe's favour as an eventual successor, but let him compete with others, inside or outside the cabinet and ruling party, for a lobby of open supporters and a popular mandate.

We might thus evolve from the present system of "government by patronage" to a healthy multiparty democracy capable of confronting our problems with fresh minds.

against four to five days previously. This more terrorist schedule has

**Zimbabwe slammed**

THE Southern African Human Rights Foundation has criticised the reintroduction of school fees in Zimbabwe, saying it violated the universal rights of children.

The foundation, based in Kwekwe, said under the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by Zimbabwe, "education is a right and shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages."

8/10/92

(362)

## ZIMBABWE STOCK EXCHANGE

**Bearing down**

Zimbabwe's equity market used to be sub-Saharan Africa's second largest, after SA, but the 45% devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar, most of which took place in August and September, and the subsequent market shake-out, knocked almost Z\$2bn off the Z\$8,7bn market capitalisation recorded in September.

The market was valued at Z\$6,9bn early last month and Zimbabwe was back in third place in the African stock market league table with Nigeria in second place.

Zimbabwe's remarkable three-year bull run came to a sudden end when the Industrial index peaked at 2 732 on September 3 — up almost 400% in 32 months. The index fell almost 30% to 1 950 in mid-December, 15% below its level of a year earlier — and reminded investors of what happened more than 10 years ago.

In February 1981, Zimbabwe's shares were knocked off their perch by rising interest rates as monetary policy was tightened to curb inflation and stabilise the balance of payments. The Industrial index, based on 53

stocks, fell from a peak of 464 to a 17-year low of 101 in August 1984.

From there it was a long, slow recovery until 1988.

In 1989-1990, steady economic growth and quickening inflation boosted profits, while other investment opportunities were limited in an economy fenced in by tight exchange controls.

Since the September market correction, turnover has fallen and buying interest shifted from industrials to the mining sector, where the gold producers (Rio Tinto, Cluff, Falcon Gold) are benefiting from devaluation, along with the two Anglo-American group mining companies, Bindura Nickel and Zimbabwe Alloys. Investors believe handsome profits are to be made until cost inflation catches up with the price gains of devaluation.

□ A welcome feature last year was the strength of the new issue market. Three new companies came to the market — Barclays Bank Zimbabwe, which raised Z\$51,6m, Falcon Gold Mines Z\$19,9m, and UDC Z\$30,6m. A further 21 companies raised a total of Z\$615m. More issues are in the pipeline with a big new listing planned for next month. ■



## AFRICA

# Zimbabwe's press finds its voice

W/ Mail 10/11 - 16/1/92 (362)

Until recently, Zimbabwe's state-run media was more concerned with managing the news than informing the public. Now all that is changing. **By IDEN WETHERELL**

**A**LL the ingredients of a best-selling thriller are there — romance, espionage, murder and a top-level cover up — splashed across the front page of Harare's independent weekly newspaper, the *Weekend Gazette*.

What makes this story different from other tales of intrigue is the fundamental turnabout it reflects in relations between the state and the press in Zimbabwe 11 years after independence.

The state-owned media monopolised the dissemination of news. The daily diet of ministerial exhortation and editorial prescription was combined with a large dose of official self-congratulation to produce "good news" newspapers.

An independent press functioned alongside the state media but, run by whites and focusing on financial and economic matters, it avoided political controversy and stressed commitment to the broad parameters of government policy.

All that changed in 1989 when *Modus* publications was bought out by a syndicate of black businessmen, themselves a product of the "new order". Indeed, their chief executive had desert-

ed the helm of the state-owned Mass Media Trust, citing excessive government interference.

Appointing a trail-blazing editor to head their flagship *Financial Gazette*, and launching a more broad-based offshoot, the *Weekend*

*Gazette*, Zimbabwe's independent press found its voice.

The *Financial Gazette*'s team of young black reporters turned the searchlight of investigative

journalism upon the darker corners of Zimbabwe's public and corporate life. Banking fraud, ministerial interference in parastatal companies, kickbacks for top officials in barter deals and parastatal contracts, army involvement in the ivory trade and the mysterious resignation of Washington's ambassador to Harare have featured on the front page in recent months.

But of all the issues under scrutiny in the independent press, the most intriguing and the most harrowing has been that of "disappearances" — the unsolved cases of people whose death or disappearance in the years since independence has more than anything else placed Zimbabwe's commitment to the rule of law on the line.

Drawing these cases into sharper focus is the disappearance in May 1990, but only recently brought to light of Rashiwe Guzha (32) who was reported missing after her affair with a Central Intelligence Organisation officer turned sour.

In a series of weekly front page stories the *Weekend Gazette* revealed that Guzha was detained at a CIO interrogation centre near Harare for several days after her abduction. Although it cannot be established exactly why she was held there, some sources suggest she was questioned about intelligence matters and fraud. It has been reported that she was contemplating taking her story of CIO skulduggery to the press. Whatever the case, she was never seen again by either family or friends.

In a further disclosure, the paper reported that two weeks after her abduction, a CIO vehicle in which Guzha was last seen on the day she disappeared was taken to a garage south of the capital to have bloodstains removed. Clearly hopes of finding her alive are fading.

The *Weekend Gazette* and *Financial Gazette* have not been alone in believing the public has a right to know about such things. *Parade* and, more recently, *Horizon* magazines are playing a prominent role in Zimbabwe's homegrown glasnost. *Parade* last year drew attention to the fate of Captain Edwin Nleya of the Zimbabwe National Army who was found dead at Hwange after threatening to disclose details of army involvement in ivory poaching and smuggling. The Catholic publication, *Moto* has over the years and under different regimes kept the flame of press freedom and individual liberty alight.

Rashiwe Guzha's fate remains a mystery, but her tragic case, if nothing else, has strengthened the process of public accountability in what is still an emergent democracy.

# Zimbabwean prices rocket as government retools economy

THE new year has hit Zimbabweans hard as they face drastically higher prices and static wages because of the government's economic restructuring programme.

Soft drink prices and hospital fees went up this week, adding to the list of increased costs such as school fees, exam fees, electricity, sugar, canned goods, meat and clothing.

"This is going to be a tough year," said housewife Dorothy Mushumba. "It costs more to eat, to go to school and to go to the hospital. I don't know how we're going to get by."

The World Bank designed Zimbabwe's economic structural adjustment programme so that the government must spend less on social services and channel those funds into productive investment.

That means Robert Mugabe's government must restrict one of its most popular achievements since independence, extending health services to all.

As a result, fees at Parirenyatwa Hospital, Harare's main government hospital, went up by an average of 200 percent this week.

*World Bank-designed economic medicine is proving a bitter pill for Zimbabwean city dwellers to swallow,*  
**reports ANDREW MELDRUM**

The economic restructuring has also whittled away the extension of education to the majority, another of the Mugabe government's popular achievements.

As of January 1 the government began charging fees for the previously free primary education and has substantially increased fees for secondary schools. The government is encouraging people to stay in the rural areas by keeping rural primary schools free of charge and holding rural secondary school fees to one-half the cost of urban schools.

City dwellers are also bearing the brunt of increased food prices as the government removes subsidies which kept food prices down.

"Let the people in town pay for what they consume," said Minister of State for Finance Tichaendepi Masaya at a

recent seminar.

While the average Zimbabwean consumer is already feeling the pinch from the economic restructuring, the government has yet to take its own bitter medicine. The government is under growing pressure to cut its operating costs by reducing the size of the cabinet and the civil service.

Both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have pledged big loans to support Zimbabwe's restructuring effort, but both are holding back actual payment until the government agrees to significantly cut back the size of its payroll.

As a result of recent negotiations at World Bank and IMF headquarters in Washington, Zimbabwe will have to cut an estimated 7 000 jobs from the civil service of 89 000, according to economic experts. It will be politically difficult for Mugabe to make those cuts, as the civil service has largely operated as a way to reward political supporters. But diplomats and economists agree that such cuts are absolutely necessary to keep Zimbabwe's economic recovery on track.

# R1,5-bn to quench Bulawayo's

**W**ORDS of warning are written on a billboard over Bulawayo's main shopping street. "Only 18 weeks of water left," Notices on shops urge citizens to use less water. Zimbabwe's second city, with nearly one million people, is drying up.

Rainfall has been normal in only two of the past 13 years, and there has been a drought in four. In other years the rains have been at best patchy.

Bulawayo's reservoirs are drying out, barely replenished by the feeble rains of the present season.

Usable reserves had at the end of 1991 dwindled to 27 million cubic metres. Given the city's normal needs, that is 18 weeks of water.

Rationing limits industry to 80 percent of its requirements, and households to 600 litres a day. The city council is tightening those restrictions, and planning for stand pipes, once the house-to-house pipes are cut off.

The radical solution, now gathering appeal, is to pipe water to the city from the Zambezi River, 400km away to the north.

**One of Southern Africa's largest cities — Bulawayo — is dying. It is literally drying up. An ambitious plan has been put forward to save it, if it is not already too late.**

Nations, with schoolchildren and pensioners chipping in alongside large companies. African engineering firm, which seems to show that abstracting the equivalent of just 90 seconds of the immense river's daily flow could provide all the water the city needs, and irrigate farms in the parched Matabeleland countryside.

A clergyman preaches that conservation and prayer are the only ways to combat the water crisis — together with donations to the Zambezi Water Project.

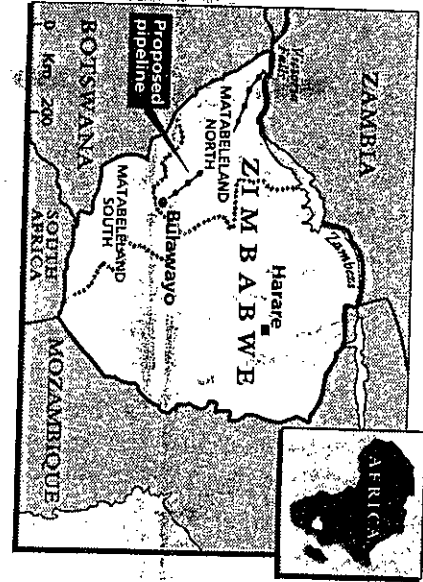
For once, the people, black and white, are

ans to the fore) have approached the project committee. But a big contract would imply government-to-government loans and guarantees. For that, President Robert Mugabe's government in the capital, Harare, must endorse the project as its own.

Bulawayo's industries provide the chief successes of the government's economic reforms, which are intended to promote manufactured exports.

Bulawayo exports a third of its textile goods — worth R1-billion annually. The government would gain by providing Bulawayo with enough water. Local people have been pleading with the government in Harare for five years to no avail.

Harare politicians are used to letting everything happen by the timetable of Mr Mugabe's ruling ZANU-PF Party. Matabeleland, of which Bulawayo is the capital, is the stronghold of the Ndebele people — two million out of Zimbabwe's 10 million people — backed (sometimes with violence) the opposition to Mr Mugabe, until their veteran leader, Joshua Nkomo, merged his mainly Ndebele party with ZANU in 1987. Memories linger of the Matabeleland insur-



united. In four months the Matabeleland Zambezi Water Project has raised R2-million in donations. Although it is an impressive sum, the whole pipeline would cost R1.5-billion.

Spotting lucrative contracts, no fewer than seven foreign missions (Japanese and Canadian)

gency of 1982 to 1987, in which government forces were brutal, and 10 000 people died or disappeared.

In those years the government did little to develop Matabeleland, and it has done precious little since. To be fair, other Zimbabwean cities like Mutare and Masvingo also face serious water shortages, but none appears as drastic as Bulawayo's.

Bulawayo's boosters are now confident they can get the pipeline project into the new national five-year plan, due to be published in February. The local lobby, through its Zambezi Water Project, hopes to force the government's hand by paying R28-million for engineers' blueprints, and lining up an international financial package, so that construction of the pipeline can start as soon as possible.

Optimists say that ground could be broken in 1992, and water flowing by mid-1993. Conservationists, worried that one pipeline from the Zambezi could be followed by others, are not so happy. Nor, no doubt, is the government, desperate to cut its spending without upsetting its own supporters, few of whom live in Bulawayo. —Economist News Service.

thirst  
(362)  
#4-11/1/92

# Renamo wants to stop war - Mugabe

Sowetan 13/1/92

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

"He is talking peace and expresses his desire for

peace," Mugabe told reporters on Friday night after returning home from a short visit to Malawi.

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

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

The rightwing Mozambique National Resistance has been negotiating with the Mozambican government for 18 months to end the war, which has raged since soon after independence in 1975.

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

# Zimbabwe land Bill a blow for white farmers

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

**HARARE** — White farmers' confidence in their future in Zimbabwe will receive a shattering blow with the apparent determination of President Robert Mugabe's government to press ahead with tough legislation enabling it to acquire land for resettlement by blacks.

For more than a year drafts of the Land Acquisition Bill have been drawn up but the final one which has gone to the government printer before presentation to parliament probably next month is far worse than expected, according to farming sources.

The way for the introduction of the Bill was cleared at the end of 1990 with an amendment to the constitution barring the courts from inquiring into the fairness of any compensation paid. This measure was heavily criticised by human rights bodies.

Intensive lobbying has taken place since then in an attempt to modify the proposed legislation and to give landowners whose property

is seized some protection.

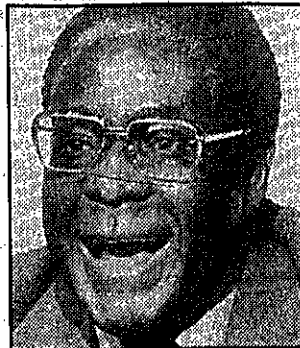
But sources say the terms of the final draft make it clear there will be no right of appeal when land designated by the Minister of Agriculture for resettlement is compulsorily acquired.

The Minister's word over what land should be designated is final as will be the price set by a compensation committee of officials appointed by him who will follow guidelines on compensation to be drawn up after consultation with the Minister of Finance.

Half the compensation decided on will have to be paid immediately or within a reasonable time, half the balance within two years and the remainder within five years. But payment will not necessarily be in cash and may be in government bonds or other securities.

The government has already said it intends to acquire about 6 million ha of farmland owned by whites, leaving them with about 5 million ha.

However, the Bill does not set a limit on how much land can be designated for acqui-



Robert Mugabe . . . determined to acquire white land.

sition and in any case powers will exist for undesignated land to be taken over under slightly different terms of acquisition.

It is understood the Commercial Farmers' Union is gravely perturbed and has asked for a meeting with President Mugabe. There are about 4 500 white farmers who make up the commercial farming sector which is still the mainstay of the Zimbabwean economy.

The terms of the Bill run counter to the government's economic reform programme and will not be looked on favourably by the international donor community.

## AFRICA

# Mugabe criticises Zimbabwe farmers

362  
APC 8/1/92

**Argus Africa News Service**

**HARARE.** — President Robert Mugabe has accused white farmers in Zimbabwe of a "moral lapse" for switching from maize to tobacco production, horticulture and game farming.

Mr Mugabe has been upset by the need for Zimbabwe to import maize from South Africa to feed its people.

He said the country would have to rely on black farmers in the communal and resettlement areas for food self-sufficiency.

Commercial growers cut back drastically on maize five years ago when the government, faced with a stockpile which threatened to reach two million tons, brought in disincentives despite warnings of the dangers inherent in a policy of discouraging maize production.

The policy was changed a year

later but by then many farmers had already made the switch.

A 20 percent increase in the producer price for maize will come into effect for the current crop but commercial growers maintain the price is still too low in view of increasing costs of production.

The 1990 crop was the smallest in 20 years because of poor rains and the smaller hectareage planted. South Africa has started rail-ing maize to Zimbabwe which needs at least 100 000 tons and probably more in the next two or three months.

Mr Mugabe, in an address to government and business leaders to mark the New Year, appealed to commercial farmers, who are mainly white, to be guided by morality in planning production. Land which should be used for food production, he said, was being used for tobacco, flowers and game ranching.

"We do not appreciate this," he said.

He said agriculture in the communal lands would have to undergo radical transformation. Peasant farmers had been neglected for too long. There was a need to provide them with more land and more dams.

He said 1992 would see a vigorous land re-distribution programme once the Land Acquisition Bill had gone through parliament enabling the government to take land for resettlement.

On the maize price, he said maize was the food of the people and could not be made too expensive. If it were over-priced, there would be a demand for higher wages and a vicious circle would be created. Understanding was needed.

He said Zimbabwe was capable of feeding itself and all that was needed was a more equitable distribution of land and better water storage facilities.

# Exiled Sithole returns to politics

STAR 20/1/92

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

**HARARE** — The veteran Zimbabwe nationalist the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, who led Zanu before being ousted by Robert Mugabe, says he will engage actively in politics when he returns on Saturday after eight years in exile.

Mr Sithole (71) now leads the Zanu (Ndonga) party which has one member of parliament.

"We owe the dead and the living a better country," he told the Financial Gazette.

Denying accusations of treason levelled against him in the past, he said the government had to prove these allegations.

Mr Sithole admitted giving support with "his mind and pen" to rebel organisations Renamo in Mozambique and Unita in Angola, saying he would favour any organisation which supported a multiparty system.

## Friendship

Mr Sithole will be questioned on his return about the "friendship and co-operation agreement" which was signed in Washington in August 1986 between his party and Renamo.

He is also alleged to have organised a Zimbabwe Freedom Army, the armed wing of the Zimbabwe Democratic Freedom Movement.

A Zanu (Ndonga) spokesman, however, said the party was prepared to co-operate with anyone who wanted Zimbabwe to be a success, including Edgar Tekere's opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement.

● A member of parliament, Mr Zengeni, said the authorities were making things difficult for Mr Sithole's return, refusing to allow him the use of the VIP lounge at the airport and were making the hire of a return rally venue difficult.

## Fruitful visit for SA trade delegation

STAR 21/1/92  
HARARE — Prominent northern Transvaal businessmen Jack Botes said he was delighted with the outcome of the first visit to Zimbabwe by a South African trade delegation which met local businessmen yesterday.

About 30 business delegates from the northern and eastern Transvaal visited Bulawayo and Harare. A memorandum of understanding aimed at boosting trade was signed by business communities from the two countries.

Calls were made for the ending of visa requirements, for improvements including a "green route" at the Beitbridge border post and for consultations on reviewing the trade agreement.

The establishment of a clearing house to ease financial transactions or preferential foreign exchange allocations by Harare was also mooted.

Zimbabwe is South Africa's largest market in Africa and two-way trade this year is likely to reach R1,5 billion. — Star Africa Service.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Harare business talks

THE first SA delegation of businessmen to visit Zimbabwe since independence in 1980 wound up talks in Harare yesterday with their Zimbabwean counterparts and vowed to strengthen ties.

The two groups resolved to lobby for the progressive easing of trade barriers. (362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — The "liberation desk" of President Robert Mugabe's office covered up PAC fund-raising through the smuggling of stolen cars from SA, it was alleged in court yesterday.

The claim comes in the wake of alleged PAC involvement in drug smuggling.

Acting Zimbabwe police commissioner Augustine Chihuri and senior assistant commissioner James Ndove pleaded not guilty to charges, under Zimbabwe's Prevention of Corruption Act, of using their positions to have stolen cars released from police custody to favoured individuals.

On the first day of the trial yesterday the magistrate was told: "It was part of the PAC's struggle to steal motorcars."

Outlining his defence, Chihuri said it was

## Harare 'covered up PAC car-theft scam'

not the police but the Central Intelligence Organisation and Mugabe's office that gave the PAC clearance to import the stolen vehicles. Confusion had occurred because the police pound did not keep good records and some vehicles were "released improperly (or) stolen by police" (362)

Chihuri denied he ordered the release of a stolen Toyota Hilux and a Cressida. Ndove also denied authorising the handover, but implicated Chihuri in the order.

Ndove said a PAC member, Tony Biko, had alleged a man named "Mkwanzani" was directing the theft of SA vehicles and their

□ To Page 2

## 'Car scam' 22/11/92

export to Zimbabwe and Zambia. Biko had been detained for four days with other suspects.

"The next I heard, all would be released. Because of their involvement with the PAC no action would be taken," Ndove said. "This racket in stolen motor vehicles had furthered their struggle."

The head of the PAC office in Harare, Thobile Gola, testified that the liberation desk in Mugabe's office liaised with the foreign affairs and customs departments over the importation of vehicles into Zimbabwe by the PAC.

He denied the PAC had a "programme" to import stolen vehicles but admitted under

(362) □ From Page 1

cross-examination that this might have been done by individual members of the PAC, acting on their own behalf, and that he knew what was happening.

Gola also admitted that members of the Central Intelligence Organisation warned him when he took up his post that certain people involved in criminal activities claimed they were acting for the PAC.

Gola denied that sums paid for stolen vehicles had come back to the PAC.

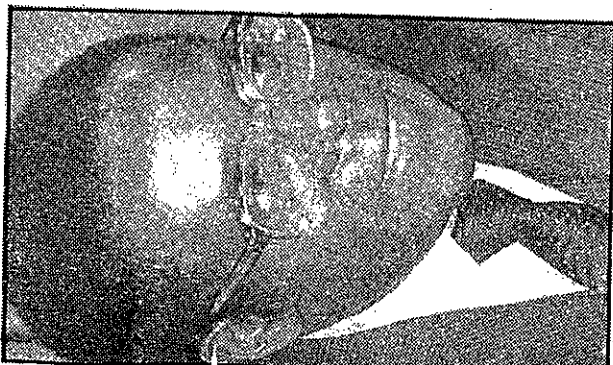
□ The trial of Gola's former deputy, Ramudi Michael Maphai, resumes next month. Maphai and an Indian national have pleaded not guilty to charges of trying to smuggle R40m worth of Mandrax from India to SA via Zimbabwe.



# Farmers' fate in Mugabe

STAR 22/1/92

362



Robert Mugabe ... may forge ahead with feared land plans once the Cabinet-approved land acquisition Bill is passed.

**T**EN YEARS ago the headline over a main story in the Herald newspaper in Harare read "Farmers are worried by land plans". That story in 1982 said white farmers were concerned about government plans to buy more than half their land to resettle thousands of peasant families.

The then leader of the farmers, Jim Sinclair, said farmers supported resettlement, particularly when it meant making use of underdeveloped land, but were worried if it was going to affect production in the commercial sector.

Now, in 1992, it is the same picture. The difference is that the government now has the power to go ahead with its land programme.

For the first 10 years of Zimbabwe's independence, safeguards built into the constitution acted as a brake. But they had a limited life, and at the first legal opportunity the gov-

ernment brought in constitutional changes which cleared the way for the land acquisition Bill which is to come before parliament, possibly next month, and which has given rise to the present bout of concern.

Until the constitutional change in 1990, the "willing seller, willing buyer" principle applied to land transactions. Compulsory acquisition would have required prompt payment in compensation, in foreign currency if desired, with the courts there to adjudicate in disputes.

About a quarter of the white-owned farmland went for resettlement or to government estates voluntarily. There were no compulsory acquisitions. The 4 400 white farmers still owned about 12 million ha, and commercial agriculture thrived and acted as the motor for the Zimbabwean economy.

In the general election campaign in 1990 the picture began to change when President Mugabe took up the running start-

ed by Vice-President Joshua Nkomo and made land a central issue. It was morally wrong for the small band of white farmers to occupy so much land, he said, when 800 000 peasant families were squeezed into 20 million ha of communal and small-scale farming land, much of it in poorer regions. Land, it was stated, was at the very heart of the liberation struggle.

There was an outcry from the white farmers when the government's land programme was published, stating that the intention was to take 6 million ha for resettlement.

While the lobbying went on to try to ensure that the way in which the land would be ac-

quired would cause as little disruption as possible, government spokesmen, led by Mr Mugabe, stressed it was essential for the ruling party to remain firm. "If we fail the people now," cried the president, "woe unto us."

Assurances were given that the government was looking at under-used land and that productive farmers need not worry.

The stage has now been reached where Cabinet approval has been given to the land acquisition Bill and the Commercial Farmers Union has been given a copy. It appears their worst fears have been realised.

Areas of the country are to be designated for resettlement and if a farm falls in such an area,

The worst fears of Zimbabwe's white farmers appear to have been realised in a drastic land expropriation Bill that has been approved by the Cabinet and goes before parliament possibly next month. **ROBIN DREW** of The Star's Africa Service reports from Harare.

## 's hands

the minister's word will be final. He has 10 years to decide when the land should be acquired and in that time the owner cannot dispose of the farm without permission.

Government-appointed valuers following guidelines from the minister in consultation with the finance minister will set a price to be paid in compensation. A compensation committee will be formed to hear representations. An appeal can go to the administrative court over procedure and principles, but the vital question of the fairness of the compensation offered cannot be dealt with by the court.

Regulations concerning valu-

ation are loaded in favour of the government. If a farm is earmarked for resettlement for maize growing, payment will not be made for unnecessary structures like tobacco barns.

Furthermore, payment will not have to be in cash — it can be in government bonds or securities. Half must be paid immediately and the balance within five years.

The Commercial Farmers Union has requested a meeting with President Mugabe and is currently engaged in drawing up its considered reaction. But it is clear from talking to leading farmers that many are deeply concerned about their future prospects. There is much talk of a map, said to have been compiled by officials, earmarking areas for designation, some of them in prime farming districts. One estimate is that up to 1 500 farmers could find themselves off the land.

But there are those who believe that while the government

is intent on taking the powers outlined in the Bill, it will be a different story when it comes to applying them. Resettlement schemes have generally failed, and this has been recognised by the government. Mr Mugabe in particular has made the point that there must be proper planning and that the infrastructure must be put in place before people are resettled.

There are also suggestions that the legislation could be challenged in the courts after it has gone through parliament. One attitude is that farmers should not panic until they see what sort of compensation is offered. There is no mention in the Bill of market prices.

But some government officials have said market prices will be a factor. However, the reaction of a farmer to this was: "It is not much consolation when you are against the wall with the firing squad lined up and you are told 'Don't worry, we'll miss you.'" □

# Grim prospect for Zimbabwe farmers

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

22/1/92  
HARARE — White Zimbabwe farmers whose farms are expropriated for black resettlement may get no compensation for their homes and other "non-productive" improvements on the farms.

The controversial Land Acquisition Bill, which has been approved by the Cabinet and is due to come before Parliament at its next sitting, says buildings and improvements "are to be

considered only insofar as they contribute towards the agricultural or business activities conducted on the land".

The concern in farming circles is that homesteads, stables, swimming pools, tennis court and gardens may attract little if any compensation.

The Bill says the same amounts will be payable for improved pastures as for grazing veld of the same carrying capacity.

Tobacco farmers, whose crops provide the bulk of

Zimbabwe's foreign exchange, will not be exempt from the proposals.

There is no appeal against decisions of the compensation committee where designated rural land has been acquired.

The Administrative Court can in that case review the assessment but it cannot set aside an assessment on the grounds that the compensation offered is not fair.

That is specifically prohibited.

● Farmers' fate

Page 16

TELSTAR

## AFRICA

# Acquisition of land Bill will hit white farmers hard

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — White Zimbabwe farmers whose farms are expropriated for black resettlement may get no compensation for their homes and other "non-productive" improvements on the farms.

The controversial Land Acquisition Bill, which has been approved by the cabinet and is due to come before parliament at its next sitting, says buildings and improvements "are to be considered only in so far as they contribute towards the agricultural or business activities conducted on the land and so enhance the productivity of the land."

If the improvements cannot be used by the acquiring authority or persons who will be resettled on the land, the values placed on the improvements must be reduced accordingly.

The concern in farming circles is that homesteads and facilities established over the years, such as stables for riding horses, swimming pools, tennis courts and gardens, may attract little if any compensation.

The bill says the same amounts will be payable for improved pastures as for grazing veld of the same carrying capacity.

Land will be valued according to soil type, the extent of cultivation, the varieties of crops that are being and can be grown on it in the current state of development, the yield from the crops and the use to which non-arable parts are being or may be put.

In valuing land on which there are perennial or plantation crops such as coffee, tea, fruit, timber and sugar cane, regard shall be paid to the potential yield of such crops and their marketability but only where the crops are maintained in a satisfactory condition and are well pruned, fertilised and sprayed.

Tobacco farmers, whose crops provide the bulk of Zimbabwe's foreign exchange, will not be exempt from the proposals. The bill specifically refers in one section to land in the best Virginia tobacco growing areas and to the valuation to be placed on tobacco curing facilities.

There is no appeal against decisions of the compensation committee where designated rural land has been acquired unless it can be shown that the committee did not observe the principles set out in the bill.

The Administrative Court can in that case review the assessment but it cannot set aside an assessment on the grounds that the compensation offered is not fair.

That is specifically prohibited.

The compensation committee, a key body in the implementation of land acquisition, will consist of four to six members appointed by the relevant minister and will be chaired by the secretary for the ministry.

This will be the body which will determine the amount of compensation payable.

Payment may be made in cash, in a lump sum or instalments or in government bonds or securities.

## Writers worried

BULAWAYO — Zim-  
bwean artists, worried by  
continuing harassment, met  
last week and formed a  
writers' watch committee.  
Ziana news agency re-  
ports. (362)

The three-hour meeting  
in Harare on January 18  
authorised the committee  
to monitor cases of harass-  
ment of artists and respond  
without waiting for deci-  
sions by consultative  
meetings. — Sapa

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## AROUND THE WORLD

# 6-m hungry in Zim as drought worsens

Sowetan 23/1/92

(362)

HARARE - The number of hungry Zimbabweans needing drought relief is expected to double or even treble from two million to four or six million this year.

This was said by the Labour, Manpower Planning

and Social Welfare Minister, Mr John Nkomo.

In an interview with the Ziana news agency, Nkomo said his ministry was already preparing for the increase because there was no sign of the drought

breaking.

His ministry had 53 lorries to serve the whole country, but 13 of these were off the road because of a shortage of spare parts.

However, in the past year the delivery of drought re-

lief food to affected areas had improved.

Nkomo said transport in Zimbabwe was improving, and his ministry was going to bid for an additional 50 lorries to be used to carry food to the needy this year.

He dismissed the suggestion by Zimbabwe Farmers' Union president Mr Gary Magadzire that the whole country should be declared a disaster area to pave the way for international food aid. - Sapa.



**P**RESIDENT Robert Mugabe appeared uncomfortable and somewhat nervous when he returned to Harare after an overnight trip to Malawi earlier this month. Pursing his lips and folding his arms tightly across his chest, the Zimbabwe leader told journalists at the airport the startling news: he met Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama while in Malawi.

Mugabe, staunchest of the frontline leaders, even found some moderate words to say about Dhlakama.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Uneasy Mugabe supps with the devil

W/Mant 24/11-30/11/92

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

**By ANDREW MELDRUM**

W/Mant 24/11-30/11/92  
interests, and a peaceful Mozambique would greatly boost the profitability of Lonrho's Mozambican cotton estates, citrus ranches, gold mines and hotels.

Mugabe left for Malawi intending to keep his groundbreaking talks with Dhlakama a secret, but leaks to the press forced him to announce the meeting upon his return to Harare.

For Dhlakama, the meeting with Mugabe represents a major step towards respectability and acceptance as an African political leader. It is part of the campaign to improve Dhlakama's image from that of a little known commander of a shadowy terror group to the leader of a bona fide political force. Dhlakama is seeking to win the status that Jonas Savimbi has in Angola.

Until recently Dhlakama rarely travelled from Renamo's Gorongosa stronghold and saw few outside visitors. Little is known about him except that in the late 1970s he defected from Frelimo to join the rebel group formed by the Rhodesian intelligence. Dhlakama received training from the Rhodesian SAS. When the South African military took over Renamo's reins in 1980, Dhlakama became its top commander. Roland Hunter, who was jailed for revealing the South African Defence Force's secret assistance to Renamo, tells of meeting monthly with Dhlakama in 1983/84 to hand over his R800 monthly salary and to deliver shipments of arms and ammunition. Under Dhlakama's command Renamo carried out numerous mass killings, mutilations and

torture of rural Mozambicans.

In the past year Dhlakama has taken grooming lessons and received new uniforms and business suits from his South African friends and far-right supporters in Europe. He toured Europe to meet the Italian prime minister, the Portuguese president and prime minister and senior American officials. Dhlakama also met former Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda in six sessions which, according to Harare diplomats were also set up by Lonrho.

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

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

The international recognition for Dhlakama has been arranged as a strategy to boost Dhlakama's confidence so he will begin negotiating in earnest. But that assumption may be fatally flawed.

"Dhlakama has no background in diplomacy or politics," said a Mozambican analyst who has met the Renamo leader. "He only knows the tactics of a guerrilla fighter. His gut feeling about the Mugabe meeting may be that it simply proves that Renamo has the upper hand. If so he will continue business as usual and that means more blood for Mozambique."

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

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

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

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

# WORLD

**H**ARARE'S townships are buzzing with the news of the return of the Rev Ndebaningi Sithole. The veteran nationalist politician was expected to arrive in Zimbabwe yesterday, ending seven years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

"Sithole is coming back to sort things out and (President Robert) Mugabe is really scared," says a hospital worker.

"Sithole returning to challenge Zanu-PF," blazoned a banner headline in Zimbabwe's independent *Financial Gazette*. "Sithole breaks his exile and comes out fighting," proclaimed *Horizon* magazine.

Adding to the excitement surrounding his return is the question of whether Sithole will be arrested for his links with Mozambique's Renamo rebels.

## Zimbabwe's

W11Mw 2411-301192 (362)

*The Rev Ndebaningi Sithole's home-coming has precipitated a flurry of excitement.*

**BY ANDREW MELDRUM**

pendent papers to give publicity to the opposition."

So far Sithole and his backers have flawlessly stage-managed his return as that of a liberating hero. But the question is whether Sithole, who

## 'liberating hero' returns

W11Mw 2411-301192 (362)

was written off as a spent force years ago, will be able to sustain the interest generated by his well-publicised home-coming.

Sithole, who is a Methodist minister, has a long and chequered political career. An early nationalist, he was a founder of Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party and then led the breakaway that became the Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zanu) of which Robert Mugabe was a member.

Sithole was jailed by Ian Smith's Rhodesian government in 1969 and was released in 1974. Charges that he had held secret talks with Smith

caused him to be ousted as Zanu's chairman.

He renounced the armed struggle against minority rule and was a key member of the internal settlement of 1978, which saw Abel Muzorewa installed as the leader of the short-lived Zimbabwe Rhodesia government.

As a result of his collaboration with Smith, Sithole's party did not win a single seat in the 1980 general elections.

However, he has retained an avid following in his home area of Chipinge, in south-eastern Zimbabwe, and in both the 1985 and 1990 elec-

tions his party won the parliamentary seat for Chipinge, despite the self-imposed exile of its leader.

The Mugabe government has said he will face treason charges for his association with Renamo and for allegedly trying to raise an armed force to overthrow the government. But the attorney-general and top officials have privately expressed doubts that such charges will hold up in court.

Sithole makes no secret of his support for Renamo, saying he is for multi-party democracies and therefore also supports Unita in Angola and

Zambia's new ruling party, the Movement for a Multi-Party Democracy.

Says Jonathan Moyo, political science lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe: "The Zanu-PF leadership doesn't want to see Sithole return to popular acclaim, yet they fear if they arrest him it will only add to his popularity."

The government may well gamble on leaving Sithole alone, reasoning that his popularity will eventually fizzle out. Several factors indicate that this may be the best move. Sithole is now well into his 70s and after his long absence, it is expected he will be out of touch with the issues that affect the average Zimbabwean. More worrying for the Mugabe government than the man himself should be the eager response to his return — it is compelling evidence that many Zimbabweans are searching for a credible alternative to Zanu-PF.

## Sithole back on Zim soil

FORMER Zanu party leader Rev Ndabaningi Sithole yesterday said he did not regret compromising with former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith just before Zimbabwean independence. (362)

Sithole, who returned to Zimbabwe yesterday, was one of the signatories to the 1978 internal settlement agreement during Smith's reign, which brought to power the short-lived regime of Bishop Abel Muzorewa.

Muzorewa was heavily defeated by Zanu (PF) in the 1980 general election.

"I don't regret the compromise. If you look at the Lancaster House agreement, it is based on the internal settlement agreement of 1978," Sithole told a news conference at his Waterfalls home in Harare shortly after arriving home from exile. — Sapa



**SITHOLE ... no regrets over 1978 deal.**



SITHOLE back in Harare yesterday

VETERAN black Zimbabwe activist the Rev Nhabangwe Sithole was mobbed by hundreds of supporters on his return to Harare yesterday after eight years' self-exile in the US.

Intelligence agents watched at Harare international airport as Mr Sithole, 71, arrived in the BA flight from London — but they made no moves against him.

Earlier, his former lieutenant, President Robert Mugabe, threatened to have him arrested for "treasonable" collaboration with Renamo rebels in Mozambique.

As followers struggled to shake his hand, Mr Sithole declared: "The hour has come for change — there is no doubt about it." He was echoing the

# Return of the ex-militant

From *St Ives* 26/11/82  
**Michael Hartnack in Harare**

recent Zambian election slogan.

Mr Mugabe was Mr Sithole's secretary-general when the cleric led the breakaway from Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party in 1963. But they have been deadly enemies, since Mr Mugabe seized control of the main Zanu guerilla faction.

Mr Sithole, who arrives home when drought and mounting economic distress have caused widespread political

disillusionment, said he would plunge into politics immediately.

He said he might rename his Zanu party — a source of confusion with Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF).

"We must organise so that we may get rid of some of the problems of this country," he told reporters.

The former ultra-militant nationalist, who now avows conversion to multi-party politics and a free-market economy, fled Zimbabwe in 1963.

In a message to supporters before his departure on his homeward jour-

ney, Mr Sithole said: "We owe the dead and the living a better country under colonial rule our people enjoyed more human rights than they do now."

As head of Zanu, Mr Sithole was first detained by the Rhodesian government, then jailed for six years for plotting the assassination of prime minister Ian Smith and two ministers.

Now it is President Mugabe's turn to accuse Mr Sithole of conspiracy over Renamo plans to infiltrate Zimbabwe.

Treason carries the death penalty.

and Mr Mugabe's ministers have refused to give assurances that Mr Sithole will escape detention.

Observers believe Mr Sithole's ability to make a new impact on Zimbabwean political life — if he remains a free man — depends on his ability to muster a diverse coalition representing the country's varied interests.

For this reason Mr Mugabe may be delaying a long-overdue cabinet reshuffle to deprive him of allies.

Disenchantment with the government has risen to unprecedented levels due to inflation of more than 30 percent, two million unemployed, unpunished corruption and a widening gap between the people and the wealthy new elite.

## Sithole defends deal with Smith

HARARE — Former Zanu party leader the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole said he did not regret compromising with former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith just before Zimbabwean independence. (362)

Sithole, once leader of the party which Robert Mugabe now heads, was speaking at a news conference shortly after his arrival in Harare on Saturday from eight years of exile in the US. 6/Day 27/1/92

Sithole was one of the signatories to the 1978 internal settlement which brought to power the short-lived regime of Bishop Abel Muzorewa.

"I don't regret the compromise. If you look at the Lancaster House agreement, it is based on the internal settlement of 1978," Sithole said.

Sithole denied allegations that he had signed an agreement with Renamo rebel movement in an attempt to topple the Zimbabwe government.

However, he admitted pledging his support for Renamo as a force fighting Mozambique's Frelimo government, and also for Unita of Angola.

"Ideologically, I support the MNR and Unita because they are fighting one-partyism," Sithole said.

He said despite independence Zimbabweans were not yet free, with the economy in such a shambles that there were shortages of commodities such as sugar and maize. — Sapa.

## Hero's welcome for Sithole

**HARARE** — Opposition party was mobbed by supporters when he returned on Saturday after eight years in exile. Sithole says when he dies he does not want to be buried at Hero's Acre. Mr Sithole (71) said he wanted to be buried "alongside my own people" in Chipinge. Sapa.

## Zimbabwe's first lady dies at 60

HARARE — Zimbabwe's first lady Sally Mugabe, 60, wife of President Robert Mugabe, died yesterday after suffering for years from a serious kidney ailment. Their first child was still-born and their second died while still a toddler. (362)

Vice-President Joshua Nkomo said she had died in Harare's Parirenyatwa Hospital. Sources said the president's Ghanian-born wife had spent the past two weeks in hospital, receiving treatment from kidney dialysis equipment. In 1990, Mugabe raised eyebrows when, at the women's league congress, he appointed her its leader, annulling a vote taken earlier that chose Joyce Mujuru, wife of army commander Solomon Mujuru, who was always his wife's superior in the organisation.

Her death brings to an end a decade-long struggle to keep her alive. She was flown to London regularly for treatment and had a personal dialysis machine. Sally Mugabe's illness prevented her from playing any active role after her appointment. — Sapa.

## Unemployment getting worse in most sectors

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Job erosion continued in most sectors of the economy last year, aggravating the country's critical unemployment problem, economists say.

This is borne out by the latest figures in the mining and quarrying industries, and in the construction and manufacturing industries released yesterday by the CSS.

They show the number employed in the mining industry decreased by 138 869 to 626 450 in the four years to October last year. *B10aw 28/1/92*

In the construction industry the job loss was 24 200 — from 407 600 to 383 400 — and in the manufacturing industry, 3 578 — from 1 427 800 to 1 424 222.

Latest CSS figures show that in the three months to end-September the numbers employed in mining and quarrying decreased by 16 458 to 624 450.

In manufacturing, the numbers decreased by 3 800 to 1 424 222 in the four months to end-October.

In the same four months another 7 300 workers lost their jobs in the construction industry, bringing the total down to 383 400.

Stellenbosch University Bureau for Economic Research chief Ockie Stuart said there were indications that employment in the mining and construction industries would stabilise in the next few months.

However, in the manufacturing sector it could be the third quarter before any firm indications emerged pointing to the arrest of the upward trend in unemployment.

Stuart said, however, the big unemployment picture could only become more serious. Up to 400 000 new workers would enter the labour market this year. Only a handful would find work in the formal sector.

He stressed, too, that the informal sector was becoming saturated and its ability to absorb new and unemployed workers was shrinking.

# Sally (362) Mugabe is dead

*Sowetan 28/11/92*  
HARARE -- Mrs. Sally Mugabe, the Ghanaian-born wife of President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, died in hospital yesterday morning after a long illness.

Mrs. Mugabe (60) suffered from a chronic kidney illness and had received treatment in London on a number of occasions.

Her last major public engagement was during the Queen's visit to Zimbabwe last October at the time of the Commonwealth conference.

The couple had no children. - *Sowetan Africa News Service.*





Sally Mugabe always a political activist.

# Sally 362 Mugabe, STAR a staunch 28/1/92 partner

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

**HARARE** — The death yesterday of his wife Sally has undoubtedly come as a cruel blow to Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe for they were very close and she had played a major part in his life.

The Ghanaian-born Mrs. Mugabe, who had long suffered from a chronic kidney ailment, died in hospital at the age of 60.

Sally Mugabe had always been a political activist. Her enthusiasm for politics was fostered in the era of Kwame Nkrumah, who led the movement for independence in Ghana, which inspired budding nationalist leaders all over Africa, including a young teacher, Robert Mugabe.

He went to Ghana, met and fell in love with fellow teacher, Sarah Francesca Hayfron, and married her in 1961.

Personal tragedy struck the Mugabes when their first child was stillborn. Later, a second child died from cerebral malaria when he was three.

He was in Ghana with his mother while Robert Mugabe in detention. The Rhodesian authorities refused him permission to go to the funeral.

Mrs. Mugabe was best known for her enthusiasm and work in raising funds for the Child Survival and Development Foundation.

● Mrs. Mugabe has been declared a national hero and will be buried at Heroes' Acre on Saturday. She will be the first woman to be buried there. She has been honoured because of her contribution to Zimbabwe's struggle for independence and her efforts to improve the plight of the disadvantaged in society.

AP Wirephoto

## IMF approves \$484m loan to Zimbabwe<sup>(362)</sup>

HARARE — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved an extended loan of \$484m to finance Zimbabwe's economic reform programme, World Bank deputy resident representative Lloyd McKay said here yesterday.

The national news agency, Ziana, reports the loan would enable Zimbabwe to finance its import requirements under the open general import licence (OGIL) system.

McKay said the loan would be spread over three years and would be repaid within 10 years with a five-year grace period.

He said he expected the government to embark on sound fiscal and monetary policies for the reform programme to succeed.

CT 29/1/92

# Study to reveal secrets of Zimbabwe sands

B/Dcy 29/1/92 (362)

HARARE — Are there rich diamond deposits hidden beneath the Kalahari sands of western Zimbabwe?

This is one of the questions geologists hope to answer when the final section of a nine-year aeromagnetic survey of Zimbabwe becomes available later this year. "We know this country has a very high mineral potential," John Orpen, director of the geological survey department at the Ministry of Mines, said in an interview.

It already produces 43 different minerals, while there remained a number of "unknowns", such as rare earths, which had not been seriously explored so far.

Neighbouring Botswana is rich in gem-grade diamonds, and Orpen said diamond-containing kimberlite pipes might also be found across the border in Zimbabwe.

He said there had been a number of recent applications to explore for diamonds throughout Zimbabwe.

Mining, led by gold, accounts for nearly 45% of foreign exchange earnings.

Orpen believes that a complete geomagnetic survey of the country will help open up new areas for exploration.

He said areas so far surveyed had been instrumental in boosting applications for exploration licences to 54 in 1990 and 70 in 1991.

The last portion of the survey covering northern and western Zimbabwe by a Canadian company helped with funds from the Canadian International Development Agency is expected to be ready in May.

The overall survey started in 1983 helps fill in what Orpen called data layers vital to the mining industry and to the government as a whole.

He said there was a reliable geological map survey of the country dating back to 1910.

Zimbabwe is also building a database of digital information from satellite imagery showing up surface geological formations with a National Remote Sensing Facility started in 1988.

"We have the ability to purchase raw digital data on magnetic tape ... and manipulate it whatever way we like depending on the application of the data," Orpen said.

In a further step, he said his department was in the process of approaching donor agencies to help with a multimillion-dollar geochemical survey of the country which would take up to 15 years to complete.

Such a survey would also provide important information for health, agriculture and the environment, he noted. — Sapa-  
Reuter.

SADCC

Sowetan 29/1/92

362



Rev Ndabaningi Sithole (71) returned to Zimbabwe on Saturday after eight years of exile in America. Sithole is the leader of the Zimbabwe African National Union Ndonga party, a splinter group from the ruling Zanu (PF).

# Big poser as Sithole returns to Zimbabwe

Sowetan 29/1/92

(362)

**HARARE** - The return of the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole to Zimbabwe after eight years of self-exile in the United States will lead to a resurgence of political activity among those opposed to President Robert Mugabe.

Political circles are full of talk about new groupings - the "grand alliance" is one term used - as the fortunes of the ruling Zanu (PF) party decline.

A general election in Zimbabwe is not due until 1995 but there will have to be a drastic improvement in conditions for the ordinary Zimbabwean if Mugabe is to see a fourth sweeping victory at the polls.

It is far too early to envisage the emergence of a strong united opposition movement.

But Sithole's return has been timed to catch the mood evident throughout the continent.

The 71-year-old veteran politician leads a small tribally-based party, Zanu (Ndonga), which has one member of parliament representing a constituency in the Chipinge district, Sithole's home and the home of the Ndaue people.

His credentials as a black nationalist politician go back 30 years when he led a breakaway from Mr Joshua Nkomo to form the more militant Zanu party with the slogan: "We are our own liberators."

## Ousted in coup

He was ousted from the leadership in a coup while still in detention in 1974 for betraying the struggle.

This was after he dissociated himself from subversion and violence and given a jail sentence for plotting to murder Mr Ian Smith and other Rhodesian leaders.

He further distanced himself from the guerilla war in 1978 when he took part in the transitional government alongside Smith and Bishop Abel Muzorewa.

In the 1980 independence elections his party was trounced and gained only two percent of the vote.

He fled to the United States in 1983, claiming his life was in danger.

During his exile, the Zimbabwean

Government said he would be tried for subversion if he returned, for plotting with Renamo and South African elements to overthrow the government.

However, the authorities have so far kept their hands well off him and the enthusiastic welcome accorded him at the airport by hundreds of his supporters passed off peacefully and was rightfully recorded by the local media.

Questioned about the probability of a united opposition front, Sithole said it was very important that "small differences" be set aside.

He said it should not be a unity intended to promote him, Tekere or Muzorewa but one based on a fundamental agreement.

His denunciation of the government took its expected form: The leaders had been defied, there was no freedom, people were being detained or simply disappeared, the economy was in a mess and the people were fed up with being treated as underlings.

Some of his accusations seemed a little wide off the mark.

Detention without trial went out with the ending of the state of emergency and to claim that Zanu (PF) membership is necessary for citizenship is just not true.

## Denied agreement

His promises, too, had the ring of electioneering.

He denied the existence of an agreement between his party and Renamo but said he fully supported the Mozambican rebel movement under Afonso Dhlakama because it was fighting for democracy.

Sithole said he did not regret having taken part in the transitional government when the guerilla war was still going on.

But in the first comment on his return, vice-president Simon Muzenda took up this issue and accused him of abandoning the fighters by taking part in the internal settlement.

"Now that he has come, let us see what he can do," said Muzenda.

It was easier to criticise than to carry out the task of national guidance.

The national chairman of Zanu (PF), Mr Joseph Msika, said the party did not regard Sithole as a political threat. - *Sowetan Africa News Service*.

21 3011 92  
**Celebrating  
death: 7 held**

**BULAWAYO** — Police in Bulawayo arrested seven people for celebrating the death of Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's wife Sally.

The people apparently said they had had scores of relatives massacred by Zimbabwe's notorious Fifth Brigade, so they had no reason to mourn the death of the first lady. — Sapa (362)

## AFRICA

# Drought-hit Zimbabwe faces food shortage

ROBIN DREW  
Argus Africa News Service

ARG 30/1/92

HARARE. — Zimbabwe faces a serious shortage of food this year and the spectre of famine in some areas because of drought.

Already two million people have asked for drought relief food and according to Social Welfare Minister Mr John Nkomo the number could double or even treble.

The National Early Warning Unit has indicated the country could run out of maize stocks even allowing for the import of 100 000 tons from South Africa, deliveries of which have started but which have been delayed by railway strikes.

Mr Nkomo, while resisting a call for the country to be declared a disaster area to pave the way for international food aid, said state agencies were monitoring the situation and if they recommended such a move, the president would act.

The most pressing issue at the moment is the critical shortage of water in many areas, particularly in the south of the country.

A water engineer has warned that the midlands town of Chegutu has only a few weeks' supply left, Mutare is running out of water and Bulawayo has water to last until July with strict rationing which limits each household to 400 litres a day.

The Bulawayo city council has drawn up contingency plans including the drilling of more boreholes and drawing water from abandoned mines.

Already thousands of cattle have perished and the Cold Storage Commission is now attempting to move more than 100 000 cattle to abattoirs for immediate slaughter.

Because of the rundown of maize stocks, stockfeeds will almost certainly run out. According to the national news agency a major poultry producer has begun to slaughter breeding stock. Fifty thousand birds have been killed and another 40 000 are due for slaughter.

Pig and dairy farmers are in trouble and 35 dairy producers are known to have quit.

Adding to the calamity is the continuing shortage of transport to move food to areas where crops have failed completely.

In the Buhera district in the east of the country, officials said 40 000 people were facing starvation because drought relief food had not arrived.

Mr Nkomo said the army had helped in some areas but his ministry needed 50 more lorries to move food. Of the 53 lorries available, 13 were not running because spares were not available.

The lack of rain, heat stress and late plantings are expected to lead to greatly reduced yields in areas where harvests will still be obtained.

# Troubled Mugabe will miss wife's advice

By ANDREW MELDRUM, Harare W/M ad 3/11/92

THE death of Zimbabwe's First Lady, Sally Mugabe, has left President Robert Mugabe alone and isolated just as he is confronted by some of the most serious political and economic challenges of his 11-year time in office.

Sally Mugabe (58) died on Monday morning at the government Parrenyawa Hospital of complications from kidney failure. She has been declared a national hero and is to be buried on Saturday at the Heroes' Acre monument, the first woman to be accorded the honour.

A colourful and style-setting First Lady, Sally Mugabe was more than that, she was her husband's closest political advisor and confidante. Her death is expected to have far-reaching political significance in Zimbabwe.

Sally Mugabe had been ill for many years. Nevertheless, she actively campaigned within her hus-

band's party, the Zimbabwe Africa National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) and became chairman of the party's Women's League and an influential member of the party's Central Committee and Politburo.

Yet Sally Mugabe was never fully accepted by the Zimbabwe public because she was a foreigner, from Ghana, and because she had been a strong supporter of the failed drive to establish a one-party state. Although her name was often mentioned in connection with high-level corruption, no hard evidence was ever uncovered.

During his wife's final illness Mugabe has appeared increasingly twitchy. He is also facing the grave economic problems with unemployment and inflation increasing. His government is wrestling to successfully implement the World Bank-designed structural adjustment programme so that the stagnant economy becomes revitalised.

The country's economic malaise is spawning a

growing political opposition. Three new parties have been launched in recent months, but, surprisingly, Mugabe's strongest political challenge comes from his old adversary, Reverend Ndabasingi Sithole.

Sithole returned on Saturday from seven years of self-imposed exile in the United States where he was under the tutelage of the far-right Heritage Foundation. It is a telling sign of the Mugabe government's current unpopularity that the discredited Sithole now has the country's ear.

Edgar Tekere's ZUM and its breakaway party, the Democratic Party, as well as other parties have welcomed Tekere's return and have stated they are prepared to join together in an opposition coalition.

Beset by these economic and political problems, a grief-stricken Robert Mugabe will find this a difficult time to re-shape his government confidently and effectively deal with these challenges. He will sorely miss his wife's counsel.



## Zimbabwean judge resigns after 6 years

MICHAEL HARTNACK (362)

HARARE — The first member of Zimbabwe's 30 000-strong coloured community to sit on the High Court bench has left to manage an insurance company branch in Botswana, reportedly because of the R2 000 a month paid to judges.

Zimbabwean Supreme Court judge president Mr Justice Wilson Sandura yesterday said Christopher Greenland, who became a judge six years ago, had been on leave since the beginning of the year.

Greenland was Rhodesia's first coloured magistrate before independence in 1980. He was one of the assessors in the internationally publicised trial of former Zanu (PF) secretary general Edgar Tekere, who was accused with his bodyguards of shooting a white farmer.

Greenland found that Tekere was indemnified by legislation inherited from the Rhodesian government. 61029 (31/1/92)

Greenland's resignation, reportedly for financial reasons, highlights the inflation crisis and the difficulty in finding public servants.

## Investors compensated

61029 31/1/92

MICHAEL HARTNACK (362)

HARARE — A Zimbabwean mining company, in which the government's minerals development company is the major shareholder, has reached an out of court settlement with minority investors who claim they were misled into buying shares by an erroneous profitability report in 1988.

The Manghura Mine Company, formerly owned by SA's MTD conglomerate, is understood to have admitted liability for an interim report issued on February 5 1988 which showed a net, unaudited profit for the year of Z\$8,98m (about R10m at 1988 exchange rates).

The Monomatapa Development Company and five other investors claimed Manghura's directors "failed in their duty of care" because the correct profit figure for the half year was Z\$731 000 (R830 000).

The development company sought Z\$74 518 (R40 000) damages claiming it was influenced by the interim report to buy 190 000 shares which had a real value of only 15 Zimbabwean cents a share.

Manghura shares rose to 65 Zimbabwean cents in 1988 before the final report, issued in September, reflected a different stock position.

Monomatapa Investments alleged Manghura "failed to make an accrual for interest liabilities" in the February 1988 interim statement and "failed to ensure employees did not implement incorrect accounting procedures with respect to metal stock valuations".

The parties did not disclose the details of the settlement, but sources here said it was on it terms favourable to the minority shareholders.

Seeking damages with Monomatapa Investments were Robert Delpoit, Andrew Humphreys, Maurice Samuel Levy, David Harrison and Stephen Delpoit.

The matter was due to have been put before Justice Augustine Chidyausiku in the Zimbabwe High Court on January 13.

# IT'S TIME FOR THE WINTER

# Bulawayo acts to ease the thirst

W/Mail 3/11-9/11/92  
By ANDREW MELDRUM: Harare

AT the Bistro, currently Bulawayo's trendiest restaurant, the lunchtime tables buzzed with talk of holiday parties and presents, business affairs and personal affairs. But the conversation was most animated when the subject turned to water, the lack of it, household water rationing and the level of the city's dams.

Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second largest city with a population of nearly a million people, is threatened by the fact that its water supply is drying up.

"Only 18 weeks of water left. Save water," states the huge billboard over Bulawayo's main shopping street.

After four drought years since 1980 and several more seasons of patchy rains, the dams that provide drinking and industrial water are shriveling up at an alarming rate.

Municipal rationing measures have cut industry to 80 percent of its requirements and limit each household to 600 litres a day, but more drastic measures are needed.

Refusing to take the crisis sitting down, Bulawayo came up with a plan to pipe water from the Zambezi River, 400km away. After five years of vainly appealing to the Harare government for assistance in developing new water supplies, a coalition of Bulawayo businessmen and politicians took matters into their own hands and funded a feasibility study.

Since its launch four months ago, the Matabeleland Zambezi Water Project has raised Z\$5.5-million (R3-million) in donations ranging from large corporations to pensioners cheques and the proceeds from school fetes. But the fundraisers are still very far away from the estimated Z\$900-million (R500-million) needed to build the pipeline.

Optimists predict that ground could be broken in 1992 and the entire pipeline pumping water by mid-1993. With only 18 weeks of water left, time is running out.

...navigation  
I spent the first four  
familiarising myself  
deck of a cargo ship as

He later became second navigation officer and in 1990, Unicorn Lines promoted him to chief officer.

## Bad time to celebrate

SEVEN people celebrating the death of Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe's wife Sally were arrested by police in Bulawayo this week. (362)

Five residents were arrested at a house in Luveve township and two others at the main bus terminus by plainclothes policemen.

The pair arrested at the terminus allegedly made derogatory remarks about President Mugabe.

According to witnesses the two men said they had lost scores of relatives, massacred by Zimbabwe's notorious Fifth Brigade, so they had no reason to mourn the death of the first lady.

The North Korean-trained brigade is known for tracking down dissidents in Matabeleland shortly after independence. C/Pres 2/2/92

Residents arrested at a house had allegedly told passers-by that they were celebrating Mrs Mugabe's death. - Sapa

## Sally Mugabe joins the heroes (362)

THOUSANDS of people, including three African Presidents, attended yesterday's funeral of Sally Mugabe, the Ghanaian-born wife of Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe. *AP/WN 2/2/92*

The Zimbabwean first lady, who died from a kidney ailment from which she had suffered for years, was buried with full military honours at the National Heroes' Acre in the capital.

She was 60 and is the first woman to be buried at the shrine, the graveyard of prominent politicians and leaders from the guerrilla war leading up to independence in 1980.

Ndabaningi Sithole's return to Zimbabwe was well timed, writes Robin Drew

# A man for the people's mood

STAR 3/2/91

362

**T**HE return of the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole to Zimbabwe after eight years of self-exile in the United States will lead to a resurgence of activity among those opposed to President Mugabe.

Political circles are full of talk about new groupings — the "Grand alliance" is one term heard — as the fortunes of the ruling Zanu (PF) party decline.

A general election in Zimbabwe is not due until 1995 but there will have to be a drastic improvement in conditions for the ordinary Zimbabwean if Mr Mugabe is to see a fourth sweeping victory at the polls.

It is far too early yet to envisage the emergence of a strong

united opposition movement. But Mr Sithole's return has been timed to catch the mood evident all over Africa by the emergence of active opposition parties.

The 71-year-old veteran politician leads a small tribally based party, Zanu (Ndonga), which has one member of parliament representing a constituency in the Chimpinge district along the eastern border. Mr Sithole's home and the home of the Ndebele people, an offshoot of the Nguni and so connected to the Ndebele.

His credentials as a black nationalist politician go back 30 years when he led the breakaway from Joshua Nkomo to form the more militant Zanu party with the slogan "We are our own liberators."

He was ousted from the leadership in a coup while still in detention in 1974 for betraying the struggle. He had dissociated himself from subversion and violence when given a jail sentence for plotting to murder Ian Smith and other Rhodesian leaders.

He further distanced himself from the guerilla war in 1978 when he took part in the transitional government alongside Mr Smith and Bishop Muzorewa and in the 1980 independence election his party was trounced and gained only two percent of the vote.

He fled to the United States in 1983 claiming his life was in danger and during his exile the Zimbabwean government said he would be tried for subversion if he returned, for plotting with Renamo and South African elements to

overthrow the government.

However so far the authorities have kept their hands well off him and the enthusiastic welcome accorded him at the airport by hundreds of his supporters passed off peacefully and was faithfully recorded by the local media.

Questioned about the probability of a united opposition front, Mr Sithole said it was very important that "small differences" be set aside.

It should not be a unity intended to promote Sithole or Tsekere, or Muzorewa but one based on a fundamental agreement on what unity was about, aimed at leaving in place structures that would continue long after the actors had left the scene.

His denunciation of the government took its expected form.

The leaders had been defied, there was no freedom, people were being detained or simply disappeared, the economy was in a mess and the people were fed up with being treated as underlings.

Some of his accusations seemed a little wide of the mark. Detention without trial went out with the ending of the state of emergency, and to claim that Zanu (PF) membership is necessary for citizenship is just not true.

His promises too had the ring of electioneering. Every family, he said, should be given 15 acres and Z\$600 to get them started.

He denied the existence of an agreement between his party and Renamo but said he fully supported the Mozambican rebel movement under Afonso Dhlakama be-

cause it was fighting democracy.

Mr Sithole said he did not regret having taken part in the transitional government when the rilla war was still going on.

But in the first comment on return, Vice-President Simon Muzenda took up this issue and accused him of abandoning the fighters by taking part in the interim settlement.

"Now that he has come, let us see what he can do," said Muzenda.

It was easier to criticise than carry out the task of national guidance.

The national chairman of Zanu (PF), Joseph Msika, said the party did not regard Mr Sithole as a political threat. — Star Africa Service. □

## Zimbabwe plans to trim size of army

STAR 5/2/92  
HARARE — Zimbabwe plans to retire some of its top military officers this year, limit the size of the army and consider setting up a single command structure, President Robert Mugabe has said.

In an interview published in the latest issue of the Zimbabwe Defence Force magazine, Mr Mugabe, the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces, did not identify the commanders due for retirement.

"There will be retirement of people at the top and at this stage, of course, I would not identify the persons, but I think we are going to lift the lid," he said.

Mr Mugabe said retiring commanders was not a problem because they were due for pension since their service during the liberation struggle was now considered for such a purpose.

Although security was a priority, there was a need to rationalise the army in line with the requirements of the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme.

Mr Mugabe said recruitment had already been frozen and retirement would facilitate the promotion of some senior officers.

"I am talking of 1 000 people who will not come into the army, and that immediately brings us a big reduction.

"If we go to two years that way, then we will look into some areas in both the Army and the Air Force where some people, because of age physical or mental disability, could be re-trenched," he said.

But, he added, opportunities would be provided for those who were going to leave the army to enable them to continue work elsewhere.

On the single command structure, the Zimbabwean leader said: "We are still talking mainly of greater co-ordination and we may be talking of doing away with duplications that might have existed as we operated the two forces, the Air Force and the Army, under dual command." — Sapa

# Former sporting ties renewed in Harare

STAR 6/2/72  
(362)

By Peter Robinson

HARARE — The city of Harare (or at least the white section of the city) took the day off yesterday to watch Zimbabwe play SA at cricket for the first time.

Sporting links between South Africa and Rhodesia ended in 1980 with the birth of Zimbabwe and yesterday's game, won by South Africa by six wickets, was the first of its kind.

Clearly, though, despite the policy of reconciliation, cricket remains very much a white pastime. There was only a smattering of black faces in a crowd estimated at between 8 000 and 10 000.

Soccer is very much the Zimbabwe national sport and yesterday's Herald, Harare's morning news-

paper, devoted one paragraph on its sports pages to announcing the match.

For all that, the Zimbabwe Cricket Union put on a show for the occasion. An entirely amateur organisation staffed by voluntary workers, transformed the sports club into a charming country ground.

As one, the South Africans were relieved to have won their first match. Peter Kirsten, who made 64, was named best batsman, Zimbabwe's Eddo Brandes best bowler for his two for 26 and Jonty Rhodes shared the fielding award with Zimbabwe's Wayne James.

After a free day today, the South Africans leave for Australia tonight. Their first warm-up match will be against Western Australia in Perth on Sunday.

● See Back Page

rescheduled early in the scheduling of PT.

## Zimbabweans get food aid <sup>(362)</sup>

HARARE — Nearly half a million people in the Masvingo province of Zimbabwe are getting food handouts as the devastating drought continues. *Star 6/2/92*

The provincial administrator said a quarter of the people in the province had no food and some grain depots had run out of stock.

The drought in the southern half of the country is being described as the worst in living memory.

Zimbabwe is already importing maize from South Africa. — Star Africa Service.

**DON'T BE CAUGHT WITH  
YOUR PANTS DOWN**



## AFRICA

### Building societies freeze waiting lists for loans

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwe's three building societies have frozen their waiting lists for mortgage loans, as the current crisis deepens in the local money market because of runaway inflation and continuing high government spending. *8/10 am 7/12/92*

Association of Zimbabwean Building Societies chairman Greville Burmeister said the deposit and investment rates the government allowed them to offer were no longer competitive, and demands for mortgages exceeded the supply of available funds.

The Zimbabwean Financial Gazette said the building societies were planning to retrench staff because business was being lured away by the para-statal post office saving bank, which could offer a tax-free 14.5%, compared with the building societies' 12% maximum.

Building societies are understood to have asked the government to increase mortgage rates from 17.25% to 25%, to keep pace with inflation, predicted now to top 35%.

An economist said: "We are witnessing the falling away of a major financial service which is unlikely to recover unless its deposit and mortgages rates increase in line with other rates on the money market. The building societies are choked. People are no longer investing their money with them."

Property prices in Zimbabwe, which have soared by up to 2 000% since 1984, are coming down. The sluggish property market may force some estate agents out of business, reported the Financial Gazette.

More than 42% of Zimbabwe's recurrent spending goes on a 190 000-strong civil service, which has not been pruned despite World Bank pressure for economies. Reduction of President Robert Mugabe's Cabinet has been delayed by political considerations.

## Mines hit by water shortage

HARARE — At least 20 Zimbabwean mines, among the biggest mineral producers in the country, are undergoing "serious" water shortages and may run out within the next three months. *81 days 7/2/92*

"We don't know what will happen if good rains do not fall by then," said Zimbabwe Chamber of Mines CE Derek Bain.

"It is literally in the lap of the gods."

Among those hit were Rio Tinto gold producers Renco Mine — the largest underground mining operation in the country — and Eiffel Flats, African Associated Mines' Shabanie and Mashaba Mines, in the top 10 of world asbestos producers, Anglo-American Corporation's Shangani nickel mine and Lonrho's Athens gold mine. *(362)*

### Water

The list of affected operations was continuing to grow, he said.

Most of the mines were able to use shaft water for their operations, said Bain, "but there is more unpotable than potable water. There may not be sufficient drinking water".

The Chamber's disclosure throws unexpected new light on the effects of one of the worst droughts in the history of the country which is expected to hammer agricultural production.

The closure of major mines would have a drastic effect on the economy as it moves into its second year of economic reform. — Sapa.

# Mugabe firm on expropriation *(362) 81 days 7/2/92*

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe plans to press ahead with expropriation of five-million hectares of commercial farmland despite lack of treasury funds for compensation, Agriculture Minister Witness Mangwende has said.

Announcing a 103% increase in the maize producer price — cushioned by subsidies into a 20% rise in the price Zimbabweans will pay for mealie meal — he scorned suggestions the current food crisis would check passage of the Land Acquisition Bill, due for enactment when parliament reconvenes on February 25.

Zimbabwean maize farmers will now receive R305 a ton, with a R27 bonus for early deliveries, compared with the gross cost of over R900 a ton (including transport) the parastatal grain marketing board is paying to import 100 000 tons of maize from SA. Drought and disincentive producer prices last season caused Zimbabwe's maize stocks of its staple food to drop to dangerous levels, prompting a warning of "the worst food riots the region has ever witnessed".

The retail price of maize meal yesterday rose to R0.42/kg, cushioned by a R234 subsidy to make the increase

"bearable" to ordinary Zimbabweans, said Mangwende. Inflation is currently running at more than 30%, while benefits of the economic reform programme backed by the World Bank have yet to be felt.

Asked about Mugabe's plans to nationalise the "maize and tobacco belt" for redistribution to peasants and emergent black commercial farmers, Mangwende said: "We probably do not have enough funds but certainly funds have to be found and these five-million hectares have to be purchased."

The inability to pay cash compensation would not stop the land being taken from the commercial farming sector and given to people for resettlement purposes.

Mangwende said World Bank chiefs agreed that prime agricultural land could not remain in the hands of 4 000 white commercial farmers.

Under the Land Acquisition Bill published last month, the government need only tender compensation for expropriation in long term securities, which inflation could render worthless. Payment need not be made for assets not needed by incoming settlers.

# Not what the doctors prescribe

W/M a/c 7/2-13/2/92

By CHARLES RUKUNI: Bulawayo

JOHN MOYO is only 25, but he is one of the most sought-after people in Zimbabwe. He is a doctor, in a country where between five and 10 doctors are leaving each month.

Moyo (not his real name) understands the desperate need for more local doctors, especially in government hospitals. But he can't wait to finish his housemanship and emigrate. No amount of persuasion will make him change his mind — not unless the hospital administration system and the way junior doctors are treated is changed drastically.

Moyo says he is not only overworked and underpaid, but he does not have any transport or decent accommodation and he sees no prospects of improving his lifestyle unless he leaves Zimbabwe.

He wants to specialise, but believes he won't get the chance to do so if he stays in government service, which he says is administered by people who know nothing about medicine. Political appointees in charge of buying drugs and medical equipment do not know what to buy and don't bother to consult those who do know, he says.

"I want to become a paediatrician, so it was a terrible blow when an 18-month-old baby died before my eyes because I couldn't find the right drug to treat him. The child died not because we couldn't save him, but because someone had not ordered the right drugs.

"The problem is that the people who order the drugs don't know what is required. Most have never even been in the wards.

"For example, some Rhodesian-made drips came in a few weeks ago that are useless. They were made about 12 years ago and are definitely out of date, but they are being bought because they are very cheap.

"They are also buying Chinese needles because they are cheap, but they are so blunt that you can't use them.

"Third World countries are the dumping-ground for useless drugs because we look for cheap drugs."

I had first-hand experience of what Moyo was talking about when I took a baby to hospital recently, arriving at 11am. A doctor examined the baby and recommended that he be admitted for observation. This simple process took some six hours and the child was only given a bed at 5pm.

The baby was then given an injection and spent the whole night coughing without any further medication. He was eventually discharged by a specialist at 10am on the third day, but was only able to leave at 4pm because the nurses were searching for the medicine prescribed by the specialist.

Health Minister Dr Timothy Stamps admitted last September that there was some mismanagement in the handling of drugs. He said drugs valued at millions of rands had been destroyed because they had expired. — Gemini News

## Sugar riots in Zimbabwe (362)

ZIMBABWE riot police were called to restore order at a supermarket in Gweru yesterday as shoppers rushed to buy sugar. *CP News 7/2/92*  
Supplies of sugar to Gweru have been erratic for the past three months.

Reports by CP correspondents and Sapa

# Mugabe retires old comrades

ST Times 9/21/92

**GENERAL Vitalis Zvinashe** has taken acting command of the Zimbabwe national army from former guerrilla Rex Nhongo, military sources confirmed this week.

The most dangerous part of President Robert Mugabe's long-deferred

**From Don Jacobs in Harare** (362)

rationalisation of his cabinet, bureaucracy and armed forces is sending influential ex-revolutionaries out into the cold,

where they could become the nucleus of a future opposition.

President Mugabe told a defence force magazine that many senior officers in the army and air force would be retired this year, offering chances of promotion for a new generation.

traditionally been dominated by the Karangas of south-eastern Zimbabwe.

General Zvinashe's appointment comes as a surprise to those who expected former chief of staff Major-General Sheba Gava to receive promotion. General Gava has represented Zimbabwe at covert talks with the SADF's General PK van der Westhuizen, aimed at reducing tension along the Limpopo.

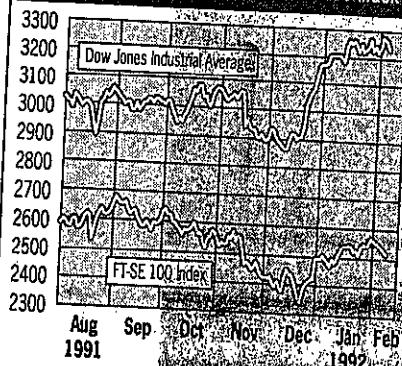
General Nhongo, who took control of Zanla guerrillas after the mysterious death of General Josia Tongogara in Mozambique in 1979, was in 1986 found to have privately changed his name by deed poll to Solomon Tapfumaneyi Mujuru, and to be carrying on business as a director of a company called Mujuru Investments.

## Surprise

Most top posts are held by veterans of Mr Mugabe's Zanla guerrilla forces, including army commander Nhongo and air force commander Air Marshal Josia Tungamirai.

Not the least of President Mugabe's problems is finding tribally acceptable candidates. General Nhongo, like Mr Mugabe, came from the Zezuru section of the Shona grouping, but the armed forces have

Dow Jones Industrial Average & FT-SE 100 Index



**FRIDAY'S DJ IA CLOSE:** 3225.4

**FRIDAY'S FT-SE 100 CLOSE:** 2517.1

**FRIDAY'S NEW YORK GOLD CLOSE:** \$355

**YESTERDAY'S HONG KONG GOLD CLOSE:** \$355.15

Source: LEE, EMERTON Source: INET

Agricultural woes add to Zimbabwe's bad economic problems, writes Robin Drew

# Drought chooses worst time

Star 10/2/92

(362)

**Z**IMBABWE has been dealt the cruellest of blows by a devastating drought. It has come at the worst time. The economy is in trauma as it struggles to make the adjustments called for under the economic reform programme, now into its second year.

Even without the drought, the worst for 70 or 80 years in some parts of the country, the year was always going to be a very difficult one.

A leading South African banker who paid a visit to Harare said he wondered if people were aware of just how painful structural adjustment was going to be.

It was inevitable, he said, that all sections would suffer as the country reversed the pattern of tight control that had been in place long before independence in 1980.

People still ask why reform was necessary. The answer is that the government and most of the economists concluded that, if the

direction were not changed, disaster would have overtaken the country. The economy was in desperate need of revitalisation.

Soaring unemployment, the lack of investment, outdated capital equipment and the lack of foreign exchange all meant that failure to take remedial action to lift stifling controls would have led to upheavals of untold proportions. Unfortunately for Zimbabwe, the time of change coincided with a most unfavourable international climate.

A recent review by Standard Chartered Bank referred to the rolling world recession, depressed commodity prices, high interest rates in Europe and the reluctance to invest in or lend to sub-Saharan African countries evident in the West. Alongside that was the pull of eastern Europe entering its new phase.

The economic structural adjustment programme (ESAP) adopted in Zimbabwe is essentially similar to those in operation elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa.

It is aimed at increasing the rate of economic growth and job creation. But while the programme is broadly on track, these two primary objectives are far from being realised.

The government has been criticised for not getting on with the essential task of cutting down sufficiently on its own spending.

It has to reduce the number of Ministries and the size of civil service, but is falling way behind schedule.

The chief economist of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, Michael Humphreys, said: "The economy simply cannot withstand the current large borrowing requirements of the government and create new investment and jobs at the same time."

Inflation, running at more than 30 percent, is throwing everything out of gear. But until the budget deficit falls, this cannot be controlled.

The government made an attempt to control it through its monetary policy, raising interest

rates dramatically. Money market interest rates rose to between 30 and 44 percent.

At the same time, the Zimbabwe dollar, which had been depreciating at an average annual rate of 10 percent between 1987 and 1990, was allowed to slide steeply.

In the third quarter of last year it fell by 38 percent.

Devaluation, a key factor in the adjustment programme, had been expected because of the emphasis on increasing exports, but not to the extent allowed by the Reserve Bank.

The rate of exchange now appears to have stabilised.

Prices, however, continue to rise. Bread, milk, sugar and now mealie meal have joined the long list of household commodities and industrial products that have shot up in price following the lifting of controls.

School fees have been reintroduced, and higher charges levied at clinics and hospitals.

The easing of currency restric-

tions has led to the appearance in the shops of many more imported goods than were previously seen. But, simultaneously, shortages of essential commodities, due largely to the drought, have also become a daily occurrence.

The latest report on business trends by Standard Chartered says that with inflation still at a peak, the prospect for the economy is one of stagnation, a deteriorating balance of payments, substantially enhanced dependence on foreign aid, and growing socio-economic pressures making for more slippage on the reform front.

The bank warns that, despite the hardships ahead, there can be no turning back from economic reform. The chief threat to it is political.

Wrenching reforms would be difficult enough to implement if the weather were good, the economy expanding and the world business climate positive.

But none of these apply, and the government will lose even more

support as inflation erodes, pay packets, unemployment escalates and transport, housing and other pressures on the ordinary man deepen.

But the report says a U-turn at this stage would be politically as well as economically disastrous and the government must soldier on.

Urging a quickening of the pace of change, despite political unpopularity, it says this will mean the fruits of the adjustment programme will be seen sooner.

The jingle on the radio and television, calling on people to tighten their belts, says the programme will work.

This week, World Bank president Lewis Preston, will be in Zimbabwe to make his own assessment. Next week, a donors' consultative group meeting will take place in Paris.

These reviews may help the government to take the decisions necessary for the success of reform. — Star Africa Service. □

## 'Govt has hold on papers <sup>362</sup> in Zimbabwe'

HAHARE — A Zimbabwean Cabinet Minister, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, says the government of President Mugabe wields an overwhelming influence over the country's main newspapers through the Mass Media Trust, which has the major shareholding.

The trust ran numerous independent newspapers but the government exercised its influence over the trust.

It was common knowledge, Dr Zvobgo said, that government-owned papers existed for the main purpose of praising the government of the day, and Ministers had to be shown in the best light.

The Minister, who is in charge of the public service, said self-censorship was justified only when matters in question were momentous and likely to prejudice safety, security and similar considerations — Star Africa Service.

## Sithole backers 'move from SA'

HARARE. — About 200 fully armed members of Zanu (Ndonga) movement infiltrated into Zimbabwe from South Africa in December, the national news agency Ziana reported yesterday.

It quoted a report in a weekend edition of the ruling Zanu (PF) publication, The People's Voice, as saying the "auxiliary forces" entered the country just before Zanu (Ndonga) leader Mr Ndabaningi Sithole returned home from eight years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

The Zanu (Ndonga) auxiliary claimed that the South African-based "auxiliary force" was being aided and abetted by agents from within both the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) and the Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA).

Mr Sithole denied the allegations last night, saying they were designed to discredit him and make people afraid. — Sapa

CT 10/2/92



Own Correspondent

**HARARE.** — Long-submerged internal tensions in President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) government surfaced at a press award ceremony at the weekend when a veteran cabinet minister censured the subservience of Zimbabwe's state-controlled media.

The Minister of State for the Public Service, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, appeared to be deliberately contradicting President Mugabe's recent attack on the growth of new, independent publications here which have exposed a number of scandals.

"I state publicly that

# Attack on Mugabe

since we fired the late Willie Musarurwa from the Sunday Mail for his inflexible integrity, I did not read that paper until recently when, due to some newly introduced competition, there is a breath of fresh air," said Dr Zvobgo.

The recently suspended political correspon-

dent of The Sunday Mail, Mr Newton Kanhema, formerly noted for his slavishly pro-government articles, seized the microphone and said Dr Zvobgo's "wonderful speech was the best thing that ever happened to Zimbabwean journalists", showing that the veteran African nation-

alist politician "had not been Zanu-ised in all his 11 years of being a minister".

Mr Kanhema was recently suspended for alleged "indiscipline and insubordination" by the Sunday Mail's editor, Mr Charles Chikerema, a fierce critic of the "betrayal" of socialism in eastern Europe.

Dr Zvobgo said Zimbabwe's 1980 independence constitution failed to guard press freedom.

"Many ministers tune to the BBC and some watch CNN just to find out what is happening, as respite from our daily bread" (the state-controlled media).

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cr 10/2/92

# Zero economic growth forecast for Zimbabwe

**HARARE** — An authoritative economic survey of Zimbabwe for the year ahead paints a grim picture that promises at best zero economic growth and radical revision of targets set for its second year of economic reform.

Standard Chartered Bank's business trends published this week said the prognosis was difficult from the start with the international recession, depressed commodity prices, high interest rates and lack of international investor and lender confidence in sub-Saharan Africa.

But, it added, "that all this should be compounded by serious drought is wretched luck. Even if heavy rains fall in the next two months of the rainy season, GDP will be negligible".

Without rain, GDP growth could fall to -3% — the lowest in decades.

It warned the situation posed a severe political threat to the government's five-year structural adjustment programme which in recent weeks won the backing of US\$780m from the World Bank, the IMF and the African Development Bank.

It said government was losing support because of rising unemployment, inflation and infrastructural bottlenecks. If it did not stick to the pro-

gramme, the chances were it would find itself, in 1995 at the next election, "going to the polls with little to show for its reform programme".

Nearly all the economic indicators in the survey make depressing reading. It said the 10% growth in exports targeted by the reform programme was now "extremely optimistic". "There was the likelihood that they would fall from last year's \$1.8bn to possibly \$1.6m."

The envisaged \$100m decline to \$59m in the current account deficit on the balance of payments was now "highly unrealistic".

## Anxieties

"The stretching out of the drought could mean imports of maize, sugar and edible oils reaching \$200m, pushing the trade deficit to more than \$1bn."

The bank casts anxieties over the current tobacco crop, the country's biggest export earner which pulled in \$2bn last year.

It forecasts that inflation, pitched at 28% in December, has still to feel the full effect of last year's 55% devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar and excessive expansion in money supply. One of the few positive notes in the survey was the chance of inflation flat-

tening out at 20% after peaking in this year's third quarter at more than 30%.

Another positive cited by the bank was the possibility that the manufacturing sectors, likely to be hit by a slump in demand, would push up exports in its search for markets.

It also forecasts the Zimbabwe dollar is likely to continue to fall, thanks to inflation and an envisaged strengthening of the US dollar.

Further hikes in interest rates and a boost to the mortgage lending rate are also on the cards as the Zimbabwe Reserve Bank follows IMF monetary policy prescriptions.

The survey is dismal about the government's hopes when it appeals to donor nations and financial institutions for cash to support the second year of structural adjustment.

The government will be looking for \$380m in new money this year, a sum likely to be increased by the need for emergency food aid for possibly 40% of the population.

"It will not be easy to secure these amounts," the survey said, not only because of competition from the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, but also because of concern over government legislation to seize white-owned farmland. — Sapa.

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B1 Day

10/2/92

(362)

## 'Zanu forces infiltrated from SA' 11/9/92

HARARE — About 200 fully armed members of the Zanu movement were infiltrated into Zimbabwe from South Africa in December, the national news agency Ziana has reported.

It quoted a report in a weekend edition of the ruling Zanu publication, The People's Voice, as saying the 'auxiliary forces' entered the country just before Zanu leader Ndabaningi Sithole returned home from eight years of self-imposed exile in the US.

The auxiliary forces date back to Zimbabwe's war of liberation.

The paper said a source had disclosed that the group infiltrated Zimbabwe to 'monitor' the situation before 'the leader' could return.

The Zanu source claimed the SA-based 'auxiliary force' was being aided by agents from within both the Central Intelligence Organisation and the Zimbabwe National Army.

The People's Voice reported that the armed group, which is part of about 20 000 former auxiliaries sent to SA in 1979 and 1980, had split into smaller groups and deployed to most of Zimbabwe's urban centres.

In South Africa, the auxiliaries had received further military training alongside recruits from the Mozambican resistance movement.

A spokesman for the SA Defence Force described the report as ludicrous. — Sapa.

# GH Marais awarded Bulawayo contract

Business Day Reporter

ENGINEERING firm G H Marais had been awarded a Z\$30m contract as consulting, electrical, electronic and mechanical engineer for a shopping centre to be built in Bulawayo, the firm said yesterday.

The centre will be the largest in Zimbabwe.

The firm, which was involved in the construction of similar shopping centres such as Sandton City in Johannesburg, will handle the design of electrical and mechanical services for the centre, including lighting, fire-fighting and security.

Construction is to be financed by the Mining Industry Pension Fund (MIPF) whose CE, Sam Nkomo, is the brother of Zimbabwean vice-president Joshua Nkomo.

The contract represented a major breakthrough to carry out similar projects in the future, G H Marais chairman Ferdie Geyer said in a statement.

"While the business sector of Zimbabwe has at its disposal a fairly strong infrastructure, there is still considerable scope for expansion and the need for large shopping centres is increasing," he said.

Geyer said the firm would use its offices in Zimbabwe to establish new links with other countries in Africa.

He said the company was looking at undertaking projects in Kenya and Angola.

The contract was awarded to G H Marais as they had already established a company in the country, Nkomo said.

The MIPF manages assets of over Z\$500m and its property portfolio is worth about Z\$100m, Nkomo said.

The fund planned to invest in similar projects throughout the country.

# Bank to discuss nationalisation

Day 12/2/92 362

HARARE — World Bank president Lewis Preston, who arrived in Zimbabwe yesterday, said he would discuss Zimbabwe's plan to pass legislation facilitating land nationalisation when parliament resumed later this month.

International aid donors have agreed that "the principles involved were the question of fairness and equity, and that whatever was done the government should be very sensitive" so as not to discourage new investment, Preston said.

President Robert Mugabe wants to take more than 5-million hectares belonging to 4 500 white commercial farmers for peasant resettlement, but has removed their right of appeal to the courts on compensation for expropriation. A proposed land acquisition bill would make compensation payable, if the state wished, in long-term securities which could be rendered worthless by Zimbabwe's 30% annual inflation rate.

Preston noted the World Bank had lent \$175m to support Mugabe's five-year structural adjustment and economic liberalisation programme.

The programme is under fire in

MICHAEL HARTNACK

Zimbabwe for removal of price controls and for threatening rationalisation of 25% of the country's 190 000 civil service posts.

Sapa-AFP reports that Preston said he was impressed by Zimbabwe's economic reform programme, but feared it could be hit hard by the current drought.

Preston, who flew across much of Zimbabwe in a small aircraft en route from Zambia yesterday, said he had been struck by "the obvious devastation in human terms caused by the drought. That is obviously something we would want to discuss... its effect on the economy."

He slammed as "outrageous" a confidential memo by the bank's chief economist, Larry Summers, suggesting that the agency encourage the export of "dirty" industries to the Third World.

Summers's memo said much of Africa was "vastly underpolluted — their air quality is probably vastly inefficiently low compared to Los Angeles or Mexico City."

## Opposition uniting in Zimbabwe?

HARARE. — The possibility of a united opposition front in Zimbabwe moved a step closer this week when a senior official of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM) publicly contradicted party leader Mr Edgar Tekere over the issue.

ZUM secretary-general Mr Masipula Sithole issued a statement saying Mr Tekere's expressed refusal to consider an

opposition alliance was his own opinion and not party policy.

Mr Sithole, who is a brother of opposition politician Mr Ndaningi Sithole, who returned last month from eight years of self-imposed exile in the United States, said the idea of a united approach was "quite popular with the generality of the opposition movement".

Mr Tekere's ZUM is at present

the biggest opposition party in parliament, with just two members.

362 12/2/92  
The next general elections are scheduled for 1995. But both opposition leaders, scenting growing dissatisfaction with President Robert Mugabe's ruling ZANU-PF party because of economic hardships, have called for the date to be advanced. — Sapa-AFP

# Harry O argues for closer economic ties

B1 Day 13/2/92 (362)

**HARARE** — Political and economic changes in southern Africa are a step in the right direction but will not result in an attraction of foreign investors overnight, mining magnate Harry Oppenheimer said yesterday.

Briefing journalists after meeting President Robert Mugabe at Zimbabwe House Oppenheimer, retired chairman of Anglo American Corporation, said he saw prospects of "positive new reactions" in business activities in the sub-region.

But he said this would not happen quickly, Ziana national news agency reported.

Oppenheimer said investors might look in other directions such as eastern Europe, because of favourable changes also taking place there.

If the economies of southern Africa could be integrated more strongly, then he did foresee them attracting more foreign investment.

"For instance, if Zimbabwe can work together with SA and SA also works together with Zimbabwe, they could attract more foreign investment."

He said because SA was an economically strong country, its existence in the sub-region would help boost trade.

Oppenheimer said he and Mugabe had talked about the political changes in SA. They had agreed events were moving in the right direction and that a democratic and free SA would emerge soon.

Oppenheimer is in Zimbabwe for a five-day visit. He will tour Anglo operations and address senior staff of the Corporation in Zimbabwe at a dinner in his honour.

□ Anglo CE Roy Lander said yesterday the drought in Zimbabwe had threatened the corporation's business activities in the Lowveld with certain projects being suspended.

Speaking to reporters at Zimbabwe House, Lander said his organisation was supportive of Zimbabwe's economic structural adjustment programme.

"However the current drought is threatening our activities, particularly in the lowveld."

Lander said Anglo had recently pumped millions of dollars into Bindura nickel mine in order to upgrade and modernise its operations.

Anglo was also involved in various sectors of the economy in line with the objectives of the adjustment programme, he said. — Sapa.

## Ivory exports 'are backed by Cites'

*B. Dany 13/2/92*  
HARARE — Convention on Trade In Endangered Species (Cites) specialists visiting Harare recommend southern African states be allowed to resume ivory exports, says Zimbabwe's Ministry of the Environment.

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

Its claim comes despite intensive lobbying by Kenya wildlife services director Richard Leakey for retention of the ban on ivory trade when Cites members meet in Kyoto, Japan, next month.

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is pressing for continued suppression of elephant product trade although Leakey has reportedly offered to support resumed southern African trade in elephant skin and meat.

The Zimbabwean ministry said its delegation would seek to have elephant transferred from Cites appendix one to appendix two, allowing regulated trade. The move would be supported by Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and SA. — Sapa. (367)



## 47 000 Aids orphans in Zimbabwe province

STAR 14/2/92

MUTARE — Manicaland province in Zimbabwe has about 47 000 children under the age of 14 who were orphaned as a result of their parents dying of Aids-related diseases, a meeting heard in Mutare yesterday.

Of this, 10 percent had lost both parents.

Presenting a paper at the three-day annual meeting of the Zimbabwe Aids Network in Mutare, Dr Ruth Shakespeare said the Ministry of Health had conducted a national maternal and child health survey in September which revealed that out of 294 households randomly selected in the province, 29.9 percent had Aids orphans.

The survey, sponsored by the World Health Organisation, showed that out of a total of 904 children under the age of 14 surveyed, 61, or 6.8 percent, of them had either one or both of their parents dead.

As a result of the increasing number of Aids orphans in the province, orphanages were becoming overcrowded. — Sapa.

## Acquisition trail

(362)

With timing that can only be described as bizarre, Zimbabwe has published details of its land acquisition Bill, due in parliament before the end of March. This coincides with an effort to raise US\$1bn from western donors in support of economic reform.

The Bill threatens to undermine not just commercial agriculture, which is the engine room of the economy, but also a hitherto successful banking and financial sector. "It is," says a bank economist "no longer a matter of shooting the country in the foot, but in the head."

Land has long been a contentious issue. Government Ministers claim the "liberation

war" of the 1970s was fought over land. At independence in 1980, President Robert Mugabe promised to resettle 162 000 families; at the last count, fewer than 60 000 had been relocated and numerous studies — except for a highly specious one carried out by the British Ministry of Overseas Development — show resettlement to have been a disaster.

Not surprisingly, land resettlement is extremely popular politically. So much so that political analysts believe it is just about Mugabe's only chance of winning the next elections due by 1995. Hence he is pressing ahead with legislation that threatens to tor-

pedo the economic reforms which western donors are subsidising to the tune of about US\$700m a year.

At its simplest, the proposal designates commercially owned farms, including some owned by black farmers, for compulsory acquisition. About 800 000 ha have been designated to date and the Commercial Farmers' Union has a map showing whose farms have been targeted. A further 4m ha will be acquired over the years.

Designation effectively means the farm cannot be sold, except to the State, even though that it could take the government up to 10 years — the period in which it has to exercise its option — to acquire the land.

Land will be valued by a committee of government appointed officials. There is no provision for appeal to the High Court if the farmer feels the land has been undervalued. He may appeal to an administrative court only against criteria for valuation, not the amount.

Compensation is to be independent of market values and will depend on how the land is to be used. So nothing will be paid for irrigation facilities and tobacco barns on land that is to be used for dryland maize.

There is also a clause that says compensation will take account of a farmer's "other assets." If a farmer owns a townhouse in Harare, his compensation will be reduced accordingly. And compensation could be spread over five years — albeit with a cash payment upfront — with bonds being suggested as a possible payment vehicle.

One despondent Zimbabwean banker points out that a 10% fall in land prices in California and Texas led to several bank insolvencies. Zimbabwe's banks believe they will have to reduce bank lending to agriculture because collateral on designated farms will no longer cover loans. That all this should coincide with one of the worst droughts for many years merely underlines the threat not just to agriculture, to exports and to jobs, but also to the viability of the banking sector.

The optimists claim the Bill will be amended before it gets to parliament, that at the Paris meeting the donors will tell Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero in the bluntest terms to redraft the Bill or do without some of the \$1bn he wants. But the donors, desperate for a success in structural adjustment and urged along by the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the IMF — who together have pledged more than \$800m to Zimbabwe in the past three months — are unlikely to take a tough stand.

The West is in a tight corner. The land Bill calls into question its principles in respect of transparency and accountability, both excluded from Mugabe's proposed legislation. Also, diplomats know the passage of this legislation and the resulting singing and dancing in the Zimbabwean parliament will be manna from heaven for the right wing in SA. One diplomat said: "If it goes through in this form, the Bill is worth thousands of votes to the Conservative Party in SA."

ZIMBABWE — 1 (362)

**Worlds apart** FM 14/2/92

**A year after** the launch of its Economic Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP), Zimbabwe returns to Paris to seek extra financing for its ambitious five-year reform programme.

At a meeting of the Zimbabwe Consultative Group in Paris next week, Western donors will be asked to subscribe a further US\$380m to see the country through the current year. The original ESAP target of \$2bn for the 1992-1994 period has been raised by \$600m to \$2.6bn, but a World Bank report supporting Zimbabwe's case says the programme is on target.

This is less than true, especially now that growth and balance of payments targets for 1992-1993 have been jettisoned because of the drought. The Bank's report, written last December, optimistically assumes 4.4% growth in real GDP this year, after an estimated 3.5% in 1991, a slowdown in inflation to 20%, from 24% last year and an improvement in the balance of payments from a current account deficit of US\$700m to \$580m.

A different picture is painted in a franker, more recent assessment by Standard Chartered Bank of Zimbabwe. It says that, with agricultural production set to fall steeply because of severe drought, real GDP will be flat and could fall, the balance of payments deficit will widen while, at best, inflation will rise slightly to average 25% this year.

The two reports give a starkly different picture, partly because the World Bank's was written six weeks earlier, before the severity of the drought was fully apparent, but also because the Washington-based multilaterals (the Bank and the Fund) are rooting for Zimbabwe at Paris. As a result, economic objectivity has been the casualty.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the claim that Zimbabwe's debt:service ratio will remain at around 20%, which is in line with programme targets. This conveniently overlooks short-term obligations, including the repayment of the Barclays and Standard Chartered Bank bridging loans of US\$155m. When these are taken into account, the debt:service ratio tops 30%.

The signs are that Zimbabwe will get its money, though some Western donors — notably the British — may well dig in their heels over the land acquisition Bill, the full implications of which has only recently become evident as the lawyers — and bankers — assess the potential damage of this ill-timed piece of legislation (see below).

In Paris, in addition to the \$1bn sought for ESAP, there may well be a Zimbabwean request for emergency food aid. Officials say people are already receiving drought relief assistance and, by July, as many as 5m, or about half the population, will need some aid.

There is no crop in the southern half of the country, no grazing and no water supplies for

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(36)

winter irrigation and for next season's crop. Zimbabwe, traditionally a substantial sugar exporter, is importing sugar from Swaziland. Later in the year, unless there are exceptionally heavy rains over the next two months, imports of wheat, oilseeds and possibly dairy products will be needed.

The maize situation is critical: 100 000 t have been imported from SA and this will last the country until the end of March. The 1992 crop is being put at 250 000 t — about three months' consumption.

Zimbabwe will need a minimum of 800 000 t to see it through until the 1993 harvest in a year's time.

ESAP, which projects the elimination of almost all subsidies by mid-1995, has been holed below the waterline with an increase in the maize subsidy to Z\$290m this year. Once imports are costed in, the subsidy rises to about Z\$400m or three times the target of Z\$132m for the parastatal sector in 1992-1993.

If late rains don't fall, the outlook for 1993 is also grim. There will be no water for winter wheat, no grazing — leading to massive destocking of cattle — and no water for 1992-1993 irrigated crops.

Tobacco, the great success story of 1990-1991, is faring better than anything else. But the crop size is falling as leaves are scorched and the quality will be the poorest since the disastrous 1987 crop. Hopes of a further surge in leaf prices have all but evaporated, with experts predicting the Zimbabwean currency tobacco price will average no more than last year's US235c/kg.

Zimbabwe's economy has always been driven by agriculture. World Bank projections of 10% export growth, in US dollars, are hopelessly unrealistic, especially as base metal prices are weak. The signs are that exports will fall, imports will rise and the current account deficit will widen to US\$800m, or 16% of GDP.

Persistent "leaks" from the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe that the Zimbabwean dollar is undervalued look forlorn in the wake of last year's 45% devaluation. Bankers believe the currency will slide again this year, though probably not until the final months. ■

# White water rafting booms at Vic Falls

4MCA 14/2-20/2/92 (3625)

International tourists seek the ever more exciting, more thrilling experiences, and rafting at Victoria Falls is well placed to capture a lucrative chunk of the adventure trade.

By ANDREW MELDRUM

**A**S Victoria Falls thunders from behind, the raft is sucked down into a churning cauldron of river rapids. Even the hardest-bitten gladiator shouts and yells like a kid, partly from delight and partly from sheer terror.

The rubber raft whooshes through the roaring Zambezi rapids and is tossed about like a cork. All eight passengers cling with white knuckle grips to the safety rope as the professional oarsman in the middle attempts to steer the raft through the yawning canyons of whirling water. It is like riding a roller coaster through a spewing jacuzzi, and that is only the first of 15 rapids.

Riding a raft through the Zambezi rapids below Victoria Falls is an exhilarating — if somewhat hair-raising — adventure.

The rafting business is at the cutting edge of Zimbabwe's economic restructuring programme, designed by the World Bank, which emphasises the need to earn foreign currency. The restructuring offers incentives to Zimbabwe's tourism sector, particularly to exotic niches like the rafting which draw travellers from abroad.

"Victoria Falls has become the mecca of white water rafters," says Nikki Pirie, managing director of Shearwater Adventures, the largest rafting operators. "It draws white water enthusiasts from the United States, Europe, Australia, from all over. Our rafting trips also draw lots of ordinary tourists who have never done rafting before. Experts and tourists agree that it's incredibly exciting."

Last year about 16 000 people rode the Zambezi's rapids, and the volume is expected to increase by 30 percent in 1992. At a price of US\$105 a passenger, the rafting has become a million dollar business. Local residents pay a special rate of Zim\$195 or R120, making the rafting an especially good buy for South Africans. But the crucial element is that nearly 80 percent of the rafters are overseas tourists who pay in US dollars which are the vital ingredient to Zimbabwe's restructuring plans.

The rafting began in 1984 when an American firm, Sobek, ran its first Zambezi trip. From a helicopter, expert rafters determined how to attack the Zambezi waters.

In 1985 Shearwater began running trips from the Zimbabwean side through its subsidiary, Zambezi Wildwater Rafting.

"We thought there was nothing Sobek was doing that Zimbabweans couldn't do, so we bought three rafts, found some oarsmen and started running the river ourselves," said Colin Blythe-Wood, Shearwater chairman. "For the first couple years we had to battle for business. We would make the rounds of hotels every day touting for business. People thought we were crazy."

Now Shearwater has the lion's share of the rafting business with about 12 500 passengers a year. In addition to Sobek in Zambia, another Zimbabwean firm, Mosi oa Tunya, operates from the Zimbabwean side.

The rafting season is from July until January 15 when the seasonal rains swell the Zambezi rapids to an unmanageable level.

Victoria Falls has been luring tourists for nearly a century, but the rafting is increasing the falls ability to keep visitors for a two or three-night stay, paid for in hard currency.

Victoria Falls hotels are fully booked in the peak tourist months of July, August and September, but its capacity has just significantly increased with the opening of the luxurious 375-room Elephant Hills Hotel which has already hosted the Commonwealth's 43 heads of government who attended the Zimbabwe summit last October. The new hotel's casino and 18-hole

Gary Player-designed golf course will help to make Victoria Falls a resort with all the amenities to encourage a tourist to stay for more than just a stroll to see the falls.

Victoria Falls used to be a sleepy little town but the increased tourism has seen a new airport, new shops, restaurants and bars open up in the past year. The Mugabe government's economic structural adjustment offers a foreign exchange retention scheme for hotels and others in the tourism business. It means that rafting enterprises are able to keep seven percent of the US dollars they earn.

Rafting's success has spurred other tourist uses of the Zambezi, such as white-water kayaking above the falls, overnight rafting and canoeing trips and hiking trips through nearby game parks. A firm from New Zealand is setting up a bungee jumping experience from the Victoria Falls bridge.

"These activities are proving that the Zambezi River and its unspoiled environment has eco-

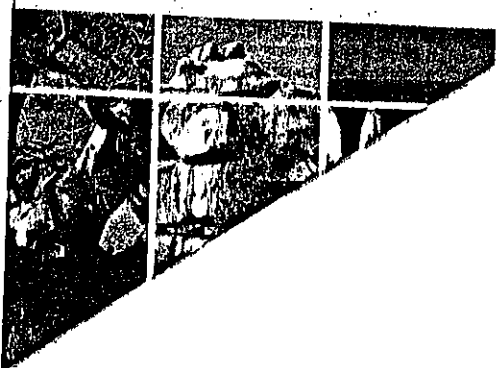
nomic value, big earning power in foreign currency," said Blythe-Wood. "That means it is in everybody's interest to protect the river environment as much as possible."

Yet the rafting is threatened by Zimbabwe's growing thirst for more power. A multi-million dollar hydro-electric dam is planned at Batoka Gorge, just downstream from the falls. The dam would only leave the first four or five rapids open for rafting instead of the more than 20 currently available. Geological testing is already well underway and construction is scheduled to begin in 1993. Hope has appeared, however, in the form of the new Zambian government which has withheld its support. Without Zambian participation the dam project may be doomed and Zambezi rafting may be saved.

The frothy, bumpy ride through the rapids beneath the world's biggest waterfalls? It is not for the faint-hearted, those under 16 or the physically unfit. After the day-long ride through the rapids, one must climb out of the gorge, which is estimated to be the height of a 70-storey building. It is a taxing climb.

Safety? The oarsmen, or in some cases oarswomen, guide each raft with skill and muscle. As a result the safety record is good, with no fatalities or critical injuries to date. A thrilling experience is guaranteed, but one bit of advice, hold on tight.

## Sunbird Territory



## 47 000 Aids orphans in Zimbabwe province

STAR 14/2/92

MUTARE — Manicaland province in Zimbabwe has about 47 000 children under the age of 14 who were orphaned as a result of their parents dying of Aids-related diseases, a meeting heard in Mutare yesterday.

Of this, 10 percent had lost both parents.

Presenting a paper at the three-day annual meeting of the Zimbabwe Aids Network in Mutare, Dr Ruth Shakespeare said the Ministry of Health had conducted a national maternal and child health survey in September which revealed that out of 294 households randomly selected in the province, 29,9 percent had Aids orphans.

The survey, sponsored by the World Health Organisation, showed that out of a total of 904 children under the age of 14 surveyed, 61, or 6,8 percent, of them had either one or both of their parents dead.

As a result of the increasing number of Aids orphans in the province, orphanages were becoming overcrowded. — Sapa.

## Zimbabwe has left it too late to cope

HARARE — Zimbabwe is facing starvation this year but its government appears to have left it too late to be able to cope with the disaster.

This was the message from commercial grain producers' leader Quentin Haarhoff, who said this week that Zimbabwe would have enough maize to last only to the end of March.

Its own stocks would be exhausted in 20 days. Maize ordered from South Africa would stretch supplies to last until the end of next month.

No other imports had been contracted yet, and all surplus white maize had been bought.

Mr Haarhoff said this year's crop would probably be only 200 000 tons — two months' supply — because of the drought. At best it would be 400 000 tons. **STAR 15/2/92**

In a worst-case scenario, Zimbabwe would have to import a million tons of maize before the 1993 harvest. He estimated this would mean two unit trainloads every day at a time when southern African ports would be congested with imports of

362 ROBIN DREW  
grain for the region.

The threat to Zimbabwe's food security was of a magnitude never seen before, said Mr Haarhoff. Its proud claims of a few years ago of being the region's breadbasket would ring as hollow as the empty bellies of the nation.

The government's failure to implement a maize production strategy, unrealistic pricing policies until it was too late, and the lack of a clear direction had contributed to a situation in which commercial growers and communal farmers were growing less maize than they used to.

### Bonuses

Last week the government announced that the maize price would be doubled to stimulate production and that bonuses would be paid for early deliveries of this year's crop.

Mr Haarhoff said then that adequate arrangements were being put in place to meet all of this year's requirements.

## Gas pipeline project now in jeopardy

HARARE — The devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar may frustrate Wankie Colliery's diversification programme, including construction of a 6km gas pipeline from the mine's coke ovens to the Hwange thermal power station. Ziana news agency reports.

The pipeline project, already affected by current inflation, would now cost more than Z\$100m instead of the original cost of Z\$58,67m. (362)

Authorities said the pipeline, when completed, would pipe excess gas to the thermal power station under an agreement reached between the colliery management and the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority.

Hwange thermal power station is the country's largest inland power supply. 8/Day 19/12/92

The project, when approved, would save the country nearly Z\$15m in foreign currency annually.

Wankie Colliery, Zimbabwe's biggest coal mine with a monthly output of 70 000 tons, hopes to boost production by up to 50% with a five-year modernisation programme, underground mine manager Fred Moyo said on Friday. — Sapa-Reuter.

### Zimbabwean scheme

87/12/92  
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THE private sector is to play a leading role in a five-year development plan unveiled by Zimbabwe's government on Friday.

The plan seeks market-led growth and easing of government's tight control over the economy, in line with the country's economic structural adjustment programme. The plan covers the period 1991 to 1995, and aims for average growth of 4.6% a year until 1993, when a mid-term review will assess progress (362)



# Zimbabwe counting on SA in bid to lift ivory trade ban

HARARE — Zimbabwe believed SA delegates will support its plea to scrap the ban on ivory sales when the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) meets in Japan next month, Environment Minister Herbert Murerwa said yesterday.

Murerwa told a news conference at least 30 Zimbabweans had been killed by elephants in the past year as the number of the estimated 77 000 animals increased. About 15 000 invaded tribal farming areas.

The meeting in March in Kyoto would be asked to remove elephants from Cites Appendix One, which prohibits all trade in elephant products, to Appendix Two, which permits exports under scientific supervision.

Murerwa expressed misgivings about Kenya's proposal to permit trade only in hides and meat.

For the species to have a future, rural people needed to be shown elephants were an exploitable asset, not as in the past, a pest, he said.

Zimbabwe currently has 21 tons of

MICHAEL HARTNACK

ivory stockpiled worth at least \$12m.

Murerwa said Zimbabwe would be fully supported by Botswana, Namibia and Malawi and by the hoped for long-term backing from Zambia, although the country recently burned its ivory stockpile in a gesture to western "green" lobbyists.

Zimbabwe also has a stockpile of about 2 000 rhino horns, worth about \$20m that could be ploughed back into rural conservation programmes.

Murerwa denied Zimbabwe was holding back on plans to cull 62 000 elephant now in national parks to about 30 000 to 35 000 to eliminate current massive environmental damage, he said 400 were culled last year and plans would have to go ahead regardless of Cites.

Some 15 000 could remain in rural areas for commercial exploitation to benefit local people.

Zimbabwe's project Campfire significantly boosted the rural infrastructure before the ban in 1989.

## COMPANIES

### Drop in exports has little effect on Cafca

EDWARD WEST

CENTRAL African Cables (Cafca), the Zimbabwean low-cost producer of electrical cables which is listed on the JSE's electronics sector, has increased profits for the fifth year despite a drop in exports.

Cafca's attributable profits increased 46% to Z\$19,3m in the year to December 1991, from \$13,2 last year. Turnover increased 30% to \$121,4m from \$93m.

Domestic sales accounted for \$107,4m. Export turnover was down 10% at \$13,9m.

Pre-tax profit increased 26% to \$30,6m while taxation of \$11,2m remained at the same levels due to capital allowances on a new plant.

Offshore financing for the new plant is represented by loans worth \$777 000.

Stocks increased 28,2% to \$22,8m because of higher prices for raw materials

and reduced demand by a major customer. The company believes 1992 will be a difficult year due to world recession, but is confident of high performance through increased exports. Cafca believes it is well positioned for the start of 1992 with \$62m already on its order books.

It intends continuing to search for new markets and has strategies in place to give it world class manufacturing status. These include accreditation by the International Standards Organisation and the Standards Association of Zimbabwe. Two new product ranges will be launched.

There are 300 000 tightly held Cafca shares on the SA register of a total 30,6-million in issue.

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## Recession puts brakes on at BTR Dunlop

In spite of tough trading conditions, BTR Dunlop has managed to contain earnings a share decline to 17 percent for the year ended December to 239 cents on sales four percent lower.

Preliminary figures for the year released yesterday show sales were lower at R672 million while trading profit was down to R101,2 million from the previous year's R134,2 million.

Profit attributable to shareholders was down to R56,6 million from R67,4 million.

A final unchanged dividend of 105 cents a share was declared, bringing the total for the year to 165 cents a share.

BTR Dunlop managing director Clive Hooper said the sales decline of 14 percent was mainly due to the continuing recession coupled to the fact there were few major capital projects in the mining industry during 1991.

Four group companies, he said, had been affected by the eight percent decline in new vehicle sales in 1991. — Sapa.

## Wankie to be modernised

HARARE — Wankie Colliery, with a monthly output of 70 000 tons, hopes to boost production by up to 50 percent with a five-year modernisation programme.

However, managing director, Kudzai Bwerinofa says the coal mining giant stands to lose more than Z\$24 million this year if it does not get a price increase.

Coal prices on the international market are between \$35 and \$40 a ton, while Zimbabwe's most expensive coal is fixed at about \$12 a ton. — Sapa-Reuter.

## Conshu blames shoe imports for profit drop

Conshu has been hit by the recession and in spite of an export drive has reported a fall in earnings of 10 percent for the six months to December.

The group said yesterday that earnings per share fell from 33c for last six months of 1990 to 30c for the same period last year.

Attributable income was down by eight percent at R13,9 million (R15,2 million).

A factor in the fall in the figures was a 91 percent increase in the number of imported shoes.

Conshu CEO Robert Finblum said: "Despite the imposition of increased tariffs in August last year, the damage caused by the import of 6,7 million pairs of shoes in the first six months of 1991 impacted heavily on our business, causing a reduction in output which resulted in by-offs and short-time at our factories during the July to December period last year."

Reduced consumer demand and the introduction of VAT were other factors that brought about the drop in profits. — Sapa.

## ECONOMICS

Devaluations  
in Africa back  
trading rand8/12/92  
19/2/92  
SIMON WILLSON

WHOLESALE devaluation of several of southern Africa's currencies is set to lend further support to the trade-weighted rand as SA trade with the countries of sub-Saharan Africa rises.

States in the sub-Saharan region have, in the past 12 months, embarked on an unprecedented and almost co-ordinated round of free market-oriented reforms. Some countries have initiated the reforms as part of a general national economic liberalisation following the overthrow of long-esconced dictatorships; others have freed their markets in a careful campaign to appease and encourage creditors. But a common thread running through the reform measures in the sub-continent has been the devaluation of national currencies.

Devaluation, as the term is commonly understood in the Western industrial context, is hardly adequate to describe the collapse in the values of several southern African currencies recently.

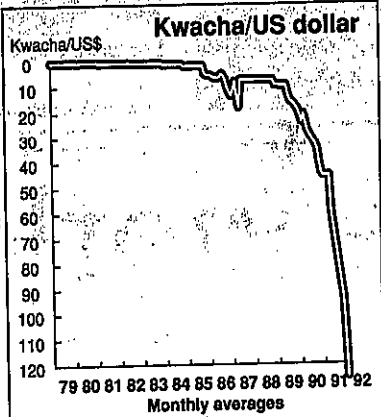
Devaluations in the 5%-15% range that cause such remarkable political and economic turbulence in advanced industrial countries are barely measurable on the scale of southern African currency devaluation.

Three months ago Angola devalued the kwanza by 50% overnight. Last month Zambia devalued the kwacha by 25% at a stroke. At times towards the end of last year the Zimbabwe dollar was allowed to slide in an officially sanctioned devaluation by around 15% a week. The Zimbabwean dollar has now fallen by 56% in the past six months.

Even at its fastest rate of descent, the depreciation of the Rubicon rand looks pedestrian in this company. In absorbing the impact of disinvestment from and loss of confidence in SA in the mid-'80s, the rand took a year to fall 22,5% against the dollar.

The plunging parities of neighbouring countries' currencies is of minor but growing significance to SA and the rand. Before February 1990, SA's sub-Saharan trading volumes were prominent among those hampered by political constraints. SA's domestic reforms have, however, transformed the country's potential commercial relationships with its immediate neighbours. Trade is now increasingly open and, from the SA authorities' point of view, is an ideal avenue for the promotion of basic manufactured exports in the quest to diversify out of primary products.

An avalanche of devaluations north of the Limpopo therefore means more, these days, than it ever used to. As trade volumes increase between SA and its neighbours to the north, the impact on the rand of the tumbling values of trading partners' currencies becomes significant. The rand's effective, or trade-weighted, value is increasingly affected by these more minor currencies as SA's trading relationships diversify away from the relatively few traditional partners retained during the days of commercial isolation.



Graphic: FIONA KRISCH Source: BARCLAYS BANK

## Weighting

Tacit acknowledgement of the rand's increased trade-weighted exposure to other currencies is carried in Standard Bank's measurement of the effective rand. The basket of trading-partner currencies against which the rand's value is measured now includes the Zimbabwe dollar, both to account for the rising levels of trade with Zimbabwe and as a proxy for other leading southern African currencies.

The Zimbabwe dollar carries a 3,28% weighting in Standard's rand basket — a reflection of what the bank says was R1,06bn in SA exports to Zimbabwe in 1990 (the last year for which complete figures are available) and R0,44bn in imports. Trade with Zimbabwe comprises 2,7% of SA's total external trade.

"The Zimbabwean dollar started to depreciate sharply against the rand last August," a bank study of the effective rand said recently, "and, despite its relatively low weight in our index, the strong appreciation of the rand against the Zimbabwean dollar contributed significantly to the rise in our effective exchange rate index."

When SA's political, commercial and cultural relations with the rest of Africa were either non-existent or covert, the sharp movements seen in African currencies over the past year were of little significance. Today, however, African currency movements of the kind depicted on the chart in respect of the Zambian kwacha can no longer be ignored. They affect the trade-weighted value of the rand already and, as the members of the southern African subcontinent forge closer links in the years ahead, are likely to influence the rand even more.

## SA 'harsh on illegals'

STAR 20/2/92  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — The Zimbabwe government has complained to Pretoria over alleged harsh treatment accorded people who cross into South Africa illegally.

The People's Voice newspaper quotes Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa as saying complaints had been lodged with the SA Government over accounts by "border jumpers" that they had been held in harsh conditions for one or two months in prison before being deported back to Zimbabwe.

The Minister also expressed concern at overcrowding of the prison on the Zimbabwean side at Beit Bridge where border jumpers were either fined or imprisoned for 55 days on their return from South Africa.

He said drought and economic hardships had led to an increased number of Zimbabweans trying to cross into South Africa.

# A thirsty city in danger of dying

362

Sowetan 20/2/92

**BULAWAYO** - Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second largest city, may die from thirst unless a campaign to stretch its dwindling water resources succeeds.

"If we fail in this programme . . . then Bulawayo will certainly die," said town clerk Mr Mike Ndubiwa, referring to the "save water" campaign and plans for a more reliable source.

"Industries will be forced to close and people will have to be evacuated," he said.

Bulawayo, a gracious sprawling city set in the dry plains of Zimbabwe's southwestern Matabeleland province, has been hard hit by the severe drought now ravaging Southern Africa.

The city has only about 18 weeks of water left in its reservoirs.

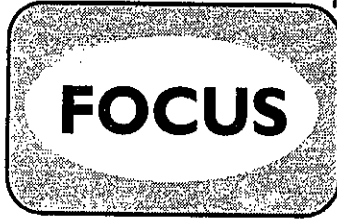
The government this month declared the city a water shortage area and promised to marshal emergency disaster funds to improve short-term supplies, kicking off with a plan to tap underground water from a nearby district.

## Housing problem

Bulawayo city council has cut each household's water allowance to 400 litres a day. The average family household has 10 members, and some homes hold up to 20 people because of an acute housing problem.

Ndubiwa says the city is considering more stringent water rationing to stretch current supplies. "I don't think we have a choice in the face of this serious drought," he adds.

Experts say further tight rationing could stretch the supplies to



March 1993.

The city council is pressing its "save water" campaign with a nightly prime-time advertisement on Zimbabwe television.

And under the slogan "Bulawayo must live", the council is pleading with the Zimbabwe government to support a city plan for the construction of a water pipeline from the huge Zambezi river bordering Zambia 500km to the north.

## Voluntary fund

A voluntary fund has been established in the city to help finance the multimillion-rand project but local officials have not given up their six-year campaign for government backing.

"The government must see and hear our plight, because at the end of the day the Zambezi water pipeline still stands out as our only lasting hope to this crisis," Ndubiwa said.

But the government, citing prohibitive costs and the lack of proper planning, has held out on the project, estimated to cost R500 million.

Local officials say the government's stance has discouraged sympathetic international donors.

"I am sure if this was for Harare, the project would have long been finished," said Mr Mike Constandinos, an outspoken councillor and one of the leading cam-



**JOSHUA NKOMO**

paigners for the Zambezi water pipeline.

Supporters of the scheme say it would turn the arid Matabeleland province into a green belt of cotton and other crops and help reduce unemployment among thousands of school-leavers in the area.

Traditional suspicion between Matabeleland, home to the warrior Ndebele people, and President Robert Mugabe's government dominated by the northern Shona people, has kept tempers short on both sides.

Some Ndebeles believe the government is trying to "fix" them for their previous support for veteran politician Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapu party in the first seven years of black majority rule from 1980.

Nkomo, an Ndebele, merged his party with the ruling Zanu-PF party in 1987 and is now co-vice-president to Mugabe.

He has kept a low profile in the Zambezi water pipeline debate which has been championed in-



**ROBERT MUGABE**

stead by junior Ndebele minister and former ZAPU security chief Mr Dumiso Dabengwa.

Industry and commerce leaders have thrown their weight behind the project, saying economic development in Matabeleland depends on a reliable water supply.

"The region has lost out due to the water crisis and the viability of existing industries is threatened by the cuts in supplies," said Mr Peter Harding, president of the Bulawayo branch of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries.

Constandinos said if the current drought persisted and the government failed to do something substantial in the next few months to develop the Zambezi water pipeline, a "disaster scenario will emerge".

He said more than a million people in Bulawayo and surrounding districts would need to be evacuated and industries would close, creating social chaos.

"God forbid we get to that stage," Constandinos said. - Sapa-Reuter.

# Drought takes its toll on the children

362  
Soulton  
20/12/92  
GWERU - More than 35 000 children under the age of five are malnourished in Zimbabwe's Midlands Province, and 15 are said to have died of food deficiency in recent months.

Ziana national news agency reported a senior nutritionist with the Ministry of Health said the situation was likely to get worse because of the current drought.

## Winter

"The situation is going to be worse as we approach winter."

"Children in grades one, two and three are said to be fainting in class because of a lack of adequate food," she said.

The unnamed nutritionist said Christian Care was going to start a child supplementary feeding programme in some Mberengwa schools shortly. Sapa.

# Food shortages pose major headache for Zimbabwe

STAR

22/2/92

(362)

**The magnitude of the Zimbabwean food crisis has been greatly underestimated and the threat of large-scale famine looms, reports ROBIN DREW of the Africa News Service.**

**HARARE** — Zimbabweans meeting in Harare this week to discuss the food crisis facing the country were given a "frightening scenario" that would see troops guarding dwindling food stocks to prevent them from being rushed by starving masses.

The magnitude of the crisis has been grossly underestimated, the delegates were told.

The chairman of the Grain Marketing Board, Cephas Msipa, called the food and water shortage a catastrophe.

Appealing urgently

for a food rationing system, businessman Eddie Cross, a trustee of the Southern African Foundation for Economic Research, said: "We must tell the people the truth, we must be open and frank. We are running out of maize and it is going to be physically impossible to import the quantities needed."

Zimbabwe was going to need its army and police to protect what food stocks there were. Mr Cross said Zimbabwe was facing a near total failure of the maize crop and might have to import 2 million tons.

"I don't believe we can import that volume of food," he said, "particularly when we also have to import up to 200 000 tons of sugar, soya beans and wheat."

A transport consultant said South African ports would not be able to cope and Zimbabwe was exploring all possible routes including Maputo, Beira, Dar es Salaam

and even Walvis Bay.

One delegate said Ministers kept on assuring people they would not starve, but the fact was that mass famine could be at hand.

A representative of a German aid project said the situation in Masvingo province was appalling. Cattle were dying and there would be no draught power next season. The Commercial Farmers' Union said it estimated that 500 000 cattle would die.

The logistics of transporting maize has been made worse by the presence of a million refugees from Mozambique in Malawi for whom 100 000 tons of maize has been ordered by the World Food Programme.

Delegates were told Zambia had already signed a contract to import 160 000 tons of maize through Beira. Urban centres in Zimbabwe would have to cope with "refugees" from the communal lands who are expected to flock to the towns.

The union representing white farmers has offered to mobilise all the transport it can to help move food stocks to famine areas.

Government and parastatal officials said they had to be very careful about what they said. Recommendations were being made to the government but had not yet been approved.

Mr Cross commented: "We have too many people prepared to leave it to the bureaucrats. The truth is that we are going to run out of food."



# Mugabe firm on land

(362)  
CT 22/2/92  
HARARE — President Robert Mugabe has promised Zimbabwe's commercial farmers that he will amend his controversial Land Acquisition Bill, due to come before parliament on Tuesday.

But he showed no sign of going back on his plan to nationalise the largely white-owned 'six million hectare "maize and tobacco belt" without giving farmers a right of appeal to the courts over compensation levels, said sources here.

Asked to heed growing international concern for Zimbabwe's financial

reputation, Mr Mugabe reportedly exploded: "If you think the World Bank is going to tell us what to do, you are wrong."

During a bruising three-hour session on Wednesday with farmers' representatives, he pledged only to review clauses which would deny farmers compensation for infrastructure not needed by incoming settlers. As the bill stands, no payment need be paid, for example, for tobacco-curing facilities if it is intended to give the land to peasant maize-growers.

## Mugabe's birthday — daunting year ahead

Argus Africa News Service

362  
ARCT 12/2/92

HARARE. — President Robert Mugabe turned 68 yesterday but the usual celebrations involving the 21st February Youth Movement have been cancelled because of the death last month of his wife Sally.

However, the Herald newspaper carried a 10-page supplement to mark his birthday, carrying messages of solidarity and congratulations.

The message from the Harare province of the ruling Zanu (PF) party says "Our authentic and consistent leader, Comrade R G Mugabe, is now 68 years old and in robust health.

"We are very confident that ... he will soldier on, leading our heroic people towards economic liberation through formulating government policies that enhance black economic advancement

Political observers note, however, that Mr Mugabe faces his most daunting year, with the threat of famine and mounting public bitterness.

Whether he will wish to soldier on is a question that is likely to be raised more often.

# Zimbabwe food rationing appeal as maize crop fails

(362) ARG 22/2/92

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — The magnitude of the food crisis facing Zimbabwe had been grossly under-estimated, delegates were told yesterday.

A frightening scenario is unfolding, said the chairman of the Grain Marketing Board, Mr Cephas Msipa, who called the food and water shortage in the country a catastrophe.

In appealing for a food rationing system, Mr Eddie Cross, a trustee of the Southern African Foundation for Economic Research, said: "We must tell the people the truth, we must be open and frank. We are running out of maize and it is going to be physically impossible to import the quantities needed.

"We are looking at an almost un-

manageable situation, a major disaster, a situation which scares me to death."

He said Zimbabwe was going to need its army and police to protect what food stocks there were.

Mr Cross said Zimbabwe was facing a near-total failure of the maize crop and might have to import two million tons.

"I don't believe we can import that volume of food," he said, "particularly when we also have to import up to 200 000 tons of sugar, soyabeans and wheat."

A transport consultant said South African ports would not be able to cope and Zimbabwe was exploring all possible routes including Maputo, Beira, Nacala, Dar es Salaam and even Walvis Bay.

# Bulawayo slowly dying of thirst

JAN RAATH

(362) Mth

Weekend Argus Correspondent

BULAWAYO. — This industrial city of 875,000 people, the country's oldest municipality, is threatened with dying of thirst.

The situation is so bad that sewage mains burst open frequently under pressure, because there is not enough water to force the effluent along, showering residential areas with excrement.

Households are restricted to

4000 a day and this ration is to be halved soon.

Only 15 weeks of water left, proclaims a large hoarding in the city centre. That is roughly when the five dams supplying the city will run out.

Thereafter, city authorities will have to turn to drilling boreholes and commandeering existing ones, recycling sewage and taking over supplies used by farmers.

One of the worst-case options openly discussed by the city

council is to bring water from the well-stocked dam in the village of Plumtree, 100 km to the west, by rail, six trainloads a day, each pulling 60 big boggers.

More than a year ago, council authorities saw the writing on the wall and called for government action, including the installation of a 380 km pipeline to draw the vast resources of the Zambezi River to the north.

Enough water flows over the

Victoria Falls in one minute to supply Bulawayo for three days. However, the cost would be huge — an estimated R3.5 billion.

So far, through campaigns that include sales of T-shirts with the slogan "Save a Thirsty Matabele", the trust has broken all national fundraising records, including one major donation, which plans to use to fund a detailed engineering design study for the Zambezi pipeline.

# Small Bellville firm wire their way into Zimbabwe

STimes (CM) 23/2/92

362

A SMALL Western Cape electrical firm, HME Electrical of Bellville, has pointed the way to penetrating lucrative African markets by successfully installing an intricate network of electrical wiring and piping at a new multimillion-rand factory in Zimbabwe.

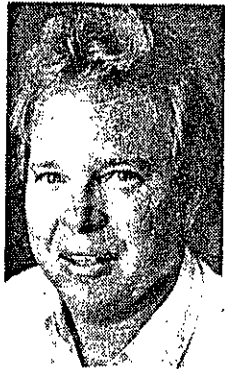
The main contractor, Paris-based Bouygues with a R33-billion annual turnover and operating in 64 countries, was so pleased with the work undertaken that it has asked the firm to tender for modifications and additions to the milk and butter factory operating at Chitungwiza near Harare.

Hannes Baard, owner of HME Electrical, said the original contract was negotiated with the French company Alfa-Laval by phone and fax from Bellville.

The project was brought to the attention of Mr Baard by Machine Moving International of Bellville. He submitted a tender and won against stiff competition from many countries.

Alfa-Laval specialises in heat exchangers, pumps, valves and other equipment as well as computers for the food industry, and its equipment was used for the Chitungwiza factory.

HME Electrical installed all the in-



**HANNES BAARD ... French were pleased with his firm's work**

ter-connecting wiring and cabling for the milk processing section of the factory, and the work involved amounted to about R100 000, mainly for manpower and tools as the materials were supplied.

"The size of the project can be gauged from the fact that 5,5 kilometres of electrical cabling and 2,5 kilometres of pneumatic piping were used," said Mr Baard.

"This was in addition to a wide range of control panels, sensors, instrumentation and solenoids, plus

electrical and pneumatic testing equipment."

Mr Baard went to Zimbabwe with his chief assistant Pierre le Roux.

With the help of four workers, they did the bulk of the work in November — and were so far ahead they were asked to take a break.

So they came back to the Western Cape for two weeks in December and returned to the site for final commissioning of the factory between January 20 and 25.

"There were no hitches at the commissioning and we were complimented on the high standard of our work," said Mr Baard.

"We were told by the French that our work was on par with most European firms.

"On our side, we were impressed with the sheer professionalism, hard work and ability to keep to daily schedules that we witnessed at the site.

"This is something we should strive for constantly in South Africa. We must really wake up our ideas if we want to compete internationally, specially now that political and trading barriers are falling fast."

# Helpless Harare may beg food aid from SA

**HARARE:** President Robert Mugabe may be forced to plead for South African help to stave off the almost certain prospect of food riots in the next two months.

A bureaucratic bungle allowed the country's grain silos to empty during last year's good farming season in the 6-million-hectare maize and tobacco belt. (362)

With this year's crop a write-off, there are grave fears that the transport system cannot cope with necessary imports of up to 2-million tons of maize.

Former chairman of the Beira Corridor Group, Mr Eddie Cross, predicted that as early as April, armed guards might have to be deployed to protect incoming food trains and grain depots as supplies run out. *STimes*

Mr Cephas Msipha, chairman of the parastatal Grain Marketing Board, chided the government for ignoring early warnings of the crisis.

## Rationing

A former cabinet minister, he told a food crisis seminar. Mr Cross was right to predict the inability of southern Africa's harbours and railways to handle the quantity of food imports now needed.

Mr Cross said: "It could turn from a short-term disaster into a calamity."

He urged the immediate introduction of a coupon rationing system.

Diplomatic sources believe President Mugabe may be forced to drop his long-standing ban on ministerial-level contact with South Africa to gain Pretoria's assistance in staving off imminent famine.

Only President De Klerk can offer tangible assistance, although South Africa's ports are hard put to cope with the estimated six-million

tons of maize imports needed to feed South Africans during the drought.

President Mugabe's continuing truculence was demonstrated again last week when he told Zimbabwe's white farmers he would consider only minor amendments to his controversial land acquisition bill, which has appalled international aid donors.

*Don Jacobs*

## Call for axing of Zim leader

HARARE. — Twelve national executive committee members of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM) yesterday said Mr Edgar Tekere was incompetent and a new leader for the party should be found. (362) CT 24/2/92

In a statement released to Ziana by ZUM, the 12 said an emergency meeting would soon be held to elect a new leadership and discuss the formation of a united front with other opposition parties.

"ZUM under Mr Tekere's leadership is the most unstable and volatile political party in Zimbabwe in living memory," the statement said. — Sapa

Robin Drew reports on papers whose main duty is praising government

# Zimbabwe media curbs 'too powerful'

STAR 26/2/92

(362)

WHILE the role of the press in the new South Africa is under debate, a prominent Zimbabwe politician who helped formulate his country's constitution has suggested that the country's Bill of Rights should be strengthened to ensure press freedom.

Dr Eddison Zvobgo, Minister of State for the Public Service, caused a stir this month when he said the government wielded overwhelming influence over the Mass Media Trust, the major shareholder in the country's main newspaper group.

Government-owned newspapers, Dr Zvobgo said, existed for the main purpose of praising the government.

But in a democracy the press had a duty to inform the public of all the news fit to print without fear or favour.

The American-trained lawyer, articulate and outspoken, played a major role in the formulation of the Lancaster House constitution

which led to independence in 1980.

But he told a journalism award ceremony recently that pre-occupation with votes for all and hence majority rule meant the structure and content of the Bill of Rights was not fully debated.

As it turned out the Bill of Rights was a "generally wholesome" document.

But he felt it should be strengthened to guarantee freedom of speech and freedom of the press.

"Given an environment where there is not freedom of expression, the right to life meaning the right to live mutely in the silence of the grave has no value.

"Liberty, security of the person and the equal protection of the law are rendered mere figments of the imagination of the dictator.

"Freedom of conscience, of assembly and association, as well as the protection for privacy of home and property ... are reduced to pipedreams devoid of substance."

What worried Dr Zvobgo was that the government of the day had the power to abridge these freedoms by law and also in other circumstances.

But he drew comfort from the presence of independent-minded judges.

And he could not see the courts accepting that an Act of Parliament whose practical effect was to muzzle the press and free speech was constitutional, unless the government could show convincingly there was a clear and present danger to the country.

He added that freedom of speech and the press must of course be exercised under the law.

The law of defamation safeguarded the integrity of others against unlawful invasion.

The criminal law provided sufficient punishment for those guilty of making subversive statements.

On the issue of what amounted to subversion, the Minister quoted from a paper by Mr Justice Manjivara which included this pas-

sage from a 1975 judgment by the Rhodesian Supreme Court:

"No matter how defamatory or grossly offensive a written or verbal attack on a government may be, such an attack is not subversive unless it is an attack on the system of government as distinct from the government operating for the time being under the system.

"The right of members of the public to criticise, even in scathing terms, the action of a government elected for the time being under a democratic constitution is one cornerstone of democracy."

On the content of newspapers, Dr Zvobgo said satire, sensationalism and even gossip all had their place in a free society.

"They enrich our lives," he said. "Let Zimbabweans laugh at themselves from time to time."

His last word of advice to journalists was to remind them that it was their duty to ensure that the Bill of Rights lives in fact, not in theory. □



# Blow for Zimbabwean farmers

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

(362)

STAR

27/2/92

HARARE — White farmers in Zimbabwe have received a slap in the face from the government which is apparently going ahead with a largely-unchanged Land Acquisition Bill.

The farmers, who met President Mugabe last week, were hoping to be able to agree on changes to the proposed legislation concerning compensation and the designation of areas of land for resettlement.

But according to the

director of the Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU), David Hasluck, no negotiations as such took place at a meeting on Tuesday with government ministers who produced their draft amendment to the Bill.

Mr Hasluck said the amendments presented by the government included inserting the word "fair" before compensation to be paid to owners of designated land taken for resettlement.

But there was still no recourse to the courts and it was left to the

Minister of Agriculture to decide what was fair.

A statement by the CFU said security of investment depended on guarantee of ownership of property.

Due process before the law and fair compensation were essential for investment in line with the thrust of economic reform.

But the system of designating land precluded recourse to the courts. The CFU also said the collateral value of land would collapse as the capital base of commercial agriculture would have been undermined.

February 27, 1992 3

## Zim land bill goes ahead

HARARE. — Controversial legislation for the nationalisation of more than half Zimbabwe's white-owned farmland is to go ahead this week, in spite of assurances from President Robert Mugabe last week that he was willing to negotiate the issue with farmers.

ET 27/2/92  
The bill is the government's legal tool to dispossess about 4 600 large-scale farmers, nearly all of them white, of 5.5 million hectares of the 10m hectares they own. — Sapa

(362)

## Zimbabwe rethinks land laws

362  
STAR 26/2/92

HARARE — Zimbabwean farmers have begun talks with the government about changes to land acquisition legislation following last week's three-hour meeting with President Mugabe.

The Land Acquisition Bill was not raised in parliament yesterday as scheduled.

It is understood attempts will be made to reach an acceptable compromise on the issue of compensation.

The original terms prohibited any appeal about compensation, and this did not go down well internationally.

Zimbabwe needs considerable overseas financial help to cope with the devastating drought and to implement its economic reforms.

Commercial farmers say the legislation would make it impossible to get finance to continue operations during the 10-year period in which the government can exercise its option to take the land.

Black farmers say the new system would perpetuate the racial division of farmland introduced during colonial days. — Star Africa Service.

# Rumble of opposition to Mugabe grows louder

STAR 27/2/92

362

**I**N A RARE display of public opposition to the government, about 60 people this week staged a peaceful demonstration outside parliament calling for an immediate general election because of loss of confidence in the government of President Mugabe.

A line of supporters of the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole's Zanu (Ndonga) party stood on the other side of the road from the parliament holding placards denouncing high prices for food, school and hospital fees as well as alleged corruption.

"We have no confidence in a Zanu (PF) government" read one poster held aloft as MPs arrived on Tuesday for the start of a new sitting after the Christmas recess.

The demonstration came at a time of increasing criticism in independent publications which have carried a stream of letters and articles critical of the government.

The lead letter in last week's Weekend Gazette said Zimbabweans had respect for Mr Mugabe for what he had done.

"But the hour has come, time is up and Mr Mugabe must seriously consider getting out or else the fury and anger of our people shall descend on him like thunder, come 1995 (when



elections are due)," said the letter.

In Bulawayo last week a call was made by a new organisation, Open Forum, for the formation of a strong political party to unseat Zanu (PF) because of the mismanagement of the economy.

In Harare the leader of the little-known National Progressive Alliance demanded an all-party conference and threatened industrial action if the call was not heeded.

Meanwhile disarray continues in the ranks of Edgar Tekere's Zimbabwe Unity Movement, the leading opposition group so far, with more criticism of Mr Tekere's leadership.

His lukewarm response to calls for unity talks by Mr Sithole, recently returned from eight years' self-exile in

**Opposition to President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party is becoming increasingly open and varied as dissatisfaction with its policies and actions grows in Zimbabwe. ROBIN DREW of The Star Africa Service reports.**

the US, has angered some of his former supporters.

Reports have also appeared about the possible formation of another opposition party led by another veteran of black nationalist politics, James Chikerema, a Lonrho executive who has been out of the political limelight since 1980.

The activities of an American-based group calling itself the Monomatapa People's Alliance (MPA) have been given prominence in an independent magazine, Parade, which said the secret organisation was lobbying Western governments.

The MPA claims widespread corruption in the ruling party leadership and has linked this to the scandal surrounding the BCCI bank.

A political manifesto issued by the MPA, whose leaders have not

been disclosed, calls for the formation of the Federal Republic of Zimbabwe with two parliaments, two prime ministers and a titular president. It says it stands for free enterprise and the privatisation of all State monopolies.

Allegations of corruption within the government have also been made by disgraced former defence minister Enos Nkala, who left the government in 1989 after he was found to have been involved in profiteering from the sale of a car and trying to cover up the deal when the Sandura Commission investigated transactions.

In a recent front-page interview in the newly launched Sunday Times, a Harare weekly, Mr Nkala said that if President Mugabe had the courage to establish a commission to investigate corruption from top to bottom, the evidence would be shattering.

He said the ruling party had been infiltrated by "sharks and careerists" and he warned against keeping the present leadership in power at the next election.

Mr Nkala dismissed reports that he was actively involved in the formation of a united front against Zanu (PF) but said he had met people of divergent political views. □

# Rumble of opposition to Mugabe grows louder

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been disclosed, calls for the formation of the Federal Republic of Zimbabwe with two parliaments, two prime ministers and a titular president. It says it stands for free enterprise and the privatisation of all State monopolies.

Allegations of corruption within the government have also been made by disgraced former defence minister Enos Nkala, who left the government in 1989 after he was found to have been involved in profiteering from the sale of a car and trying to cover up the deal when the Sandura Commission investigated transactions.

In a recent front-page interview in the newly launched Sunday Times, a Harare weekly, Mr Nkala said that if President Mugabe had the courage to establish a commission to investigate corruption from top to bottom, the evidence would be shattering.

He said the ruling party had been infiltrated by "sharks and careerists" and he warned against keeping the present leadership in power at the next election.

Mr Nkala dismissed reports that he was actively involved in the formation of a united front against Zanu (PF) but said he had met people of divergent political views. □

# Sanlam to transfer Zimbabwe business to Southern

Business Staff

SANLAM intends transferring its life assurance business in Zimbabwe to the Southern Life Association.

The transfer follows exactly a decade after it ceased the marketing of new policies in Zimbabwe, Sanlam said today.

The transfer is still subject to the approval of the authorities.

Chairman Dr A J van den Berg said the transfer of liabilities and assets would benefit all policy holders and said it would be more practical and cost efficient to perform the administration from within Zimbabwe.

According to chief actuary Chris Swanepoel, Sanlam has liabilities under more than 5 000 policies in Zimbabwe with premium income totalling about 1,8 million Zimbabwe dollars (R1 million).

The book value of the Zimbabwean net assets held by Sanlam is about 56 million Zimbabwe dollars (R31 million), substantially more than is required to meet liabilities. The surplus belongs to policy holders in Zimbabwe and enables Sanlam to declare special equalisation bonuses to them.

A number of safeguards have been incorporated in the transfer agreement to protect the interests of the policy holders.

Southern Life Association in Zimbabwe is registered by Southampton Assurance, one of the larger life insurers in Zimbabwe.

Sanlam's ventures in the former Rhodesia started in 1938 and the company stopped writing new business there in January 1982.

# Harare land Bill called 'confiscation'

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service (367)

**HARARE** — Zimbabwe's contentious land acquisition Bill was presented to parliament yesterday and has gone to the legal committee for clearance.

Provided the Bill does not receive an adverse report, the next step will be the setting of a date for the second reading debate.

In this debate, MPs will have the opportunity to talk on the general principles of the Bill, under which the government will have the power

to take land for resettlement and fix the compensation to be paid to the former owners, who will not have recourse to the courts.

Foreign donors, farming bodies and the Law Society have expressed concern about the terms of the Bill and the effect on investment and confidence in Zimbabwe.

The amendments which the government has told farmers it will introduce have not yet been publicly announced.

The proposed land legislation — aimed at taking half the white-owned farmland for black resettlement — smacked of confiscation, the leader of the association represent-

ing tobacco growers, Mick Taggart, said yesterday.

In a full-page advertisement attacking the Land Acquisition Bill, Mr Taggart said it was doubtful if the Bill would be accepted as a legal document in a court of law.

"Right now our problems seem to be insurmountable," he said. "To add to the devastating drought, farmers are faced with the spectre of land acquisition by government."

Urging farmers not to give up, Mr Taggart warned however that the land Bill could destroy the base of the country's economy and was likely to undermine Zimbabwe's credibility abroad.

Star

The action by the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association follows a warning yesterday by the Commercial Farmers Union that investor confidence in Zimbabwe would be damaged by the manner in which the government proposed to acquire land.

Also yesterday, the British High Commissioner, Sir Kieran Prendergast, said Zimbabwe must be careful that its domestic legislation did not send the wrong signal to outsiders.

He said Western governments were putting more emphasis on good governance in deciding where to direct aid. The Zimbabwe government

has said it is aware of the concerns of donors regarding the Land Acquisition Bill. Finance Minister Dr Bernard Chidzero told a donor conference in Paris this month that the government was still open to ideas and concerns, since the Bill could be subject to amendment during debate.

"It is our concern that implementation of land policy should be in a manner not detrimental to investment."

One of the main objections to the Bill is that the fairness of the compensation offered by the government cannot be tested in the courts.

# Zimbabwe stock market crashes <sup>(362)</sup> very quietly

HARARE — Zimbabwe's stock market has crashed but no one in the local market wants to pronounce the bad news in such bland terms.

Brokers said industrial stocks had by early this week plunged by more than 80% since September, mainly due to falling business confidence.

"It's so gloomy and it is something one would rather not talk about," one market analyst said yesterday.

"We have been watching quietly and the stocks have fallen almost at the same pace as the confidence in commerce and industry," he said.

The industrial index had by Wednesday tumbled to 1 503,58 from a peak 2 732,41 on September 3, with brokers saying the bear run would continue on the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange "unless new factors emerge to arrest it".

Sixty-two companies are quoted on the Zimbabwe stock market, seven of them minings — which have traded fairly steadily in the last six months.

Economists said the seeds of decline in industrials were sown between June and September when the Zimbabwe dollar fell by more than 40% against major currencies under an accelerated depreci-

ation programme aimed at boosting the country's export earnings.

"From that moment, many investors — except those with stakes in export earning counters — started selling their shares and went out to look for fresh ground, including minings," said one bank economist.

Mining stocks — which are guaranteed against currency devaluation — soared to 449,78 points in five weeks from 285,00 points in September in the ensuing panic. The mining index was at 376,08 on Wednesday.

Other investors dumped their money on the local money market where interest rates had been raised sharply in the same month, making subsequent adjustments in the rates or the stabilisation of the Zimbabwe dollar inadequate to shift interest back to industrials.

At the start of the slide, some brokers said it was a natural levelling off of an overvalued market, but after a 30% fall, panic set in.

They said Zimbabwe's five-year economic reform programme — which begun in January — was six to eight months behind schedule.

"That does not inspire confidence at all," one source said. The rise in bank lending rates, he said, had also pushed the small-scale investor off

the market.

"A lot of them were using borrowed money to buy shares but the interest rates are now too prohibitive and it's no longer profitable to do so.

"The ravages of a severe drought, which has already killed thousands of livestock and threatens millions of people with starvation, has worsened the situation."

Some industries are already operating below capacity and businessmen say they may be forced to close shop due to the shortage of water.

Stock brokers said a sharp decline in institutional support had also hit the market.

"There is a general wait and see attitude on the part of big investors, the ones that underpin the market, and this does not augur well for the economy," said a financial journalist with the semi-official Business Herald weekly.

Economic experts paint a generally gloomy picture for 1992 — with some forecasting negative economic growth — but there are slight hopes that tobacco exports may boost the stocks.

Zimbabwe expects to earn about Z\$3,5bn from its tobacco crop, largely unaffected by the drought. — Reuter.



# Zanu (PF) applause at tabling of land Bill <sup>362</sup>

8/par 28/2/92

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Ruling Zanu (PF) party backbenchers yesterday thumped their seats and applauded loudly as Zimbabwe's Agriculture Minister Witness Mangwende introduced the controversial Land Acquisition Bill for first reading.

Representatives of the 4 500 commercial farmers on Wednesday announced the end of the road had been reached in trying to negotiate a compromise on the Bill, aimed at clearing the way for nationalisation of the 6-million hectare "maize and tobacco belt" without farmers having right of recourse to the courts over compensation.

"Very good" cheered MPs, as Mangwende tabled the long-awaited legislation which has aroused severe warnings from lawyers, from international financiers, from world agricultural experts and observers of Zimbabwe's internal money market.

It now goes to the parliamentary legal committee, which is expected to rule that there is no conflict between its provisions and the declaration of rights in its 1990 amended form, permitting nationalisation on state-dictated terms.

The British High Commissioner to Zim-

babwe, Sir Kieran Prendergast, made an outspoken speech on Wednesday warning President Robert Mugabe's government about jeopardising the R32m economic reform programme through "signals sent by legislation". Britain has frozen aid for peasant resettlement since Zimbabwe shelved "willing buyer willing-seller" land reforms.

"Aid is too scarce to waste on badly governed countries," warned Prendergast, who previously angered Mugabe with his strong remarks on the seizure of white-owned farmland without market value compensation.

The Land Acquisition Bill is expected to come before the 150-seat assembly for second reading next week, and is certain to gain overwhelming support with only three opposition members in the House.

Of interest will be the position of four whites, all belonging to Zanu (PF): Jacobus "Sean" Hundermark and Max Rosenfels, both farming members, were present when the Bill was presented yesterday and pointedly failed to join in the applause.

CT 28/2/92 (362)

# Zim land bill cheered

**HARARE.** — Members of parliament pounded their benches enthusiastically yesterday as Zimbabwe's government presented controversial legislation to enable it to nationalise half of the country's white-owned farmland.

Some MPs shouted "Yauya", which in Shona means "The land has come".

The Land Acquisition Bill is popular among blacks who see it as providing them at last with the spoils of their victory over white minority rule 12 years ago.

The bill provides for the resettlement of tens of thousands of landless blacks on some five million hectares of land owned by mainly white large-

scale commercial farmers.

The government would be entitled to set the price it will pay for the land and farmers would be denied the right of appeal to the courts.

As part of normal parliamentary routine, the bill was immediately referred to a parliamentary legal committee for an opinion on whether it violates the constitution.

It is expected to be debated at a second reading next week.

In this move the government has brushed aside warnings by international donors and an 11th-hour plea from the farmers for a change of heart. — Sapa-AFP

## AFRICA

# Convoy on corridor of fear

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

By HAMILTON WENDE

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

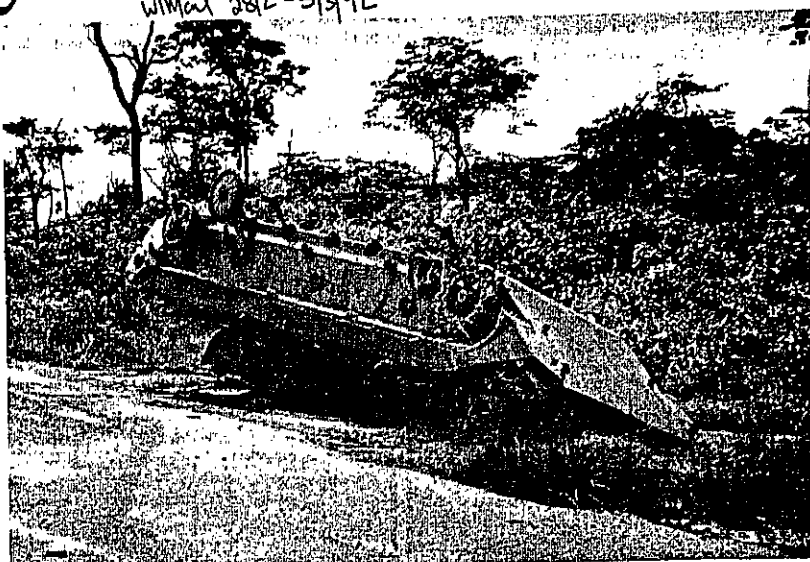
Figures are hard to come by. The only real source of information is from the truckers who do the route, but it is mostly rumour that has been passed from driver to driver. There is little or no media coverage of them — it's just another little Third-World war.

The collection point for the convoy is near a Frelimo army outpost about 20km inside the Mozambique border. A few officers lounge in the shade of a low-walled rondavel. From the bush around us emerges a number of teenage soldiers dressed in a motley array of faded camouflage fatigues, T-shirts, slip-slops and combat boots. All are armed with AK-47s and other weapons and they go from truck to truck, begging for anything they can get from the drivers.

It is 7am. Already the sweat is running down the face of Laxton, the driver who has agreed to give me a lift. Without any visible signal, the trucks in front of us start moving off into the heat and we follow. Only a few kilometres down the road we start to see evidence of the war that has wracked this country for more than 17 years. Every building is pockmarked with holes from AK-47 fire. Then we see our first evidence of more recent attacks: a huge load of bottles lies smashed in a glittering heap on the side of the road, the tarmac black and burnt from rocket fire.

"The *matsangas* (bandits) hit them first with RPGs and then they came out of the bush and stabbed them with bayonets to teach them a lesson," says Laxton. "They killed women too, chopped them dead with pangas."

About 50km out of Zobue is the most dangerous part of the journey. The bush is thick — mostly mopani



Sign of the times ... One of the many vehicles littering the Tete corridor — and the district is remote.

There is one bad stretch where, for about 20km, every 500m or so there is a burned-out vehicle lying in the bush. The soldiers ride up and down in their armoured vehicles peering anxiously into the bush, holding their weapons at the ready. The convoy of more than a hundred trucks is five or six kilometres long. With only three vehicles guarding the convoy — one APC and two seven-ton trucks with 188mm machine guns mounted on the back — there are long periods of time when you are completely unprotected.

After two hours of tension-filled driving we pull into Tete. The APC comes screaming past us, headlights flashing, the horn blowing. Soldiers give the "thumbs up" sign at the drivers as they pass them. We are in Frelimo-secured territory again. Safe. That night we sleep in Tete on the banks of the Zambezi.

At 6am the convoy starts to gather on the outskirts of town. The landscape is a red sandy plain dotted with thick knobbly baobabs. All along the road on this section are children begging, their hands outstretched towards the trucks: "Driver, driver ... Please bread, please bread ... tobacco? ... shirt?..." The children's expressions contort in anger and disappointment as, one by one, the trucks crawl past them blowing dust and hot, reeking

diesel fumes into their faces.

Further on, the bush becomes thicker. A burned-out cab lies next to the blackened remains of a lala palm tree. The mood starts to tighten. The possibility of an attack puts everyone on edge.

In a shallow depression filled with white sand and sun-bleached grass there are the scorched remains of a Land Rover hit by an RPG-7 rocket. It was hit yesterday, but nobody seems to know what happened to the occupants.

Twenty kilometres from the Zimbabwe border we come around a bend in the road. A column of thick black smoke billows into the air. All along the rise of the hill, trucks are stopped and the drivers standing on the far edge of the road, peering nervously ahead. There are no troops anywhere near. A few drivers are gathered in anxious, jittery knots. The air is abuzz with a mix of Shona, English and Portuguese. Many of the drivers are on the verge of unhitching their loads and doing a U-turn.

A few hundred metres on, there is a trailer burning furiously on the side of the road. A group of Frelimo soldiers is standing guard over it, AK-47s at the hip.

A short distance beyond that is a horse standing without a trailer. Everybody gets out to gather around the driver and ask him what happened.

He doesn't know. He looked in his mirror and saw his cargo in flames. His hands are cut and bleeding from releasing his trailer so quickly.

His freight was bales of cotton, so the likely explanation for the fire is spontaneous combustion. But not everyone is convinced.

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

A kilometre down the road into Zimbabwe is a pub. Lucky Dube blares out of speakers on the wall, a snooker table in the corner, and young women sitting at the bar. The talk is all about the corridor. Who saw what, and where — a scorched wreck that hadn't been there last time, a rustle someone saw in the mopani that turned out to be a hornbill — how scared nobody was. And, of course, what happened yesterday and last week with the rockets, the bayonets and the pangas and what might have happened today...

It was only the fire this trip, but who knows about next time? There are too many burnt-out wrecks along the road to think that it can't happen to you. But jobs are scarce these days. Laxton's wife and two daughters are waiting back home in Harare, and the danger pay for driving the Tete is Zim\$500 a trip.

# Last battle in Zimbabwe's Land Bill war

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S/Times  
11/3/92

THE knives are out in Zimbabwe as white commercial farmers and the ruling Zanu (PF) party fight the last round of the long struggle over President Robert Mugabe's controversial Land Acquisition Bill.

Farmers launched a massive advertising campaign to put their case to Zimbabwe's overwhelmingly black electorate last week as negotiations with ministers on a compromise formula for nationalisation reached the end of the road. The Bill was introduced in parliament on Thursday, and is expected to come up for a second reading this week.

The state-run Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation initially refused to screen a video made by the Commercial Farmers' Union to present their views, but it has been rescheduled for broadcast this weekend.

The Herald newspaper, which is controlled by the parastatal Mass Media Trust, accepted a full-page advertisement from the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association, claiming that the legislation, in its present form, "could destroy the very base of our country's economy".

The farmers found unexpected support from the Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, an implacable critic of white rule in Rhodesia before independence in 1980.

The commission's director, Mr Mike Auret, said the land legisla-

**From  
Michael Hartnack  
in Harare**

tion gave sweeping power to designate land for nationalisation to the Minister of Agriculture, thus creating "a potential for corrupt practices".

Farmers would be denied the protection of law, he said.

And Mr Auret warned that the government's plan to take over the 6-million-hectare "maize and tobacco belt" at below market value compensation would worsen, not solve, Zimbabwe's crisis over food security and threaten both the farming and financial sectors of the economy.

## Urgent

Commercial farmers' representatives met President Mugabe last month and were promised negotiations over amendments to the Bill.

But last Tuesday they were presented with "take or leave it" modifications which addressed none of their major fears.

Meanwhile, the Southern African Foundation for Economic Research called for the urgent introduction of food rationing, warning that Zimbabwe cannot import more than 1.7-million tons of the 2.7-million tons of maize, wheat and sugar its people need to survive until the next hoped-for harvest in April 1993.

## Mugabe forced to tone down land Bill

By ANDREW MELDRUM: Harare  
TWELVE years after Zimbabwe's independence the country is once again embroiled in the question of how to achieve an equitable distribution of land between white commercial farmers and black peasants.

About 4 300 large-scale farmers remain the owners of 11-million hectares, while 7.5-million peasants are confined to arid communal areas.

With an eye to regaining rural support, the Mugabe government recently unveiled its Land Acquisition Bill, empowering it to forcibly purchase commercially-farmed land.

As a result of domestic and international pressure the Zimbabwe government this week began a process to amend the proposed Bill before presenting it to parliament.

Not only the country's white farmers are concerned by the draft Land Acquisition Bill, which authorises the government to set the purchase price for farms and prevents farmers appealing to the courts if the price is too low. Bankers, industrialists and businessmen are worried about the effect the government's land purchase plans will have on the country's agriculturally-driven economy.

The farmers also object to the government's intention to pay them out over a period of five years.

The government has stated its intention to purchase 5.5-million of the 11-million hectares owned by white farmers. Zimbabwe's commercial farmers are small in number, but they produce 80 percent of the country's commercially-marketed food.

President Robert Mugabe's party sees swift action to redistribute white-owned land to blacks as their best way to win back dwindling support.

Britain has been the main donor to Zimbabwe's land resettlement since independence, granting £20-million to the effort. Britain maintains that redistribution of white-owned land to blacks must be done on a freely negotiated, willing seller-willing buyer basis. If the government forcibly purchases land at arbitrary prices, the British government is certain to stop any further funding for resettlement.

The furore raised by the land redistribution plans is strong enough to scuttle the Mugabe government's progress in regaining favour with the West. Mugabe has dropped his socialist ideology and his plans to establish a one-party state. The World Bank-designed structural adjustment plan puts market forces in control of the economy.

But the Bill flies in the face of the structural adjustment. Visiting World Bank President Lewis Preston ventured that it could be re-worked to accomplish land reform in a more moderate way. Criticism of the land plans was more direct at a Paris meeting of Zimbabwe's top donors last week. Mugabe quickly held a meeting with representatives of the farmers. He promised them they could be part of a re-writing of the Bill.

Hostage as it is to the international funding agencies for its structural adjustment plans and for critical drought relief assistance, the Mugabe government has apparently sent its land Bill back to the drawing board to modify it to placate farmers and to reassure the foreign donors.

# THE LAND BILL

## Designation Is No The Best Option

In a statement made recently, the President of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association, Mr Mick Taggart, said that the Draft Land Bill now being presented to Parliament is disturbing for a number of reasons. It threatens productive commercial farmers, it could destroy the very base of our country's economy and it is likely to undermine Zimbabwe's credibility abroad.

"When the heavens are smiling, major problems become insignificant and minor problems are ignored. When the heavens are not smiling, major problems appear insurmountable and minor problems become major ones."

### WHERE DO WE STAND?

"Right now our problems seem to be insurmountable. To add to the devastating drought, farmers are faced with the spectre of land acquisition by Government. No commercial farmer escapes this reality. It is something that threatens us all.

The maps of designated areas that we have seen are very similar to those drawn up in 1985. What is significant is that they only demarcate 20% of the land that our Government says is needed. Therefore, at this stage, one cannot ascertain exactly which farms are in or out of the resettlement exercise."

### CONFISCATION:

therefore, not be necessary, and land would become available for distribution without eroding the productive base of the country."

### THE CURRENT PREDICAMENT — NATURAL AND MANMADE.

"This year our country is facing the worst drought in its history. Coupled with severe cutbacks in agricultural production due to poor producer prices for controlled commodities Government is forced to import two million tonnes of maize at a cost of Z\$3 billion — simply to feed the people of Zimbabwe. What about feed for livestock, cotton for the spinning industry and oilseeds for cooking oil?

One wonders how different the situation might

The Export Retention Scheme (ERS) is up and running now, and it will get bigger and better. Another encouraging sign is that there is more and more competition amongst input suppliers. (You can actually choose the tractor or pick-up you want.)"

### TOBACCO'S IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

"The tobacco market is still buoyant. There is a lot more leaf on offer in the world this year and it is likely to be more of a buyers' market. Merchants will be more selective and we will probably experience a much wider price range.

Consumption of tobacco continues to increase. We are fortunate to have an advanced infrastructure for handling the complete crop, in addition to the expertise required to capture our share of the expanding market.

The Reserve Bank has assured us that there will be no restrictions on funds to purchase the tobacco crop.

I sincerely hope that we will enjoy good soaking rains soon. They may not benefit this season, but would certainly give us a good start to the next one."

### FARMING WITH CONFIDENCE.

trary, we appreciate that it is necessary, and if the system of land redistribution is fair and reasonable, we would give it our full backing. But the Draft Land Bill as it stands is not fair and reasonable. In fact Section IV (Designation) of the Bill smacks of confiscation. Consequently it is doubtful that the Bill will be accepted as a legal document in a Court of Law."

## DESIGNATION.

"On a recent trip abroad I was constantly asked about the land issue. My reply was that we are extremely concerned about designation. I said that on our return to Zimbabwe we would discuss Section IV of the Bill with the Minister of Agriculture and, hopefully, His Excellency, the President.

We have put forward constructive proposals to the Minister, but to date we have found it very difficult to reach him to discuss these proposals. To add to the problem, we feel that Members of Parliament are not fully aware of the contents of the Bill and that the general public has not been briefed about the negative aspects of block designation.

In my opinion designation is required only if the intention is to deny the farmer access to the Courts to appeal, and if compensation is below market value."

## WE SUPPORT LAND REFORM.

"We accept that there is a need to settle farmers on commercial farmland and we actively support Government in this programme. In fact over the past four years, with full co-operation from Government and the Agricultural Finance Corporation, we have successfully trained and settled farmers on former commercial land acquired on a willing buyer, willing seller basis.

I would like to propose that, if Government cannot acquire land other than by designation, the private sector, headed by agriculture, would be pleased to co-operate with Government in developing viable farming projects and work hand-in-hand with them in raising donor funds. Designation would,

Z\$3 billion instead of being pushed into non-profitability. I say to the Ministry of Agriculture: "You created this situation, you fix it."

Fortunately the tobacco farmer is better off than the grain farmer. At least he has something to sell this season."

## THE IMPORTANCE OF VIABLE AGRICULTURE.

"A viable agricultural industry is essential if our structural adjustment programme is to succeed. Government is fully aware of the key role that agriculture plays. For this reason I feel sure that we will be granted realistic prices for our commodities in future.

In the past our Government has supported the tobacco industry. An example is the recent offshore loan of Z\$55 million which has enabled us to expand our industry by 36% in two years. New offshore loans will be secured until all our inputs are on Open General Import Licence (OGIL). We intend to use these funds in the best possible way in an attempt to contain increases in costs of production.

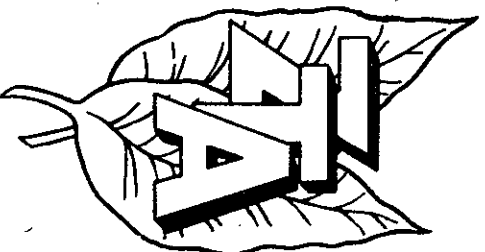
temptation to give up. We must keep moving forward and continue farming with confidence. When better times and kinder weather are with us, we must be able and willing to take advantage of the position. For the benefit of agriculture — the backbone of Zimbabwe's economy.

I take this opportunity to wish all tobacco farmers a good selling season and urge all Zimbabweans to think rationally, pragmatically and positively about the future of agriculture and its importance to our country's survival and development."

M. TAGGART  
PRESIDENT

## DESIGNATION IS NOT THE ANSWER.

Inserted in the interests of a secure future for all Zimbabweans.



# What Designation Means

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement may, at any time, designate an area or piece of rural land as land to be acquired. Following designation no additional improvements or alterations may be made by the farmer to his property without the approval of the Minister.

No person shall sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any designated rural land except in accordance with the prior written permission of the Minister. The application to the Minister must say to whom the land is to be sold, leased or disposed of; the terms

and conditions of the proposed sale or lease or disposal; the reasons and any other particulars specified.

Compensation will be paid for designated rural land that has been acquired. However, if a farmer considers that the compensation is unreasonable, he will have no recourse in a Court of Law.

Compensation may not mean immediate payment, or in cash and improvements to the land may not be assessed at current market value.

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## Sanlam transfers Harare business

CAPE TOWN — Sanlam is to transfer its life assurance business in Zimbabwe to the Southern Life Association.

The transfer, subject to the approval of the authorities, comes 10 years after Sanlam stopped marketing policies in Zimbabwe.

Chairman Dr A J van den Berg says the transfer will benefit all policy-owners. It would be more practical and cost efficient to perform the administration from within Zimbabwe.

Chief actuary Chris Swanepoel says Sanlam has liabilities under more than 5 000 policies in Zimbabwe, with premium income totalling R1 million.

The Southern Life Association in Zimbabwe is registered by Southampton Assurance. — Sapa



pushed net assets a share down 29% from 400p to 283p.

not regard this figure as a fair reflection of this exceptional asset".

## Huge profit rise for cement manufacturer

HARARE — One of Zimbabwe's major cement manufacturers, Circle Cement Limited, recorded an overall group profit of Z\$8.2m in 1991, up from a mere Z\$1.9m the previous year. *B/Pan 3/3/92*

Ziana news agency reports the company's latest report to shareholders said the group turnover had advanced by 64% to reach Z\$79.7m.

Cement sales of 326 000 tons were re-

corded, representing a 20% increase over the previous year's level.

"This improvement resulted both from increased reliability of major plant items and from a modest level of clinker importation," the report said. *(362)*

It said the main reason for the increased turnover — apart from the increased sales volumes — was the long-awaited abolition of price control on cement announced in early August. — Sapa.

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# Intellectuals urged to discuss land issue

Harare

(362)

4/3/92

THE debate on the Land Acquisition Bill must also involve intellectuals as their opinions can be vital in solving the land issue, the Forestry Commission general manager, Cde Yemi Katerere, said in Harare yesterday.

He said: "Personally I feel offended by what is going on. We are just seated without countering what they (commercial farmers) are formulating.

"Cabinet ministers, intellectuals in particular, agriculturists and the country at large should concert their efforts by

involving themselves in the debate on the land question."

Cde Katerere said some officials were reluctant to air their views on the proposed Bill because they owned large tracts of land which were idle.

Commercial farmers were taking advantage of the drought that ravaged virtually the whole country. There should be closer co-operation and fair judgment by those involved to distribute land equally without grieving the other side.

The Bill, if enacted, entitles the Government to take land for resettlement programmes and compensate the farmer.

There is no provision for farmers to appeal in the courts if they are not satisfied with the compensation.

The farmers have rejected the proposed Bill without amendments. They claim that productive commercial farming will be threatened, investors will be scared away and Zimbabwe's credibility abroad will be undermined.

Meanwhile, the University of Zimbabwe Students' Union has come

out in support of the Bill.

"The students union appeals to all patriotic Zimbabweans and progressive forces to rally behind Parliament as it battles to redress a known historical imbalance," says an SU statement.

"The Government, Parliament, Commercial Farmers' Union and the nation at large should be reminded of the current injustice of colonialism where the majority of our people languish, living in semi-arid, barren 'Tribal Trust Lands', or worse still remain landless in their country.

"We mince no words on this issue; our colonisers of yesterday who brutally confiscated our people's land and fought a war of imperialism cannot educate us today on this issue, an injustice we fought against during our liberation struggle," said the statement, signed by the Student Union's vice-president, Cde Martin Dhinha.

Not to redress "this injustice, this colonially entrenched violation" would be making Zimbabwe's independence and the "blood of fallen heroes" meaningless, it says. — Ziana.

# Need of

Hand Page  
Page 5. 1992 Front Page

## No whites resettled

THERE are no white Zimbabweans who have been resettled in the country because none of them applied to be included on the resettlement programme, Parliament heard yesterday.

Replying to a question, the Senior Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, Cde Joseph Msika, said this did not mean that if whites applied to be resettled, they would be turned down.

"There are no white Zimbabweans who have been resettled because none have registered for resettlement. However, I would like to make it abundantly clear that this is a national programme open to all Zimbabweans without regard to colour, race or creed," Cde Msika said.

If any MP knew anyone who was a citizen and who had been denied resettlement because of their colour, race or creed, they should report the case to his ministry and thorough investigations would be carried out. — Ziana.

## 600 squatters live in the open

**Herald Reporter: MASVINGO**

NEARLY 600 Nyahombe squatters whose huts were destroyed by Chiredzi district administration officers in January are still living in the open and have not received any drought relief food in two months.

Some squatters have since built pole and dagga huts on the ruins of their brick huts which were burnt down in the January 8 raid.

A spokesman for the squatters, Cde Soro Wapomba, told The Herald last week that the whole village was on the verge of starvation as both water and food were becoming increasingly scarce.

Despite repeated pledges by senior Government officials in Masvingo, the squatters are yet to receive another consignment of food and the tarpaulins they were promised.

"The Chiredzi people (the district administration) have given food to Nyahombe resettlement farmers twice since the raid but we got nothing," he said.

The peasants, most of whom had their life savings and property destroyed in the raid, last received food handouts on January 10, after their MP, Cde Eddison Zvobgo, had intervened.

Each family was given 10 kg of grain which Cde Wapomba said fell short of the families' needs.

The squatters, who claim to have lived in the area now called Nyahombe resettlement scheme since time immemorial, said they were promised food every month but this had not happened.

The Masvingo Governor, Cde Josiah Hungwe, in January instituted plans to move the squatters to a place with proper sanitation facilities and shelter while a lasting solution to the land problem was being looked into.

The peasants, who have steadfastly refused to be called squatters, have accused the Chiredzi district administrator, Cde Mike Tavaruva, of being "overzealous" adding that he was out to "get us".

*Herald - Tuesday March 5/92 Page 3. (362)*

Bus Her. Sp/92 (362)

# ZSE crashes as business confidence slumps

THE Zimbabwe Stock Exchange has crashed under sustained selling pressure from nervous investors and falling business confidence, brokers and analysts said this week.

The industrial index has nose-dived from a record high of 2 732 on September 3 last year to 1 403 on Tuesday, a 48,6 percent fall, as investors dumped shares on a market weakened by the absence of institutional investors, and battered by harsh economic winds.

"Investors are dumping shares on the mar-

initially stopped buying as they felt the market was over-extended. In the meantime, other more favourable investment opportunities arose in the money and property markets.

After the upward move-

**BY BUSINESS EDITOR  
ANDREW RUSINGA**

ment in interest rates institutional investors found the money market "a very pleasant resting place for their excess cash rather than the equity market which was going back," the broker added.

"The market is now being dictated to by the whims of individual in-

vestors. The more the market goes down, the more he panics. And without the support of the institutional investor to underpin the market, it goes lower," the broker added.

ket," one broker told Business Herald. "They are throwing them off."

The market started to falter in September 1991 following the sharp rise in interest rates as part of the monetary reforms being introduced under the economic structural adjustment programme.

As interest rates in the short-term money market soared to as high as 40 percent, institutional investors shifted their funds from the equity market which could not compete on yields.

Then, brokers described the downturn as a correction of a market which was over-valued and expected a rally after a short while. But the market never turned back; it pointed one way — downwards.

"This is more than a healthy correction. The market is over-sold. We are in the throes of a bear market," another broker said. The broker said institutional investors — the pillar of the market —

vestors. The more the market goes down, the more he panics. And without the support of the institutional investor to underpin the market, it goes lower," the broker added.

In the best month in October last year, 26,8 million shares valued at \$56,6 million were traded. Last month, only 6,7 million shares worth \$9,4 million changed hands.

A stockbroking firm said this week a number of counters were being off-loaded at virtually any price with total disregard, in several instances, for the fundamental strengths and prospects of the companies concerned. It said the fall of the industrial index to 1 433 was well below the most pessimistic forecasts.

For instance, Mashonaland Holdings, a blue chip share, plunged to 150 cents on Friday last week from 210 cents at previous deals. Even a string of good company

7,60 percent while New York's is at 2,87 percent. London's at 4,70 percent and Johannesburg's stands at 2,40 percent. The lower the yield and the higher the price/earnings ratio, the greater the confidence in the market.

Brokers said this year and 1993 were likely to be tough years for Zimbabwe's economy, meaning pressure would continue on the market.

"There is no sign that the market is going to turn around," one broker said. "Until the stabilising influence of the institutional investors re-enters the stock-market, the bears will remain in command," the broking firm warned.

Acquisition Bill which had its first reading in Parliament last Friday," the broking firm said.

"On top of the drought and the absence of any strategic emergency food reserves, rising inflation and others, it is little wonder that the private enterprise ship of state — the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange — is plunging through heavy seas," it added.

Drawing comparisons with other world markets the broker said while New York had an average price/earnings ratio of 25,40 and London 14,70, Harare's market had 5,04. Average dividend yields for Harare stand at

# Land Bill will destroy the economy

DESPITE the fact that I addressed the issue of land acquisition in January 1991, and again a few weeks ago, I make no apology for reverting to it once again, for the consequences of enactment of the Land Acquisition Bill are potentially of such immense negative effect upon the Zimbabwean economy, as are the attitudes of government in pursuing that enactment, and the manner in which certain of Zimbabwe's leading politicians are wholly disregarding reasoned submissions and arguments, that the entirety of Zimbabwe's peoples will suffer irremediable prejudice and hardship.

It is therefore of the greatest import that opposition to certain of the Bill's provisions continue to be voiced as strongly as possible by all in the community, in the hope that even belatedly, government will reconsider and will demonstrate the maturity necessary to admit error and remedy it before Zimbabwe is destroyed.

In doing so, I reiterate that, not only am I not opposed to land redistribution, but that I support it, provided that it is effected in an equitable manner, and that it does not occasion the total collapse of the economy.

It is not my intent to address political and moral issues, for these have been fully aired over an extended period of time, by both the proponents and the opponents of the Bill, and, in particular, were comprehensively considered in the excellent article in this newspaper last week by Gukurahundi. I therefore restrict my comments to the economic considerations.

The consequences of providing for designa-

tion of lands, which may at any time, during the ten years following the designation, be acquired by government on the unilateral determination of the minister, and the restriction of any improvements being effected once land has been designated (unless consented to by the minister), are that, with the stroke of a pen, the market value of property is wholly destroyed, for the only value that can thereafter be possibly attributed to the land is the amount of compensation as would be forthcoming in the event of the land being acquired by government.

Furthermore, as any improvements as are on the land are to be valued only having regard to their direct contribution to the business and commercial operations on the land, and without significant regard to either their original cost or to the cost of replacement, the value attaching to such improvements is also wholly diminished.

Many commercial farmers, due to lack of capital (and especially those whose capital has been substantially consumed in endeavours of survival after years of uneconomic prices being paid for their crops, and after the impact of severe droughts, have had no alternative, but to rely upon loan funding by bankers and financial institutions, secured by their farms.

With the considerable dilution in value of their farms upon designation, the collateral value of the farms becomes a fraction of their previous value, with a resultant diminution in the loan funding as will be available in the future. The insufficiency of working capital as results, will

preclude the farmer from growing adequate crops or keeping economically viable sized herds of livestock, and hence the scarcity of food and the reduction in foreign exchange earnings caused by this year's drought, will be perpetuated in the future.

Zimbabweans will be kept on the brink of starvation; millers, stockfeed merchants and other purveyors of agricultural produce will collapse financially, due to the insufficiency of saleable products, and all sectors of the community and the economy will suffer the repercussions of inadequate agricultural foreign exchange

## The Eric Bloch Column

earnings.

For those farmers who are able to survive during the period that elapses from the date of designation to the date of acquisition, economic destruction still confronts them, for at the time of acquisition, they not only may receive too little compensation to enable them to settle their debts, but even if a surplus were to remain, that surplus would not be immediately payable, but may be paid, at the absolute discretion of the minister, over a period of up to five years. This will prevent the farmer from re-establishing himself elsewhere.

The decline in agricultural activity will

also impact upon the revenue flow to government, as, with a marked reduction in the profits of the agricultural sector, substantially less direct and indirect taxation will accrue to the fiscus. Government will then be forced to halt essential expenditure needed to maintain and develop the infrastructure, to fund the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme, and to meet the community's health, education, social welfare and other needs, or in the alternative, to increase heavily the taxation on other sections of the community and the economy.

An especially negative economic consequence of the legislation in its present form is that, whether justifiably or otherwise, both resident and non-resident investors, are deterred from effecting new investment in Zimbabwe. Their perception is that an untenable level of risk would be attached to such investments, for, if government is now willing to expropriate agricultural lands, and to do so without entrenched protection in law as to equity applying thereto, at a future date, it may well do similarly in respect of mines, industries, commercial properties, domestic and residential properties, hotels and other investments. Granted, the foreign investor is accorded some protection by the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency and Overseas Private Investment Corporation conventions, but he is still not prepared to invest in anticipation of a possible "governmental grab" in the future. Thus, in one fell swoop, by the enactment of the Land Acquisition Bill, the authorities undermine a

fundamental object of Esap.

The potential investor is also discouraged and demotivated when noting, possible disregard by some ministers of directives of His Excellency, the President of Zimbabwe. For only a fortnight ago, he stated that he would require those ministers to discuss and consider amendments to the Bill sought by representative of the agricultural community, and yet only five days later, those ministers apparently refused to do so, merely advising a fait accompli those amendments which would be effected, with no opportunity granted for consideration of any others.

Unless the Bill is amended to provide for justiceability on acquisition and compensation, for fair and equitable immediate compensation, removal of the designation provisions, and for acquisition to pertain only to under-utilised lands and those available on the "willing buyer, willing seller" basis, the already drought-weakened and struggling economy will be delivered a final deal blow from which Zimbabwe will never recover, and the suffering of all — inclusive those intended to benefit from land redistribution — will be too horrific to contemplate.

Even if recognition of human rights, morals, and dictates of equity were not perceived by those seeking the legislation to good and sound grounds to reconsider, solely the intensified economic ills which will befall Zimbabwe as a result of its provisions, should constitute persuasive arguments and motivations for a "last minute reversal of the rigid stance on the Bill, taking taken by government.



# Will calls for compensation by criminals

On 11 July 1997, the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Managawa, said:

The Bill also seeks to allow the right to use force when effecting arrests into conformity with the Constitution.

It alters the procedure for bringing errors to court for direct indictment proceedings, to be instituted against them, and seeks to limit the offences for which magistrates may grant bail, while corresponding increasing the powers of the High Court in this regard.

The Bill abolishes the power of the courts to impose sentences of imprisonment in solitary confinement and on re-

Affairs, Cde Emmerson Mnangagwa, said:

### Expensive

"Perhaps the most far-reaching of the amendments made by this Bill is the amendment which will give courts power in criminal cases to award compensation to victims of crime. Our present law is seriously deficient in this respect."

In most cases at present the victim's only recourse was to sue the criminal in civil action, which was often an expensive and protracted process.

"A more direct way in which criminal courts can assist victims of crime is through compensation orders.

"If a victim can show that he has suffered damage to or loss of property the court may make a compensation order in his favour and the order can be registered as a civil judgment of the court and enforced accordingly."

Offenders under which magistrates may not grant bail if the Bill is passed include reason, murder, rape, robbery, housebreaking, and a statutory offence for which the person convicted may be sentenced to death.

Others include theft of a motor vehicle, offences relating to unlawful importation or exportation of precious metals, currency, bill of exchange, traveller's cheque, letter of credit, draft or promissory note.

For any offence where the Attorney-General has notified a magistrate of his

intention might. The death order for At the of m son; on a fence a mu time fence. nance. Th. death p ability for interfering with a rail way line a contravention of the Rail way Act and doing anything with intent to contravention of the Aircraft (Offences) Act.

Under a person, the accused tried hard also seems to abolish the for all offences except murder and certain military offences. In the High Court can impose sentence on persons convicted and attempted murder; treason and attempted murder; robbery, where it is committed in certain circumstances; any offence which is intrinsically dangerous to life, where it is committed at about the same time and place as the offence as well as various offences under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act.

The High Court can also impose the death penalty for interfering with a railway line in contravention of Section 38 of the Railways Act and doing anything with intent to contravention of the Aircraft (Offences) Act.


In addition, court martials have power under the Defence Act to impose sentence of death on military personnel convicted of certain military offences. The Bill seeks to replace the death sentence with a penalty of life imprisonment.

### Incompetent

In addition, the Bill will render it incompetent for a court to impose sentence of death upon persons over 70 years old and on pregnant women.

This would bring Zimbabwe's law into line with a recommendation of the General Assembly of the United Nations passed on December 15, 1989.

The Bill received overwhelming support from members, with the Malokob MP, Cde Sidney Malunga, saying that amendments had actually come belatedly. "I would like to say that this is a progressive revision of the legal procedure."



Cde. E. Munganyira

# Minister speaks on ZESA

THE Minister of Energy and Water Resources and Development, Cde Herbert Ushewokunze, on Wednesday expressed confidence in the new board of the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority appointed on Tuesday.

Asked in Parliament if he could assure MPs that the new board was capable of carrying out their duties to expectations, Cde Ushewokunze said he had confidence in the new officials.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Chitepo says no nepotism practised at Mass Media Trust

**Herald Reporter**  
NFair pretence of  
latives is not practised  
the Mass Media Trust,  
the Ministry of Informa-  
tion, Posts and Telecom-  
munications has told  
parliament.

they are related or not is  
irrelevant. We are all  
aware that in many or-  
ganisations in Zimbabwe  
there are thousands of  
people who are related to  
each other, working  
closely together and hav-  
ing nothing to do with  
the organisation.

Both the original Ziama  
Trust.  
Both the original Ziama  
report of the debate and  
that of the official record  
of parliamentary debates.  
Hanard, say the minister  
denied the existence of

nepotism at the expense of the public interest."

ed by the ZBC's board of governors for his attack on Cde Chimuteng wende, on ZTV on February 18.

The Centenary MP, Cde Border Gezi, wanted to know whether the attack was justified and did not in effect amount to discipline. He was told

Quoting from the Oxford English Dictionary, the minister defined neopostism as "the practice of showing special favour on the part of high-ranking officials to relatives", and more specifically as "the unfair pre-emption of

ed by the ZBC's board of governors on his attack on Cde Chimuteng wende, on ZTV on February 18.

The Centenary MP Cde Border Gerzi wanted to know whether the attack was justified and did not in effect amount to indiscipline. He was told that Cde Chitepo had been extremely disappointed by the incident.

"I would like to inform this honourable House that the acting director general of the ZBC, Cde Mutsaerswa, has been reprimanded by the

"It must also be noted that freedom of the Press and competition do not exist in a vacuum. It is indeed governed by the nature and level of development of the economy, the political circumstances of a country and the level of political stability," said Cde Chimurengwende.

As for establishing another broadcasting station different from ZBC, the Government have the funds; it would cost million dollars in foreign currency.

The Harare South African Cde Taka Mudzirikwa said the current executive secretary was appointed in 1980, the post had been advertised in the media, giving equal opportunities to all men-beres were Zimberer

The Makokoba MP

**Broadcasting would  
Road construction  
program**

The deputy minister, hitapo, the minister, whether she was aware at there were allegations of nepotism in the Mass Media Trust, and as the chairman of the board and the executive committee were relatives. The deputy minister, hitapo, the minister, whether she was aware at there were allegations of nepotism in the Mass Media Trust, and as the chairman of the board and the executive committee were relatives.

Cde Sidney Malunga, who told Zimbabwe had more freedom of the Press and competition than most developing countries and nobody had been stopped from establishing a new paper as long as they operated within the law.

THE road construction programme of the Ministry of Transport and National Supplies has been cut back considerably as part of the overall Government effort to reduce the budget deficit, the

Due to a typographical omission, a report of the debate carried in The Herald yesterday distorted the parliamentary proceedings on the matter when it said that the deputy minister of

The Government would continue to support media development and freedom but with responsibility and accountability.

Replying to questions, Mr Norman said all capital projects, especially those which required

be considered for tarring at this stage because it was not economically viable and was not included in the ministry's programme.

THE Government has saved 10 percent of the \$1.6 billion allocated from the previous year, would like to maintain its rating by paying the remainder.

The Senior Minister of

debt Zimbabwean dependents and how for. The Zimbabwean

How had incurred since, in  
how much was well spent  
each could not be accounted

avoided a criminal conviction for fraud. Had he been convicted then one presumes, Mr Munzara would not have remained as a member of the ZESA board," said the minister.





**WE SUPPORT THE NEED FOR LAND REFORM, BUT NOT THROUGH THE METHOD OF DESIGNATION.  
WE THEREFORE URGE REMOVAL OF PART IV OF THE DRAFT LAND ACQUISITION BILL.**

The methods are also inconsistent with the concepts and purposes of the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme - a programme to which farmers have given full commitment.

By correctly addressing the requirement for land distribution Zimbabwe can meet the demands of her people for homegrown, high quality grains. The commercial sector will remain strong and supportive producing a strategic reserve of maize, while actually assisting with research and passing on the technology to our resettled sector.

*Designation will reduce the collateral base that is needed to sustain and accrete long-term job creation.*

I those who lose their land are fairly compensated with the right of appeal if it is felt the compensation is unfair. These responsibilities can be largely achieved by removing Part IV from the draft Land Acquisition Bill.

**Downstream industries associated with adequate beef supply, such as leather, footwear, soap, and stockfeeds - all of which sell to both local and export markets - will also be adversely affected.**

# MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

*Designation* will therefore hinder the development of water resources and force short-term exploration of land and assets in order to recapture borrowed capital.

Planned self-sufficiency of cereal products for Zimbabwe will be difficult to achieve, resulting in ever-increasing importation of cereals and thereby the loss of foreign currency to other sectors of the Zimbabwe economy.

If compensation is not fair and prompt to those farms that are being developed under long-term loan conditions, it will leave the producer in an impossible position to relocate thereby losing valuable expertise to a high-tech industry.

No *designation* coupled with effective planned resettlement will mean the integration of resettled farmers benefiting from the expertise and experience of the existing commercial farmers, ensuring sustained and increased production and the restoration of confidence in the financial sector both within and outside Zimbabwe's borders.

Constant dialogue between all sectors of agriculture and government must be maintained to ensure the recognised need for resettlement that will not hinder but increase production.

## SOYABEANS AND GROUNDNUTS

Over 95 percent of the soyabeans delivered to the Grain Marketing Board are produced by commercial farmers.

Soyabeans are often grown under irrigation in rotation with winter wheat.

Soyabeans supply 30 percent of our vegetable oil requirements.

Soyabean meal is essential for the continued expansion of the pig and poultry industries.

Groundnuts are an important source of vegetable oil and human food.

The intention to *designate* land and its allied unsatisfactory compensation arrangements will put this productivity at risk. Conversely, the removal of *designation* and its allied compensation clauses will facilitate correctly planned resettlement with an adequate infrastructure to ensure that resettled land remains productive.

## COTTON

Cotton provides the essential raw material for local and external textile markets, the seed is used for cooking oil and cottonseed meal, an important ingredient of stockfeeds.

Certainly, small scale and communal farmers have increased their production since Zimbabwe's independence and the Commercial Cotton Growers' Association has been pleased to assist in this, through the work of our communal sector orientated Cotton Training Centre. Further, one third of all national cotton research trials are conducted on commercial farms at farmers' cost.

On a commercial scale, cotton requires a high-tech management structure and expertise developed over many years. Land *designation* and its associated compensation clauses will adversely affect production, research, employment and the local textile and oil expressing industries while new structures are developed.

## COFFEE

*Designation* will lead to a loss in the zeal to invest with a resultant reduction in production and export earnings.

The cessation of coffee growing in these *designated* areas will result in a substantial loss of employment available to neighbouring communities.

The erosion of confidence in land as collateral offered by farmers will mean no further expansion will take place in the area under coffee production. This will result in a further loss of export potential for this crop which is very largely exported.

The nation's requirements for milk and milk-based products are increasing, as are export market opportunities.

New factories have been constructed in Bulawayo and Chitungwiza to cater for increased milk production.

Dairying is both capital and labour intensive with job creation potential.

Milk production therefore has to be both maintained and stimulated.

*Designation* will have the reverse effect. It will demotivate and demoralise dairy farmers which will in turn lead to the discontinuance of dairy farming. This will jeopardise the new \$120m Chitungwiza factory and supplies of milk and milk-based products.

## POULTRY AND PIGS

Poultry and pig production is inter-dependent with the availability of maize and soyabeans, which form key parts of the balanced rations required for large-scale poultry and pig enterprises.

Poultry and pigs are capital-intensive and have associated and substantial processing industries which provide products for both local and export markets.

*Designation* of farms on which maize and soyabeans are produced will therefore reduce the availability of vital stockfeed ingredients for the pig and poultry industries, with consequent effects on production.

## HORTICULTURE

The horticulture industry consists of 15 000 hectares with some 70 000 jobs and has already proved it is capable of supplying the local market and generating millions of dollars in foreign currency for the nation.

It is a massive creator of new jobs with up to 15 persons per hectare in the most labour intensive systems.

If farms on which horticulture is produced are *designated*, this will immediately halt investment and the creation of new jobs, particularly as the collateral value of the land, against which the massive capital requirements are borrowed, will have dropped.

Uncertain about the future, a carefully developed customer base will look for other suppliers.



Inserted by:

COMMERCIAL GRAIN PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION — ZIMBABWE CEREALS PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION —  
COMMERCIAL OLSEEDS PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION — COMMERCIAL COTTON GROWERS' ASSOCIATION —  
—COFFEE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION — NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS — CATTLE PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION — COMMERCIAL POULTRY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE HORTICULTURE PROMOTION COUNCIL.

# Zim parliament in danger of shutting

HARARE. — Zimbabwe's parliament is in danger of shutting down until June because it has run out of money, it was claimed here yesterday.

The independent weekly Financial Gazette said the 150-member legislature exhausted its budget of R7.3 million and MPs had not been paid for the past three months.

It said parliament was heavily indebted to local hotels and companies, including Jongwe Press, the company which prints Hansard. It was also claimed yesterday that in the wake of President Robert Mugabe's land nationalisation plans, the minuscule Zimbabwean Stock Exchange had crashed, with frightened shareholders dumping millions of rands worth of holdings in expectation of a disastrous drought. No comment could be obtained from the government yesterday.



## COMPANIES

MICHAEL MARTINACK

## Anxious Zimbabwe shareholders dump stocks

**HARARE** — The miniscule Zimbabwean stock exchange has slumped dramatically with frightened shareholders dumping millions of rand worth of holdings in expectation of a disastrous drought and equally ruinous hand-on-nationalisation by government.

The latest nail in the coffin of investor and business confidence was the apparent failure last week of the farming negotiators to obtain vital amendments to the Land Acquisition Bill, which had its first reading in parliament last Friday, said a broker.

The industrials index of the ex-

change, which has only six brokers grouped in two firms, has nose-dived from a record high of 2 732 last September to 1 403 — a 49% crash.

Investors are dumping shares on the market. They are throwing them off a broker told the Business Herald.

In October 26.8-million shares were traded for more than R30m. Last month only 6.7-million shares worth R1m changed hands.

Financial experts say the market started to falter as President Robert Mugabe's government forced a mas-

sive rise in interest rates last September, intending to curb liquidity generated by its R32bn structural adjustment programme. Interest rates in the short-term money market soared to 40%, causing institutional investors to shift their funds from the equity market.

Economists have warned the government that its plans to nationalise the six-million hectare maize and tobacco belt at less than 25% of its market value might cause chaos on the internal financial market, in addition

to undermining foreign and local investor confidence.

A delegation from the Commercial Farmers Union held a "cordial" three-hour meeting with Mugabe in February, but promises of negotiations on the Land Acquisition Bill were withdrawn at a follow-up meeting last week where ministers presented minor amendments on a "take it or leave it" basis.

An editorial in the independent weekly Financial Gazette yesterday accused Mugabe's government of put-

ting short-term political self-interest "above everything else".

It appealed for an 11th-hour re-think on the Bill, which is now before the parliamentary legal committee prior to its second reading. The committee, composed entirely of members of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party, is expected to rule that it sees no conflict between the Bill and the declaration of rights in its 1980 amended form.

Those who have property nationalised cannot appeal to the courts against levels of compensation offered, and the Bill gives the minister of agriculture absolute discretion to decide what is "fair" payment.

6/10/92  
6/3/92  
Railways of Zimbabwe  
Heckroo

The Financial Gazette quoted Transnet's marketing arm Transtrade MD Bertie

President Robert Mugabe has said full ties would be established only when SA's anti-apartheid movements gave the go-ahead. — Reuter.

WATER IN ENGLAND  
FROM 1000  
TO 1000

ПИЛАКЕНА ОФ СУБЪ ДОЖИ  
 БЕРИО. УДЖИЗК АНОЗ  
 ДЖАКЕНА ОФ



Republic of South Africa  
 Department of Education  
 Pretoria

## Harare is low on funds

HARARE — Zimbabwe's parliament is in danger of shutting down until June because it has run out of money, the independent Financial Gazette reported yesterday.

It said the 150-member legislature which has a staff of 199, had exhausted its budgetary allocation of R7,3m and that MPs had not been paid allowances for three months.

The newspaper said parliament was heavily indebted to local companies for services.

Among its creditors are Jongwe Press which is owed R550 000 for printing Hansard, Air Zimbabwe, several hotels that have hosted MPs, and the parastatal telephone company.

Parliamentary committees had cut their sittings and committees responsible for monitoring the performance of ministries around the country had suspended operations, the paper said. — Sapa.

# Zimbabwe land Bill may be amended by legal committee'

6/10ay 6/3/92 (362)  
HARARE — Zimbabwe's controversial Land Acquisition Bill to take land from white farmers for black peasants would be amended on its way through Parliament to make it more acceptable to its critics, senior officials said yesterday.

The Bill, presented to parliament last week, has come under fire from white commercial farmers and from donor nations on the grounds it lacks recourse to the courts in disputes over compensation and may scare away investors.

Officials said the Bill had been referred for review to a parliamentary legal committee, a body charged with examining proposed laws to ensure they do not contravene human rights and the constitution.

"We are expecting changes on the Bill from the legal committee and we hope all those seeking amendments will lobby and use the good offices of this committee," a senior official said.

"There are indications the committee has been considering certain amendments," he added.

The Bill has been hotly contested by Zimbabwe's 4,500-member Commercial Farmers Union (CFU), which argues that clauses denying the right to fair compensation or judicial review to challenge unfair payments violated basic human rights.

Economists have also said the resettlement plan could lead to the collapse of agriculture. The mainly white commercial

farms are the mainstay of Zimbabwe's vital agriculture industry.

A senior official said the government basically agreed with the CFU and the economists, but it needed the Bill for political reasons.

During the Rhodesian bush war President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) Party promised peasants a greater share of the country's most fertile land, 70% of it owned by white farmers.

"There is pressure on the government to do something about its promises," the official said.

The government says under the Bill it will redistribute 5.5-million hectares of the white farmers' 10-million hectares.

A senior official close to parliament and the agricultural ministry said the government was looking for a graceful solution satisfactory to both farmers and peasants.

"I hope you people realise we cannot lose but the farmers also cannot lose," he said.

He said the government would accept changes from the parliamentary legal committee. "They are a neutral body with no vested interest and they have the necessary legal expertise."

Sources close to the CFU said the union would challenge the government in the High Court if the Bill was passed unchanged. — Sapa-Reuter.

● See Page 12

# Mugabe set on grabbing white land

STAN 7/3/92  
ROBIN DREW

HARARE — Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe promised yesterday that his government would proceed vigorously with legislation empowering it to take white-owned land for resettlement, an issue which he described as a "do-or-die" one.

Asked at a news conference whether he did not think that the period of national disaster brought about by the drought was the wrong time to press ahead with the Land Acquisition Bill, Mr. Mugabe said that if any member of his Cabinet got cold feet over the land question, he would have them warmed up with a hot iron.

The proposed expropriation legislation, which would give the government the right to specify the amount and type of compensation, and under which farmers would have no recourse to the courts if unhappy, has drastically undermined the agricultural industry in Zimbabwe.

The legislation, which specifies that compensation will be paid for land only — no improvements of any kind would be considered — has had the effect of making land virtually worthless.

No one is prepared to buy, and farmers are refusing to undertake either repairs or improvements on land they may soon lose.

Agriculture provides most of Zimbabwe's foreign exchange earnings, already in short supply.

President Mugabe denied that donor bodies had threatened to hold back on aid over the issue.

His voice rising in anger, said he would not give in to threats of that nature.



MUGABE: "We are protecting farmers."

"We cannot run a society of haves and have-nots and hope that the people will continue to accept that situation," he declared.

If the government did not act, the people would seize the land themselves. The government was in fact protecting the farmers, he said.

He rejected farming organisations' calls to drop the proposal to designate large areas of land for resettlement, saying that a piecemeal approach to settlement was worse.

On suggestions that there could be an approach to the Inter-

national Court of Justice at The Hague if farmers felt they were deprived of proper compensation, President Mugabe said the court heard grievances between states.

If Britain contended that its citizens were being ill-treated, he supposed Britain could take the matter to The Hague. However, he did not think it would dare to do that.

After independence, whites had stayed on in Zimbabwe, living in greater wealth than the blacks. There had been no policy of retribution or vindictiveness.

Ian Smith still had his farm and had to be grateful for that, the president said.

"Morally we could have proceeded to take that farm from him and others on the basis that they committed treason.

"But we said: 'Let's look ahead and be one society. Let bygones be bygones'."

## Sabotage

If the farmers used Britain to take their case to The Hague, Britain would have to say it was acting on behalf of its nationals.

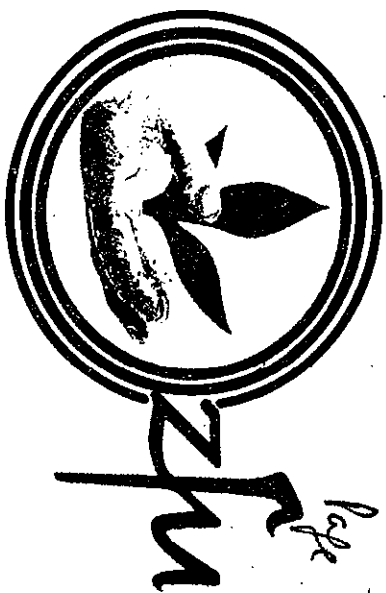
"Our rejoinder would be: if they are your nationals, what are they doing in our country?" said Mr. Mugabe.

If farmers wanted to sabotage the country, let them try, he added.

"We will go through that patch of comforts and discomforts. We cannot be threatened.

"The people of Zimbabwe will not perish as a nation. We will recover from that suffering."





# ZIMBABWE FARMERS' UNION

(HEAD) 7/3/92  
(362)

## POSITION ON THE LAND ACQUISITION BILL

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Zimbabwe Farmers Union understands that the Land Acquisition Bill aims to achieve a more equitable distribution of agricultural land to competent farmers of all agricultural sectors.

### 2. THE ZIMBABWE FARMERS UNION PERSPECTIVE

The Zimbabwe Farmers Union is committed to the call for a more equitable distribution of land. The process of land distribution must be viewed as an economic exercise which aims to achieve full utilisation of agricultural land rather than a social one. We view land distribution as an exercise that seeks to enable the African farmer to meaningfully participate in the agricultural economy of this country through increased access to a valuable production resource — land.

The importance of the land issue to the African people cannot be over-emphasised. As His Excellency the President has stated before, we can never have peace in this country unless the peasant population is satisfied in relation to the land issue. We owe it to our people to address this issue and effect the necessary adjustments as dictated by the requirements of the time. Without peace and stability, the country can never be assured of food self-sufficiency, economic growth and development.

### 3. CURRENT DEBATE

#### 3.1 Desirability of the Programme

(a) There are a number of ramifications that may be perceived by different sectors of the population with regards land distribution. A number of questions are being asked on the ability of smallholder producers under resettlement to sustain large-scale commercial sector production in the short to medium term. The crux of the matter is how can we guarantee the nation that production on resettlement farms can be equal or better than that of the present commercial farmers? Arguments against equitable distribution of land have tended to dwell on the presently resettled farmers' inability to match the commercial farmers' production levels as well as on the destruction of such land and improvements. We believe that output and productivity can be sustained if resettlement is implemented on the basis of maximisation of the available resources — particularly the land and the people.

(b)

The resettlement programme must not seek to maximise on numbers but maximise on productivity. This can be achieved by proceeding at a pace that is commensurate with the resources required both in terms of the competent people required and the capital required to support them. We owe it to future generations to do this exercise optimally and properly.

(c)

Close attention must be paid to the quality of settlers who are to be settled and the settlers must be supported with adequate training and resources to enable them to succeed. We must also get our tenure system right. There can be no justification behind transferring land currently held under individual title by one group of farmers to another under a completely different type of tenure. We must aim at settling the best of our African farmers. The best of our African farmers can surely produce at the same levels as present commercial farmers. Settlers for future schemes can be drawn from persons who have gone through formal agricultural education (college and degree graduates) and those who have been trained in the field (e.g. master farmers). But they must get all the necessary resources to succeed.

(d)

Proponents of the status quo are introducing new, remote and unrelated dimensions such as the current devastating drought and the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme to the land issue. Their arguments are based on the dangerous assumption that the African farmer will benefit from a trickle-down process through the enhancement of the status quo. The African farmer refuses to be kept on the periphery of economic development of this country. We cannot continue to survive on crumbs or on leaking the broken pipes of the economy. The present arrangement of the agricultural economy relegates Africans to perpetual peasantry. The stability of commercial agriculture depends on the satisfactory handling of the small sector.

#### 3.2 The Land Bill

(a) We welcome the finalisation of the Land Acquisition Bill 1992. We hope that this facility for land acquisition will result in more agriculturally suitable land being acquired for the settlement of competent farmers.

(b) We find the purposes for which land may be compulsorily acquired wide enough to allow Government to engage in a far reaching programme of land distribution. Unlike under the Land Acquisition Act of 1985 where only derelict, foreign owned and under-utilised land could be acquired for purposes of agricultural settlement, the Bill makes provision for the acquisition of any land for that purpose.

#### (i) Designation

Part IV of the Bill makes provision for the designation of rural land for resettlement purpose. This Union supports the principle of designation. However, we would not like to see it applied on a block basis since this approach has the tendency of displacing competent farmers who may be located within the designated area. Competent farmers within designated areas should be left to continue producing. We are assured by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement that the principle will not be applied wholesale (on a block basis) but that cognisance will be taken of the production capacity of each farmer who may be farming within the designated area. We are assured that competent farmers located within the designated area will be allowed to continue farming in those areas. Settled farmers may be able to learn from those who remain in these areas. We understand priority will continue to be given to under-utilised, derelict and land held by foreigners. We would also like priority to be given to rented properties.

We recommend that these assurances we have received from the ministry be incorporated in the relevant sections to forestall mis-interpretations and

dispel suspicions.

#### (ii) Compensation

The issue of compensation seems to be misunderstood. We believe that the issue is adequately catered for in the proposed Bill. The Bill proposes the use of professionally qualified valuers to value identified properties. Casting doubt on their ability to do so is tantamount to professional denigration. There can be no fairer way one can think of than the use of relevantly qualified persons for the exercise. The schedule of assets to be valued is satisfactorily comprehensive to ensure the payment of every investment on the property. Mistrust must not be confused with professionalism. However, we suggest that issues of staggered payment and form of payment be looked into.

### 4. CONCLUSION

With the above qualifications, we find this piece of legislation just. We, however, believe that a lot can be gained or lost through the manner in which we implement this programme. Once this Bill has been passed, we must sit down and soberly think about the implementation modalities of the whole Land Reform Programme. This entails proper planning of new settlements, the replanning and reorganisation of Phase I resettlement schemes and reorganisation of our communal areas with a view to ensure increased productivity and hence sustainable agriculture.

Increased productivity will make more raw materials available for the industrial sector and also widen demand for the produced products. As the economy becomes more industrialised, the need for our people to rely on the land will be lessened. It is important to note that the current demand for land is indicative of the under-development of our industry.

The African farmer has waited long enough for a permanent and lasting solution to the land problem. Our capacity to absorb the delays, our tolerance and patience are at a test and finite.

Inserted by The President of the Zimbabwe Farmers Union,

HARARE  
March, 1992.

G.S.T. MACGADZIRE



PRESIDENT Mugabe at yesterday's Press conference ... "Government has declared the present drought as a national disaster"

# Drought declared national disaster

... If the farmers choose chaos to order, well let them tell us and they will see more cha

11/03/92 (362)

Herald Reporter

PRESIDENT Mugabe has declared the drought, the worst in Zimbabwe this century, a national disaster. This paves the way for the Government to mobilise material and financial aid locally and from the international community.

"Cognisant of the gravity of the (drought) situation as a national disaster and accordingly has established a strategy for relieving the people widely affected by the drought in all communal and resettlement areas," President Mugabe said at a Press briefing in

Harare yesterday.

He said as part of a national strategy to ensure effective delivery of relief supplies and to undertake measures to reduce the effects of the drought, the Government has decided to reform the National Civil Protection, Co-ordination Committee by moving its control from the Senior Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development to Vice-President Simon Muzenda.

In addition, each of Zimbabwe's eight administrative provinces, would have a resident Cabinet minister to help with the provincial co-ordination and supervision of all drought relief programmes.

The ministers, said the President, would work with the governors and the provincial council, which should turn the provincial, district, ward and village development committees into organs to mobilise local support for plans and programmes, to combat the drought. The ministers would report on the situation in their provinces at the weekly Cabinet meetings.

"It is apparent that the seriousness of the drought situation demands collective and concerted action by both Government, local authority, the private sector, including non-governmental agencies, church organisations and the generality of our people.

In short, our whole nation is thus being sum-

moned to rally behind Government in its planned endeavours to overcome the effects of the current drought. We also appeal to the international community to support us in our humanitarian endeavours to sustain our nation during this whole year of crop and livestock failure."

Zimbabwe, like other Southern African countries, is in the grip of a drought which has rendered most crops a total failure. It is estimated that this country needs to import about 2,7 million tonnes of food, of which 1,7 million tonnes would be maize to last the next 12 to 18 months.

● To Page 5

Harare  
7/03/92

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# Delays in acquiring land may lead to chaos — President

Herald Reporter

THE Government will not develop cold feet in its quest to have the Land Acquisition Bill sail through Parliament, and any more delays in acquiring the land may lead to chaos, President Mugabe said at a Press conference yesterday.

Commenting on critics' statements that the passing of the Bill did not augur well with the current drought, Cde Mugabe said it was the critics who wanted the Government to develop cold feet. This was the right time to pass the Bill and have the people prepare for the next season. The drought had nothing to do with the Bill, he said.

"The farmers must realise that if we do not proceed then the people will proceed on their own and seize the land, and we cannot drive them from those lands. We want an orderly system of resettling people, or acquiring land."

"If they choose chaos to order, well, let them tell us. Then they will have lots of chaos. All this time we have managed to calm down our people and just now, chiefs are up in arms. They say if the farmers are going to be compensated for the land, isn't it time for the chiefs who lost their land to be compensated?"

The Government was, in fact, trying to protect the farmers who would have lots to lose if there was a delay in getting the Bill through.

On threats that some farmers would take the case to the International Court of Justice at The Hague for arbitration, Cde Mugabe said the ICJ only heard cases between nations, and not national issues. But if Britain would want to take the case there on behalf of the whites, saying they are its nationals, it can do so.

He hoped that Britain would not do that because history showed that there was more ill-treatment on the blacks than the alleged ill-treatment on the whites.

If Britain went to The Hague, "our rejoinder will be, ah, these are your nationals, what are they doing in our country if they are your nationals?"

The farmers were worried about designation which they thought was too much for them, but designation was better than proceeding in an ad hoc basis. "Kana vanhu vachifa vanobva vangofa kamwechete (If people were to suffer then they should suffer at one go)."

The Government could not plan well if it did not know the type of land it was dealing with and would want to proceed phase by phase in resettling people in the designated land.

There should be a just and equitable system of distributing the land instead of leaving the people where history put them.

"Even after Independence they (whites) have remained to be in greater comfort, greater wealth than the blacks and we've not seized their property. We've not become vindictive in any way, we haven't followed any policies of retribution."

He said if the former Rhodesian prime minister, Mr Ian Smith, was an honest man, he would say that he still had his farm and should be grateful for that. The Government could have taken the farm and others on the grounds that the owners had committed treason in the country.

On those who wanted to sabotage the land acquisition programme by not growing enough, he said they could go ahead and the people would suffer for a while. He also gave an assurance that no donors had threatened the Government, but it was a do-or-die issue, aid or no aid.

# Indigenous farmers' association seeks formal registration

## Business Reporter

THE Indigenous Commercial Farmers' Association, which groups emergent black large-scale commercial farmers, is now seeking formal registration following the deregulation of the Government policy of one union for each industry.

"Indigenous Commercial Farmers' Association would like to thank the Government for dropping the policy of recognising one union for each industry," the one-year-old association said in a statement this week.

Announcing the deregulation last month, the Government said it

felt the labour movement had been nurtured sufficiently and that the policy had served its purpose.

"In the past, indigenous commercial farmers have been frustrated by the policy as they could not represent themselves. They were required to belong to either of the two unions (the Zimbabwe Farmers' Union or the Commercial Farmers' Union) and not form their own. Now that the restriction has been lifted, the way is (now) clear for indigenous farmers to play their part in developing the country."

The indigenous farm-

ers felt they could not belong to either the former National Farmers' Association of Zimbabwe (for communal farmers) or the former Zimbabwe National Farmers' Union (for small-scale commercial farmers) because their operational needs were different from those of the smallholder farmers.

The NFAZ and the ZNFU merged last August to form the Zimbabwe Farmers' Union.

As for joining the CFU, the indigenous farmers said although they were "members", they did not benefit from programmes such as the export pro-

motion, programmes or such other programmes which the CFU or the Government, through the unions, availed to bona fide members of the farming organisations.

"This particular group is in its infancy. It requires special attention and it needs to spell out its problems as they occur. By giving maximum support to the group, the country will, in future, be proud of having developed a balanced, stable and resilient agricultural industry for the benefit of all."

At the moment the farmers are unable to

maximise the production potential of their farms owing to a number of problems confronting them, including financial and infrastructural support.

Early last year, the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, said the Government was designing appropriate financial and training programmes to ensure that emergent black large-scale commercial farmers succeeded. However, up to now, the Government has not put in place such programmes.

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Herald Sat. March 7, 1992

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(362)

# ZFU supports Land Bill, says Magadzire

THE Zimbabwe Farmers' Union yesterday said it was committed to the equitable distribution of land proposed in the Land Acquisition Bill because it enabled the black farmers to participate meaningfully in the agriculture-based economy.

ZFU president Cde Gary Magadzire told farmers at a mobilisation meeting held in Harare that the union needed to recruit more members to make its voice stronger.

"The Zimbabwe Farmers' Union is committed to the call for a more equitable distribution of land," he said.

"We view land distribution as an exercise that seeks to enable the African farmer to meaningfully participate in the agricultural economy of this country through increased access to a valuable production resource — land."

The ZFU would quietly mobilise its members in all the provinces to support the Bill.

The union currently has a membership of 500 000, most of whom are communal farmers.

Cde Magadzire said the Government should pay attention to the quality of farmers chosen for resettlement to equal or better the production by the present commercial farmers.

"We must aim at settling the best of African farm-

ers. The best of our African farmers can surely produce at the same levels as the present commercial farmers. . . The settlers must be supported with adequate training and resources to enable them to succeed," he said.

The ZFU said it supported Part IV of the Bill that makes provision for the designation of rural land for resettlement purposes, which has been the centre of the Commercial Farmers Union's argument against the Land Bill.

However, Cde Magadzire said the Government should not designate land on a "block basis" as that would displace some competent farmers located in the area.

He urged the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement to take cognisance of the production capacity of each farmer in the designated area.

Settlers for future schemes could be drawn from people who had gone through formal agricultural education, college and degree graduates, and those who had been trained in the field, such as master farmers.

The CFU had embarked on a series of public statements in the media to express their dissatisfaction with the Land Bill, particularly the section on designation which they have called for to be removed from the Bill. — Ziana.

# Parliament R1m in the red

Own Correspondent

(362)

CT 17/13/92

HARARE. — Zimbabwe's Speaker of Parliament, Mr Nolan Makombe, has denied claims the legislature may soon grind to a halt due to lack of funds.

The "Financial Gazette" reported on Thursday that Parliament had exhausted its R7 million allocation for the 1991-92 financial year and had run up unpaid bills totalling nearly R1 million, in addition to being unable to pay backbenchers' "subsistence and transport" allowances.

Mr Makombe confirmed that a sup-

plementary allocation was being made for the operations of the 150-seat parliament, which like other Westminster-model assemblies does not receive a "vote".

Mr Makombe said parliament had accounts with the national airline, Air Zimbabwe, the government printers and other bodies, including the parastatal corporations such as the post office. These continued to be settled in arrear, as in the past.

He acknowledged a delay in settling claims of expenses by backbenchers.

# Land bill will 'prevent chaos'

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe warned yesterday of potential chaos with black Zimbabweans seizing white-owned land if the government did not go ahead with controversial plans to nationalise the farms.

He dismissed reports that the government was backing down

and revising its Land Acquisition Bill in the face of fierce opposition from farmers and international aid donors.

"Nobody is developing cold feet in my government. If I see anybody with cold feet I will put hot irons under them," he told a news conference here.

He also threw down the gauntlet to white farmers who have mounted a national pub-

licity campaign against the bill, warning that the government would not be threatened.

Some 4 000 white farmers own around 28% of Zimbabwe's land, producing about 80% of all crops and livestock.

The government plans to nationalise half of that land — more than five million hectares — to resettle blacks from the overcrowded communal areas.

(362) CT 7/3/92  
Mr Mugabe parried questions about long-awaited economies in his 56-member government and the 190 000-strong Zimbabwean bureaucracy.

Meanwhile he declared a state of national disaster in Zimbabwe to fight the worst drought in memory.

He appealed to the international community for aid.



# Harare's ivory threat

SITimes 8/3/92

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ZIMBABWE threatened yesterday to unilaterally renew trade in ivory and walk out of a treaty which governs commerce in endangered species.

It called for the creation of an International African Elephant Commission — similar to the body which regulates the whaling industry — which would have powers to draw up and monitor a renewed ivory trade.

This was Zimbabwe's final attempt to break a deadlock in talks to decide the future of the ivory ban agreed to two years ago, which four countries say should now be lifted.

If the proposal succeeds, it would effectively signal the resurgence of ivory trading.

The debate is pitting African states against one another and raising fundamental questions about conservation and who decides the economic future of the continent.

Botswana, South Africa, Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe want the 112 signatories to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, meeting in Kyoto, to recognise that fact by removing the abso-

**From  
Toby Moore  
in Kyoto**

lute — but voluntary — ban on trade in ivory, skins and meat imposed two years ago.

The request is opposed by all other African countries who, together with the EC, have also firmly rejected all compromises.

In the face of such united opposition, the southern

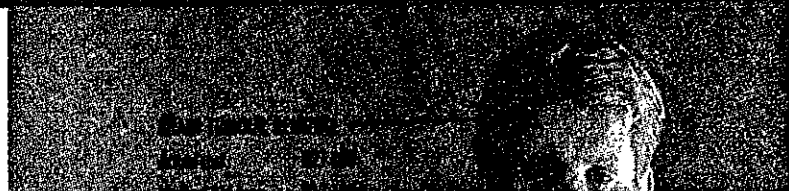
African states put forward a compromise late this week. They said they would accept a voluntary ban on trade in ivory for two years, which would give enough time for a trading system on ivory to be established to ensure there was no resumption in illegal trading.

However, this has also been firmly rejected by eastern, western and southern African countries on

the grounds that any resumption in the international trade would send a signal to poachers and rekindle the devastating slaughter which reduced the African elephant population from 1.5-million to 600 000 in 10 years.

Zimbabwe, chief instigator of the proposal, is determined not to concede the principle that some trade in ivory must be permitted in the future.

How much ex  
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body needs repa



WE'RE ITCHING TO GIVE



## Mugabe ignoring angry spirits, say chiefs

DROUGHT is aggravating a long-simmering quarrel between President Robert Mugabe and traditional chiefs who say he is plunging Zimbabwe into disaster.

The chiefs, regarded by the majority of Zimbabwe's 10 million people

as the custodians of traditional culture, have had an uneasy relationship with Mugabe since 1980 when his government stripped them of most of their powers. (362)

Now, amid the worst drought in living memory, the chiefs say the country

is suffering because the government has failed to lay to rest the spirits of people killed during guerrilla wars. (Press 8/3/92)

"These people (in government) think they are a smart lot, but look at the disaster they have brought us," says David

Ndlovu, keeper of Njelele shrine at Matopos.

A senior government official said of the chiefs: "They have raised the stakes in their struggle to regain their power and to restore the position of traditional culture." — Sapa-Reuter

# Zimbabwe gripped by worst drought

*epren 8/3/92*  
PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe this week declared a state of national disaster in Zimbabwe to fight the worst drought in living memory.

He told a State House news conference the drought — a result of three years of poor rainfall —

was having "very serious and adverse effects on human lives and livestock".

He appealed to the international community for assistance.

"It is quite clear we cannot raise the amount of food that our people need to survive for the

year."

362  
He said the country needed food, particularly the staple maize and cereals such as wheat, machinery for boreholes and transport for relief supplies.

Zimbabwe, normally a maize-exporter, will have

to import at least two million tons of maize this year, officials said.

The country has bought 100 000 tons from South Africa, of which food officials said less than 30 000 tons had arrived due to transportation problems.

Mugabe said the government had established a national civic protection coordination committee to oversee relief efforts.

He said he was appointing cabinet ministers to supervise drought relief in the country's eight provinces. — Sapa-Reuter

# Blocked cash for timeshare

ST Times (BUSS) 8/3/92 362  
ZIMBABWEAN emigrants who left blocked dollars behind have an opportunity to invest them in timeshare.

Zimbabwe Reserve Bank approval has been obtained by Zimbabwe Sun Vacations, a timeshare company in the Delta Group, for blocked dollars to be invested in its projects.

Delta is Zimbabwe's largest company.

Sun Vacations has developed two resorts — at Troutbeck in the eastern highlands, and Caribbea Bay on Lake Kariba.

Blocked dollars can be used to buy weeks which can be exchanged for any of the 2 400 RCI-affiliated resorts around the world. There are 150 in SA.

Prices are comparable with those in SA. An off-peak week costs \$17 000. A week in luxury over Christmas costs \$60 000.

By JULIE WALKER

The depreciation of the Zimbabwean currency to \$1,90 to a rand has made any interest payments received outside the country nearly worthless. The funds, estimated to be millions of dollars, earn only 4% in Government stock and half goes in tax.

Membership of RCI (Resorts Condominium International) costs R1 500 payable in SA. This also covers administrative costs.

John Locke, representing Zimbabwe Sun Vacations in SA, says it gives people an opportunity to put their money into a growing investment while not obliging them to take every holiday in Zimbabwe.

More information is available at Johannesburg (011) 476 6413 and Durban (031) 52 6951.

(362)  
**Zimbabwe**

**unlocks funds  
STAR 9/3/92  
for timeshare**

**Property Reporter**

Holders of blocked funds and 12-year internal government bonds in Zimbabwe can now use their money to buy local timeshare, and exchange it for similar holiday accommodation internationally.

The Reserve Bank decided last week that money in the funds and bonds would be released for reinvestment in the economy.

Permitted investments include the purchase of timeshare at one of three approved resorts, which can be resold, in any currency, after 10 years.

The buyers can, through international exchange organisation Resort Condominiums International, swap their timeshare weeks for holidays at affiliated resorts worldwide, including those in South Africa.

The approved resorts are in the Matopos, at Lake Kariba and near the Zambezi National Park and Victoria Falls, which are all prime tourist locations, so buyers should have no trouble finding takers for the exchanges.

The Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, for example, promises an "Out of Africa" experience in pristine bushveld, without sacrificing luxury in its self-catering lodges and hotel complex. Prices range from Z\$12 500 to Z\$49 000.

BUSINESS DAY, Monday, March 9 1992

3622

## Mugabe seeks aid to fight national drought disaster

8/2225 7/3/92

**HARARE** — President Robert Mugabe has declared a state of national disaster in Zimbabwe to fight the country's worst drought in living memory.

He told a State House media conference that the drought — a result of three years of poor rainfall — was having "very serious and adverse effects on human lives and livestock."

"The government has decided to declare the drought a national disaster,"

Mugabe said.

Asked about possible deaths from famine, he said: "We will try to ensure that they (the people) won't die, but one doesn't know precisely what will happen on the ground."

He appealed to the international community for assistance.

"It is quite clear we cannot raise the

amount of food that our people need to survive for the year."

He said the country needed food, particularly the staple maize, and cereals such as wheat, machinery for boring water holes and vehicles for transport relief supplies.

Zimbabwe, normally a maize exporter known as the bread basket of

southern Africa, will have to import at least 2 million tons of maize this year, officials said.

The country has bought 100,000 tons from SA, of which food officials said less than 30,000 tons had arrived due to transportation problems. Officials said Zimbabwe was looking for the balance on the international market.

Mugabe said the government had established a national civic protection co-ordination committee under vice-president Simon Muzenda to oversee relief efforts.

He said he was appointing cabinet ministers to take up residence in each of the country's eight provinces to supervise drought relief in co-ordination with provincial authorities and to report weekly to the cabinet.

Reuter.

# Zimbabwe to press on with land reform

362  
STAR 10/3/92

By Trevor Grundy  
Star Africa News Service

**HARARE** — Parliamentarians are preparing for the second reading of the Land Acquisition Bill which could spark off a "second revolution" based on an onslaught against what President Mugabe calls the two societies of "haves" and "have nots".

The Bill will be scrutinised soon by a three-man legal and parliamentary committee, which will ensure the 1992 Land Acquisition Bill does not infringe the country's constitution, modified from its original British-design two years ago to prepare parliament for the draconian land legislation now before MPs.

After a fortnight of uncertainty about the Bill — during which some speculated it might be withdrawn or severely modified — there now seems no doubt it will become an Act in the near future.

## Critical

On Friday President Mugabe told reporters: "No one in my government is developing cold feet on land reform. If I see anyone with cold feet, I'll put hot irons on them."

Political sources said over the weekend that there would hardly be an MP in the house ready to take a critical line against the Bill now that the President has made his intentions so clear.

If made law, the Land Acquisition Act would give government the power to buy roughly 5 million of the 11.5 million ha of land owned by 4 500 licensed white commercial farmers. They would be paid in local currency, possibly in government bonds and probably well below the current market price for land.

The farmers say such reforms would paralyse the country and chase away foreign investors. The government says land reform has nothing to do with the five-

year plan to turn the economy socialism towards market forces — called here economic structural adjustment, or the drought.

The President has said there is no indication Westerners will stop aid because of land reform. Last week, the British government pledged aid to help four southern African countries, including Zimbabwe, cope with drought.

Zimbabwe will need to import approximately 2 million tons of food.

Over the weekend the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement Dr Witness Mangwende told Zimbabweans to conserve food because the drought has paralysed agriculture.

Already, 2 million Zimbabweans in the rural areas face starvation without government/donor relief schemes.

The "Herald" has announced that a massive Government emergency operation to provide water to drought hit rural areas has been drawn up.

In an operation unprecedented in scale and cost, about 600 static water bowsers, to cost up to \$2m12 million (about R6,6 million) will be deployed at strategic and vital institutions in resettlement and communal areas.

The Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) is expected to re-schedule debts this year for communal and resettlement farmers and the huge Zimbabwe Farmers' Union and the powerful Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions have called for support to land reform, despite the drought, and despite fears concerning Zimbabwe's image overseas as a safe place to invest.

Parliamentary sources believe the second reading of the Land Acquisition Bill could take place within the next fortnight, possibly earlier than that now the president has ordered a "full steam ahead" approach to land reform, against the background of the worst drought and food crisis to hit the country in living memory.

# Zimbabwe pensioners feeling economic chill

By Des Parker

DURBAN — The 20 000 or more Zimbabwean expatriates living in this country and who receive an income in Zimbabwe dollars are waiting for the chill winds from that country's latest batch of economic misfortune to reach them.

The value of shares on the country's small stock exchange has dropped by about half since September under sustained selling pressure from investors nervous about the effects of the IMF-dictated five-year economic structural adjustment programme (Esap), drought and Harare's determination to push ahead with rural land reform.

While the share crash

should matter little to the estimated 6 000 public service pensioners in SA — whose pensions are paid by Treasury — it could materially affect the future earnings of members of private sector pension funds. A portion of the income of those funds derives from dividends and profits from share-dealing.

But more worrying for Zimbabwe pensioners is the influence of economic deterioration on the already weakened exchange rate and the country's reserve of foreign exchange.

A former Zimbabwe businessman living here, said on condition of anonymity that there were concerns in Harare that the pressure put on forex reserves by maize imports at a time when export

earnings from cash crops — particularly tobacco — were depressed as a result of drought could further reduce the value of the Zimbabwe dollar.

In line with Esap, the dollar has fallen by about 45 percent against the rand since the latter part of 1990. He said the feeling was the central bank in Harare would be unable to keep defending the currency against the US dollar at the rate desired by Esap of 5-1 for the rest of the year.

"Furthermore, the belief is that at the end of Esap's five years, when the dollar is supposedly to be left to float more freely against other currencies, that it will end up at about 10 percent of its current value."

10/03/92 362



## Comment

# No surrender, no retreat

LAST week strong rumours were making the rounds in Harare that the Government was about to withdraw the Land Acquisition Bill now before Parliament in the face of stiff opposition from powerful commercial farmers.

The Commercial Farmers' Union's representatives recently saw President Mugabe and expressed their opposition to aspects of the Bill which relate to compulsory acquisition of land and the fixing of prices by the Government.

The President is said to have listened attentively, even when some farmers sounded like they were telling him off with such comments as that they cannot be held responsible for something that happened more than 50 years ago.

They were referring to the now standard answer to the standard suggestion that the land in question was never paid for in the first place.

On Thursday the President delivered his final answer. The Bill was not being withdrawn, he said emphatically. The landowners moaned and the landless cheered. The rumour has been scotched for now.

The campaign continues though. Donor nations are being mentioned as most unhappy and others are suggesting we might soon be seeing a reduction in funding for ESAP as the rich countries take their money elsewhere, presumably where the minority in the population owns most of the arable land.

It is difficult to oppose the Land Acquisition Bill. What is supposed to be wrong with it is the sidelining of the judiciary as an impartial arbitrator in cases of disputes between the Government and landowners over prices.

Designation is being highly opposed as it implies fixing of prices. Landowners, ironically as represented by the CFU, would be more comfortable with a situation whereby the Government paid "market prices" for the land it acquired. The question the Government asked itself was: whose and what "market prices?"

Some people have made much noise about the possibility of this country going down the tube in much the same way "most African countries" went, as we shall fail to feed ourselves once land has been re-allocated.

Does it not smack of racism? Productivity is important but are we assured of productivity only so long as it is in white hands?

Land is a sensitive issue, more of a tinderbox from which the Government would be foolish to retreat. Foolish because there is no guarantee people who are desperate for land will extend the waiting period to infinity. They will grab the land and the Government will find itself in the invidious position of having to use force to dislodge them.

Class conflicts are born that way and history pages are full of references on how protracted and destructive they can be. The majority always win in the end, both sides having paid a heavy price.

In our case it would be both a class and racial conflict. We have had enough of that already.

However, we expect the Government to acquire only the land it needs, resettle only the needy and insist only on its new criteria of emphasising on productivity.

Land, we believe, will still produce no matter the colour of the skin of those who till it.



ICA

## Crisis forces Zimbabwe to import tons of sugar

*6/10 day 10/3/97*  
HARARE — Zimbabwe, normally a sugar-exporting nation, is importing 55 000 tons of sugar to ease a shortage caused by the worst drought in living memory, the Herald newspaper reported yesterday.

It quoted Agriculture Minister Witness Mangwende as telling a rally on Sunday that 10 000 tons had already arrived and a further 45 000 tons were expected shortly.

Sugar has been available only sporadically for months.

Commercial Farmers' Union president Alan Burl said last month that sugar production this season was likely to be only 30% of the normal 460 000 tons, giving rise to import needs of about 200 000 tons. The main reservoir for the sugar-producing areas was down to 0.8% of capacity in February.

Burl warned that even with good rainfall, it would take at least two years for the industry to recover.

The loss of the sugar crop also has serious implications for animal feed and for Zimbabwe's fuel bill. To cut fuel import costs, 20% sugar-produced ethynol is added to petrol in the country.

The government plans to provide supplementary food for children in areas severely affected by drought.

It has also said it would undertake a massive operation to provide water to the worst-hit areas. This would include drilling deep bore holes to tap underground water. It said statistics showed that 3 603 boreholes out of 12 110 had dried up since February 12, while 3 133 of a total of 7 048 deep wells countrywide had also run dry.

In Zambia, Agriculture Minister Guy Scott said his country needed about \$300m to buy maize to avert a famine caused by the drought, Zambia Radio reported.

Scott said there were also problems of distribution and of potential smuggling to neighbours such as Mozambique and Zaire.

— Sapa-Reuter.

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## Harare ballot box

362 MICHAEL HARTNACK 8/10/92 11/3/92

HARARE — White South Africans living in Zimbabwe will be able to cast their referendum votes at the trade mission in Harare next week.

Trade mission head Nico Nel said his city centre offices, normally besieged by Zimbabwean applicants for SA visas, had been designated as a polling centre from 8am to 4pm on referendum day March 17.

It was imperative would-be voters brought both their SA passports and their ID books, Nel said. He said initial forecasts that 200 South Africans in Zimbabwe might vote had been revised, and 2 000 special ballot papers had been prepared.

Report by M Hartnack, TML, 11 Diagonal St, Jhb.

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10-11-1992  
3400 US IN 30AM

# Zim folk poorer now than at independence

By GREG MILLS

research associate in the Centre for Southern Africa Studies at UWC and in the Centre for Defence and International Security Studies at Lancaster University. Dr Mills recently visited Zimbabwe.



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CT 11/3/92

**ROBERT MUGABE:** In the light of his own alleged scams, his attempts to confront corruption in Zimbabwe have been laughed at.

IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, as in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, a familiar and relatively simple structure of regional domination is being swept away and policy-makers and academics alike have begun to think about the structures that will replace it.

We can dismiss the assumption that the removal of apartheid will simply remove the basis for insecurity in the region. There are important sources of instability in Southern Africa that cannot and will not be ameliorated by political change, some of which may indeed be exacerbated by such change. Both inside and outside South Africa, personal expectations are high, yet most economic scenarios give a bleak picture.

Zimbabwe has been in the front of the anti-apartheid campaign and illustrates many of these insecurities. Take its economy: 12 years of independence have not brought the average Zimbabwean what he expected and was promised.

Land redistribution was a central tenet of the promises made by the guerrilla movements but this is only now being carried out, amid much controversy.

The extent of corruption among government ministers, the bureaucracy and in the armed forces suggests, however, that little of this land will end up in the hands of the deserving.

## Aids pandemic

The short-term effects of the World Bank's Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) have meant that the average Zimbabwean is poorer now than he was at independence.

With massive depreciation of the Zimbabwean dollar (it has halved in foreign exchange value in 12 months), inflation is rampant. And the SAP means the civil service is to be cut by 30%: economic good sense but politically dangerous.

The devaluation of the dollar is designed to stimulate exports, particularly those "down south", as South Africa is universally termed. Yet the question has to be posed: in what fields can Zimbabwe hope to compete?

The answer has been given as agricultural produce, seeds, foodstuffs and so on. It is hoped to attract South African investment, in the naive belief that South African companies recognise that they will need a wealthy region which has the finance to trade with South Africa.

Aids has reached pandemic proportions in Zimbabwe. Pro-government sources put the level of infection at around 10% for the general population and 20% for the army. However, a recent report by the Randos Institute in London shows that one in five of the sexually active population will die prematurely and four out of 10 of their offspring will die in childhood of Aids. This will place enormous strains on the already inadequate health-care system and will reduce the labour force available.

There have been many positive lessons from Zimbabwean independence. Perhaps most relevant to South Africa concerns the government's stress on racial reconciliation. For the 100 000 or so whites who remain, life has not changed much. For example, offset

against the diabolical phone system, is the level of international investment, illustrated by the operations of huge international construction consortiums in Harare.

## Corruption

There are concerns, however, about Zimbabwe's ability to compete on equal terms against South Africa and the chances of their until-now "self-contained" economy being flooded with cheap, competitive goods.

Interestingly, whites are not disappointed by their level of prosperity but rather by the widespread corruption which makes "normal" business practices virtually impossible. This is a top-down phenomenon. It has been alleged by the US-based Monomotapa People's Alliance that the Mugabes alone have siphoned away more than R210 m into foreign bank accounts since 1981.

The late Sally Mugabe is alleged to have last year bid R225 m for the Dorchester Hotel in London. Corruption involving the sale of import licences, kick-backs on the purchase of army and government vehicles and equipment is widespread. President Robert Mugabe has attempted to confront this by recently firing the Army Commander, Rex Nhongo, who for a long time had operated a private company under another name. Yet in the light of Mugabe's involvement in similar scams, such efforts are laughed at.

The opposition is almost totally lame on such issues. Edgar Tekere's Zimbabwe Unity Movement is in total disarray and lacking a concerted, viable national strategy. This reflects to a large extent the volatility of Tekere's personality.

Ndabaningi Sithole, who returned to Zimbabwe in January after a decade of exile in the US, has yet to find his feet.

## Marginalised

The student movement has proven to be the most successful and motivated opposition to the ruling ZANU-PF. In return, they have been detained, beaten up, some have disappeared altogether and the university has occasionally been shut down. Yet they remain steadfast in their opposition.

Zimbabwe's problems come at a time when Africa is being increasingly marginalised in terms of world affairs. This, ironically perhaps, is partly a result of the removal of South Africa from the international political agenda but relates also to changes in the nature of international politics: the universal economic depression, the creation of regional economic trading blocs, the collapse of the Soviet system and the opening of Eastern Europe have all distracted the world's attention.

This process has been hastened by Africa's poor economic record. The history of mismanagement, military coups and economic failure overshadows the achievements of thirtysomething years of independence. Set against the need for resources to rebuild key physical infrastructure, social services, food supplies, restore trade patterns and resettle refugees, the potential for continued insecurity is great.

For Zimbabwe, and in most areas of Southern Africa, the battle against apartheid has been won but the search for prosperity continues. As one Zimbabwean taxi driver put it to me: "We are not at peace. We are not at war, but how can you be at peace when you are not happy?"

# Backlash fears over Harare land Bill

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STAR 12/3/92

By Trevor Grundy  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe's 90 000 whites are bracing for a probable black backlash over resistance to the government's plan to seize white farmland.

There has been a strong reaction to suggestions that Western investors and local white businessmen might boycott development programmes.

Government critics say that they fear an anti-white wave rolling over the country. Many believe it would do Zimbabwe irreparable harm and damage South Africa, too.

A leading white businessman, who asked not to be named, said: "Yes, we are concerned. Whites have criticised the Bill because it could destroy the economy but that certainly doesn't mean we're about to try and topple the government."

"The vast majority of Europeans are Zimbabwean passport holders. Our future is in this country."

There has been growing "anti-colonial" and "anti-settler" rhetoric in newspaper editorials, and black farmers, businessmen, trade unionists and intellectuals have accused "minority interests" of attempting to sabotage the economy through their opposition to the Bill.

It would empower the government to take up to half of all white farmland, to pay farmers in local money, possibly in slow-maturing government bonds over a five to 10-year period, and to deny the right of appeal against land acquisition and valuation decisions.

Gary Magadzire, president of the Zimbabwe Farmers' Union (ZFU), which represents black farmers, said in a statement: "The African farmers refuse to be kept on the periphery of economic development. We cannot continue to survive on crumbs. The present arrangement of the agricultural economy relegates Africans to perpetual peasantry."

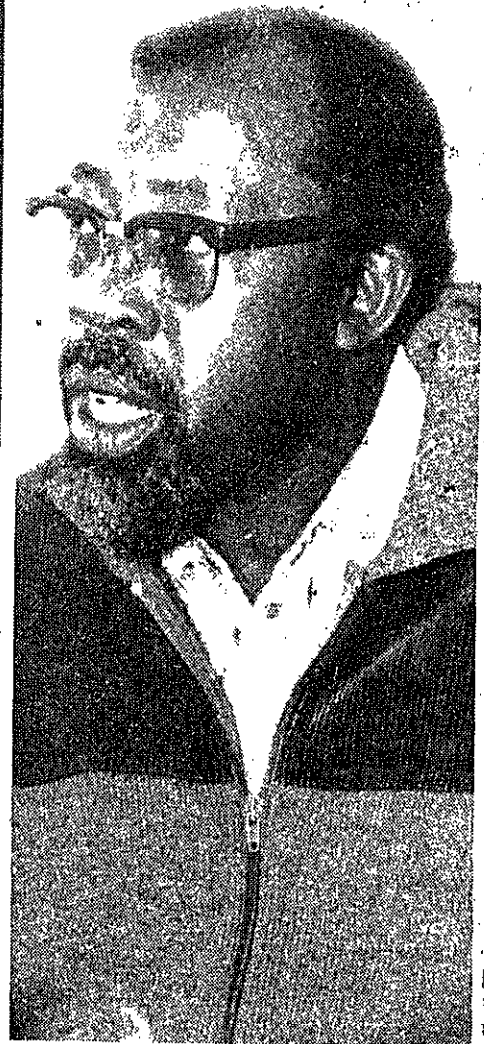
# The Land Bill

(362) HERALD 12/3/92

Hope for  
the  
landless  
majority  
who have  
been  
impatiently  
waiting for  
it for  
twelve  
years



President Mugabe



Gary Magadzire

THE *raison d'être* of the armed struggle that left thousands of people dead and many others maimed and displaced in this country was land. Not racism.

To the thousands of peasants still landless, 12 years after attaining independence, the equitable redistribution of land remains one of the Government's major unfulfilled promises. The issue is as emotive and explosive today as it was during colonial rule.

At the British-brokered Lancaster House constitutional conference in London, the Conservative government of Mrs Margaret Thatcher pledged to give Zimbabwe money to buy land for resettling displaced and landless people.

Some of the money has been granted. The remainder is still to come and it appears Britain, uncertain of the future of its white colleagues in Zimbabwe, is ready to use its economic might to influence Zimbabwe's

sive pieces of legislation, the Land Apportionment Act, was passed in 1931. The Act had no provision for compensation for blacks after they were forcibly removed from their legitimate land to unproductive land.

Nor did it have provision for the victims to have recourse to court should they feel wronged. In fact, the Bill was not even debated.

Central to the land issue is the fact that whites, who make up less than 5 percent of the national population, own more than half of the country's best land while the majority blacks are crowded on very little land, most of it unproductive.

By 1985, 4 500 white farmers owned 12.8 million ha of land while 10 000 small-scale black farmers owned only 1.42 million ha, most of it in low rainfall natural regions four and five, and more than one million peasants occupied 16.3 million ha which they will never own individually as it is designated communal land.

Mauch, had reported in 1867 that there were traces of gold at Tati.

Ten years after the adventurous Cecil Rhodes' pioneers had settled in this country, whites owned about 7 million ha. Former Observer and Sunday Times correspondent in Southern Africa, Martin Meredith, in his book, *The Past Is Another Country*, says land was misappropriated from blacks.

"Native reserves were created to cushion the impact of white occupation, but often the land consigned to Africans was in remote and unproductive areas," he wrote.

Ignoring the 1898 Southern Rhodesian Order in Council, which had allowed natives to "acquire, hold, encumber and dispose of land" as whites, the Land Apportionment Act of 1931 barred blacks from holding or occupying land in designated areas. Yet today, land owners grumble over designation.

As the Shona say "Dindimwe

the union, Cde Gary Magadzire, told farmers recently. He said his union, which represents all black farmers in the country, would like the Government to assist resettled farmers fully by providing them training and supplying them with resources.

In addition, his union advocates its involvement in the selection of people to be resettled, so that the country will not be adversely affected in its production of crops, especially the staple food, maize.

Commercial farmers, on the other hand, are unsettled over the Bill. In a television programme recently, they articulated their contribution to the economy and expressed the view that the country will suffer if they stopped farming.

Some of them want debate but it would be futile for the Government to allow that. Last year, more than 4 000 whites invited the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, to a so-called 'round

on this one that Harare and Westminster could be heading for a confrontation.

President Mugabe has said the Government will not be intimidated into shelving the current plans to acquire land. Further delays in acquiring land could lead to chaos, he told newsmen in Harare last Friday.

His remarks came a day after the World Service of the British Broadcasting Corporation had carried a story emanating from Harare which said the Government was shelving the proposed Land Acquisition Bill. The report created a stir among many blacks who felt the Government was reneging on a very crucial issue.

The current debate on the land issue was sparked after the Bill was tabled in Parliament last month. Indications are that it will sail through and indeed, the President has expressed the hope that it will.

Tabling of the Bill followed the passing by Parliament on December 2 1990 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill Number 11.

Hitherto, the Government was tied for 10 years by the restrictive clauses enshrined in the Lancaster House Constitution. Presumably, the signatories to the accord felt that 10 years was ample time for whites and blacks to reconcile their differences and create an atmosphere conducive to a harmonious partnership in national development.

Blacks never raised a finger when one of the most oppres-

week, President Mugabe pointed out that there should be a just and "equitable system of distributing land instead of leaving the people where history put them".

Going back in history, the last king in this country, Lobengula, astutely fought the full weight of capitalism and imperialism. In the end, despite his shrewdness and political wisdom, he was tricked into signing first the Moffat Treaty on February 11 1888 and later the Rudd Concession in October 1888. These documents, together with the Royal Charter of October 1889, gave the country away to the whites. It must be understood, though, that Lobengula was under pressure from the South Africans in Transvaal, the British and the Portuguese to give concessions on his people's land.

The Ndebele king did not fully understand what he was signing at both agreements. In fact, on one occasion, he had to write to Queen Victoria in London, complaining that he had allowed only "eight white men to dig a hole (mine) but now an impi is gathering around my kraal".

It is evident that the clever and literate whites took advantage of the illiterate king who did not realise how valuable his land was.

There was much interest in the "land beyond the Limpopo" after the German geologist, Karl

kane rave iro roti mavara azar-evhu", which means a cheetah rejoices when it metes out punishment to others but when it is the victim, it is quick to cry foul.

With the Land Acquisition Bill, the Government wants to acquire five million ha to resettle 110 000 families, part of the initial 162 000 families identified for resettlement soon after independence. Poor planning, inexperience and lack of money resulted in the resettlement programme missing by a wide margin its original intentions. By 1990, only 52 000 families had been resettled on 3.3 million ha of land bought for \$8 million. About 2.7 million ha of the land was bought from large-scale commercial farmers, mostly whites.

What is disturbing is that lately, some commercial farmers have resorted to game ranching and operating lucrative safaris for tourists to justify their continued ownership of vast tracts of land. They claim they will generate much-needed foreign currency, yet it is obvious that the Government does not have the machinery to monitor earnings from such operations.

The 500 000 members of the Zimbabwe Farmers' Union support the proposed Land Acquisition Bill.

"The ZFU is committed to the call for the equitable distribution of land," the president of

quizzed him on the Government's intentions on land. Cde Mangwende did not mince his words. He categorically said the uneven distribution of land was simply not acceptable.

"Reform is absolutely necessary if not imperative," he stressed.

The land owners are worried that the President will have power through the Bill to acquire land that is underutilised and derelict in the best interest of the State. The draft Bill clearly states that only underutilised and derelict land will be repossessed by the Government. It is a fact that many commercial farms are excessively large. The average size is 3 000 ha while the average size of the small-scale commercial farms for blacks is 125 ha. The disparity is too wide for anyone not to notice.

In the communal lands, where the majority of blacks live, families have to eke out a living from a small piece of land which is usually overworked and unproductive.

The rising population is making the situation worse as hundreds of hectares originally designated for grazing are being turned into residential and agricultural land.

While the Government needs support to see the controversial Bill sail through, it must be warned that unless more money is used to train peasants to better their farming methods, the land that the Bill seeks to acquire might be turned to waste and the nation will import food.

## By John Gambanga



THE Kandawasvika family ploughing their fields in Chirau communal area. Technically, this land does not belong to them as they do not have title deeds. It is designated "communal land".

## Resettlement for black commercial farmers sought

GOVERNMENT has been urged to devise a resettlement scheme for indigenous large-scale commercial farmers.

Mr David Mugabe, the secretary of the Indigenous Commercial Farmers Association (ICFA) told, *The Farming Gazette* in Darwendale at the weekend that there was need for a balance between large-scale white and black commercial farmers. The ratio of black to white commercial farmers is currently 3:44.

"I believe that there are thousands of blacks who have been trained at various agricultural institutes who would like to go

farming but there is no clear policy by government to facilitate them to go into the business of farming," he said.

He said all land acquired for

### Farming Reporter

resettlement should be divided into rural and commercial settlement, and that a land acquisition fund should be set up for the prompt purchase of land for commercial settlement.

Mr Mugabe also proposed that all state commercial farming areas be leased to indigenous black commercial

farmers. "Currently this is leased on a yearly basis to white commercial farmers who, in most cases, have one or two other farms of their own. The new arrangement should be for indigenous commercial farmers to lease these farms for a minimum of three years, preferably with options to extend to five years, and if successful, proceed to purchase that or any other farm available."

Commenting on the controversial subject of designation, Mr Mugabe said if government wished to designate commercial farms, it should make a provision for the affected farm-

ers to be able to continue farming elsewhere in the country.

"We are farmers and our livelihood is derived from farming. If government takes over my farm for resettlement, let it be so, but they should afford me the opportunity to acquire another farm and continue with the business of farming," he said.

The ICFA, which was formed recently to represent emergent black commercial farmers, has a membership of 300. The Commercial Farmers Union (CFU), which is dominated by white farmers, has a membership of 4 400.



# Mugabe vows to press ahead with Land Acquisition Bill

**Question** — Please can you tell us what sort of aid Zimbabwe is expecting from the international community, whether it's cheap food aid. Can you also comment on plans by the University of Zimbabwe to move Zimbabwe away from the production of maize.

**Mr Mugabe** — What we have in mind by way of aid from the international community is the usual aid really. People need to survive, and our stocks have diminished, so this aid can come to us by way of donated food, grains, and maize specifically and more importantly. But other grains will be welcome also, wheat, for example, is also short, and we will need it for bread. Other forms of food will also be welcome, including milk and milk powder for the children in the schools. So what ever food any country or organisation can give will be welcome.

Then of course instead of food aid we can also get donations by way of money to enable us to buy this food. So it (aid) can come through those two ways. But we are not just looking at food: we are also looking at creating more water, and therefore machinery for it, the rigs that go deeper; and we will need very heavy ones this time, with a capacity to drill deeper boreholes because the water tables are low. Those also will be welcome and transport for us to be able to ferry food from one point to another — that is another area where we require aid. There are other areas that will continue to be looked at in a situation like this. We must expect malnutrition and people are going to suffer from certain diseases and so medicaments and drugs are required and we will need those I think in a quite much bigger way this year than we have ever done, especially in the rural areas and in the far flung areas. Well, on the university's own researches, true, we benefit tremendously by those researches, and I think for quite a long time the idea has been with us by way of proposals, some of which are being really put to the test, that we move from maize in many areas where the rainfall is patchy — move from maize to more drought resistant crops like millet, sorghum and of course mhunga.

Some work has been taking place in Matopo, with research into more and more drought resistant crops, and I think the results of those researches must now come to fruition by way of translating them into actual practical measures for people to grow more drought resistant crops. Then of

**PRESIDENT Mugabe last Friday declared the drought a national disaster and outlined major plans to alleviate suffering in the country. He made the announcement at a Press conference, attended by local and foreign journalists. After the announcement, the President invited questions on any subject.**

**Reproduced below are excerpts of some of the journalist's questions and answers the President gave during the hour-long Press conference.**



**PRESIDENT ROBERT MUGABE**

shall proceed. This is the right time actually to proceed with it. We must prepare for the next season; we must have our people in the right places. It will take us time to resettle them, but the drought has nothing to do with the Land Acquisition Bill. It is those critics who would want us to grow cold feet, and our feet will remain very hot, I can assure you. We don't want them to grow cold on this matter.

The farmers must realise that if we do not proceed, the people are going to proceed on their own and seize the land and we can't drive them from those lands. But we want an orderly system of resettling people, and of acquiring land. If they (farmers) choose chaos to order, well let them tell us then they will have lots of chaos. All this time we have managed to calm down our people, and just now for example, the chiefs are up in arms. They say if the farmers are going to be compensated for the land, isn't this time for chiefs who lost their own land to be compensated. And we have been saying, please, quiet, quiet-quiet... But if the farmers want a Pandora's box, it can be opened. The government is trying in fact to protect them. This system is very protective of them

day and they are opposed to designation. They would want perhaps an ad-hoc approach, designation is too much for them because we set out to define a whole area as land that is subject to resettlement. But designation is better than proceeding ad-hoc. We want to make it clear which land government will take and, *kana vanhu vachifa, vanobva vongofa kamwechete kwete kuti toti* just piece-meal; today we tell so and so that we want his farm. No, we want also to be systematic in the resettlement process.

We can't be systematic, we can't plan well unless we knew what land we have, the size of that land, the quality of that land and the amenities on it. So we could then say, ah, we have this land available, we will proceed phase by phase in resettling the people on that land. That is a better way of proceeding than a manner which would want us to grope in the dark and proceed unsystematically.

**Question** — Your Excellency, some farmers have even come to the extent of threatening to take the issue to the Hague for arbitration. Can you comment on that?

have to say these are its nationals — it's taking the case on behalf of its nationals and our rejoinder will be, "Aha, these are your nationals. What are they doing in our country if they are your nationals?"

**Question** — Some farmers have threatened that they will reduce production because of the Land Bill.

**Mr Mugabe** — Let us, you see, carry out this act once and for all. Those who will support, support, those who will want to sabotage, let them sabotage. We will go through that path of comforts and discomforts and, we will evolve measures ourselves in the process of remedying that.

**Question** — Alleged corruption in the police.

**Mr Mugabe** — You get individuals. It's the whole system, systems that yield cases of corruption. In the police you get cases, in industry you get cases. But in government we say where these cases occur let them go to court, whatever the effect they have on government will be. We must be honest about them and not hide them as happens in the private sector. But of course we are worried that some of our people, highly placed, tend to be corrupt. But I take it that as we move into the future with some of the correct measures that we are having in place, and with more education taking place as people grow up and develop, there will be less incidences of corruption, than perhaps there are at the present moment. But one cannot hope to eradicate corruption altogether. We would probably be too angelic a society.

**Question** — You mention that there will be Cabinet members in all the eight provinces. Will these be in addition to your existing Cabinet?

**Mr Mugabe** — No, it is those who are there. We can afford to suspend some of the activities for a while, or get them going under some other supervision in the ministries. But I want a resident minister in every province to supervise the entire programme from now and they will be reporting every week the water situation, the food situation, other situations in the area. We will continue to meet once a week as a Cabinet and we must get reports, province by province. This is to keep people going, to push people in the provinces and avert some of the bottlenecks in some cases or delays that tend to occur



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maize orientation is in fact a recent feature in our country. When I was a young boy in the 1930s right up to the end of the 30s, we were more millet eating than maize eating. And with the grinding mills it became easier for people to mill their meal whatever it was, whether it was maize or sorghum. Because of that facility which relieved women from pounding, and because of the easier mode of growing maize, people moved away from rapoko to maize. And with institutions like schools, mining, industries and so on, also developed a population base, and that population base naturally, being fed by maize. Gradually we became more maize eating than millet eating. But when I was a boy, it was, on a daily basis rapoko that was eaten, and we didn't like ground maize. And if we wanted maize at all, or mother had to prepare maize meal, it had to be pounded maize and this was the pattern. But that pattern is gone and patterns go over time, and the old yields to the new. Now people are conditioned to maize. Well, if we can change to crops that are more easily grown than others, it will be for the better.

**Question** — Critics of the aspects of the Land Acquisition Bill have said perhaps it is unwise to proceed with the Bill in a time of drought like this. Can you tell me if the government will proceed with the Bill?

**Mr Mugabe** — Vigorously we

much to lose by some our delay in getting this Bill through.

**Question** — On the Land Bill, we hear reports that the international donor community is saying if the government proceeds with the Bill, then aid is not going to be forthcoming. You mention right away that you are not going to develop cold feet, but eh,

**Mr Mugabe** — There is nobody developing cold feet, not in my government. If I see anybody with cold feet, I put hot irons on them! Not in my government. Nobody could dare develop cold feet, aid or no aid, it's a do or die issue, I can assure you. And no donors have threatened, I can assure you, none at all. You cannot run a society of haves and have-nots, and hope that that society will continue to accept the situation. Land gaping for development. Move into any area, any area, or into any one farm, any one farmer, he maybe a good farmer, but you will see vast land lying fallow, undeveloped, because he can't use all the 3 000, 4 000, 5 000 hectares. If morality were to guide us and the morality being that we be just and equitable, and examine history in terms of that equity and justice, would it be fair and just that we leave, we let the situation where history has. We can't. We have to do justice and give the communal people and other people who want to go into agriculture land to do so. There is enough land, we have told the farmers. I had a meeting with them the other

whether our people realise what the International Court for Justice (ICJ) is. It's a court which hears grievances between states. It does not deal with national issues. If there is a quarrel between us, I hope there won't be, between us and Zambia, between us and Botswana, between us and Britain, sure. If Britain is going to contest that its citizens are being ill-treated I suppose Britain could take the matter to the Hague. But I don't think Britain would dare do that because history shows more ill-treatment of the blacks than the alleged ill-treatment of the whites.

Even after Independence they have remained to be in greater comfort, greater wealth than the blacks and we have not seized their property. We have not become vindictive in any way. We haven't followed any policies of retribution. If Ian Smith were an honest person, he would tell you he still has his farm, and in his heart of hearts, he must be grateful to the government for having left him in that position. Morally, we could have proceeded to get that farm from him and others on the basis that they committed treason. But we didn't. We say bygones are bygones, let's look ahead. Let's build one society, let those in a better position use that better position to improve the position of those in worse positions than they and this is all we are saying now.

Well, I don't know, if they would want to use Britain or some of the countries to take their cases to the Hague, Britain will then

acted upon.

**Question** — Government was warned about the maize stock situation in the middle of last year. Will it accept the blame for starvation among the people?

**Mr Mugabe** — No, not at all. Warned in the middle of last year, that is before the current rainy season. Did those people foresee, if you tell me that they are serious and prophets, then perhaps government ignored the prophesy that they gave. Middle of last year, had they foreseen that there would be no rain this year. They were talking of incentives to the farmers. Supposing government had given the incentives they wanted at that particular time, would they have created more maize without water? Government has not hesitated at all in taking action and government has had to act on the basis first, of assessing the effect of drought. And we didn't know, even by December whether the drought would be this disastrous, this widespread. We thought, perhaps by January, there will be more rain. And even in January, perhaps by February, we will get just enough water to sustain some of the maize in the field and also to raise the levels of our dams. But February is gone now, and we are now able to say with a degree of certainty there won't be enough water. But we didn't start acting in February, we started acting long ago on the drought. You can only blame us if, at the end, people will have no food to eat.

# Land Acquisition Bill goes into second reading

(362)  
HER  
13/3/92

THE Land Acquisition Bill went into its second reading stage in Parliament yesterday.

Although the Minister of Lands, Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, presented his second reading speech, the Bill was not read for the second time and debate was adjourned until Tuesday, next week.

At the start of proceedings, the parliamentary legal committee, which acts as the watchdog to ensure that Bills brought to Parliament are not in contravention of the Constitution, reported that some sections of the Land Acquisition Bill contravened the Constitution.

In his response to the committee's adverse report, Cde Mangwende said the Government had already agreed to amend the offending sections but did not concede that those provisions contravened the Constitution, from which all laws emanate.

"However, for entirely different reasons and following representations made by the farmers, Government had already agreed to propose the amendment to Clause 23 of the Bill in the form referred to in the report of the parliamentary legal committee," said Cde Mangwende.

"Because of the fact that Government, acting from different considerations, had long since sought to

amend a part of the draft Bill which the parliamentary legal committee seeks to strike out and, in order not to unduly delay this important piece of legislation, my recommendation to this honourable House is that you adopt the report of the parliamentary legal committee so that we can get on with the major task ahead.

"Time is of the essence and we cannot dissipate this precious commodity by haggling over peripheral issues of the land question."

The minister sought leave of the House for the Bill to go through the second reading stage and any amendments to be effected during the committee stage. — Ziana.

# Africa's problems mount

w/m ail

13/3-19/3/92

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**T**HE drought gripping the entire southern African region is not only withering crops, it is also creating serious economic and political problems for the region's various governments.

Scorched fields of failed crops mark the parched landscape across the continent from Angola on the Atlantic to Mozambique on the Indian Ocean and including the central countries of Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Including South Africa's needs, the region will have to import an estimated 10 to 11 million tons of grain this year, putting a tremendous strain on the region's ports, railways and trucking networks.

The cost of importing the food and distributing it will badly dent the efforts of Zambia and Zimbabwe to restructure their economies and will put further strain on Angola's transitional period towards national elections in September.

Daily life in war-ravaged Mozambique is already extremely difficult, but the drought will make people, and Renamo rebels, even more desperate for food. Aid workers fear that widespread hunger in Mozambique combined with the large number of easily available weapons may result in widespread banditry.

Also feeling the pinch is Malawi, as it has more than 1.2-million extra mouths to feed from its still-burgeoning population of Mozambican refugees.

Normally a maize exporter, Zimbabwe is particularly hard hit by the drought and the country has experienced massive crop failure.

"People are already suffering," said Mavis Ngazana, who recently toured Zimbabwe's driest area, the southern Matabeleland province. "Families are walking miles to get water, cattle are dying and people are already scavenging for wild melons and edible roots. Many people are going to go hungry."

Experts predict widespread malnutrition unless a massive and very thorough drought relief programme gets food supplies distributed to every corner of the country. Zimbabwe's battered and

*The severe drought in already troubled southern Africa has created a flood of problems for countries in the region.*

**By ANDREW MELDRUM**

broken down transport fleet is ill-equipped to deliver such large quantities of food throughout the country.

Many of Zimbabwe's rural schools have had to close, or to reduce hours of classes, because of the shortage of water. Mines are threatened with closure because they do not have enough water for their extraction process.

Zimbabwe's cities have not been spared drought-caused troubles. Municipal reservoirs of water are rapidly shrinking causing Bulawayo, Mutare, Masvingo and Gweru to impose water rationing measures. Harare's water has taken on a peculiar odour and taste as weed-killing chemicals and algae have become more concentrated in the dwindling supplies of the city's Lake Chivero.

The critical drought situation has also heated up Zimbabwe's already burning land issue. The once dormant land debate has come back to life and is stirring racial and class tensions.

With its new Land Acquisition Bill, Robert Mugabe's government intends to buy half the 11-million hectares currently owned by the large-scale commercial farmers, virtually all of them white. The Bill empowers the government to set its own prices for the farmland it buys and it specifically prevents the farmers from appealing to the courts if they feel the government's prices are too low.

The Commercial Farmers' Union has mounted a slick television and newspaper campaign against the land Bill, arguing the government takeover would badly reduce Zimbabwe's agricultural productivity and therefore the country's economic viability.

Behind closed doors the World Bank and key Western diplomats have also lobbied against the Bill, saying it represents government undue interference in a vital economic area, just as the Harare government is supposed to be opening up the economy to market forces.

Recently it appeared the Mugabe government intended to significantly soften the land Bill, as a result of donor pressure at a Paris meeting.

But last week, when announcing the drought a national disaster, Mugabe emphatically and angrily stated that his government will not back down on the land Bill because it is "a do or die issue". Scotching the reports that the Bill would be modified, Mugabe said: "If anyone gets cold feet on this issue, I will put coals under them to heat them up."

Mugabe argued that the land had been taken from the blacks without any compensation just 50 years ago, and now his government intended to return the land to the people. He said pressure from international donors would have no influence on the land Bill, whether or not it would affect how much aid Zimbabwe would get for drought relief.

If passage of the Bill is delayed, warned Mugabe, then the commercial farmers could suffer mass action by peasants.

"The commercial farmers must realise that if we do not proceed, then the people will proceed on their own and seize the land, and we cannot drive them from those lands," said Mugabe. The Land Acquisition Bill sailed through.

The land debate has largely divided Zimbabwe between blacks and whites, between haves and have-nots. In recent weeks these tensions have risen to levels not experienced in Zimbabwe since the days of independence. Whether it is a wise policy for Zimbabwe economically is not the point, the land Bill's promise of good farmland for the country's black farmers is exciting many passionate supporters. And, no doubt with his eye to the 1995 national elections, that is just what Mugabe wants to encourage.

# Land Bill will drive investors away, warns Lonrho chief

THE chief executive of one of Zimbabwe's largest conglomerates has said the proposed Land Acquisition Bill will cause inestimable damage to investor confidence by blatantly compromising fundamental rights of property ownership, and dash any hopes of creating a vibrant market economy.

Lonrho Zimbabwe chief executive, Mr Chris Parvin, said the proposed Bill severely threatened the fundamental basis of collateralised lending that had been successfully established over years in the economy, and which had been the foundation from which successful development had been launched.

Speaking at the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the \$100 million Nyanga Timbers Sawmill project, Mr Parvin said: "The Bill will also cause inestimable damage to that most tangible, but vital feature of a successful, vibrant and growing economy — the confidence of the investor to invest and then plough back his profits in properly secured agro-business."



**Mr Chris Parvin**

He said Africa had a litany of examples, where uncertainty of tenure and its impact on national morale had made investors vote with their feet.

"Development has ground to a halt and investors have moved elsewhere. We must not make the same mistake. Investor confidence cannot be restored merely by the stroke of the pen of a government which then changes its mind before making its hasty decision," Mr Parvin said.

"We are, through the sponsoring of the Land Acquisition Bill, establishing the philosophy and rules which will govern property rights, now and in the future. We cannot expect the investors of Zimbabwe, whether from here, or elsewhere, to participate in an economy where the fundamental rights of property ownership are blatantly compromised," he said.

Mr Parvin said while nobody doubted the importance and urgency of resettlement, recent experience in the resettled areas had shown limited success. Efforts had to be made to redress these problems, before creating similar ones, he said.

"The approach proposed in the Land Acquisition Bill and, in particular, the designation of specific areas and lack of redress to independent courts, is not the solution. Resolution of the problems lies in building a strong economy brimming with new investment and development, based upon secure rights to land and property," he said.

"The many spin-offs that this will have in trade and commerce, training and research, will give far more widespread and lasting benefits to all, rather than a willy-nilly reparationing out of existing land for basically political reasons," Mr Parvin said.

For the economy to develop as planned, investors had to have confidence in the system of property ownership. "If we lack this confidence among our local investors, what hope do we have of attracting foreign investors?"

The Lonrho chief, meanwhile, bitterly criticised the lengthy approval process at the semi-autonomous Zimbabwe Investment Centre, saying the centre had to be strengthened as a matter of the highest priority.

# Zim land bill: 2nd reading

ET 13/3/92 Own Correspondent (362)

HARARE. — President Robert Mugabe's government yesterday vowed to forge ahead with its land nationalisation legislation — notwithstanding a special parliamentary report from ruling party backbenchers saying it violates constitutional rights.

The Land Acquisition Bill is designed for speedy takeover of the "maize and tobacco belt" owned by commercial companies and 4 500 white farmers.

The chairman of the parliamentary Legal Affairs Committee, Mr Lot Senda, announced in the house yesterday that his committee believed the bill infringed the entrenched Declaration of Rights, despite the 1990 amendment removing the farmers' right of recourse to the courts.

"Payment of fair compensation for land is a right enshrined in the constitution," said Mr Senda.

Agriculture Minister Dr Witness Mangwende refused to withdraw the bill and obtained leave to introduce the second reading debate immediately, although it was not on the order paper.

He attacked the Commercial Farmers' Union, foreign embassies and independent newspapers for lobbying against the bill.

Diplomats and the business community have warned that the legislation may undermine Zimbabwe's financial credibility, destroy its R32 billion five-year economic liberalisation programme, wreck the internal money market and perhaps erode the country's traditional ability to feed itself.

# Lonrho attacks Mugabe's land Bill

Biday 13/3/92

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MICHAEL HARTNACK

**HARARE** — Tiny Rowland's controversial multinational has joined the furor over President Robert Mugabe's plans to nationalise Zimbabwe's 6-million hectare "maize and tobacco belt", following a strongly-worded speech by Lonrho Zimbabwe Ltd CE Chris Parvin.

"We cannot expect the investors of Zimbabwe, whether from here or elsewhere, to participate in an economy where the fundamental rights of property ownership are blatantly compromised," Parvin said at the start of work on a new R57m sawmill development by Lonrho at Nyanga, in the eastern highlands.

## Instructions

Observers believe Lonrho, traditionally on amicable terms with African governments, would not have become the first multinational to take a public position on Mugabe's Land Acquisition Bill, now before parliament, without Rowland's explicit instructions.

Rowland, the powerful conglomerate's chairman who started the company in what was then Rhodesia, is a longstanding friend of Mugabe, and Parvin's salvo is seen as holding special significance.

Parvin said the Land Acquisition Bill, now before the Zimbabwean parliamentary legal committee prior to its second reading, would cause "inestimable damage to the most tangible but vital feature of a successful, vibrant and growing economy — the confidence of the investor to invest and then plough back his profits in properly secured agro-business".

Mugabe has targeted foreign-controlled companies as well as whites for takeover under the new legislation, which denies right of appeal to the courts over the compensation tendered.

Previous statements by Mugabe suggest he will offer a sixth of the current market value of land which previously made Zimbabwe a net exporter of food and agricultural products.

Referring to Lonrho's wide experience of independent Africa over the past 40 years, Parvin said uncertainty of tenure had sapped morale and made businessmen "vote with their feet".

"Development has ground to a halt and investors have moved elsewhere. We must not make the same mistake," he said, noting the economic track record of other socialist-oriented African governments.

Parvin warned that investor confidence could not be restored by a stroke of the pen if Mugabe's government "changes its mind about making its hasty decision".

He said Lonrho would support urgent moves to resettle landless peasants, but stripping landowners of legal redress and designating areas for eventual takeover were not the answer.

There would be widespread repercussions throughout the Zimbabwean economy to "a willy-nilly parcelling out of land for basically political reasons".

Lonrho, one of the biggest foreign investors in Zimbabwe, is believed to have re sets in the country in the region of R100 million in the form of farms and forestry plantations.

# MY TURN

By Alexander Kanengoni

## How we lost our land

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HER. 14/3/92

THE passions that have been generated by the Land Acquisition Bill currently under intense debate inside and outside Parliament are inevitable. In this country, indeed like any other country that shares our colonial legacy, the issue of land occupies the entire spectrum of our politics. The question of land has always dominated our lives. It still dominates our lives and it will continue to dominate our lives.

Our relationship with the land dates back to time immemorial. As a result, the best way to understand this passionate issue would have been within a historical perspective but I will not do that.

I cannot talk about how the British South Africa Company on September 12 1890, hoisted its flag at Fort Salisbury, thus laying claim to land that it had no legal rights over. I cannot talk about how the newly arrived settlers pegged and apportioned to themselves huge chunks of already occupied land free of charge.

The reason why I will not talk about this is that I am afraid I might be accused of scratching old wounds or attempting to scare away whites and foreign investment. Where indeed would we be without these two God-sends?

I will not talk about the Southern Rhodesia Native Reserves Commission of 1915 that recommended designation (what an ugly word) of carefully selected land for resettlement by blacks.

I cannot talk about any such things because it is alleged that as my people had not yet developed the skills to read and write, none of us could remember anything from such a distant past.

I will not talk about the Morris Carter Commission of 1926 that eventually culminated in the notorious Land Apportionment Act of 1930. The monstrous Act designated (that word again!) 21 million acres of land for use by blacks, 48 million acres for use by whites, 7 million acres as black purchase land and 17 million acres were unassigned (obviously set aside for future white expansion).

How can I talk about such things when, as far as the whites are concerned, the problem of land only began to exist at the Lancaster House conference in 1979 and has now assumed fatal proportions with the current introduction of the Land Acquisition Bill?

I will not talk about Mr Ian Smith's Land Tenure Act of 1969 because I would rock the boat. After all, were we not the happiest blacks in the whole world?

The successive promulgation of the various land Acts condemned us permanently to regions IV and V, dry, barren and hot.

In a recent television programme, the president of the Commercial Farmers' Union, Mr Alan Burl, said that we had always preferred those regions because they were the only ones that we could subdue with our rudimentary tools and technology.

What is most depressing about this assumption is that it is not only a racist insult to our way of life, it is also a sickening attempt to try and write our history for us.

The old man, my father, fought for the King and Empire during the Second World War. He is proud of that. Names of distant countries like Kenya, Ethiopia, India, Burma and Malaysia roll effortlessly from his lips. They came back victorious at the close of the war. They had crushed Nazism.

Young white men who had been out there with him came back and were given vast tracts of land across the whole country as recognition of their gallant service. He came back to the village with a steel helmet, cup, plate, military boots and painful memories.

What still remains are the memories and the helmet. One day, some lucky young white man will inherit 4 000 acres of land. I will inherit a steel helmet and the old man's painful memories.

When I was growing up somewhere around the then Enkeldorn in the fifties, we were stunned one morning to find a fence erected right across the back of our village. Because we were all on the wrong side. We were told to move to make way for proposed commercial farms.

The following days were hectic. Our fathers held secret meetings during the night. None of us knew their agenda but one can now safely presume they were considering options to resist the move.

But whatever the options, none ever materialised because a few days later, mounted white police officers accompanied by jogging black constables leading fierce dogs on leashes converged upon a village that was no longer ours . . . Suddenly, there was nothing to understand.

In our desperate panic to get away, my mother was to tell me years later, we left behind half of our flock of sheep. Like thousands of others before us across the country, we angrily trekked to the already overcrowded Mutekedza tribal trust land.

Most of those people against the Land Acquisition Bill, the majority of whom are white and a few of their black megaphones, have never been to Chihota communal area. They have never been to Chivi. They have never been to Murehwa. Chivi is now almost a desert. The once mighty Save River is slowly dying. There is a frightening land and environmental degradation in virtually all existing communal lands. The reason for this is not that people are ignorant of land conservation methods. The fundamental reason is that the areas are overcrowded, old and tired.

There is no way that these trends can be reversed as long as the land is not relieved of the pressure exerted upon it. The people need more land. The land is there, land that is being under-utilised, land that is being held for purely speculative purposes.

There is a concerted but not entirely objective campaign, especially by the white farmers, that if they left the land, this country would starve. Even without the land, the communal farmers in the 1982 season produced more than 60 percent of the national grain output.

Given the land and a good season, there is absolutely no reason why they can't do better. After all, the majority of white commercial farmers have long ago abandoned maize production for more lucrative tobacco and flower production.

There is a concerted campaign, especially from the whites, to show the whole world that the resettlement programme was a fiasco. Even if it were a dismal failure, that would never provide sufficient reason to keep the blacks shut up in suffocating communal lands. We need more land. What we should be discussing is how to find ways of making the resettlement programme a success.

The entire assortment of various white farmers' associations are crying foul over what they allege to be excessive powers that the Bill confers upon the minister. The other two major land Acts in the history of this country, the Land Apportionment Act (1930) and the Land Tenure Act (1969) conferred exorbitant powers upon the minister.

The Tangwena people of the disputed Gaeresi ranch in the Eastern Highlands are a case in point. In 1970 they took their case to the courts and won it . . . but unfortunately, the minister overruled the court's decision. He consequently not only ordered but personally supervised the eviction of the helpless people: burning down their huts, arresting men and women and impounding their cattle. What greater powers does the current Bill give the minister?

The position of the Catholic Peace and Justice Commission on the Land Bill must have, in all probability, puzzled many people. The other day I visited St George's Preparatory School, Hartmann Junior. Father Hartmann, after whom the school got its name, was a chaplain of the Pioneer Column. Somehow, I had always thought that Cecil Rhodes and his pioneers were an exclusive affair of the Church of England.

There are many other things that I will not talk about except the simple truth that what now confronts us is the fact that whites do not want to part with the land and they are prepared to go to any lengths to keep it. But before they, for instance, ask Britain to take the Government, indeed the people of this country, to The Hague (Tangwena tried it and the British were prudent enough to say it was a domestic issue in spite of Mr Smith's UDI), they should pause and look back at the history of the land issue in this country.

## ☐ DROUGHT

# Cruel blue skies parch Africa's battered south

**Z**IMBABWE'S President Robert Mugabe called it a "national disaster".

In Zambia, the government has raised maize prices though much of the crop has been written off and the memory of bloody food riots that left at least 27 dead in 1990 is still fresh in many minds.

Operation Hunger says three million tons of maize will have to be imported by South Africa.

Zimbabwe must import 340 000 ton of wheat in the next 18 months. *Clipper 15/3/92*

Under cruel blue skies, farmers and governments from Namibia and Angola on the west coast to Madagascar in the Indian Ocean have since January been facing up to the "drought of the century".

Zambia's new government has blamed the Kaunda regime for failing to set up strategic grain reserves. "This is a disaster that has been waiting to happen," according to Agriculture Minister Guy Scott.

### Famine looms

Local authorities in Bulawayo want to harness the mighty Zambezi River, 450 km away. The city has only 11 weeks of water reserves left.

The scale of the disaster was revealed two weeks ago when the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Nairobi forecast that the region faced widespread famine and would have to import six million tons of cereals compared to less than two million in a normal year.

South Africa's white farmers have been laying off vast numbers of black workers, according to press reports, though no official figures are available.

Namibia, which has seen total crop failure in Ovamboland, is among countries that have begun making approaches to foreign donors for food aid.

For Zambia and Zimbabwe the problem is compounded by their dependence on foreign ports.

Rebels in Mozambique have agreed not to attack rail corridors from the coast, but moving food around that war-devastated country is a perilous exercise. Starving Mozambique itself needs at least a million tons of food. — Sapa-AFP



# Zim food queues

S/Times 15/3/92

(362)

ZIMBABWE's large diplomatic community last week began arranging for supplies of basic necessities to be trucked in from South Africa and Botswana for themselves and their employees.

Queues up to 400m long formed for maize meal, sugar and margarine at Harare stores.

Zimbabweans, long used to the absence of butter, cooking oil and matches from supermarket shelves, now find there are only limited supplies of potatoes and bread.

The country's only potato seed producer at Nyanga, in the eastern Highlands, died last year, and invasions of squatters

**From  
Michael Hartnack  
in Harare**

growing illegal root crops in the seed cultivation area has resulted in an epidemic of plant diseases.

One of the 61 diplomatic missions is sending a truck weekly to Messina for basics. Western embassies are swopping notes with those from eastern Europe, which habitually got staple items from capitalist contacts at the height of the Cold War.

It was announced last week that Zimbabwe needs to import 340 000 tonnes of wheat in the next 18 months to meet a basic demand for bread. The country is hurriedly importing the first 200 000 tonnes of an estimated 1.7-million tonnes of maize from South Africa, needed to last until the next harvest, expected in April 1993.

President Mugabe has rejected personal responsibility for the current crisis although critics point to warnings he received last year from the United Nations and local farming experts, urging him to boost agricultural production.

# Mugabe land grab aims to keep military happy

STimes

15/3/92

(362)

[B455]

By CIARAN RYAN

ZIMBABWEAN President Robert Mugabe's controversial Land Acquisition Bill is designed to appease 25 000 people who will lose their jobs, say sources in Harare.

The government claims the land taken from whites will be put to better use.

But the real reason is said to be that the 25 000 — mostly soldiers — will lose their jobs under the economic structural adjustment programme (Esap) forced on Zimbabwe by the World Bank.

The last thing the government needs is disaffected ex-soldiers roaming the streets.

"President Mugabe is trying to recover lost political status with the land issue," says an observer in Harare.

The Bill allows the government to expropriate land from commercial farmers. Up to 5-million of the 12-million hectares occupied by white farmers could be allocated to tenant farmers who will have no title to the land.

## Bond

Compensation for whites is discretionary, based on the intended future use of the land more than its market value.

John Robertson, chief economist at First Merchant Bank Zimbabwe, says: "This is a communistic piece of legislation. It will destroy the land ownership principle. Tenant farmers not possessing title will be unable to

transfer the land or bond it to raise money."

But another possible reason for the eagerness to grab the land is to gain support among the poor who are most affected by the deepening recession.

Drought ruined maize and sugar crops, requiring imports of up to 2-million tons of food.

Esap is designed to edge Zimbabwe to a free-market system. Private businesses have been granted easier access to foreign currency, but the result has been a 50% devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar.

Businessmen, for so long starved of foreign currency, went on a spending binge, importing stock sufficient to last for several years.

This in turn has taken inflation to 30%, making it only a matter of time before the currency is devalued again. Foreign donors have pledged about US\$375-million (R1,87-billion) to ease the transition to a market economy.

But certain sections in government are dragging their heels over implementation of Esap. The five-year programme looks like becoming an eight-year programme, says Mr Robertson.

"The government still has not reduced its size as it was expected to do. Government expenditure accounts for

60% of gross domestic product and its payroll is a third of the nation's total."

About 90% of government spending is recurrent. This year, the deficit before borrowing is likely to be 10% of GDP of \$18.5-billion.

Under Esap, the government is required to remove price controls and restrictions on the reinvestment of profits by multi-nationals. Under the old regime, 50% of dividends could be repatriated, half of which would go to government as tax. The balance had to be placed in a 5% interest-bearing deposit.

Zimbabwe's base lending rate is 20% and hire purchase 40%. The result is a return on investment of little more than 3%.

# Land Bill: farmers' reaction dangerous

16/03/92

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THE reaction of the commercial farmers and other Rhodesian frontiersmen to the long-awaited draft Land Acquisition Bill has a certain hysterical note of unreality. The promise given to the utterances of the leaders of the Commercial Farmers Union by some sections of our Press has diverted the attention of many people from the real issue.

The real issue is to redress a historical injustice and to recover our economic and agricultural universe that was destroyed by colonialism of the early part of this century. That is what the Land Bill is all about. Yes, the issues of designation and recourse to the courts in the event of compensation problems are important but they must never be allowed to derail what is, to all intents and purposes, an anxiously-awaited democratic move on the part of the Zimbabwean Government.

There is therefore the crucial necessity to strip-

all discussion about land reform of catch phrases and old clichés about "damage to investor confidence", "threatening productive commercial farmers", "destruction of Zimbabwe's economy" and "undermining farmers", and "undermining Zimbabwe's credibility abroad".

These are time-worn myths which, once again, are being re-stirring by whites and not a few misguided blacks to conveniently divert attention away from the exploitative structures that were the hallmark of the Rhodesian political economy.

We have a post-independence situation in Zimbabwe in which the serious disadvantage being suffered by the majority of the people has its roots in the early part of this century. Economic development in those days was undisguised theft.

Beginning with the white man's Magna Carta — the Land Apportionment Act of 1930 — the white settlers' Parliament passed legislation institutionalising the suppression of the black person in every conceivable field of political, social and economic life.

This may seem so obvious that it hardly needs saying. But the fact is that in the present context of the debate regarding the Land Bill, this obvious fact needs to be restated. The racial domination and class exploitation was further reinforced and consolidated by a series of acts, notably the Land Husbandry Act of 1947 and others that followed.

The above crucial point — and nothing else — explains how the African land owning rights came to be confined to a mere 40 percent of the country — the infertile, overcrowded and impoverished Tribal Trust Lands or Communal Areas of today. This is the historical truth, and not, and I repeat, not, the nonsense about protecting the black population from the purchasing power of the whites as the Rhodesian frontiersmen would have us believe.

The leaders of the Commercial Farmers Union are taking us into the land of fantasy and fiction when they justify their naked exploitation by saying that introducing ownership rights to the blacks would have interfered with the traditional land allocation powers of the chiefs and would have "swept aside too many other deeply respected social and cultural features of tribal society". How nonsensical and ridiculous!

The fact that none but the whites themselves brought about the unequal opportunities faced by our people today is conveniently swept under the carpet. Such a belief in the white community is just as dangerous and as superstitious as the belief in to-koloshis, spooks and other creatures of the night.

In fact, tendencies such as the ones displayed by the recent writings and utterances of certain key members of the white community stem from the white pre-disposition by the totality of the whites in this country to treat the majority of the people here with staggering contempt — a contempt that was most obviously revealed in their most oversimplified account of the workings of African traditionalism.

Our hard-won independence has not made a dent on their arrogance and the Government is largely to blame for this state of affairs. And it is most unfortunate that the private Press is reinforcing a false view of our own Zimbabwean world by prominently highlighting categories imposed on us by the Rhodesian frontiersmen.

The truth of the matter is that there has been and still is at large the long-held view about Zimbabwean society vis-a-vis the rest of the African continent that the white man here was and still is homo technologicus par excellence. The continued "white presence" in Zimbabwe has in many a prognosis of our future become the most important technical condition of production.

It does indeed appear that the tiny white population has not only been elevated to super people in this black man's country, but also embodies our technical conditions of production.

Even stock-market prices, the confidence of the investor to invest in the Zimbabwean economy and evidence of a successful, vibrant and growing economy have all been pegged to a notion of "white confidence" and "white presence" in Zimbabwe.

How sad and disturbing it is that the small white population together with their culture, values and intellectual traditions has come to form a system which defines and continues to define our potential for production to the point where their presence or emigration remains a barometer or a sensitive indicator for international business confidence.

Without their "benevolent" intervention in the economy, we inherently, so it would appear, lack the knowledge, resources, technology, skills practices, imagination and willpower to make it on our own.

Zimbabwe must be the only country in this world whose technical conditions for production have been defined in such a racist framework. It would seem then that the inferiority and sub-humanity of the indigenous Zimbabwean populace were as natural phenomena as the rising and the setting of the Zimbabwean sun.

Take the policy of reconciliation as well. In white and other circles, reconciliation has been taken to mean adherence to the status quo and the preservation of the economic power that the white settlers had accumulated over the years, with any proposed move towards democratising Zimbabwean society being interpreted as undemocratic and suicidal.

What is often forgotten or ignored by white leaders and political commentators, however, is that the wealth and success of the white community was directly predicated on the destruction of a thriving African peasantry in the early part of the century.

A series of parliamentary Acts saw to it that new-ry was the African going to compete with the oppressor colonialist. This is the crunch issue today in Zimbabwe.

What needs to be emphasised is that every community or society has a certain potential for production. What does eventually get produced, is influenced by technical, infrastructural, social, political and economic factors. That is why the resettlement exercise has been such an economic and social disaster because resources back-up of all kinds was non-existent.

That is why the white community is where it is today because of back-up and heavy subsidies from successive white administrations. This is the bottom line, and it reads very well. The notion must be disposed once and for all that there was anything special or unique about the so-called success that was Rhodesia.

The pressing issue that is facing us today is one of accommodating within the Zimbabwean environment the legitimate aspirations of the majority of the people in this country. Any approach which obscures the centrality of democratising the social and economic life of all people can only be damaging.

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Sun Nait

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estimated. The democracy the Zimbabwean masses fought for went beyond Governmental forms and extended to the social question and the land issue. It is not for nothing that Zimbabweans address each other as "mwana wevhu". That is to underscore the centrality of the land issue.

It was Edmund Burke who once warned that "there are critical moments in the fortunes of all states, when they who are unable to contribute to your prosperity may be strong enough to complete your ruin". It is a warning worth pondering within the white community and privileged black circles of this country.

In the final analysis, the commercial farmers are part of the Zimbabwean society. If a society decays and crumbles, the commercial farmers cannot claim to be healthier than the body, and if law and order breaks down and there is chaos, there would be no farms, no commercial farmers and no maize, tobacco, cotton, no game ranching and no flower cultivation.

The Zimbabwe Government should be undeterred by the talk of loss of investor confidence, destruction of the econo-

# Blacks could take legal action on land: minister

Page 5 Herald Monday March 15 1992 (362)

A CABINET minister has said that blacks were the aggrieved party over the land issue and could also seek legal redress if the intentions of the proposed Land Bill were not met.

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, told a meeting at Seke recently that the liberation war was fought to repossess the land which had been forcibly taken away from blacks and redesignated according to the plans and motives of the colonialists.

Cde Mangwende said that many Zimbabweans were not happy with the achievement of the country's political independence, which they felt

could not be adequate without economic self-determination and fair distribution of land.

In fact, Cde Mangwende said, the blacks should be the people who were threatening to take legal action over the land issue because their land was forcibly taken away from them.

The minister also said that the blacks could also advance compensation claims for the unlawful occupation and use of their land for the past century by the whites but all the Government was asking, on behalf of the blacks, was just the redistribution of the land.

He said that the Government was being forced to do what many blacks would normally

have objected to by buying land from the whites who had unceremoniously taken it away from them.

The Government was not going to retreat on the Land Bill because it was anxious to consolidate the nation's independence by upgrading the living standards of the people, and ensuring that everyone participated in the running of the nation's economy.

Cde Mangwende called upon traditional leaders to be more responsible and stop lying to people about the causes of the current drought which is ravaging the country and most parts of Southern Africa.

He said that the Government was not happy

with some chiefs who were telling people that the drought was a result of the wrath of the traditional leaders, for having most of their powers stripped at independence.

The minister said that drought was a natural phenomenon which no individual or party could create or prevent. The chiefs, villagers and whichever government that came into power should face the disaster as a family.

Meanwhile, Government has been urged to seriously consider legislating on the number of children parents must have in order to save millions of dollars it is spending on drought relief. — ZIS.

THE SUNDAY MAIL, MARCH 15 1992

## FARMING NEWS

**SOME communal farmers in Muzarabani who had come to sell their cattle at three points left the points**

**disappointed as the Cold Storage Commission officials failed to turn up.**

**Some farmers had driven their cattle for more than 20 km and had slept overnight hoping to sell their cattle the following day.**

**The CSC notifies**

# Muzarabani farmers cry 'foul'

**had to wait the whole day before giving up and driving their cattle back home.**

**With the drought ravaging most parts of the country, farmers, be they communal or commercial, are going to sell their cattle before**

**they die. But the CSC is said to be refusing to buy thin cattle.**

**The CSC in the past has been attacked by commercial farmers for incurring huge losses with its cattle rescue operation. The parastatal buys cattle from**

**communal farmers which are not fit for slaughter and then fattens them on its farms.**

**As the Government is putting pressure on parastatals to start making profits, the CSC is said to be now reluctant to buy cattle**

**which are too thin. Communal farmers say they are in desperate need of money to pay for the high examination and school fees.**

**They also say that selling cattle is the only way of earning some revenue since their crops**

**failed. Without selling cattle, many of the children might not be able to sit for their examinations.**

**Farmers in**

**Muzarabani are now not sure when the CSC will come into their area again to buy their cattle. The deadline for examination fees payment is April 3 and if the CSC fails to come before that date, many pupils will not be able to pay.**

**Cephas Chisaka**

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farmers in advance when they will come in their areas to buy cattle.

No comment was available from the CSC as to why they failed to turn up at the cattle sale pens in Muzarabani. Communal farmers

# Farmers can sue over Land Bill, says lawyer

(362)  
SUN. MAIL 15/3/92

**COMMERCIAL** farmers can challenge the Land Acquisition Bill in court if they feel that it violates a right enshrined in the Constitution, according to Cde Shephard Nzombe, a lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe law faculty.

He said if commercial farmers felt that the effect of the Bill was to undermine a fundamental right contained in the Bill of Rights section of the Constitution, it was possible to challenge it in court. The right in question is the right to redressing one's grievances in a court of law.

Cde Nzombe said that according to the Constitution, the custodian of the Bill of Rights was not Parliament but the Supreme Court.

"If Parliament passes law which violates certain fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution, an interested party can challenge it in court. The Bill can be challenged and nullified to the extent to which it is inconsistent with the Constitution.

"The court cannot set aside the whole Bill but only those provisions which are in violation. The extent of Parliament sovereignty is limited by the country's Constitution," said Cde Nzombe.

Last week the Parliamentary Legal Committee said that some sections of the Bill were in contravention of the Constitution. Section 18 of the Constitution says: "Every person is entitled to be afforded a fair hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial court or

other adjudicating authority established by law."

Commercial farmers have threatened that if the Land Acquisition Bill sails through Parliament without the necessary amendments they will challenge it in court.

Meanwhile, the Zimbabwe Farmers' Union is supporting the Bill. The union says the African farmer refuses to be kept on the periphery of economic development of this country.

"We cannot continue to survive on crumbs or on licking the broken pipes of the economy. The present arrangement of the agricultural economy relegates Africans to perpetual peasantry," said the ZFU in a statement.

The union also said that proponents of the status quo were introducing new, remote and unrelated dimensions such as the current drought and the economic reforms to the land issue. Their arguments were based on the "dangerous assumption" that the African farmer would benefit from the trickle-down process.

The ZFU argued that most commercial farmers were provided with a lot of help from the colonial governments to enable them to be where they were today. Most of them got huge loans with three years' grace periods while at the same time getting salaries.

That type of arrangement was not given to the African farmer. Given the necessary incentives, the African farmers have proved over the years that they were productive farmers. To that end only the best African farmers must be resettled.

## AFC's lending scheme pays off

THE Agricultural Finance Corporation's group lending scheme is proving to be a viable alternative to the conventional lending system with the average repayment rate shooting up to about 80 percent.

An AFC official in one of the branches outside Harare told The Sunday Mail that the repayment rate was far much higher than that of individual farmers. The repayment rate of individual farmers averages about 30 percent.

The AFC started the group lending scheme during the 1989/90 season after it realised that loan recovery from communal farmers who were scattered all over the country was difficult.

It felt that lending to a group of farmers was much more advantageous than lending money to individual farmers. The scheme started with 41 groups involving 1,522 farmers and to date there are 191 groups spread throughout the country. About 3,700 farmers are in the groups.

"We have managed to cut down on our administrative costs because we are now dealing with a group instead of one farmer. Where we used to write 25 or so cheques, we are now writing one. The advantage of a group is that these will be farm-

ers who know each other. "The farmers cannot pick someone who they know is not productive. Each group has a constitution which each and every member signs," said an official.

He also said that credit accessibility improved for the farmers in the groups. The farmers are trained in loan application, credit records, crop and livestock production, budgeting, marketing and calculation of interest.

"We see that calculation of interest is one area which the groups need more and more training because some farmers pay earlier than others and to be able to calculate the interest there is a problem."

The official said that problems varied from group to group. The common problem was that group cohesion in some cases was lacking because the farmers did not meet as often as they should.

# Zanu (PF) province demands new Bill

Sunday Mail Reporter

A BILL to deal with idle urban land being held by speculators or absentee landlords, for residential, commercial and industrial purposes, should be introduced by the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, the Harare District of Zanu (PF) has said.

In a statement released to The Sunday Mail yesterday, the Zanu (PF) Harare Province said it had noted with "growing indignation" the propaganda war that was being waged by "sons and daughters of settler colonialists" against the Land Acquisition Bill.

It said it would be demeaning to the African people if the Parliament was to drop the word "designation", in the Land Acquisition Bill. Although as a party a "Land Nationalisation Bill" would have been preferable, the party urged all parliamentarians to support the stand taken by President Mugabe.

"We call upon Government to put in place the necessary infrastructure in terms of generous financial packages, training and technical extension services."

This includes a good selection criteria for new settlers in order to ensure that Agrarian Reform Programme succeeds in order to thwart a backlash from reactionary white farmers as well as retaliation from their kith and kin in Britain," said the statement.

It also urged the Government to create one institution to deal with Agrarian Reform to curb sabotage through inter-ministerial rivalries.

The Government also should immediately put the necessary legislation in place for compulsory cultivation of strategic

national crops, like wheat or maize, over certain acreages.

"It is important to note that land acquisition by settler colonialists was carried out in the most brutal manner, those who resisted were shot, their houses burnt, their women raped and, above all, there was no recourse to courts or even compensation."

Through enactment of several racist legislation, in particular, the notorious Land Apportionment Act, the Land Tenure Act, the Land Husbandry Act and so on, land was taken from the black people, said the statement.

"Our people's Government would like to deracialise the land tenure system in Zimbabwe through a democratic system of designation instead of the colonial style of barbarism," it said.

But, instead of extending a reciprocal hand of reconciliation, the white farmers were trying to "amputate the extended hand" by engaging in embassy "hopping" — mobilising Western countries against the new Economic Reform Programme, thus trying to internationalise a domestic issue.

It said the white farmers had failed to utilise land correctly, particularly in regions I, II, III some of which had been turned into game ranching, while blacks were packed "like rats in the communal areas".

They had also demanded higher prices for all foodstuffs even when costs of production were low.

"They have created artificial food shortages by holding the Government to ransom by demanding producer prices which they never demanded during the Smith regime," the statement said.



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# Land issue: If talk it over —

By Cephas Chitsaka

AS commercial farmers appear heading for a confrontation with the Government over the emotive land issue, a leading commercial farmer, Mr Andre Holland, has warned that unless the issue is resolved immediately, enemies of the country could take advantage of the polarisation to cause trouble.

He told The Sunday Mail in an interview last week that the land issue was moving towards a confrontation which must be sorted out immediately.

"We have a young president of the CFU who is fierce and an equally fierce Minister of Agriculture, both my friends and a State President of great ideals. So we have to sit down and build a bridge because unless that is done people who are bent on mischief and maybe enemies of this country will take advantage of this disagreement and destroy the country," said Mr Holland, who is also the Zanu (PF) Mashonaland Central Province secretary for production.

Cautioning both sides "not to underestimate each other", he noted that there were in this country examples where people had talked to resolve their differences. He cited the Lancaster House conference which had brought together leaders who had been fighting each other.

Mr Holland said that to solve the land issue there should be less protocol and affected parties should be

## ● See Comment — Page 8

allowed access to the President. He was of the opinion that lack of dialogue between farmers and the Government bred suspicion and mistrust.

"There is a sense of great distrust by Government that if farmers are allowed recourse to the courts this may result in a delay in the implementation of the land redistribution exercise and on the other hand farmers distrust Government and see the Bill as dangerous as it gives too much power on one person, the minister," he said.

He added that if he was the President he would lock up five key players in the land dispute and order them to talk until they reach an agreement and come up with an agricultural strategy.

The five would be the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Cde Emmerson Mnangagwa; the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende; the president of the Zimbabwe Farmers' Union, Cde Gary Magadzire; the president of the Commercial Farmers' Union, Mr Alan Burl; and the president of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association, Mr Mick Taggart.

Mr Holland said that things were so bad that there was even talk among farmers of taking the issue to The Hague for arbitration. But he felt that that was not necessary. A common understanding had to be reached.

The director of the CFU, Mr David Hasluck, said that if the Land Acquisition Bill passed through Parliament without the necessary amendments, commercial farmers would challenge it in court. He said that the onus now lay with the Members of Parliament who he said must debate maturely and responsibly in order to come up with legislation that was fair to all.

Mr Holland felt that if the Land Acquisition Bill was "steam-rolled" through Parliament mischief-makers would have a field day. But he was also of the opinion that if the Bill did not come before the House there would be chaos.

The Land Acquisition Bill, which seeks to empower Government to

## Holland warns on thorny land issue

### ● From Page 1

acquire land and other immovable property, went through its first reading in Parliament last week. But it was referred to the Parliamentary Legal Committee which would thoroughly examine the proposed legislation to ensure that none of its provisions violated the Constitution.

The Bill empowers the minister to designate rural land for any purpose for which land may be required.

Procedures are also set out in the Bill for the compulsory acquisition of land and the price to be paid for it, without recourse to the courts. Commercial farmers are riled by land designation, compensation and the absence of a provision which allow them to seek redress in the courts.

They say that if Zimbabwe upholds the principles of human rights it should not deny farmers access to the courts to get fair compensation. But Cde Mangwende told the commercial farmers last year during their meeting on land that the procedure for acquiring land was already too long and it was not necessary to prolong it through lengthy court cases when

mechanisms for resolving disputes already existed.

For them to get a fairer deal, commercial farmers had proposed the formation of a land settlement board. But that did not go down well with Cde Mangwende who felt that the mechanics for implementing the scheme already existed in Government.

The minister said that it was necessary to designate which land would be resettled so that the resettlement could be implemented in a planned and cost-effective way. Without designation resettlement would be haphazard and scattered and commercial farmers would not know which farm would be bought.

Commercial farmers say that designation renders land valueless because once designated a farmer cannot sell or lease the land without the approval of the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement.

They insist that if the Bill is not amended, productive commercial agriculture will be threatened, investors confidence will be undermined and also Zimbabwe's credibility abroad will be undermined.

Business Herald 20/1/92

# Land Bill: Provision to seek redress from courts vital — CFU

**Business Reporter**  
THE Commercial Farmers' Union says it approves of the Government's plans for equitable land redistribution but maintain the exercise must introduce reforms to make land more productive.

Answering a question at the African Association of Political Science monthly forum in Harare last week, the director of the CFU, Mr David Hasluck, said that commercial farmers were riled by the absence in the Land Acquisition Bill of provisions to allow them to seek redress from the courts in instances where

the compensation paid for the land acquired by the Government was not fair.

Mr Hasluck said if Zimbabwe upheld the principles of human rights, it should not deny farmers access to the courts to get fair compensation.

"(The Bill) is such a bad, ill-conceived piece of legislation ... funda-

mentally bad. We believe it is unconstitutional from a farmer's point of view," the director said.

"The Bill says the minister (will have the final say on matters pertaining to land acquisition) ... who is this minister? — Munhu mumwechete (one person) will decide the price for compensation. We want to go to court."

Mr. Quintin Haarhoff, the chairman of the Commercial Grain Producers Association, said further legislation by the Government on the land issue would add more strain on the ailing grain industry.

"Commercial farmers have proved that during times of drought, the bulk of deliveries come from this sector. At a time like this, therefore, the thought of designating and effectively rendering productive land useless until resettled members acquire techniques and skills in order to perform can only be regarded as economic suicide," Mr Haarhoff said.

He forecast maize deliveries to the GMB this year at 400 000 tonnes. However, they could be as low as 200 000 tonnes. About a million tonnes of maize would then need to be imported at US\$200 a tonne, he told the forum.

Added to this, transport costs alone could be more than the producer price of \$550 a tonne and assuming the port of Beira could handle two unit trains of 2 600 tonnes a day. The port is currently handling less than this.

"The strain on our infrastructure will put Zimbabwe's food security under threat, the magnitude of which this country has never seen before."

Meanwhile, some people at the forum meeting called on the Government to declare Zimbabwe a disaster area so that "we can beg openly for food".

# Land Bill will ruin economy

SUND. MAIL 15/3/92

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AS a retired surgeon, I consider the two leaders (Sunday Mail, March 1) to be narrow, bigoted and irresponsible.

With reference to the commercial farmers, the statement that they are against land reform and resettlement is a downright prevarication: they have always accepted the principle, provided it is done on a fair, rational basis and with just compensation.

If their case were not just, why is Government scared to face them in the courts of the land; and why suggest delayed payment when their livelihood will have been forcibly taken away from them, without the wherewithal for them to re-establish themselves in conditions similar to those from which they have been evicted against their will? Why, too, the ludicrous condition that part payment can be made in a useless commodity like Government bonds?

What of the workers and their families displaced and rendered homeless by those draconian measures? I suspect and fear that greater numbers will be displaced than will be resettled; and I challenge anybody to deny that the productivity of the land thus stolen will fall far short of that achieved by the commercial farmers.

What, too, of all privately held property, which is also at risk in the terms of this iniquitous Bill? We have heard that its passage through Parliament will undermine the confidence of farmers, of bankers, of

businessmen and industrialists, and of foreign investors. Let me tell you: It will ruin our economy, already only sustained by a major contribution from the aforesaid commercial farmers and generous foreign handouts; and you, Mr Editor, will be almost as culpable for the debacle as a Government that has brought us to the brink of disaster. Progress — yes, rapid progress backwards!

It is sad to think that mischievous writings of the quality of these two editorials is fed to a gullible populace (as populations all over the world

are so influenced), for its perverse presentation can only embitter; and as to our South African neighbours, when they regard the record of our Government over the past 12 years together with the unbalanced writings such as appeared in these editorials, their electorate — with your assistance — must surely be encouraged to vote a resounding "No" in the forthcoming referendum, a decision too tragic to contemplate.

As the last letter I wrote — to The Herald some time ago — had been "processed", was "in the pipeline" and never appeared, I challenge you to publish this one timeously.

T. K. WHALEY,  
Harare

# No welcome for ex-Zimbabweans

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CT 16/3/92

Own Correspondent

**HARARE.** — Zimbabwean Minister of Home Affairs Mr Moven Mahachi says he is rejecting more than 80% of the 50 applications for renewed citizenship and residence that his officials receive on average each month from former Rhodesian citizens.

In an interview with the Sunday Mail, Mr Mahachi said President Robert Mugabe's government was set particularly against the return from South Africa of former members of the Rhodesian security forces who now feared they might be "targeted" by an incoming black government.

## Smith calls for 'Yes' vote

**JOHANNESBURG.** — The former Rhodesian prime minister, Mr Ian Smith, has called for a "yes" vote in South Africa's referendum.

Mr Smith, who headed the minority white government when Rhodesia declared its independence from Britain in 1965, said he was in favour of a negotiated future for South Africa.

Speaking from Harare, he called on white South Africans to reaffirm the mandate which President F W de Klerk received in 1989. Such a step would strengthen Mr De Klerk's hand in negotiations.

Mr Smith said that in contrast to the situation in the then-Rhodesia, control over South Africa's future was squarely in the hands of South Africans and not in those of foreigners. — Sapa

"We are not going to grant them their citizenship," he said.

An estimated 200 000 Rhodesian whites left during and after the 1972-80 bush war, which ended with the triumph of Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) at the British-sponsored pre-independence

elections.

Diplomatic sources say 100 000 entered South Africa as "returning residents", having claimed South African citizenship by descent.

Others, like Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobelaar, found they could not get the Zimbabwean

authorities to renew their passports. They therefore had to seek the nationality of their new countries of residence, thereby automatically forfeiting their Zimbabwean citizenship, even if they had been born here.

"When you renounce your country, there is no reason why you should come back," said Mr Mahachi.

The Sunday Mail said up to 70 000 former Rhodesians wished to regain Zimbabwean citizenship.

Sources here suggest most are pensioners whose income has collapsed with the Zimbabwean dollar over the past year.

At independence, a ZD 1 000-a-month pension converted to about R1 100 to R1 200. Today the figure is only R560.

# Live bullets STAR 16/3/92 sold for food in Zimbabwe

Star Africa Service (362)

HARARE — Bullets from the Rhodesian war, some of them still live, are providing money for food in drought-torn Zimbabwe.

Villagers in the north-eastern parts of the country are collecting used cartridges from former Rhodesian Army firing ranges and selling them in bucketloads to scrap dealers who melt down the metals and extract zinc, hard to obtain in this country because of foreign exchange shortages.

"The money is handy," said Simbai Mubwandarika, a mother of seven children.

"Three tins of bullets brought me in Z\$243."

Villagers are also collecting spent cartridges in other key Rhodesian war areas — particularly Masvingo, Manicaland and southern Matabeleland.

But there are drawbacks: some of the bullets are still live.

The manager of a Harare extrusion company said: "We found 20 live bullets in material sent to us from Masvingo only last month."

STAR 16/3/92

## Food shortage causes havoc

HARARE — Urban consumers in Zimbabwe have started fighting for mealie meal as the shortage of the country's staple diet worsens.

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In a number of Harare suburbs bags of mealie meal have been looted from delivery trucks on their way to shops.

Shopowners and delivery men have resorted to selling mealie meal straight off the vehicles in an effort to keep order outside the premises.

Maize is coming in from South Africa by road and rail but delays have led to shortages which are growing worse, and to ugly scenes whenever mealie meal does appear. — Star Africa Service

## Zimbabwe's fuel costs set to increase

TRIANGLE (Zimbabwe) — Zimbabwe's fuel import bill, currently \$250 million (about R400 million) a year, will increase by more than 10 percent when the country's sole manufacturer of ethanol blend grinds to a halt in just over five months — a legacy of this year's crippling drought.

"Our best estimate is already out of date, but I will say we can do just over 20 to 22 weeks," said Clive Wenman, technical director of the ethanol plant at Triangle Ltd, a sprawling 82 000 ha sugar estate owned by Luxembourg conglomerate Basier. It is located more than 500 km south-east of Harare.

Wenman was referring to 15 000 tons of molasses still in stock, a carry-over from the last season, now being processed at the rate of 750 tons a week to make ethanol and carbon dioxide.

Imported petrol is blended at a ratio of 20 percent ethanol and 80 percent petrol, considerably cutting Zimbabwe's fuel import bill.

Also certain to be hard hit is a string of other industries requiring industrial carbon dioxide. These include welding firms, beer and soft drink manufacturers, aerosol makers and bakeries. — Sapa-AFP

# Top executive quits after pensions scam

CT 16/3/92  
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**HARARE** — The chairman of Zimbabwe's parastatal Post and Telecommunications Corporation (PTC), well-known businessman Fanwell Muhwati, reportedly tendered his resignation to the Information Ministry at the weekend after police began investigating a recent flotation of shares by his company Flexible Packaging.

The Sunday Mail reported Muhwati's resignation together with the allegation that almost 90% of the shares were bought by two pension funds associated with directors of Flexible Packaging.

The underwriters might otherwise have been left holding 16 million shares worth R9m as the price crashed over 20% immediately after the launch.

Millions of rands have been wiped off the value of assets held by the PTC Pension Fund, and another fund administered by the Southampton Assurance Co, the Sunday Mail's sister paper, The Herald, reported on Saturday.

On Friday, The Herald reported that the Registrar of Pension Funds was investigating the use of the PTC Pension Fund's resources by its principal officer, Laban Hove, to buy 8,5m shares in the paper company's first subscriptions, against the orders of the fund's chairman.

Quoting from documents it said it had in its possession, the Herald said Hove was regularly the guest of all expenses paid trips to Flexible Packaging's factories in Bulawayo and Harare before plunging the pension fund into the deal.

Hove said he had made the decision because he thought it was good business.

As a result of the pension fund's cash, the company's share offer was oversubscribed by 7,5% that gave the company a needed boost of respectability. Without it, the banks underwriting the issue would have had to fork out R4m (Z\$7m).

**MBABANE** — Swazi and SA police will jointly aid a Commission of Inquiry into the Swaziland Central Bank and the Royal Swaziland Insurance Corporation following last week's disclosure of R4,5m in fraudulent transactions.

Four cheques from a Central Bank cheque book used by the Insurance Corporation went missing on March 9.

It was then discovered that a fraudulent cheque made out for R3,1m had been deposited in the account of a local company in Swaziland.

Two other cheques for over R268 000 and R398 000 respectively had been made out to South African companies.

The latter cheque was intercepted.

The fourth cheque for over R69 000 was still being investigated.

Swaziland's Minister of Finance, Sibusiso Dlamini, said at the weekend a court injunction had been obtained freezing the accounts of the recipients of the fraudulent funds.

The return date of the court order is March 27. — Sapa



## Water cut in Mutare

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

STAR

17/3/92

HARARE — Mutare in Zimbabwe, which like Bulawayo is critically short of water, is to stop supplying water to residents every other day in an effort to conserve supplies.

Boreholes and wells, including those on private property, are under council control, and heavy penalties will be imposed on people exceeding the daily household ration of 200 l.

THE WINNER TAKES ALL

— leading the way.

# THE LAND BILL

(362)

Herald 17/3/92

- 10. Be accountable to the Division.
- Qualifications/Experience:
  - Degree in Accountancy or equivalent;
  - 5 years' experience relevant to the post.
- OR
- Relevant Diploma or N.D. in Purchase and Supply.

# DESIGNATION DIVISION

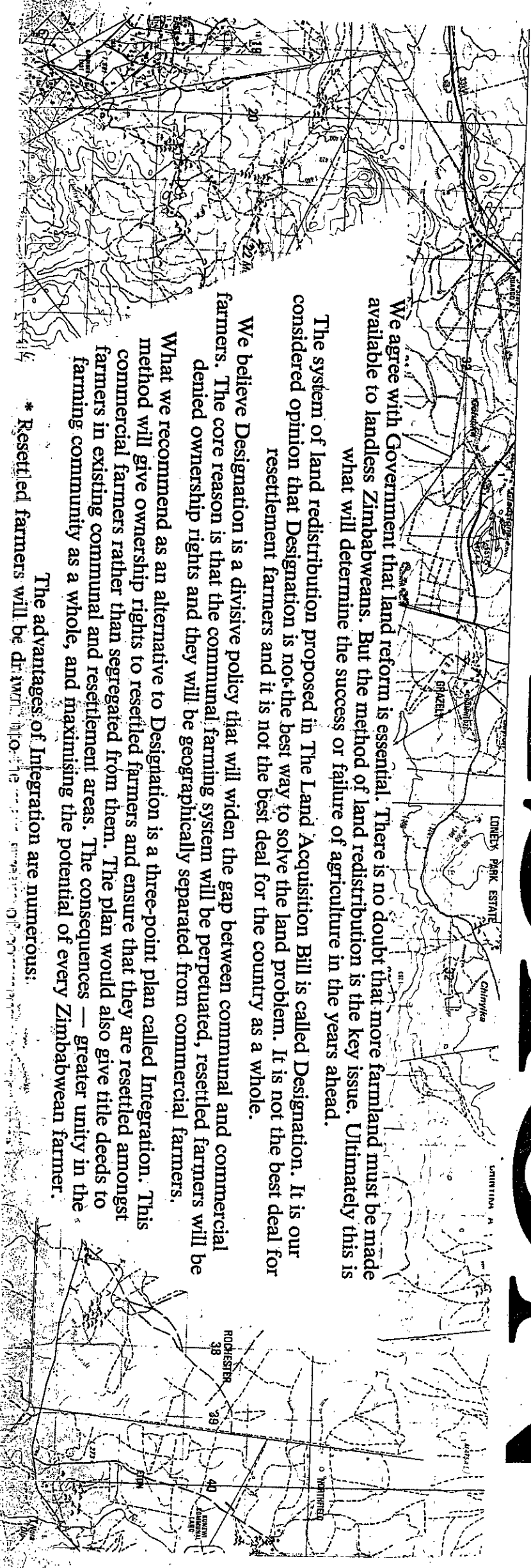
We agree with Government that land reform is essential. There is no doubt that more farmland must be made available to landless Zimbabweans. But the method of land redistribution is the key issue. Ultimately this is what will determine the success or failure of agriculture in the years ahead.

The system of land redistribution proposed in The Land Acquisition Bill is called Designation. It is our considered opinion that Designation is not the best way to solve the land problem. It is not the best deal for resettlement farmers and it is not the best deal for the country as a whole.

We believe Designation is a divisive policy that will widen the gap between communal and commercial farmers. The core reason is that the communal farming system will be perpetuated, resettled farmers will be denied ownership rights and they will be geographically separated from commercial farmers.

What we recommend as an alternative to Designation is a three-point plan called Integration. This method will give ownership rights to resettled farmers and ensure that they are resettled amongst commercial farmers rather than segregated from them. The plan would also give title deeds to farmers in existing communal and resettlement areas. The consequences — greater unity in the farming community as a whole, and maximising the potential of every Zimbabwean farmer.

The advantages of Integration are numerous:  
\* Resettled farmers will be distributed throughout the country.



\* Ownership of land will mean that resettled farmers will have greater access to loan finance on the strength of the value of their land.

\* Property rights will provide the resettled farmer and today's communal farmer with a greater incentive to succeed.

Allocating land with title deeds will require the services of large numbers of land surveyors. We are ready to assist financially with the cost of employing expatriate land surveyors if that is necessary.

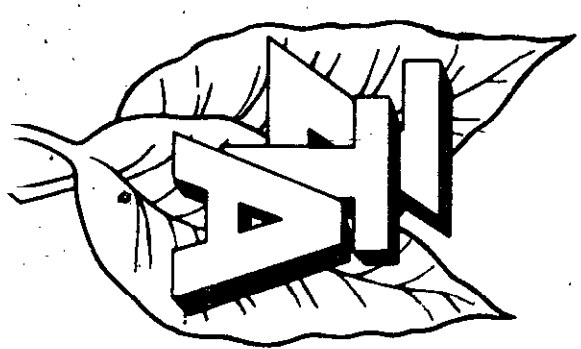
It is our view too, that while a programme of Integration is underway, resources should be mobilised to upgrade and improve the productivity of existing communal and resettlement areas.

We do not wish to drive a wedge between farmers and perpetuate the "them" and "us" syndrome. This is inherent in the clauses on Designation in The Land Acquisition Bill. A process of Integration will remove this negative situation and put the country well on its way to a more settled future. A future that will bring the fruits of the land within the reach of more and more Zimbabwean farmers without breaking down the country's agricultural base.

Title Deeds to property are the corner pegs for the successful implementation of Zimbabwe's much-needed land reform programme.

# Integration is the solution.

Inserted in the interests of realistic land reform and a secure future for all Zimbabweans.



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2

# Zimbabwe STAR signs deal with Angola

HARARE — The Zimbabwe-Angola joint commission has signed a memorandum of association between the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) and the Central Bank of Angola and an agricultural protocol.

RBZ assistant general manager (exchange controls), Paul Sigauke said the issue of credit terms which hindered trade had been resolved.

Credit terms for consumer goods would now range from 90 to 180 days whilst terms for capital goods would range from one to seven years.

He said the inter-bank agreement would be finalised within the next 60 days. — Sapa.

# Zimbabwe land bill draws no opposition

Own Correspondent

HARARE — Zimbabwe's controversial Land Acquisition Bill, paving the way for nationalisation of 5 million hectares of white-owned commercial farms, yesterday encountered no opposition during the second reading debate in the Zimbabwean parliament. (362)

With supporters of President Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) party controlling all but three of the 150 seats there were no hostile voices, and one government backbencher who supported the bill but called for consideration of commercial farmers' fears was repeatedly drowned by angry interjections. CT 18/3/92

Two whites who support the ruling party, Mr Jacobus Hundermark and Mr Peter Hewlett, also remained silent.

## Land Bill reading unopposed

STAR 18/3/92

(362)

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Land Acquisition Bill under which the government is seeking the power to take half the white-owned farmland for resettlement sailed through its second reading in parliament.

At the committee stage due today, amendments are to be introduced to meet the objections of the legal committee which said the clause barring appeals to the courts over the fairness of the compensation

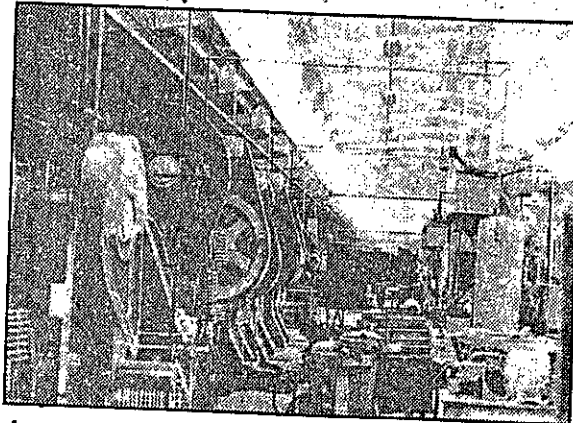
# Going up as smooth as butter in Zimbabwe

STAR 18/3/92

A new butter and milk powder plant in Harare for the Zimbabwe Dairy Marketing Board is being erected by Machine Moving International (MMI) of SA.

"We got the job only after French main contractor Bouygues had inspected our work for Cape Dairy Co-operative at Bonnievale in the Cape in 1989," says sales chief Bob Lumley. "The Cape plant, of course, is the largest in the southern hemisphere, converting 600 000 litres of milk a day to such high standards that makers of baby foods can be supplied."

Since September MMI, working with Bouygues, has had 25 coded argon



An example of plant that has been taken down and reconstructed.

welders, pipefitters and riggers in Harare, using mainly materials drawn from SA. Its mechanical engineers supervise plant installation in terms of the multi-million rand contract.

Complete factory moves being carried out by MMI at the moment include one for Van Leer Packaging from Dimbaza in the Ciskei to Springs, one for Mondi Plywood from Isithebe

to Sabi, and one for Cadbury from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth. In the past a Pilkington furnace has been installed at Garankua and an Anglo Dutch office furniture plant moved on the Reef from Steeledale to Aero-ton.

Plant arriving from Taiwan is regularly moved from port of arrival to new site.

BAs befits a moving concern, MMI has its directors well spread. George McAvoy is stationed in the Transvaal, chairman Ed Seeley in Durban, managing director Brian Stokes in Cape Town and chief engineer Roger Hilliard in George.

# Overwhelming backing for land Bill by MPs

**THE Land Acquisition Bill yesterday went through its second reading stage without amendment and goes into its committee stage today.**

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, told Parliament that the time to sort out the land problem was "now".

"We have to sort this problem now, once and for all. We cannot leave it for future generations," said Cde Mangwende.

In his contribution to the debate, the Minister of Health, Dr Timothy Stamps, said the Bill was fair and clear, yet the Commercial Farmers' Union were opposed to it.

He accused the CFU of alarming its members and undermining the Bill.

While Dr Stamps admitted he knew of a resettlement scheme which had been "a total disaster", he said he also knew of at least two which had been highly successful.

Defending the Bill, Magwegwe MP Cde Norman Zikhali said justification for acquiring land for the majority of people was made during the liberation struggle. "I think we are just wasting time now."

Gwanda South MP Cde Elia Masiane said he believed the acquisition of the envisaged five million

hectares was not enough, and thought at least eight million ha should be acquired as Zimbabwe's population was set to grow.

A majority of MPs, with the exception of two Zup MPs, yesterday came out in full support of the Bill, which seeks to empower the Government to acquire land, compulsorily if necessary, for resettlement purposes.

The MPs urged the Government to expedite implementation of the Bill, some saying this should have been done "yesterday".

"Come hell come heaven, this Bill must be seen to be law," said Mutare South Member of Parliament Cde Lazarus Nzarayebani.

Bulilima-Mangwe MP Cde Simon Moyo condemned some farmers who were considering taking court action against the Bill.

Cde Micah Bhebe of the Bubi constituency said the Government was coming up with a Bill whose terms of reference were very fair, as they would redress a situation where land was grabbed from the landless.

Zvimba MP Cde Sabina Mugabe said the Bill was long overdue.

"We must proceed with speed about this Bill. We should not just talk, talk, but we must now proceed. If there is no designation in this Bill, then it

is useless and worthless," said Makoni South MP Cde Gibson Munyoro.

Masvingo Central MP Cde Dzimakai Mavhaire said the Government was being slow to implement the Bill.

Cde Edson Ncube (Mpopoma) said by giving compensation to people whose farms will be acquired for resettlement, the Government was actually providing a menu which had democracy.

Chipinge North Member of Parliament Cde Gordon Mushakavanhu, who represents the opposition Zup, said land acquisition was just a ploy by the ruling Zanu (PF) to win votes in the 1995 general elections.

He said that in the 1995 elections people would be given an option to either vote for Zanu (PF) or lose the land.

Another Zup MP, Cde Daniel Sithole of Mutare Central, also said he was opposed to the Bill, saying the Government had no plans on how to resettle the land once it had been acquired.

He complained that while the Government said it had consulted commercial farmers when drafting the Bill, his party had not been involved in the exercise and had not made its inputs.

This complaint drew the criticism of several Zanu (PF) MPs, who accused him of being con-

fused and questioned whether Zup was a party.

Cde Sithole said he was opposed to the term "acquisition" since this implied taking away the land.

Cde Sithole said he opposed the Government's intention to settle only 110 000 families, and asked what would happen to the rest of the population.

Contributing to the same debate, Zhombe MP Cde Peter Hewlett said no one in Zimbabwe was opposed to the Bill, and it should be passed without too many problems.

He said so far, the Government had acquired 3.3 million hectares for resettlement, but the exercise had not been successful, adding that lessons had been learnt from the mistakes, and that they should not be repeated.

He argued that infrastructure was crucial for success. He said, in fact, the infrastructure needed for successful commercial agriculture was more expensive than the farm itself, and calculated that to give a resettlement farmer a decent start, it would cost \$500 000.

Cde Hewlett said designation was a good thing, but urged the minister to designate all the five million hectares as soon as possible so that all concerned, both black and

white, would be able to make up their minds what they wanted to do.

Tsholotsho MP Cde Amos Mkwanzu said he was disgusted with the fact that MPs were debating the Bill in the House when they had agreed on it in caucus, and called for its speedy passing.

Bikita West MP Dr G. Makaya warned that those farmers who were threatening to leave the country if the Bill became law would find themselves in the same boat as those Rhodesians who left the country at independence and wanted to come back now and were being told they were unwanted.

Although he wanted to see the Bill speedily passed, mistakes must be avoided and the Government should by now have a plan on how land acquired was going to be utilised.

In his opinion, five million hectares was not enough, and he felt this should immediately be increased to read 20 million.

Cde Makaya warned that corruption should not be allowed to encroach into the land redistribution exercise.

"If we allow the sharks to swallow this land, nothing will reach the peasants," he said. — Ziana.

● See Page 5



# Zimbabwe citizenship denied to returning ex-Rhodesians

8/Day 18/3/92

(362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwean home affairs minister Moven Mahachi says he is rejecting more than 80% of applications received for resumption of residence and citizenship by former Rhodesian citizens. An average of 50 applications are made each month.

In an interview with the Sunday Mail, Mahachi said the Zimbabwe government was particularly set against the return from SA of former Rhodesian security force members, who feared they might be targeted by an incoming SA government.

About 200 000 Rhodesian whites left during and after the 1972-80 civil war. Diplomatic sources say 100 000 entered SA as "returning residents", claiming citizenship by descent.

Others, like Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, found Zimbabwean authorities would not renew their passports, so sought nationality elsewhere, thus automatically forfeiting their Zimbabwean citizenship.

"When you renounce your country, there is no reason why you should come back," Mahachi said. The Sun-

day Mail said up to 70 000 former Rhodesians wished to regain Zimbabwean citizenship. Sources suggested most of those wanting to return were pensioners, whose income had collapsed with the Zimbabwean dollar. Elderly people with children able to guarantee support and accommodation are allowed to return.

Most former Rhodesians applying for resumption of citizenship were unskilled, Mahachi said, adding that the Zimbabwe government remained convinced that former security force groups had not disbanded, but still met occasionally to discuss attacks against Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

He said his officials would consider granting resumption of residence and citizenship to professionals whose applications were supported by employers. In rejecting artisan's applications, Mahachi appears to have ignored claims that Zimbabwe's current economic crisis was fuelled by an acute lack of skilled labour.

# Africa is relieved it was 'yes'

*Sowetan 19/3/92*  
HARARE - Black Africa heaved a sigh of relief yesterday over the white backing State President FW de Klerk received for political reform in South Africa.

Black "frontline" states in Southern Africa had feared a "no" vote in yesterday's whites-only referendum would lead to violence spilling over into the region.

"We are encouraged by the results, particularly by the fact that this mandate De Klerk has been given will enable him to continue with the peace process," Zambia's Foreign Minister, Mr Vernon Mwaanga, said in Lusaka shortly before flying to Pretoria.

He said he would meet South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha today and have talks with other political leaders.

Zimbabwe, whose President Robert Mugabe was elected to chair the "frontline" states at a summit in Lusaka last week, also hailed De Klerk's sweeping victory.

"This is some of the best news we have received from South Africa and we hope De Klerk will proceed with

speed and confidence to establish a multiracial democratic system," a Foreign Ministry official in Harare said.

Officials said Zimbabwe had put together an emergency plan to cope with a feared influx of refugees if the Conservative Party had won and civil war had broken out in South Africa.

"We are glad our worst fears are over," one said.

They said they had monitored the situation there through Zimbabwe's trade mission and an "unofficial" delegation.

In Nigeria, whose President Ibrahim Babangida is current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, officials welcomed the South African result.

"The 'yes' vote which has now endorsed the negotiating process has removed a major obstacle to the efforts to transform South Africa from a racially segregated country to a nonracial, united and democratic society," a Foreign Ministry statement said. — *South African Press Association-Reuter.*

# African leaders talk on co-operating

GABARONE - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, Botswana President Sir Ketumile Masire and Namibian President Sam Nujoma yesterday met in Gaborone to discuss ways of consolidating co-operation between their countries.

In a brief address, Mugabe said the three wanted to look at how they could share borders.

"We want to look at how we can, as neighbours, share a point of Caprivi Strip... We want to see how we can make our countries work together in certain directions," said

Mugabe.

He said Zimbabwe and Botswana had built a culture of co-operation and they wanted to extend that type of relationship to the newly independent Namibia.

Mugabe, referring to South Africa's referendum, said although indications were that the whites had voted "yes", the three leaders would still have to confer because a yes vote did not mean automatic majority rule.

He said the leaders would also discuss the drought. - Sapa.

Sowetan 19/3/92

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# Zimbabwe land Bill concessions get nod

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

(362)

**HARARE** — The Zimbabwe government has agreed to take into account buildings and other improvements when valuing white-owned land earmarked for resettlement by black farmers.

This is one of the concessions approved by parliament when the controversial Land Acquisition Bill went through its com-

mittee stage today.

The House took less than 45 minutes to deal with more than 50 clauses in the Bill which has drawn powerful criticism from farming groups, businessmen, lawyers and churchmen.

It seeks to enable the government to take about 5 million hectares — about half the commercial farmland — on payment of "fair compensation" to be decided by a compensation committee appointed by the Minis-

ter of Agriculture.

The amended Bill deletes a provision which would have barred the administrative court from setting aside an assessment of compensation on the grounds that the compensation was not fair.

However, fair compensation is defined as being an amount in accordance with guidelines given by the Minister and within principles laid down in the Bill.

# Smith accuses government of destroying economy

**FORMER** rebel Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, has accused the Zimbabwe government of destroying the economy by sticking to the now discredited socialist policy, saying he could not recall a time when the situation had been so bad.

He also said in a wide-ranging interview that the land issue was being used to drive a racial wedge between blacks and whites, and that blacks were now in a much worse off position than they were in 1980.

Staff Reporter

He said, however, that if the government wanted his Gwenara Farm in Shurugwi in the national interest, he would sell it immediately.

Mr Smith said he had handed over to the Mugabe government an economy once considered the best run in the world, only to see it being gradually destroyed.

Blaming the government for the difficult times people were experiencing, Mr Smith said during the pre-independence era, nobody stood in a queue to buy basic commodities, or woke up as early as 4 am to catch a bus to work, despite international sanctions imposed because of UDI.

Asked to comment on the government's achievements and failures during the past 12 years, Mr Smith said it was difficult to think of any achievements. He admitted, however, that there were many pupils attending school now, but said standards had fallen.

"I remember (President) Mugabe saying when he won

elections in 1980 that he was inheriting the jewel of Africa, with the most sophisticated economy in Central Africa and pledged to keep it that way. He followed that policy for six months and that was the end of it. We have gradually gone down the hill," Mr Smith said.

He said had the government listened to expert advice, Zimbabwe would not be importing maize, cooking oil and sugar.

"We had on the drawing board 14 years ago plans to build the Tokwe-Mukosi Dam, which would be nearly twice the size of Lake Mutirikwe. I remember saying to Mugabe in person that 'I hope you will build the dam'. Had they built the dam then we would have more sugar than we need."

"Instead, government spent money building conference centres and luxury hotels. It is worried about going to international conferences, instead of worrying about bread and butter for the people," Mr Smith said.

He said the government's cheap food policy, designed to show that it was not relying on white farmers to produce food, had brought agriculture to the brink of collapse.

"That kind of talk is racialistic, childish in many ways and is a sad reflection on the mentality of the government. I think government is guilty of putting its interests before those of the country," he said.

Mr Smith said the government policy of reconciliation was all cheap talk, because history had shown that whites were being blamed for anything that went wrong in the economy.



MR IAN SMITH

Mr Smith said he could quote "chapter and verse", cases of government abuse of power, adding that many blacks were now visiting him to express their concern about the

state of the economy.

Mr Smith said the time would soon come when the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe (CAZ), of which he was once leader, would unite with other opposition parties to challenge the government.

"We believe in an all-embracing united party, which welcomes all Zimbabweans who believe in free enterprise and freedom, because at the moment, no opposition party will win as government won't allow it," he said.

Mr Smith said he did not believe there were hundreds of former Rhodesians who wanted to come back, saying he would treat such reports "with a pinch of salt".

## Donors happy with reform progress

DONORS are happy with the implementation of Zimbabwe's economic reforms, but have urged the government to speed up the restructuring of parastatals and the civil service, the resident representative of the World Bank, Mr Christian Poortman, has said.

He told *The Financial Gazette* in an interview that donors had commended government efforts to reduce the budget deficit, and the adjustment of the exchange rate.

Staff Reporter

"Donors are, by and large, satisfied with Esap so far. I think they appreciate that there are a number of areas in which progress was not as rapid as they would have expected," Mr Poortman said.

He said there had not been much progress on civil service and parastatal reforms. For example, he said, there was an urgent need to implement new agricultural pricing and marketing policies to stimulate production.

Mr Poortman said Zimbabwe

already had a market determined financial sector, something which was not envisaged until 1994/95.

He said of the US\$1 billion pledged at the recent Paris second donors' consultative meeting, between 50 and 60 percent would be quick disbursement loans for balance-of-payments support and to finance imports under the Open General Import Licence (Ogil) system, and the Export Retention Scheme.

Mr Poortman said he was happy with the monetary reforms made so far by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.

"The whole financial market has become more market oriented, reflecting the real price of credit," he said.

He said the bank had to implement a tighter monetary policy to control money supply and reduce inflation.

"The only way of getting supply down is by making money more expensive. This is a normal monetary policy instrument which has been used in other parts of the world," Mr Poortman said.

# Bill set for scrutiny

THE Land Acquisition Bill, which seeks to empower Government to acquire land for resettlement purposes, compulsorily if necessary, went through its committee stage in Parliament with several amendments yesterday.

The Bill was then referred back to the Parliamentary Legal Committee, which has to scrutinise the amendments to ensure that they do not violate the Constitution.

However, it is expected that the Legal Committee will be able to go through the Bill this morning and bring it back to the House for its final stages when Parliament reconvenes in the afternoon.

The Bill was piloted through the committee stage by the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, assisted by the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Cde Emerson Mnangagwa, and the Attorney-General, Cde Patrick Chinamasa, who sits in Parliament.

The Bill almost enjoyed plain sailing through the stage, with most clauses attracting little debate from MPs, who were clearly impatient to see it passed.

However, it hit rough seas when Clause 51 (1), which empowers the minister to revert to statutory instruments when administering the Act when it becomes law.

Chimanmani MP Cde M. Mataure said the Bill was a fundamental piece of legislation, and nothing should be left to chance, thus, any changes pertaining to the land issue had to be brought to the House, and not be dealt with through statutory instruments.

He was supported in this view by non-constituency MP Cde Ruth Chinamano, who said the question of land was so

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# Land Bill amendments

● From Page 1

important that Parliament should be consulted all the time and Government should not revert to statutory instruments.

Makokoba MP Cde Sydney Malunga said although statutory instruments were expedient for facilitating Government business, all those dealing with the land issue should be brought to caucus before they were promulgated.

Bubi MP Cde Micah Bhebhe said Parliament should not appear to be delegating too much authority to one individual by giving the minister powers under this clause.

Gweru North MP Cde Cyril Ndebele called for the clause to be deleted.

Replying to the points, Cde Mnangagwa said the provisions of Clause 51 were the normal channel and was a well-established precedent that a minister could make statutory instruments, which were submitted to the Parliamentary Legal

Committee for scrutiny as a matter of course.

The Government regarded the legislation on land as highly important, and "every care has been taken by Government to achieve what we have set ourselves to achieve".

The procedures to be followed were clearly laid out in the first schedule of the Bill, and the provisions of Clause 51 were in line with those procedures.

In replying to another question, Cde Mangwende said the system of tenure which would be used when settlers were allocated the acquired land was still under discussion.

"The issue will be dis-

cussed by a committee of experts to find a tenurial system," he said, adding that these experts will be appointed by the President.

Earlier, both Cde Mangwende and Cde Chinamasa had assured the House that the Government was committed to paying fair compensation for acquired land.

"What the Government has agreed is to pay fair compensation... and all factors will be taken into consideration," Cde Mangwende said in reply to an MP who had asked whether the "historical theft" of the land would be taken into account when determining compensation.

*Handwritten:* Council of Ministers 19/1/1992

*Handwritten:* 362

## Land Bill a turning point for Zimbabwe (812)

FIN GAZ 19/13/92

THE newly liberated Eastern Europe is moving through a paradigm shift towards recognition of a few fundamentals that have been proven to be successful and are based on the principles of democracy, integrity, freedom of speech and choice, reward for personal skills and effort, and free enterprise.

Where these criteria are found is where the government is left with the simple obligation of managing the country and protecting the well-being and the rights of its citizens. Prosperity, aspiration, self-reliance and a contented populace are natural derivatives of countries so structured.

Rationale, supported by history, shows that socialism, communism, oppression, racialism, autocratic rule, elitism, incompetence, hypocrisy and corruption, together with the inhibition of freedom and free trade are recipes for disaster — both for the country and for those associated with those practices.

The First World countries did not graduate by accident to their rank, nor did the former Eastern bloc and the sub-members of the Third World gravitate to theirs by accident either.

The free First World countries have fresh challenges in assisting the newly liberated countries of Europe in establishing democratic and capitalist infrastructures. Consequently, their aid programmes to Africa are unlikely to expand, and it is more probable that they will be disposed to retracting further

contributions to areas where retrogression is observed to be continuing unabated.

Zimbabwe is a country reliant on mining, agriculture and tourism, but is now seen to be virtually committed to losing these prime assets.

Delays, attitudes and incompetence at border posts are enough to turn visitors away. Then there is the dual tariff structures at hotels. Compounding the problems that Zimbabwe has is its poor international image for tourism. Large scale adverse publicity in the media regarding harassment of tourists persuades them to go elsewhere for years to come.

Mining and industry are suffering from an inability to modernise their equipment.

A country cannot grow without investment. Investment comes to areas of stability, consistency and security, and where returns are assured. Non-compliance with World Bank requirements for loans regarding an over-burdened civil service also has its consequences.

Agriculture, faced with drought again and poor crop prices, leave the farmers' existence in jeopardy. What is more, farmers will no longer develop their land under the threats that they now face.

Zimbabwe, it was once hoped, would reverse the trends in Africa.

Alas, the Land Acquisition Bill may be the final turning point for Zimbabwe and its people. Notwithstanding the inevitable internal recession, it can be expected that foreign interest, aid and investment will turn away and dry up once the act is promulgated.

Zimbabwe needs to take a hard look at itself, and decide where it wants to be positioned in the modern world community.

G.K. Mills  
Johannesburg,  
South Africa

middle class. Bush, who has publicly apologised for going along with a tax increase in the 1990 budget agreement, said he would veto any bill including a tax rise. — Sapa-Reuter.

this year, commentators believe the prime minister could face a beating by foreign leaders at the Group of Seven Summit in Munich in July. — Sapa-Reuter.

## Broke Zimbabwe parliament baled out

HARARE — The Zimbabwean parliament, which has run out of its \$213,2m vote for the current financial year, has received a supplementary vote from the treasury to bale it out of its financial difficulties.

Recent media reports that the country's legislative body was broke caused widespread speculation that parliamentary business would be interrupted.

Speaker of parliament Nolan Makombe said parliament had incurred a lot of unexpected expenditures. *6/10 day 19/3/92*

"We just had a lot of unanticipated ex-

penditure which was beyond our control. For instance we had some new committees ... and we did not know how much these would need ... to become effective."

Senior secretary to parliament Austin Zvoma declined to say whether outstanding bills had been paid. (362)

"All I can say is that things are normal."

Members of parliament have gone without their subsistence and travel allowances for three months since December. — Sapa.



# Zimbabwe passes land seizure Bill

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

(362)

**HARARE** — White farmers in Zimbabwe were yesterday urged to co-operate with the government to ensure an equitable redistribution of land as the Bill to enable the government to acquire land for resettlement went through its final stage in parliament.

But Agriculture Minister Dr Witness Mangwende, who has piloted the controversial legislation through the House of Assembly, warned that continued resistance would be "foolishness of the highest order".

There were cheers when the Bill passed its third reading without objection and Dr Mangwende declared that the nation had crossed the Rubicon.

He pledged fair compensation to all who would be affected.

There were those who believed the government had not gone far enough; that it should take all the land away from commercial farmers because whites had taken it from the blacks in the first place.

"But surely we are a government of honour," said Dr Mangwende. "We pledged reconciliation and we are bound by the policy of reconciliation."

The government proposes to take about half the land from white farmers, starting with under-utilised land, land under absentee ownership or foreign-owned, derelict land, and land from people with more farms than is considered necessary for maximum productivity.

The Minister urged farmers to go on producing crops on their land. If they put the land to wildlife, there would be nothing to stop the State taking it.

It would be madness to leave under-utilised land idle while people were crowded into communal areas.

The overall tone of Dr Mangwende's final address was an appeal for co-operation, which echoed the sentiments he had expressed in earlier debate.

The legislation will enable the government to designate areas of the country where land can be taken for resettlement on payment of compensation decided by a committee appointed by the Minister.

Critics say it will undermine confidence in the agricultural and business communities and deter investment.

# LAND BILL SAILS

**THE Land Acquisition Bill passed through its third and final reading in Parliament yesterday with no dissent and now goes to the President for his approval before being gazetted into law.**

The Parliamentary Legal Committee, which had objected on constitutional grounds to a few clauses in the original Bill, approved the amendments made by Parliament on Wednesday to rectify the anomalies before the Bill went for its final reading.

The main changes involved making it clear that when assessing compensation for land designated for resettlement, buildings and other improvements have to be taken into account. It was also accepted by Parliament that only those officials qualified to value land should do so and that the fairness of compensation should be explicitly stated.

Farmers will have the right to go to the Administrative Court if they feel errors have been made in valuing their property.

MPs boisterously thumped their benches in jubilation as the Bill smoothly sailed through the third reading.

Not even the two opposition ZUM MPs, who opposed the Bill on Wednesday, recorded an objection as Parliament passed the Bill

which seeks to redress once and for all the land imbalances inherited at independence in 1980.

Winding up debate before the third reading of the Bill, the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, said there had been heated debate on the Bill, and the House was about to pass a "very fair piece of legislation".

"We are in fact crossing the Rubicon," he said, "but Zimbabweans as a nation had not sought retribution or any punitive measures for the historical injustice that was done to them over land."

Once the House had passed the Bill into law, everyone should co-operate to make it a success, and he urged the white commercial farmers, from whom most of the land will be acquired, to co-operate.

Cde Mangwende said there were people who felt that the Government had not gone far enough, and should have taken all the land and redistributed it to the landless black masses.

However, the Government had given its word of honour that the exercise would be done fairly, and intended to keep that word.

"We are a Government of honour, we honour our word and will give fair compen-

sation to those who will lose their land," he said.

In fact, the Government's sense of honour was higher than that of other countries, including Western countries, which had tried to teach Zimbabwe about human rights.

"We have not acted as some other countries, like some countries in the West. Our sense of honour is higher than those countries which have tried to teach us about human rights," he said.

There were still "Nuremberg trials" going on, while some people were still being hunted for crimes committed 40 years ago in the West.

But in Zimbabwe, he said, "we still have Ian Smiths making their horrible noises".

The minister said historical injustices could not be corrected by inflicting further injustices and there were times when a nation had to face the realities of the situation, which Zimbabwe had done.

Quoting British war-time leader Sir Winston Churchill, Cde Mangwende said there were times when the boldest plan was best, and he believed that the plan the Government had come up with was the best to solve the land issue in this country.

"There are times in the affairs of men that

## THROUGH

If you do not take the opportunity you miss the chance to take the boldest plan to correct the affairs of man," he said in reply to those who had advocated that the Government delay the introduction of the Bill.

Cde Mangwende said it would have been madness to allow the status quo, under which the majority were overcrowded on marginal land, while a minority had thousands of hectares of underused land.

The Government, he said, was determined to implement the legislation as fully and as efficiently as possible, and he called on the whole nation to co-operate to make the exercise a success.

Cde Mangwende said he had heard that there were some white farmers who were forming resistance groups once the legislation had been passed, and who had vowed that they would oppose it "through and through".

"I must warn that this would be foolish. It would be folly of the highest order."

There were those farmers who had hatched a new plan to put the land to wildlife, but there is nothing to stop us taking that land from those who own that land. That is why we have got the Act", he said.—Ziana.

● More Parliament stories on Page 11.



CDE MANGWENDE

# Zim pensioners in SA 'living on R40 a month'

CT 20/3/92

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Staff Reporter

MANY Zimbabwean pensioners living in South Africa are surviving on as little as R40 a month as a result of blocked funds and pensions being reduced to less than a third of their value, says the Rhodesian Association of SA (RASA).

The chairman of the Cape branch of RASA, Mr Mike Leach, said the plight of the pensioners had been brought to the attention of the Zimbabwean government. Private funds were also being raised by RASA to assist pensioners battling to survive on their Zimbabwean income.

Mrs Joyce Fenton-Wells receives around R20 a month from her husband's public service pension fund. "I am lucky that I have a good job. But

## Jubilation over Zim land bill

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — Members of President Robert Mugabe's ruling party yesterday ululated jubilantly when parliament here passed the third reading of the controversial Land Acquisition Bill.

The bill, approved on a voice vote, paves the way for nationalisation of over five-million hectares of prime farmland now owned by companies or 4 500 white farmers, without right of appeal to the courts.

The bill now goes to Mr Mugabe to be signed into law.

there are a lot of older people out there who are in dire straits," she said.

Mrs Fenton-Wells said an 80-year-old relative, who asked not to be named, received R38 a month from her Zimbabwean government pension.

The Zimbabwean embassy spokesman was not available for comment yesterday.

# Bread down the drain

FM 20/3/92

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If President Robert Mugabe and his increasingly discredited ruling Zanu (Patriotic Front) were to go to the polls tomorrow, they would probably lose. Never have Zimbabwe's 10m people been so disenchanted with the leadership since Mugabe's guerrillas led them to independence 12 years ago.

The gap between the black rich and black poor has never been greater, with politicians earning more than Z\$50 000 a year, cruising around Harare in chauffeur-driven Mercedes Benz limousines, while Z\$150-a-month labourers can't afford to buy bicycles.

Unemployment, inflation and crime are all on the increase in the face of the IMF-prescribed economic structural adjustment programme. This was introduced belatedly last year after Mugabe tacitly admitted policies borrowed from the old Eastern bloc had failed.

The fruits of socialism that Mugabe showered on his people during the halcyon days have vanished. Now Zimbabweans must pay for health care and schooling. There are unprecedented widespread shortages of goods such as staple mealie meal, cooking oil, butter and sugar — thanks to the worst drought this century and to low State-fixed prices that discourage farmers from growing more food. Shoppers have clashed in queues outside stores while waiting, usually in vain, for essential commodities.

Police have ordered water cannon and other riot gear in anticipation of the kind of food riots that led to Kenneth Kaunda's fall in neighbouring Zambia. Top-level corruption, which has tainted even senior police officers, is rampant. A jobless labourer was recently imprisoned for stealing a bun, yet politicians close to the head of state appear immune to prosecution.

For the first time, Zimbabweans are openly criticising Mugabe for their plight. Some are publicly calling on him to quit and test his popularity at the polls before presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled for 1995.

Local folk hero Matthew Magonde stood up at a rally last year and shouted at Mugabe: "There is nothing here. (Ian) Smith was better." He was pounced on by police,

arrested and fined for disorderly conduct. Months later his act of defiance is still mentioned in the few papers not controlled by the State.

It is against this backdrop of disenchantment that the Land Acquisition Bill has emerged. A controversial piece of legislation, it will, as law, empower the State to nationalise nearly half of the country's white farms with little compensation and no right of appeal through the courts.

The measure has obvious implications for SA and will no doubt fuel debate on property rights by negotiators at Codesa next month.

Most independent analysts in Zimbabwe believe the Bill will bolster popular support for the President and his party. They also fear it will transform Zimbabwe from a breadbasket to an economic basket case by seizing highly productive land and handing it over to peasants who know little more than subsistence farming.

About 4 500 white farmers now earn most of the export income, collectively employ the biggest labour force and grow the bulk of Zimbabwe's food. The trouble is that they also own a third of the land and about 7m blacks are crowded into an area not much larger.

Foreign aid donors and would-be investors, convinced nobody will spend a cent in Zimbabwe if property rights are violated by the so-called land-grab Bill, have urged Mugabe to rewrite the framed law to allow for full compensation and appeal through the courts if owners feel they're being cheated. But Mugabe, at a recent news conference, made it clear he would not budge.

"Nobody could develop cold feet, aid or no aid," he tartly declared. "It's a do-or-die issue. You cannot run a society of haves and have-nots and hope that the society will continue to accept the situation."

No issue has divided whites and blacks more since independence. It has also placed an unprecedented strain on otherwise easy-going race relations. Most whites accept the need for land reform but contend purchases of farms should remain on the willing-buyer, willing-seller basis that constitutionally existed for the first decade of independence.

That safeguard fell away two years ago and paved the way for arbitrary nationalisation.

Critics like Peter Hewlett, a farmer and MP for Mugabe's ruling party, point out that the State has acquired 3,3m ha of white land since independence after Mugabe promised to settle a million black peasants. But only about 160 000 people have been relocated and most of the farms bought by the State were run down, under-used or unproductive.

"There is plenty of undeveloped land elsewhere without touching productive farms — farms that form the backbone of the economy," says Ken Ziehl, a third-generation Zimbabwean who grows tobacco and breeds cattle for export on 10 000 ha near Rusape in eastern Zimbabwe. "If they must take our properties, we're arguing we should get a fair price."

Ziehl's German grandfather carved the farm out of the uninhabited bush at the turn of the century, like so many of today's farmers' ancestors. "Our farms are not on better land," he insists. "They're simply better developed, better managed."

In the next valley is a similar-sized spread that combines a resettlement scheme and a government co-operative. But the peasants have not produced a bag of corn this season, most trees have been stripped and cattle and goats are overgrazing the parched land.

Yet such arguments don't sit comfortably with landless blacks, especially those who risked their lives in the war for independence. "We just want our land back — land the settlers stole from us," says Moses Rushinga, an ex-guerrilla who has been waiting for a smallholding for 12 years. "It doesn't matter what we do with it; we just want what is ours."

In Zambia, Kaunda shared the same sentiments and seized most white farms for peasants after independence in 1964. Zambia soon turned from food exporter to importer. But since President Frederick Chiluba ousted Kaunda in October's elections foreign commercial farmers are being encouraged to help with a new green revolution to make Zambia self-sufficient again. If Mugabe's land Bill becomes law, many of those takers could well be white Zimbabweans. ■

FM 20/3/92

# ZIMBABWE'S TIMESHARE OPTIONS

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Now that the Zimbabwean government has cleared the way for expatriates — individuals, that is, not companies — to buy timeshare with their blocked funds or 12-year government bonds, the question is: are they worthwhile investments?

The same rules apply as to any time-share buy. Factors to consider include:

- A clear idea of the management levy now and in future (SA levies range from R250 to R1 250 a year but average R600);
- The security of rights if the developer goes bankrupt;
- Not buying only because of exchanges;
- The percentage of units still unsold, which may have an impact on levies; and
- The developer's track record.

Tight — if not excessive — government control has allowed only three timeshare resorts — all with hotels — to be built so far. Exchanges through RCI Europe (with which Zimbabwean resorts are affiliated administratively) are monitored six-monthly to establish how much forex is brought in.

Expats may pay levies with blocked funds but not with 12-year government bonds. Government has further stipulated that owners may resell units only after 10 years, but in any currency.

Two years ago, Zimbabwe Sun developed Caribbea Bay on Lake Kariba and Troutbeck Inn in Nyanga almost concurrently. These are reported to be 60% sold.

A week costs, on average, R12 000 in each resort, with levies around R300 a year.

Government reportedly delayed for almost a year construction of a third resort by the Glynns Group: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge (pictured here), 300 m from the unfenced Zambezi Game Reserve. Timeshare units will be completed in September and the hotel in April 1993. Of 2 500 weeks, 22% have been sold so far.

Durban-based Zimbabwe Projects, which markets the scheme, says Falls hotel occupancies average 80%-90%, a figure confirmed by Zim Sun, which has three hotels there: Victoria Falls Hotel, Mikasa Sun and Elephant Hills.

Zimbabwe Projects MD John Perry says the popularity of the Falls area will make exchanges through RCI much easier. According to Zim Sun, however, visitors spend more bed nights on average at Troutbeck

and Caribbea than at Victoria Falls — three to four as opposed to one to two — which is its reason for developing timeshare in those areas.

Zimbabwe Projects says it will guarantee exchanges in SA but the owner will have to accept what RCI offers him. This is definitely no guarantee that the owner will get the specific exchange he wants.

The average price of units at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge is R16 000. Levies are now Z\$550 — about R300 a year.





## Co-operation by CFU, ZTA over land welcome

IF the Commercial Farmers' Union and the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association are wholehearted in their acceptance of the fact that the Land Acquisition Act will soon be law, and wholehearted in their willingness to co-operate fully in its implementation, then much pain and many problems will be avoided.

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, went out of his way to seek such acceptance and co-operation when he presented the Bill to Parliament, and repeated the invitation when he summed up before receiving the unanimous approval of MPs for what must soon be the Land Acquisition Act.

But, while the minister almost pleaded for co-operation, he also made it very clear indeed that, come what may, the Government was going to acquire 5 million ha, and that the bulk of that had to be in the decent agricultural regions.

It is that fact, that a lot of good land will be acquired for peasant resettlement, that members and leaders of the CFU and ZTA must accept. Unfortunately, there will be a lot of suspicion in some quarters following the extensive and expensive lobbying campaign launched before the parliamentary debate and continued even after the Act was approved.

The two farming organisations should also note the total failure of that campaign. The one feature that many outside the farming world saw as a potential problem and a possibly dangerous precedent — the method of valuation and the right to have the courts check that a fair method was properly applied — was straightened out after the Parliamentary Legal Committee found the original proposal was unconstitutional.

The CFU and many of its members, at least those vocal in their comments in private or public, alleged that an undesirable racial element was introduced into the debate. A read through Hansard will show that the minister and a large majority of backbenchers, the sensible majority, went out of their way to avoid racial issues.

The fundamental point is that around 4 000 families own about one third of Zimbabwe's farming land and, moreover, own a much higher proportion of the land in the better regions. This is in the context of a country where the bulk of the population are peasant farmers facing acute land hunger and having to cope with small plots in marginal regions.

If every single member of the 4 000 families and every single peasant farmer were of the same ethnic group and spoke the same language, the Bill would have been identical to the one passed, word for word.

There are mono-cultural states that have faced the same or similar problems. Terrible civil wars have been fought in Latin America on this issue; land redistribution is the largest single factor in Filipino politics; European states have had to solve the problem, either with blood as in the French revolution, or more peacefully as in the more recent land reform programmes in Italy and Portugal.

Land is finite. Problems of an overconcentration of ownership in industry can be solved by building new factories to dilute the concentration. Overconcentration of control in financial institutions can be solved by licensing more banks. Creating more land is simply impossible and agrarian reform and land redistribution has been a problem faced by all societies for thousands of years.

Admittedly, Zimbabwe faces an additional problem that much of the land now owned by the 4 000 families was taken from the original peasant users, without compensation, in a few decades after 1890. Again it is worth noting that this would lead to populist sentiments for a counter-grab of the same intensity if everyone was of the same ethnic group.

The Government rejected that populist path and the minister again stressed and emphasised that honourable methods would be followed, willingly introducing the changes desired by those sworn to ensure that basic rights are not infringed.

The issue has been overconcentration of ownership of a non-expandable basic natural resource. As the urban white community knows, the new order has been more than willing to let bygones be bygones. The CFU membership's ideas, proposals, and help will be a Godsend to successful resettlement if made within the framework of

Herald 10/12 (362)

## Call to support State in implementing Land Bill

**MUTARE.**  
THE Governor of Manicaland, Cde Kenneth Manyonda, on Saturday night urged people in commerce and industry in the province to rally behind the Government in the implementation of the Land Acquisition Bill when it becomes law.

Addressing about 60 officials from the Ministry of Education and Culture and book distributors at a reception in honour of the outgoing managing director of Longman Zimbabwe, Mr Sam Mpofu, at an hotel here, the governor said people who would be allocated land should utilise it fully for the benefit of the country.

Mr Mpofu, who has worked as a marketing manager and managing director with Longman Zimbabwe, one of the largest school textbook dealers in Zimbabwe for 25 years, is retiring from

his job to take up cattle ranching near Dadaya Mission.

Mr Mpofu confirmed in an interview that he had bought the 14 000 hectare Hokonui Farm, a vast property once owned by former Southern Rhodesian prime minister Sir Garfield Todd.

"When the Land Acquisition Bill becomes law, those who would be allocated land should utilise it properly for the benefit of Zimbabwe. The law should not be an instrument of destruction and I am sure that Mr Mpofu would utilise it properly," Cde Manyonda said in an unprepared speech.

He noted that Mr Mpofu had contributed immensely to the educational needs of Zimbabwe since he started as a teacher at Dadaya Mission and also as the head in Longman Zimbabwe.

— Ziana.

## Association calls for setting up of land trust

Herald Reporter

THE Zimbabwe Tobacco Association has proposed the setting up of a Land Development Trust to facilitate co-operation between Government, the business sector and donor agencies to alleviate the land imbalance and ensure that farms are productive and viable.

Outlining the structure of the trust to 500 guests consisting of Government ministers and officials, members of the diplomatic corps and top businessmen in Harare recently, ZTA president, Mr Mick Taggart said its aim would be to expand the commercial farming sector, and rehabilitate the communal areas to increase productivity.

"The days of division are past. We must work towards a single society with no more black and white commercial and resettlement farming. What this country needs is a greater number of commercial farmers and more commercial land, not less," Mr Taggart said.

The trust would also attract finance from all sectors, administer these funds, develop training centres in each region, establish a network of extension officers and provide the basic infrastructure for successful farming.

Developing appropriate technology for small-scale commercial farming and the training of farmers, extension officers and managers would be the key element of the trust, he said.

Mr Taggart said an ideal development unit, consisting of 40 or less farmers with 80 hectares of tobacco or 800 hectares of raw crops, would be managed effectively by a manager and an assistant.

The manager would control the implements to be used on a contract basis, administer the seasonal finances from the Agricultural Finance Corporation for the farmer in the initial stages, co-ordinate the procurement of inputs and maintain the infrastructure of schools, clinics and common roads.

The AFC, which would receive an initial grant from the trust, would hold the land as security and lease it to the farmer for three years with an option to purchase.

It would finance the purchase of the farm on a long-term agreement with concessionary interest rates and would provide medium-term finance for infrastructure, implements and livestock. Repayments would be made on sale of produce.



# Zimbabwe's farmers bow to takeover

362

STAR 23/3/92

HARARE — Zimbabwe's white farmers pledged at the weekend to co-operate with the government on a programme that would give half their land to a million black peasants.

The 4 500-member, mainly white, Commercial Farmers' Union opposed the so-called Land Acquisition Bill — passed by parliament on Thursday — which would nationalise half of their 11 million hectares of land.

"The Bill is now fait accompli," said union president Alan Burl.

"We now have to look ahead and work together to try to achieve the best results."

The Bill, to be signed into law by President Mugabe before the end of the month, empowers the State to seize the white farms for black resettlement with little compensation and no right of appeal through the courts.

Farmers, foreign diplomats and aid donors criticised the law, saying it was unconstitutional and would transform productive farms into subsistence plots.

Zimbabwe, a traditional food exporter, has this year

been forced to import food because of severe drought in southern Africa.

Commercial farmers, almost all white, grow most of the country's crops, earn the bulk of its export earnings and employ collectively the largest labour force.

The farmers' union statement said it was encouraged by assurances to landowners given by Agriculture, Lands and Resettlement Minister Witness Mangwende when he proposed the Bill in parliament.

Mr Mangwende promised the targeted farmers that they would get a fair price and could appeal against the State-fixed valuation through an administrative court of experts he would appoint.

A last-minute amendment to the Bill would allow the cost of improvements such as homes, barns, dams and roads to be added to the price offered to the landowners.

Mr Burl called the amendment "pragmatic" and also noted Mr Mangwende's assurances.

"Resettlement must be carried out in a manner that is in the best interests of all," he said. — Sapa-Associated Press.

## Zim claims optimistic growth

*Sullivan 23/3/92*  
*(262)*  
HARARE - A total of 60 000 new jobs were created in Zimbabwe in the first half of 1991, registering an annual growth rate of 4.8 percent compared to the same period the previous year, the Standard Chartered Bank's Business Trends says.

In its January edition Business Trends said of the 60 000 new jobs, 16 000 were created in agriculture, 8 200 in manufacturing, 5 800 in distribution, 5 700 in construction, 3 900 in transport, 3 800 in public administration and almost 12 000 in "other" services.

The national news agency Zana said Standard Chartered bank did not, however, compare the annual growth rate of employment with that of unemployment.

According to government estimates, over 200 000 school-leavers join the job market every year. More than one million people are believed to be unemployed countrywide.

It said in the 1980s, a total of 182 000 new jobs were created, mostly in education.

The average annual employment growth rate during that period was 1.7 percent, which was about half the real GDP rate. - Sapa

# Farmers in Zimbabwe pledge to co-operate

Sovetan 23/3/92

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HARARE - Zimbabwe's white farmers pledged Saturday to co-operate with the government on a programme that would give half their land to 1 million black peasants.

The 4 500-member mainly white Commercial Farmers' Union opposed the so-called Land Acquisition Bill passed on Thursday by parliament that would nationalise half of their 27,2 million acres of land.

"The Bill is now a *fait accompli*," union president Mr Alan Burl said in a statement.

"We now have to look ahead and work together to try to achieve the best results."

The Bill, to be signed into law by President Robert Mugabe before month's end, empowers the state to seize the white farms for black resettlement with little compensation.

The farmers' union statement said it was encouraged by

assurances to landowners given by Agriculture, Lands and Resettlement Minister Witness Mangwende when he proposed the Bill in parliament.

Mangwende promised farmers they would get a fair price and could appeal the state-fixed valuation through an administrative court of experts he would appoint.

Burl called the amendment "pragmatic" and also noted Mangwende's assurances.

"Resettlement must be carried out in a manner that is in the best interests of all," he said.

The government contends that most of those farms are producing below their potential. Opposition politicians contend Mugabe is using the law to regain lost support.

Some analysts say he would lose an election held now because of public anger over top-level corruption, mismanagement and high unemployment. - Sapa-AP

## Drought likely to bring big upsurge in poaching

HWANGE — Wildlife experts fear the drought devastating southern Africa will lead to an upsurge in poaching in Zimbabwe, where 60 rhinos have been killed in the first three months of this year.

"There is no military solution," ecologist Mike Murphree said. "We will simply be fighting and killing poachers until rhinos are all gone, or until it is no longer viable for the rhinos to reproduce."

Drought has added to the problems of anti-poaching units guarding wildlife in such areas as the vast Hwange National Park in western Zimbabwe.

There is little vegetation cover left for rhinos to hide in, and they are concentrated at remaining water holes where poachers lie in wait in spite of the efforts of anti-poaching units which killed 145 poachers, many of them from Zambia, between July 1984, and the end of November last year. (362) (245)

Experts now fear that the drought, causing widespread crop failure and cattle deaths, will prompt an upsurge in poaching among Zimbabweans themselves, which will be more difficult to control than poachers crossing from Zambia. 8/Day

Rhino horns are valued in the Far East as a sex stimulant and medicine, and in the Arabian peninsula for traditional dagger handles. 23/3/92

Since the international rhino horn trade ban was imposed 16 years ago, world rhino populations have plummeted by 95%. Wildlife experts say 110 rhinos were killed in Zimbabwe last year. The current Zimbabwe population of rhinos is between 1 000 and 2 000.

— Sapa-Reuter.

## Zim cop covered up corruption, court told

HARARE — Zimbabwe's acting police commissioner, Mr Augustine Chihuri, ordered a cover-up of police corruption because another police chief was involved, the Regional Court here was told.

Detective-Sergeant Samson Chafasuka was giving evidence yesterday as the 17th state witness in the prevention of corruption trial of Mr Chihuri and Mr James Ndove, a former provincial criminal investigation officer for Harare and Mashonaland.

The charges arise from the release from police custody of two vehicles — a Toyota Hilux pick-up to a Dr Elton Chawatama, and a Toyota Cressida to a late Dr Orchard Mudzonga — in circumstances which the state alleges amount to abuse of office.

The two men have pleaded not guilty. — Sapa

# Zimbabwe will need 362 millions in new loans

STAR 25/3/92

**HARARE** — Zimbabwe's foreign debt will continue to grow rapidly in 1992-93 as additional loans are negotiated to fund the structural adjustment programme (Esap), says a Standard Chartered Bank report.

It estimates that Zimbabwe will need millions of dollars in new money in the form of bilateral grants and loans.

The drought is likely to mean another significant upward revision in the reform financing programme.

The country is likely to find difficulty in sourcing money because of competition for funds from East Europe.

Some donors would be concerned about the land acquisition bill, says the report, adding: "The principles underlying the bill itself are at odds with the philosophy underlying Esap — export-led growth, market orientation and transparency."

On mining, the report says demand and price prospects for 1992 are poor.

With less currency devaluation likely this year, the growth rate of mining production can be expected to slow significantly and is unlikely to exceed 20 percent, unless there is a strong recovery in metal prices.

## Manufacturing

In the manufacturing sector, the report forecasts a slowdown as a result of the drought.

Manufacturers have to demonstrate they can compete in quality, packaging, delivery dates and after-sales service.

Manufacturing is heading for its most difficult year since 1986-87.

"Industrial production is likely to be flat and could even decline — again depending on the weather."

The report adds: "A worst-case drought scenario could see exports slipping from last year's \$1.8 billion to as low as \$1.6 billion, while food imports of as much as \$200 million would push the trade deficit above \$500 million and the balance of payments deficit to the \$1 billion mark."

With South Africa in the grip of a severe drought, the cost of imported maize could be markedly higher.

The report forecasts that coffee and tea exports will be lower, while beef earnings will improve.

The report says it is crucial that inflation be brought under control, otherwise a further steep currency devaluation is probable this year.

"Devaluation fuels inflation just as assuredly as inflation brews devaluation. The vicious circle must be broken sooner than later." — Sapa.

## Zanu official dies young 362

By Day 25/3/97  
MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Former Rhodesian district commissioner Jacobus "Sean" Hundermark, who became a prominent official and MP for President Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) party, died yesterday after a long illness. He was 39.

A member of one of Zimbabwe's prominent Afrikaans families, described as "Comrade Hundermark" by the Herald newspaper, he joined Zanu two years after independence. He was one of Rhodesia's youngest district commissioners when he left the Internal Affairs Ministry in 1980 to take up farming.

Hundermark held senior posts in administration and finance and was nominated to parliament by Mugabe in 1987 when elected white representation was revoked. In the 1990 election, he defeated an opposition candidate from Edgar Tekere's opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement.

Four by-elections are now pending in Zimbabwe where, in spite of an explosion of discontent over economic problems, particularly 36% inflation, opposition groups remain in utter turmoil. Tekere has vowed to have no dealings with Zanu founder the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, who recently returned from exile.

# Zimbabwe's 'fierce and dreaded organisation'

(362)

ARG 25/3/92

ROBIN DREW, Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — The arrest last week of the deputy director-general of Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organisation in connection with the disappearance of a young woman has again raised questions about the security institution which was described by a police officer as a "fierce and dreaded organisation."

Chief Inspector Chirume told a judge how he had investigated a murder committed by a CIO officer who had been convicted and sentenced to death, but who had been immediately granted an amnesty and after his release came to the policeman's house and threatened to kill him.

The CIO agent, one Robert Masikini, had shot a prisoner through the head in his cell in 1986 during the dissident troubles in Matabeleland. His defence counsel argued that his client was employed by an organisation with an unenviable reputation for brutality. He had been trained in the use of torture, was subject to little or no discipline and had been transformed into a brutal person.

The tale is recounted by a Harare lawyer, Mr Geoff Feltoe, in a publication of the Legal Resources Foundation, in which Mr Feltoe calls for an inquiry into the running of the CIO.

He suggests this could take the form of a confidential inquiry headed by a judge coupled with a public assurance that its recommendations would be treated seriously by the government.

The CIO was inherited by Mr Mugabe's government when after independence in 1980 most of the security apparatus set up by the white-ruled regime was preserved.

Mr Feltoe writes: "Many of the same officers who fanatically served the minority regime were kept on in the CIO. Some of these ended up betraying Zimbabwe. Some apparently deliberately fed the authorities with misinformation in order to widen the rift between Zanu and Zapu which led ultimately to the turmoil in Matabeleland.

"Some passed on their methods of extracting information by torture to the new personnel appointed to the CIO after independence. The effort to combat the full scale terror campaign by the South African regime led some security agencies to rely heavily upon brutality in order to try to extract security information."



26 1992

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# Disaster for parched Zimbabwean cities

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe now has two cities which may die from lack of water.

Residents of Bulawayo, the second largest city with nearly a million inhabitants, are in despair over political in-fighting and lack of action even after months of grim warnings that by mid-year the taps could run dry.

Now it is the turn of the 125 000 residents of the eastern border city of Mutare, who appear to be only weeks away from disaster.

Mutare has taken drastic action to cut water usage. The municipal supply is shut off every other day and households are rationed to 200 litres a day.

Operations at the city's hospitals have had to be postponed, factories are going on short time and some may close, and the working week may be reduced to three days. Some tourist resorts have closed.

The national news agency Ziana reports that a news blackout has been imposed by the Council on Water Affairs.

Hopes for a long-term solution were dashed when the government refused to support a multimillion-dollar pipeline to draw water from the Pungwe River on the grounds that approved construction of a dam near the city would serve the purpose.

At the other end of the country, the weekend saw a new development with the announcement that a task force is to be appointed by the government to launch a new trust to raise money to ensure water supplies for Bulawayo.

In October, concerned residents working with the Matabeleland North provincial governor, General Jevan Maseko, and Deputy Home Affairs Minister Dumiso Dabengwa formed a trust fund to raise money for a pipeline to bring water to the city from the Zambezi River 450 km away.

The new task force will take

over the funds from the original trust amid accusations that the government had hijacked the project.

It is unclear how much water Bulawayo has left. The city council says July will see the end of municipal supplies. The Ministry of Water Resources and Development says the dams can go on supplying until the end of the year.

Seminars and meetings have heard suggestions for additional water recycling plants, for more boreholes, and for a pipeline to the Nyamandhlovu area 40 km north, to tap the existing water supply.

There have been warnings that the breakdown of the sewerage system will lead to typhoid and cholera, and demands that pit latrines be provided in the high-density areas.

Television appeals are made daily to save water with the slogan "Bulawayo must live". Many industrialists have sunk boreholes to serve their factories and are using municipal water only for human consumption.

# Rescue scheme on cards for farmers unable to repay

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THE Government and the Agricultural Finance Corporation are examining a new rescue scheme to assist all commercial farmers unable to repay their loans, the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde Witness Mangwende, said in Parliament yesterday.

Responding to a question by Harare North MP Cde Tirivanhu Mudariki on whether his ministry had any financial and technical facilities to assist blacks engaged in large-scale commercial farming, the minister said the AFC had in 1989 launched a technical co-operation programme in an effort to help black farmers.

Under that programme, which was meant to promote good neighbourly conduct, he said, the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association and the Commercial Farmers' Union shared their financial and technical know-how with black emergent commercial farmers.

Participation in the scheme was voluntary

and a number of farmers had joined the programme, with the AFC co-ordinating and providing back-up for the programme.

"The Agricultural Finance Corporation, my ministry and the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, are currently examining a second programme, the development agricultural loan fund.

"This programme is by design and intent a rescue scheme to assist all farmers, including black emergent large-scale farmers, who are unable to service their loan indebtedness," Cde Mangwende said.

Farmers were not considered for further loans under the present technical co-operation scheme

although there may be prospects of regaining viability in the next season.

The new programme would therefore rescue the unfortunate farmer by giving him financial relief and another chance at farming, said Cde Mangwende.

Black commercial farmers were also eligible for extension advice from the ministry's Agritex department.

The Department of Research and Specialist Services provided them with know-how on seed varieties, fertilisers and types of soils while the Department of Veterinary Services covered livestock husbandry and disease control measures among other areas.

**Information**

# Concerns over Land Acquisition Bill already justified

OVER the last few months, much has been said by the proponents of the Land Acquisition Bill, as to why it was fair and equitable legislation, designed to right wrongs (actual or perceived), and why it was essential in the best interests of the greater community and the advancement of Zimbabwe. The opponents to the Bill were equally vociferous, notwithstanding that they were in the minority of those who publicly expressed opinions on the intended changes to law.

Those who opposed the Bill were seen by the Bill's sponsors as being driven wholly by self-interest, in complete disregard of what was considered to be the communal good. Emotions ran high and virtually all prospects of open-minded debate fell by the wayside. Instead, anyone who was not wholly in support of the proposals was vilified, accused of wishing to entrench "white supremacy", colonialisation, and the oppression and exploitation of the many by the few.

Contentions that the opposition was not founded upon resistance to land redistribution, but to the methodology to be employed, were summarily dismissed. The attitude was (and still is) one of "those who are not with me are against me". Irrespective of protestations to the contrary, this put the lie to nearly 12 years of assurances of desires for complete reconciliation, harmony and equality between all racial groupings — that there would be no distinctions between black and white, Shona and Ndebele, Jew and Christian, male and female, on the grounds of colour, race, faith or sex, but that advancement, whether economic or otherwise, would be wholly founded on merit and effort. Suddenly, distinctions were drawn, in debate, between black and white Zimbabweans, and over a decade's efforts at setting aside antipathy and recriminations of the past were, in one fell swoop, set aside

and negated.

In particular, the Bill's advocates steadfastly declined to consider any amendments whatsoever, or to entertain the possibility that there could conceivably be validity and substance to any representations (save for such amendments as became necessary as a result of the report of the Parliamentary Legal Committee). Equally, the rigidity and inflexibility alienated inter-communal goodwill and provoked inter-racial illwill, loss of business confidence and concern that Zimbabwean democracy was a thing of the past, for only concurrence with authoritarian determination would be acceptable, opposition thereto being ascribed to the aspirations of "continued white domination and supremacy".

There was no benefit of the doubt given, that perhaps the concerns and fears were genuinely felt and expressed, and that alternative measures could minimise these concerns and fears, whilst still enabling objectives to be attained.

Instead, by way of example, the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement saw, fit to make insensitive and odious analogies to the Nuremberg Trials, which related to gross inhumanities of man to man, genocide and extreme cruelty, torture and the most extreme racism in history, with no feeling for the consequential hurt and distress of those who, directly or indirectly, were subjected to the evils of the Nazi holocaust. To justify an alleged "righting of wrongs" by such a comparison is devoid of all moral sensibility.

And yet many, if not most, of those who opposed the legislation genuinely supported, and do still support, the principles of land redistribution, and recognise that ever more land must be brought into productive use if Zimbabwe's people are to survive, and that as far as possi-

ble, those with aspirations to develop and work the land should be accorded the opportunity to do so. However, they feared that the manner whereby government sought to achieve this would totally disrupt present agricultural activity, resulting in diminished land productivity, increased unemployment, economic devastation, an almost absolute cessation of investment, forfeiture of agricultural skills developed over decades, poverty and hardship for many, national financial chaos, and heightened racism and frictions between Zimbabwe's different communities. Thus, they sought to suggest alternative ways of achieving the national objectives, whilst not suffering the anticipated irremediable prejudices, but invariably those suggestions were peremptorily rejected.

## Life Eric Bloch Column

Now, the Bill, having passed through Parliament only a week ago, already some of the fears are proving to be well-founded. The anxieties of investors that the compulsory acquisition of agricultural lands could well be the precursor to expropriation of other properties, be they mines, industry or otherwise, have been strengthened and reinforced.

The secretary-general of the IBDC, Mr. Strive Masiyiwa, has called for the Bill to be extended to pertain to commercial and industrial land, and does not even seek to support this demand by any evidence that there is any scarcity of such land (serviced or unserviced) or that the land is under-utilised. His only stated justification is that this would facilitate "indigenisation".

A fundamental precept of Esop is the encouragement and stimulation of investment, both foreign and local, in order to create increased opportunities of employment, and to generate the increased economic activity so vital to Zimbabwe's future. But who will invest when confronted with the risk of losing the investment according to the whims of some future government?

Another fear has been that the provisions of the Bill would be racially applied. And that this is the expectation of some is again evident from the remarks of Mr. Masiyiwa, implied in that black commercial farmers should be exempted from designation in terms of the Bill. He notes that "the black commercial farmers are anxious about the land Bill. Most of them bought the land from their lifetime savings and are up to their eyeballs in debt." The same is true of many, if not most, white commercial farmers, but this is apparently of lesser consequence.

It has been foreshadowed that the prospect of land designation and future acquisition thereof by government, would deter the existing farmers from embarking upon any further investment or development of their lands, which would be nationally disadvantageous. Information flowing from many of Zimbabwe's farming districts, and especially those where designation is widely expected, indicates that even those who, notwithstanding the consequences of the drought, have resources to fund land improvements, have suspended their developmental plans pending awareness as to the likelihood of the loss of their lands. Understandably, they are not prepared to apply their remaining resources to investment which may not only not give them a fair return, but could well constitute a loss of investment. Further agricultural productivity, so desperately

needed, is prejudiced, and those economic sectors as would have provided the goods and services for the investment, are already suffering a major downturn in business volumes.

The risks of forced land sale, at prices over which the seller and the market have little influence, coupled with the possibility of the sale price being received over a period of five years has destroyed the collateral value of many farms and the substantial financial pressures occasioned by the drought have been compounded by the pressures of lenders upon many farmers to reduce their borrowings. These pressures will draw from those farmers the ability of economic survival until next season and access to working capital to fund that season's crops and hence the nation may well suffer a further agricultural production decline. Zimbabwe is presently awash with stories and rumours of farmers being enticed to, and relocating in, neighbouring territories, thus substantiating the outspoke fears during the opposition to the Bill that Zimbabwe will lose required agricultural skills.

All in all, the many fears voiced in opposition to the legislation are proving not to have been imaginary, but of real substance. Few wish for the Bill's repeal, but many hope that at even this late stage, government will find it possible to amend it to an extent as will not prevent substantive redistribution of potentially productive but presently under-utilised lands, but which will avoid some of the very adverse consequences of the Bill in its present, Parliament-approved form. Withdrawal of the designation provisions, emphasis upon under-utilised lands, and enforcement of significant provisions to ensure equitable application of the law by not only the present government, but also by future ones, would achieve this, without prejudicing the desired objectives of government being fulfilled.

# State urged to settle only qualified farmers

THE Government should ensure that minimum disruption is caused to agricultural production by settling only qualified people and providing them with comprehensive financial and infrastructural support to ensure the smooth take-off and success of the settlement schemes.

## Business Reporter

The Indigenous Commercial Farmers' Association, which represents black large-scale commercial farmers, said after being adequately financed and resettled, the farmers should repay all costs for land, machinery and production costs.

The black large-scale farmers, who entered the white-dominated sector a few years ago, say the failure by most of their farmers to fully exploit the potential of their farms was a direct result of the failure by the Government to give them adequate support. This would happen to the new settlers, they say.

The farmers supported the Commercial Farmers' Union in opposing designation under the Land Acquisition Bill and called for fair compensation and recourse to the courts, in the event of a dispute, for properties acquired.

The Bill was passed by Parliament last Thursday and now goes to the President for signature.

During its passage in Parliament, however, amendments were made which will give dissatisfied farmers access to the courts, but the Government was adamant about designation.

In a statement last week, the Indigenous Commercial Farmers' Association said the Government should look at settling small-scale farmers who have demonstrated their ability to farm on a commercial scale and who should be upgraded.

It said farmers from settlement schemes such as the Middle Save, Chisumbanje and the sugar estates in the Lowveld should be allowed to move onto large units.

Other sources of farmers for settlement should be those with experience in commercial farming, including state farms and trained, qualified college and university graduates who have gained practical farming experience.

These farmers, after successful application, screening and settlement, should get adequate on-the-farm training and, apart from other costs, they should get suitable packages for machinery and other related capital items provided by the State.

On the categories of land units for settlement, the indigenous farmers said various sizes should be cut up according to viability and the capability of each farmer.

The indigenous farmers said those with more than one farm should be allowed to retain only one. Those

with excessively large farms should subdivide and let the Government acquire the rest of the land.

Viability in terms of farm size should be determined by experts according to the most suitable farming system of a particular area.

"This approach ensures that minimum disruption is done to existing commercial farmers as no farmer will be moved from his farm but he has to share and be satisfied with smaller compact units," the Association said.

The approach would also ensure that confidence of the

financiers, both local and international, was restored; the land aspirations of the majority of the population were met; gainful employment was created and increased; productivity per unit area was increased or even doubled; and the Government only acquired what it could immediately settle according to resources available and only proceed to acquire more when more resources were available.

"We commend Government in its endeavour to seek a fair redistribution of land which is a basic resource from which all development can take

place. We believe, if done correctly, Zimbabwe will reach new heights of economic development never seen before," the association said.

"We, therefore, urge everyone involved, Government and all our people, to produce a well thought-out system of tenure that will withstand the test of time.

"We also urge Government to make use of the abundant expertise available among its indigenous agriculturalists to help map out strategies for successful implementation of this and other schemes that need thorough planning and systematic implementation," the indigenous farmers added.

## New feeds to be produced for livestock

NATIONAL Foods Pvt Limited and Agricor have formed a joint stockfeeds manufacturing company, Speciality Animal Feed Company.

Expected to come into operation in April or May this year, the new company will produce winter and summer supplementary cattle blocks and concentrates, and fish, reptile, wildlife and horse feeds.

National Foods holds 60 percent of the equity in Safco while Agricor has the remainder.

The feeds would be distributed and marketed on a national basis and would complement the existing livestock feeds.

Mr Chris Robinson, National Foods managing director (operations), told the Business Herald this week that the previously less formal agricultural sectors of ostrich, fish and other wildlife farming activities were growing tremendously and it had become necessary to

expand the production of specialised feeds to meet the growing market requirements.

### Specialised

He said the specialised animal feeds that the new company would manufacture required research and development.

The area of specialised animal feeds had not been well covered and could best be expanded with the two companies working together, he said.

Research and development would be an integral part of Safco's activities to meet the objectives of supplying high quality feeds.

Considerable in-house expertise would be used as well as access to international advice through associates.

Mr Robinson said production at the new company would, however, be hampered by the shortages of raw materials such as maize.

None of the existing companies were operating at near capacity, he said.

## Resettlement for farmers <sup>(362)</sup> with aptitude

A SENIOR Government minister has said only people with an aptitude for agriculture, who make a living out of the land, will qualify for resettlement.

The Senior Minister for Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, Cde Joseph Msika, yesterday said in an interview that it was important to give the acquired land to people who could maintain or improve on the high yields currently being produced by the commercial farmers.

Those working in towns did not give as much attention to the land as did the people who used the land as a means of livelihood, he said.

The Land Acquisition Bill was passed by Parliament last week amid opposition from white commercial farmers.

Ziana.

Heard 2/03/92

# Farmers need incentive to grow maize — MP <sup>(362)</sup>

A MEMBER of Parliament has called on the Government to have an arrangement where farmers with irrigation facilities have at least 10 percent of their land under maize.

Contributing to debate on the President's drought declaration, Makoni East MP Cde Dexter Chavunduka said this arrangement would ensure that the country did not run out of its staple food, maize.

A special price could be negotiated for farmers who agreed to this arrangement. In this way the country would have enough maize even in the event of drought.

"It is necessary that those farmers with irrigation should put at least 10 percent of their hectare under maize," said Cde Chavunduka.

On the thousands of cattle which have died from drought, he said measures should be taken to buy these cattle at a decent price and use the meat for canned food for the local and export market.

Nkulumane MP Cde Dumiso Dabengwa hoped that the drought would make the nation realise the importance of taking precautions

to alleviate starvation.

He said what was needed were plans to ensure that there were food reserves for up to two years.

Cde Dabengwa said most countries no longer depended on rain for their agriculture.

Many, he said, made use of the surface and underground water, adding that some of these natural alternatives could be used in the event of drought.

While many people were taking measures to conserve water, none was conserving food and the time had come for the nation to ration food.

Cde Dabengwa raised laughter when he said rationing of food would help MPs, many of whom were overweight.

Tsholotsho MP, Cde Amos Mkwanzani, said boreholes were constantly breaking down, causing long delays in getting water. Better material had to be used for the manufacture of pipes and rods for boreholes.

Cde Mkwanzani said drought could result in an upsurge in criminal activity. "Many people are going to turn criminal because hunger knows no law."

Some would even opt to go to

prison where they would be assured of a meal.

Gwanda MP Cde Johnson Ndhlovu said there was need to relax regulations governing the building of dams, so that more could be built.

The drought was so critical that some people strayed to other countries in search of water. In one incident, he said, some people had been shot at in Botswana while searching for water.

Centenary MP Cde Border Gezi said if the Government had from 1982 drilled boreholes, every ward would have at least had a borehole.

He said people were paying the price of poor planning by the Government.

Cde Gezi said the Government had to investigate the possibility of growing sugar in areas near the Zambezi Valley which had potential.

This was the time for Government to demonstrate that it was a people's government, he said. It was worrying that there were already rumours of corruption in the awarding of tenders for the haulage of imported maize.

# Zimbabwe's economy floundering

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

**HARARE** — Zimbabwe is faced with its biggest economic and social challenge since independence and possibly the biggest since UDI in 1965, says Roy Lander, chief executive of Anglo American in Zimbabwe.

He told businessmen the drought and food crisis had brought this about and the direct effect of reduced agricultural production would mean a drop in GDP of between five and 10 percent.

With the multiplier effect on industry and commerce the im-

STAR 27/3/92  
pact would be even more serious.

The shortage of water and the planned rationing of electrical power could also affect economic performance this year.

The tight money supply had led to banks lending at horrific rates. The call rate recently was nearly 40 percent, with commercial bank lending attracting much higher rates.

However, he questioned the wisdom of the Reserve Bank's decision to ease the severe shortage by halving the statutory reserve ratio for commercial banks to 6,25 percent.

This represented a complete reversal of policy to reduce the money supply and curb inflation.

Mr Lander said he was worried about the delicate balance that monetary policy must follow between trying to curb inflation and not killing business with high interest rates.

"If the reduction in reserve ratios leads to easy lending, generally that will be a disaster.

"Tight money is necessary until inflation is under control and then the easing should be slow," he said.

## Police act as Harare scrambles for food

STAR 27/3/92

(362)

By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Riot police were called to control crowds at a Harare central store yesterday when the scramble for mealie meal threatened to turn nasty.

The country is running out of its staple diet and is being kept going by supplies coming in by road from South Africa.

In some areas — Masvingo was one this week — hundreds of people have been roaming the streets hoping to catch sight of a delivery vehicle on its way to a shop.

Then it is one mad rush to get in the queue

which quickly forms. Shopowners say they don't know when a delivery will be made but within an hour or two of stocks coming in, the shelves are empty again. There have been reports of profiteering.

Travellers report seeing heavy vehicles crossing Beit Bridge loaded with sacks of grain and bearing the emblem "Zimbabwe Food Relief".

Teams from the United States and the World Bank are currently assessing how much grain will have to be imported and what other drought relief is needed either in the form of transport or financial aid.



# Harare crowds fight for food

(362)  
CR 27/3/92

**HARARE.** — Riot police rushed to supermarkets in central Harare yesterday to disperse crowds fighting for limited quantities of maize meal.

A queue over 400 metres long formed at one store following a rumour that maize meal and sugar might be on sale.

The riot police quickly brought the situation under control, and most shoppers went away empty-handed when the supplies ran out.

"I have gone for two days without sadza (porridge) and I cannot afford to go home empty handed," said one woman.

There have been a number of similar scenes in Harare recently, and in some cases bags of maize meal have simply been stolen off the delivery trucks as they arrive at the stores.

The situation is expected to get worse as the transport system in the region becomes overloaded with the task of carrying large quantities of food imports to

## Inflation surge feared after Zim fuel-price hike

Own Correspondent

**HARARE.** — Business leaders fear another surge in inflationary pressures following fuel-price increases announced yesterday.

With inflation already above 35%, petrol was increased by 26% to R1,62 a litre, diesel by 9,7% to 78 cents and aviation fuel by 37% to R1,26.

Energy Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze blamed the slump of the Zimbabwean dollar and failure of the sugar crop, which meant less ethanol for blending with imported petroleum.

several drought-hit areas.

Other essentials now in short supply are bread, cooking oil, margarine and matches.

Lorries delivering maize meal to township stores were stormed by customers at the weekend and now routinely pick up police before entering shopping areas.

The Zimbabwe Information Service reports that in the south-eastern town of Masvingo (formerly Fort Victoria) civil servants are deserting their offices for hours at a time to queue for

maize meal.

In the rural areas of surrounding Masvingo province, the worst drought area in the country, children are reportedly fainting from hunger at schools, while others are dropping out because their parents are unable to afford even the R11-a-term nominal fee.

A report by the 10-nation Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference said that "close to 10 million tons of maize will have

to be procured, shipped, landed and moved around Southern Africa between now and the 1993 harvest".

● Critics of the Zimbabwean government say that the shortage of maize meal is not a result of this year's drought, but of the lower than expected harvest last year.

They say Zimbabwe could have foreseen the shortage and ordered imports in time. — Own Correspondent and Sapa-AFP

tax lawyer, Mr Murray  
Andelman, finished tes-

Losses? Countless

But a recently completed CFU survey, covering all the main crops including tobacco and beef, suggests the drought will cause \$1,6bn in lost earnings. This has serious implications not only for the farmers but for the country.

CFU director David Hasluck says: "In agriculture, we will have to provide for a loss of about \$475m on short-term borrowing. There is another \$125m in medium- and long-term debt. So you already have a total of \$600m debt that has to be refinanced before we start borrowing for the season."

With liquidity tight in the country, Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank has just authorised lowering the required liquidity ratio for commercial banks from 12,5% to 6,25%. This move is expected to put about \$300m into the market.

Private property ownership was protected in the constitution during the first 10 years of Zimbabwe's independence, but the constitution was amended in December 1990 so that the government could intervene in this sphere.

Farmers say the Land Acquisition Bill transfers custody of the right of enjoyment and values of rural land from the judiciary to the executive.

As if that were not bad enough, the powers of the executive, in the case of the Bill, are vested in one man, the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement.

This means the Minister will be able to dictate the price of rural land and the assets on it. He must take the advice of a compensation committee but can direct the committee on which criteria to assess land values and assets for compulsory acquisition. If the government thinks prices are too high, he can vary the criteria by which so-called professional valuers will determine the worth of commercial farms.

The farmers point out the Bill's "reasonable time" for compensation to be paid is up to five years and government securities or bonds can be used instead of cash. This is not acceptable to farmers who lose their land and might want to start elsewhere.

It remains to be seen whether relative values of undesignated land and land due to be acquired will be distorted.

Rural agricultural land might end up with little value. But if the government took only the 2,02m ha of commercial farmland it plans to acquire and guaranteed that the rest of the land would retain freehold status, demand would push up the value of the freehold land.

It is worth noting that commercial agriculture succeeds in Zimbabwe because the farmers have learnt how to handle credit for development.

Designated land will not be eligible for collateral since it will be acquired, under the Bill, within 10 years, which deters investing in a big capital development project. Also, banks are not likely to lend money on a farm whose value is determined by the government.

The land will only attract short-term bor-

rowing. Banks will still supply seasonal finance, with a view to quick return rather than security. In the circumstances, says the CFU's Hasluck, farmers remain uncertain — especially because the government has not announced which 2,02m ha it will designate to be acquired.

"There will be considerable pressure on the Minister to be seen to pay fair compensation where compulsory acquisition is involved," he adds.

Hasluck says commercial farmers produced 85% of national agricultural exports and 66% of the raw materials for domestic industry. They also consumed 58% of what was produced in the country.

He says that if the government treats its farmers, who are citizens, unfairly, "it is unlikely foreign investors will feel that, right now, this is a good place to invest." ■

ZIMBABWE FM 27/3/92

## Agri crunch

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**Drought** is bound to confuse, for some time, attempts to assess the effect of the Land Acquisition Bill on Zimbabwe's economy.

Before the severity of the drought became clear, the Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU), which represents the country's mainly white 4 200 commercial farmers, expected Z\$3,6bn gross output of marketed product in 1992.

# Police rush to stop maize meal riots

8/Day 27/3/92 362

MICHAEL HARTNACK

**HARARE** — Riot police again rushed to supermarkets in central Harare yesterday to disperse crowds fighting for limited quantities of maize meal.

A queue more than 400m long formed at one store after rumours that maize meal and sugar might be on sale. Other essentials now in short supply are bread, cooking oil, margarine and matches.

Lorries delivering maize meal to township stores were stormed by customers at the weekend, and now routinely collect police before entering shopping areas.

In the southeastern town of Masvingo (formerly Fort Victoria), the Zimbabwe Information Service reports, civil servants are deserting their offices for hours at a time to queue for maize meal.

"I have gone for two days without sadza (pap) and I cannot afford to go home empty handed," said a woman with a crying baby on her back.

In the rural areas of surrounding Masvingo province, the worst drought area of the country, children are reported to be fainting from hunger at schools, while others are dropping out because their parents are unable to afford even the R11-a-term nominal fee.

The rising climate of political disillusion and economic distress in Zimbabwe was apparently reflected in the latest edition of *Parade*, a widely read independent publication. Thabiso Nhari wrote from Bulawayo asking: "Mr Smith, where are

you? Please start campaigning for the 1995 elections. Every Zimbabwean will put you back to power.

"You were one of the great leaders because you knew — and you still know — how to treat a native.

"During your days there was a lot of work. You could organise work in the neighbouring countries such as SA. We used to call it Wenela," wrote Nhari, referring to recruitment by the former Witwatersrand Native Labour Association.

Leaders of commerce and industry fear another surge in inflationary pressures because of the 26% increase in the price of petrol announced yesterday. With inflation currently soaring above 35%, haulage costs would force another round of price rises, said economic sources.

The new prices are R1,62 a litre for petrol and 78c/l for diesel (up 9,7%). The price of paraffin went up only marginally to 39c/l because of government subsidies.

Announcing the price increases, Minister of Energy and Water Resources Herbert Ushewokunze blamed the slump in the value of the Zimbabwean dollar on world currency markets and the failure of Zimbabwe's sugar crop, which meant less locally distilled ethanol for blending with imported petroleum.

The Zimbabwean dollar has crashed from Z\$2,90 to Z\$5,07 against the US dollar in the past year.

Herand 28/3/92

# President spells out resettlement policy

(362)

Herald Reporter

ONLY those with the potential to be good farmers should be chosen for resettlement and proper services should be provided to ensure productive communities are established. President Mugabe said yesterday when outlining resettlement policy.

Enunciating principles to guide the next phase of resettlement at a one-day Zanu (PF) Central Committee ordinary meeting in Harare, Cde Mugabe said a number of salient guiding principles were to be borne in mind in allocating land, including the adoption of a resettlement model which would be economic and viable.

Resettlement should not be a haphazard but a systematic exercise requiring a concentration and convergence of sectoral inputs for its success.

Settlements, said Cde Mugabe, should therefore constitute new communities serviced by social services including schools, water, roads, clinics or hospitals and other infrastructural

facilities.

Resettlement officers should ensure that those to be resettled were chosen carefully, for resettlement should be regarded as basically an agricultural rather than as a home-creating exercise.

This, therefore, means that only those with a potential for becoming good farmers deserve to be included in the resettlement exercise.

Cde Mugabe said since the majority of the people to be resettled were without means, loan facilities should be created as a resource they could utilise for purposes of acquiring implements and other inputs for the viability of their agricultural entities.

In allocating land, it was also important to note that land units to be assigned to individual or co-operative farmers were viable ones, depending, of course, on the farming region in which the resettlement area was situated and the type of farming product chosen.

"In general, all communal or resettlement farm-



ers must, through a series of measures, be assisted to be viable, and this is, surely, possible to achieve, given a dedicated agricultural extension service.

"We just have to drastically reform and revolutionise communal and resettlement agriculture and ensure that it can fully sustain, not just on a subsistence but on a truly viable economic level, the rural African population which it is meant to develop," said Cde Mugabe.

A viable communal resettlement agricultural system would also help in boosting and developing growth points. He said rural people could not revolutionise themselves,

hence the Government had a role to play regarding their welfare.

"We have to carry new ideas to them as a matter of policy, which means that our whole programme should encompass proven scientific approaches to agriculture," Cde Mugabe said.

Cde Mugabe took the opportunity to congratulate members of the Central Committee for the resolute manner in which they supported the recently passed Land Acquisition Bill.

The Bill, perhaps one of the most important of the history-making pieces of legislation enacted by the Parliament

of Zimbabwe since independence, will authorise the Government to redistribute the land equally among the people.

Cde Mugabe said the traditional African attitude towards cattle, that they are only beasts of burden and useful for paying lobola, should be changed so that they play a more meaningful economic role, reports Zana.

Cde Mugabe said that apart from the cropping aspects of Zimbabwe's rural agriculture, the livestock dimension had remained, in many cases, as traditional, primitive and uneconomic as it was a hundred years ago.

"Must our cattle remain, apart from the role they play in 'purchasing' us wives and drawing the plough and scotchcart, be mere ritual beasts that hardly affect the economic life of the nation?"

"Our traditional cattle culture, that is, the African outlook to cattle, must be revolutionised, more especially in the light of our own new economic reforms," he said.

Cde Mugabe said he was aware that in the more arid areas of the country, such as Matabeland, cattle played the same cash role as crops harvested in well watered areas, but even then, these cattle were only dispensed with because maize, cotton and other cash crops were difficult to cultivate.

However, Cde Mugabe said that rural people could not be expected to revolutionise themselves and change their traditional view of cattle.

"We have to carry new ideas to them as a matter of policy, which means that our whole agricultural reform programme should encompass proven scientific approaches to agriculture.

"It cannot be doubted that if the rural people's economic resources are both quantitatively and qualitatively so improved as to enhance their incomes, their style of life will automatically improve. This is what our reform programme should aim to achieve," he said.

# Zim faces 'biggest hurdle since UDI'

ROBIN DREW

Argus Africa News Service

(362) APR 28/3/92

HARARE. — Zimbabwe is faced with its biggest economic and social challenge since independence and possibly the biggest since UDI in 1965, says the chief executive of Anglo American in Zimbabwe, Mr Roy Lander.

Mr Lander told businessmen that the drought and food crisis had brought this about and the direct effect of reduced agricultural production would mean a drop in GDP of between five and 10 percent. With the multiplier effect on industry and commerce the impact would be even more serious.

The shortage of water and the planned rationing of electrical power could also affect economic performance this year.

The tight money supply had led to banks lending at horrific rates, he said. The call rate recently was nearly 40 percent with commercial bank lending attracting much higher rates.

However he questioned the wisdom of the Reserve Bank's decision to ease the severe shortage by halving the statutory reserve ratio for commercial banks to 6.25 percent.

This represented a complete reversal of policy to reduce the money supply and curb inflation.

Sunday 29/03/92

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## Holland welcomes Bill

**Sunday Mail Reporter**  
A LEADING commercial farmer, Mr Andre Holland, who recently called for dialogue between the Government and commercial farmers over the land issue, has welcomed the recently passed Land Acquisition Bill as a victory for all Zimbabweans.

What was needed now, he said, was for people to work together to avoid starvation. Mr Holland told The Sunday Mail that he believed that the Government would now get maximum co-operation from the Commercial Farmers' Union and the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association.

# Zimbabwe to sell ivory stocks despite Cites ban

5/17/72

30/3/72

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HARARE — Zimbabwe has decided to sell its ivory stocks in spite of the recent ruling by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) barring trade in ivory.

"We have about 25 000 tons of ivory in our stock. We are to start selling this ivory with immediate effect even if it means outside the Cites umbrella," said Willie Nanku, director of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management.

However, southern African states that have elephant populations assured

the recent Cites meeting in Kyoto, Japan, that they had no intention of behaving irresponsibly as a result of their decision.

Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana and Namibia had therefore decided to form the Southern African Centre for Ivory Marketing (Sacin).

The four-nation group would meet on April 14 in Namibia to discuss ways of marketing their ivory with countries outside Cites.

According to Environment and Tourism Minister Herbert Murewa the countries

in Sacin would remain members of Cites and would continue fighting for the lifting of the ivory trade ban.

At the Cites conference earlier this month, Zimbabwe wanted the downlisting of the African elephants to Appendix II, which allowed limited and controlled trade, from Appendix I, which prohibited all commercial trade.

Although Zimbabwe, along with Malawi, Botswana and Namibia, had the guarded support of the Cites secretariat, the World Conservation

Union and the World Wildlife Fund, the southern Africans decided to withdraw their proposal after it became clear in a committee meeting that they would be badly defeated if the issue went on an open vote.

"We are indeed extremely perplexed," Botswana delegate Ponatshego Kedikilwe, a spokesman for the southern African states, said during the withdrawal speech. "It seems to us that the goals posts have been removed and this brings into doubt the integrity of Cites." — Sapa.

# Land Bill to redress imbalances — Nkomo

Herald 30/08/92

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Wasteful!  
Quit the country!



CDE Joshua Nkomo

GWANDA.

THE Land Acquisition Bill is in line with Government efforts to redress the land discrepancy that has been prevalent in the country for over a century, Vice-President Nkomo has said.

Addressing a consultative meeting on land and drought at Nkwidze business centre in Gwanda North at the weekend, Cde Nkomo said the Government could not do anything until now because it was bound by the tendons of the Lancaster House Constitution for 10 years.

"Time has now come for us to deliver the goods to the people who have been waiting patiently for us to do something about the land question," he said.

Cde Nkomo said the Government under the Bill would acquire land for proper resettlement of people,

adding that the land would only be allocated to people who would use it productively.

"We should be coming up with a well-consulted resettlement system soon for people in various agro-ecological regions that will suit their farming practices best.

"And in this part of the region which falls under natural regions four and five, it rains once or maybe twice a year and, therefore, the thrust and nature of resettlement should be in uniformity with these conditions," he said.

When people are finally settled on the farms, they should make the best use of the land. He encouraged them to engage in game ranching alongside livestock rearing, which was the mainstay of any agricultural activity in regions of low rainfall.

He also spoke at length on the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme which he said was

meant to unlock the economic wealth of the country into the hands of the indigenous people.

"We should strive to become masters of our destiny rather than to continue working in factories without putting any effort to eventually own these means of production," he said.

On the drought the Vice-President told the gathering that President Mugabe had appointed resident ministers in each province to co-ordinate the distribution of food to all the people, and the Government was doing everything possible to prevent starvation.

Any irregularities in the receipt and distribution of food would be easy to check under the formulated system which would report to a national committee.

The meeting was attended by several Members of Parliament and the local chief, Cde Augustine Masuku. — Ziana.





## Comment

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# Slap in face for communal farmers

FOR a long time to come, the Cold Storage Commission will continue to have problems of trying to persuade communal farmers to destock their cattle, because the manner in which the parastatal handled peasant farmers, anxious to sell off their cattle in the face of the current crippling drought, has left many of them bitter and dissatisfied.

Where cattle were bought, they were paid a pittance, while in some galling cases, the animals were rejected outright. What is a desperate communal farmer expected to do under such circumstances? Because what they received for responding to the call to destock was a slap in the face.

In some cases farmers who had travelled for 20 km to sell their cattle to the CSC found no officials from the parastatal. In others, where agents represented the parastatal, villagers were bitter about the manner in which the cattle were bought and the prices paid. There were no scales and the weights were conjectural. Why does the organisation allow room for doubt and lead the villagers into suspecting that someone is short-changing them?

But what will probably make them more irate is that this sort of conduct is not often encountered in the dealings of the CSC with the large-scale commercial farmers.

Their anger and resentment will further swell when they read about the beef producer price increases announced at the weekend, which will increase the price awarded to beef producers by 25 percent a month for the next four months. When it is considered that some cattle were being bought for as little as \$30, an animal, they will look back and remember how they were treated.

Yet with all the warnings of a severe drought, which has now engulfed the whole Southern African region, the CSC should have worked with representatives of the communal farmers to try and persuade them to destock much earlier — long before the situation had reached the current crisis proportion.

The CSC would have saved a considerable number of the tens of thousands of cattle that have now perished as a result of the drought.

But this is not just a simple exercise of rescuing cattle. The loss so far suffered has far-reaching ramifications. It affects the national herd, which will require years to restore; it will result in restricted beef supplies locally; and will most probably affect Zimbabwe's beef exports to the lucrative European Community markets.

Recent nationwide reports on the CSC operations, aimed at rescuing cattle from drought-stricken areas, show that there is widespread dissatisfaction among farmers over their handling by the parastatal. Cattle were rejected on the basis that they were too thin, while villagers felt their animals were being undervalued.

Effectively, the CSC helped to condemn some of the cattle to death by rejecting them.

In the past there has always been, on the part of the peasant farmers, suspicion over the functions and role of the parastatal, generally being viewed as part of the grand plan to further impoverish villagers by asking them to destock. While considerable progress has been made in demystifying this myth, the particular position adopted by the CSC during this drought will breed resentment.

There are a lot of farmers who are angry with the CSC, because where they responded they found the doors closed to them. For them that's how coming the parastatal is.

# Rotarians to step it out for planet

STAR 30/3/92  
Own Correspondent

The biggest organised running or walking event yet will take place simultaneously in all the world's 24 time zones on May 8, Rotary International's Preserve Planet Earth Day.

The aim is to make the Earth a better place to live in.

The events will start at 8 am in New Zealand

and will proceed around the globe at 8 am in each time zone.

About 1.1 million Rotarians in 172 countries will take part, it is hoped.

The aims are to heighten public awareness and initiate actions to meet urgent environmental needs; to help initiate educational programmes leading to sustainable development; and to stop

the depletion of finite resources and become an annual fund-raising event for environmental programmes.

The organisers say 25 000 children die every day because of unclean water and the number will increase unless changes are made. Environmental abuses are as destructive as nuclear war and far harder to avert, they say.

## Land to go to 'committed' citizens

STAR 30/3/92

GWANDA — (Zimbabwe) Vice-President Joshua Nkomo at the weekend told Zimbabweans to gear themselves for hard work when they are allocated land acquired under the recently passed Land Acquisition Bill.

Addressing a consultative meeting on the land issue and the drought, Dr Nkomo said under-utilisation of land bought by the government should

stop if people wanted the government to give them more land.

Dr Nkomo said only those who showed commitment would be given the land.

He urged Matabeleland residents to start thinking about how best to pursue a combination of cattle and game ranching rather than food crops.

"The time has come

for us to deliver the goods to the people who have been waiting patiently. It is up to us to prove to those who opposed the Bill that we can do as much, if not more, than they could," he said.

He urged Zimbabweans to be masters of their own future by engaging in self-help activities instead of waiting to be employed. — Sapa.

**SPEED QUEEN SPECIALS**

# Two cities dying for water (362)

**Argus Africa News Service**

**HARARE.** — Zimbabwe now has two cities which may die from lack of water.

Residents of Bulawayo, the second largest city with nearly a million inhabitants, are in despair over political infighting and lack of action even after months of grim warnings that by mid-year the taps could run dry.

Now it is the turn of the 125,000 residents of the eastern border city of Mutare who appear to be only weeks away from disaster.

Mutare has taken drastic action to cut water usage. The municipal supply is shut off every other day and households are rationed to 200 litres a day.

Operations at city's hospitals have had to be postponed, factories are going on short time

and some may close and the working week may be reduced to three days. Some tourist resorts have closed.

The national news agency reports that a news blackout has been imposed by the council on water affairs, adding to the confusion.

At the other end of the country the weekend saw a new development with the announcement that a "task force" is to be appointed by the government to launch a new trust to raise money to ensure water supplies for Bulawayo.

Last October concerned residents working with the Matabeleland North provincial governor, General Jevan Maseko, and deputy Home Affairs minister Mr Dumiso Dabengwa formed a trust fund to raise money for a pipeline to bring water to the city from the

Zambezi River 450 km away.

The new task force will take over the funds from the original trust, and accusations that the government had hijacked the project flew about.

Mr Dabengwa and General Maseko, who were criticised at the weekend meeting of political leaders chaired by Vice-President Joshua Nkomo, said there was no need to panic. The R3,6 million raised so far was safe and they were happy the government had now involved.

Just how much water Bulawayo has left is still unclear. The city council says July will see the end of municipal supplies. The Ministry of Water Resources and Development says the dams can go on supplying until the end of the year — in time for the next rains.

# Zimbabwe to resume sale of ivory despite Cites ruling

362

**HARARE**—Zimbabwe has decided to sell its ivory stocks in spite of the ruling by the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) barring trade.

"We have about 25 000 tons of ivory in our stock. We are to start selling this ivory with immediate effect even if it means dealing outside the Cites umbrella," National Parks and Wildlife Management Department director Willie Nduku said.

Southern African states assured the recent Cites meeting in Kyoto that they had no intention of behaving irresponsibly as a result of the Cites decision.

Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana and Namibia decided to form the Southern

African Centre for Ivory Marketing (Sacin), which meets in Namibia on April 14.

Zimbabwean Environment and Tourism Minister Herbert Murerwa said the Sacin countries would remain members of Cites and continue to fight the ivory trade ban.

At the Cites conference in Japan, early this month, Zimbabwe proposed the downlisting of African elephants to Appendix II, which allows limited and controlled trade from Appendix I, which prohibits all commercial trade.

Although Zimbabwe, along with Malawi, Botswana and Namibia had the guarded support of the Cites secretariat, the World Conservation Union and the World Wildlife

Fund, the southern African nations decided to withdraw their proposal when it became clear they would be badly defeated if the issue went to an open vote.

Botswana delegate Ponatshego Kedikwe, who withdrew the proposal on behalf of the four states, said: "We are indeed extremely perplexed. It seems to us that the goalposts have been removed and this brings into doubt the integrity of Cites."

Most parties went to the conference with fixed positions often based on wrong perceptions that effectively blocked any ability to respond to better or enhanced understanding of the issues involved.

One delegate said most conservationists had not understood Zimbabwe's position and that there had been a lot of misinformation from western non-governmental organisations on its management of wildlife resources. He said most parties in Cites took Zimbabwe to be the base for illegal ivory marketing. Instead, Zimbabwe had invested in a policy which promoted wildlife's high economic value.

□ National Parks Board sources have previously indicated SA will not join any "rebel" ivory marketing initiative. They said while SA agreed that limited ivory sales served conservation, it would be politically unwise to embark on rebel sales. — Sapa.

## Judge wants Aids tests for rapists

STAR 31/3/92  
Star Africa Service

HARARE — A judge in Zimbabwe has suggested that a person convicted of rape or an unnatural sexual offence be made to take a blood test to see if he is carrying the Aids virus or is suffering from some other incurable sexually transmitted disease.

Mr Justice Robinson said if the test showed an HIV positive result, this could be taken into account should another similar offence be committed. The convicted person would have to sign an acknowledgment that he was aware of the result and consequences.

He was jailing a man of 60 for two years for an act of sodomy with a teenager. In mitigation the man said the boy had consented.

Mr Justice Robinson said the man's action was despicable and a prison sentence was called for and justified.

# Host of concessions urged to foster Zimbabwean businesses

STAR 31/3/92

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By Robin Drew  
Star Africa Service

**HARARE** — A parliamentary select committee has recommended that black businessmen in Zimbabwe be given tax concessions and other special favours to encourage them to play a bigger role in the economy.

In its first interim report, the committee, whose task was to examine all aspects of an indigenisation policy, urges the government to adopt a definite policy decision to support the indigenous entrepreneur.

Among its recommendations is one calling for a special tax regime for business people.

The benefits in their formative years would include exemption from payment of duties on machinery, tax holidays of three to eight years, a 60 percent reduction of business taxes on sales for five years, 30 percent of the cost of installations to be tax deductible, and double deductions for the cost of

transport.

The report, now before parliament, says Zimbabwe should formulate a policy along the same lines as one in Malaysia.

This aims at ensuring that within one generation the Malaysian indigenous people (the Bumiputera) would own and manage at least 30 percent of the total commercial and industrial activities in all categories and scales of operation and become full partners in the economic life of the nation.

## Total share

The report says the intention was that within 20 years Malaysians would account for about 70 percent of the total share capital of limited companies, and of this figure 30 percent would be in the hands of the indigenous people.

Other Malaysians would hold the balance of 40 percent. The rest would be held by multinationals.

The report recommends the formation of a nation-

al reconstruction fund to support the creation of an indigenous commercial and industrial community.

It devotes a considerable part of the first report to the land issue and urges the adoption of a new land tenure policy.

The granting of individual title to residential and arable stands in communal and resettlement areas should be examined, it says.

A change would not disrupt traditional life, but would improve it by conserving land resources through individual ownership.

The report again refers to Malaysia and to Kenya where it says former settler farms have been subdivided into smaller units and rural areas divided to afford individual title.

It says a major problem facing the indigenous people is the difficulty in obtaining loan and credit facilities from commercial banks and other institutions because of the absence of collateral, linked to the absence of title

deeds.

This is why most established indigenous businesses have failed.

The report says the former settler regime deliberately hindered economic advancement of the indigenous people through a land tenure system that deprived them of an economic base related to land resources.

## Programme

The land question is central to any indigenous programme, it says.

On the need for affirmative action, it says laws should be passed to state specifically the percentage of government tender contracts to go to indigenous contractors, anti-trust laws should be passed to ensure maximum domestic competition and to guard against monopolies, and that the constitution be amended so that the provision dealing with property ownership be harmonised with the intended indigenisation.

# Ivory trading 'not justified'

3/13/92

ZIMBABWE's resumption of ivory trading was not justified unless it was guaranteed not to become a conduit for illegal ivory trade — a guarantee Zimbabwe could not provide, Wildlife Society of Southern Africa executive director Tony Ferrar said yesterday.

However, Zimbabwe did have too many elephants. The country had a moral obligation to other ivory-producing countries to ensure controls against the introduction of illegal ivory into any of the phases of its transactions.

It was vital to openly demonstrate income derived from ivory sales was passed directly to conservation agencies and rural communities. — Sapa.

# Murder trial judgment begins

8/000 3/13/92

SUSAN RUSSELL

JUDGMENT in the murder trial of five Numsa members and a man they allegedly hired to help with an intimidation campaign against non-striking colleagues at Haggie Rand, in which five people were killed, began in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Shop stewards' chairman Richard Ngobeni and worker representatives Jeffrey Mshali, Malvert Ngubane, Malan Khumalo and Samuel Malepo, have pleaded not guilty to five counts of murder, nine counts of attempted murder, two counts of arson and one count each of unlawfully possessing firearms and ammunition.

Joseph Bhengu, allegedly hired as a "hit man" by leaders of the intimidation campaign, also pleaded not guilty on all 16 counts.

Ngobeni and the other Numsa members on trial were dismissed after an illegal strike in October 1989.

Judge du Plessis, sitting with two assessors, said it was most probable that the gatherings of dismissed workers during the dispute were organised by a workers' representative group known as the "committee of 10" as claimed by Abram Keele, an alleged accomplice of the six who turned State witness.

Ngobeni, the judge said, was clearly a member of the committee or intimately involved with it. As committee members, the other Numsa members would have been regarded as leaders by co-workers.

All the victims except one worked in the wire mill section. The one exception had been in the company of Joseph Bhengu, he was attacked.

"This common factor renders the possibility that the attacks were individually planned remote," Du Plessis said. "Furthermore it indicates the attacks were planned by people opposed to the continual working of the victims."

Judgment will continue today.

# Railways police set to return

A SECURITY force similar to the disbanded SA Railways Police could soon be patrolling trains and railway stations if high-level talks between the SA Rail Commuter Corporation and the SAP are successful.

This was disclosed yesterday by MID J J Nel, who said the carriage on the trains since July last year had led the corporation to investigate all possible means of ending train violence.

The Railways Police was integrated into the SAP in 1986.

"The corporation and the SAP are investigating the possibility of a dedicated security force to concentrate on the security of commuters and their environment, such as railway stations and trains," Nel said.

Police stations are also planned for railway property. — Sapa.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Township aid ended

THE Pretoria Regional Services Council is to terminate financing of an upgrading contract for Atteridgeville township, which includes the installation of "budget energy control" meters.

A spokesman said the decision was taken following opposition to the meters, which were installed because they allowed residents to control electricity bills and eliminated complaints of inaccurate meter reading. He said obstruction by residents had jeopardised the project. The local residents' organisation had failed to convince residents not to hinder the installation of the meters.

### Sanco to convene

THE newly launched SA National Civics Organisation (Sanco) would convene for the first time on April 11, Civics Association of Southern Transvaal general secretary Dan Mofokeng said yesterday. Sanco, launched in Uitenhage earlier this month, is headed by Numsa general secretary Moses Mayekiso.

### Concern for minorities

US ambassador to the UN Andrew Young yesterday said SA minorities would have to be protected in any negotiated constitution. He is in SA as a member of the International Olympics Committee.

### Minister appointed

CAVENDISH MP P I Devan has been appointed Housing and Agriculture Minister in the House of Delegates Ministers' Council with effect from April 1.

REPORTS: Sapa, Business Day Reporter.

# Zimbabwe trade delegation to visit

B1 Day 31/3/92 (362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — In the first initiative of its kind since independence in 1980, Zimbabwe is dispatching a 30-member trade promotion delegation to Johannesburg next week.

"Now that SA is firmly moving on the road to becoming part of the international community, it is essential it does not see the southern African region only as a market for its products," said Zimtrade's director of export development, Mike Humphrey, who is organising the visit.

"If South Africans are to trade with the region, they (should not) make the mistake Zimbabwe made in 1980 with its neighbouring countries

"We managed successfully to antagonise almost all our trading partners in the region by running up sustained trade imbalances in our favour.

"SA really has to learn from that," he said.

Humphrey said Zimtrade, which had recently taken over the trade promotion functions in the trade and commerce ministry, believed the Zimbabwean economy was well placed to supply the middle income group who were generating more wealth as a result of recent changes in the country.

The delegation arriving in Johannesburg next week would contain representatives from 26 companies in the clothing and textiles sector, the footwear and leather sector, the furniture and wood products sector, and the processed food sector.

"We have proved to be competitive in these SA markets with these products," Humphrey said.

He noted SA remained Zimbabwe's largest trading partner. In 1990, the volume of visible imports and exports exceeded R1,2bn.

Zimbabwe's trade deficit in that year was more than R500m in SA's favour.

Observers here note the state-run Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation is for the first time sending a camera crew to Johannesburg to accompany the delegation. It is believed this has cabinet approval.

While in Johannesburg, the Zimbabweans will be meeting their counterparts in Safto and JCCI.

Negotiations on Zimbabwe's proposed new trade agreement with SA have been continuing in Pretoria.

At independence in 1980, President Robert Mugabe inherited Rhodesia's 1964 vintage pact with SA, which now needs urgent updating in view of changes in the two economies in the intervening years.

Although Mugabe has given no hint of relaxing his longstanding ban on contact at ministerial level with the SA government, dispatch of the delegation raises relations to a new level.

Senior finance minister Bernard Chidzero has acknowledged that expanding Zimbabwe's trade links with SA is essential for the success of Zimbabwe's R32bn economic structural adjustment programme, supported by the World Bank.



# Wildlife man attacks ivory trade revival

STAR 31/3/92 362

Zimbabwe's decision to resume selling its ivory was yesterday strongly condemned by the Wildlife Society of Southern Africa.

The society's executive director, Tony Ferrar, said the resumption of ivory trading was not justified either politically or practically unless it could be guaranteed not to be a conduit for the illegal ivory trade.

"Adequate ivory trade controls do not at present exist in any of the traditional ivory importing countries, nor can Zimbabwe provide such guarantees for its own ivory exports," said Mr Ferrar.

Responding to reports that Zimbabwe intended to start selling its legal ivory stockpile immediately, Mr Ferrar conceded that the unilateral decision could be justified by the country having too many elephants.

"But it is politically unfortunate because it will deepen the rift between wildlife managers of southern and eastern Africa."

This rift had become evident at the recent Cites meeting in Japan.

Mr Ferrar said Zimbabwe had a moral obligation to other ivory producing countries to ensure there were controls against the introduction of illegal ivory into any of the phases

of its selling transactions.

"This would be best achieved by conducting a transaction open to inspection by independent agencies such as the TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce) network."

Mr Ferrar said Zimbabwe should now be prepared for widespread censure from the international media, and countries sympathetic to its needs would have to be reassured that the initiative did not jeopardise a later return to well-controlled, legal ivory trading that had broader support.

"The positive aspect is that it will test the assumption that any legal trade will act as a spur to the illegal trade," Mr Ferrar said.

"If Zimbabwe conducts its transactions openly, it is unlikely that such a price rise will occur."

He said it was vital that Zimbabwe openly demonstrated that income derived from ivory sales was passed directly to conservation agencies and rural communities.

"Anything less than a full disclosure of the use of this income would result in justified censure by the entire pro-conservation community — friend and foe alike," Mr Ferrar said. — Sapa.