ZIMBABWE—GENERAL

1990

JUNE — DEC.
Tekere meets Sisulu, praises Mandela

JOHANNESBURG: — The leader of Zimbabwe's opposition, Mr Edgar Tekere, on Wednesday met Mr Walter Sisulu, the internal leader of the ANC.

Mr Tekere said he also hoped to meet ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela, who is recuperating in a private Johannesburg clinic after an unspecified operation on Monday.

"Mandela is a great man," the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM) leader said.

"He served 27 years in jail for his beliefs while I served only 18 years," the ZUM leader added.

According to Mr Tekere, officials at the South African trade mission in Harare had expressed concern about his visit and said they did not want anything to happen to him in South Africa.

He said he took this to be a reference to right-wing groups in the Republic.

"The release of Nelson Mandela and the dialogue between him and President De Klerk was an extremely significant regional event," Mr Tekere said.

Events in South Africa made him decide to visit the country for the first time, he added.

His visit was to assess the feelings of political leaders and "the man in the street." — Sapa
BULAWAYO. — A former member of Zimbabwe's paramilitary forces was sentenced to a total of 42 years in jail, or an effective 22 years, by a magistrate after confessing to spying for South Africa.

Shadreck Ndlovu, 21, who spied on the Zimbabwean army and the African National Congress between September 1998 and May this year, said he surrendered to local authorities last month after his South African controllers accused him of being a double agent.

Ndlovu pleaded guilty to eight charges under the Official Secrets Act. Jailing Ndlovu on Thursday, a Bulawayo magistrate said part of the sentence would run concurrently, so he would serve a maximum of 22 years.

Ndlovu said he was recruited by a South African army intelligence officer while working on a farm in South Africa close to the Zimbabwean border. — Sapa-Reuters
Women on the warpath over land policies

By TREVOR GRUNDY

Women in Zimbabwe are on the warpath when it comes to land resettlement policies. They say they are better farmers than men, that men are lazy and that the government should let them own land and not parcel it out only to men.

At a seminar organized by the National Farmers' Association recently, 60 women told government officials that while women are breaking their backs in fields, men are in the pub getting drunk.

"It is just not fair," said one female delegate. "You never see the men until money from the crops starts rolling in."

The government is taking the demands seriously because 60 percent of the population is female and women rule the roost at voting time.

Zimbabwe is an exception to the African rule as women are cabinet ministers, senior civil servants and hold the reins in big business.

Women start farming work at about 6am and finish 12 hours later. On commercial farms they work in Dickensian conditions, grading tobacco for 12 to 14 hours a day.

But when it comes to handing out land rights women are at the back of the queue.

The Mugabe government has promised radical land reform programmes but it has a mandate to rule, once again following the March general election.

One farmer from the tobacco region of Marondera, added: "We have given the president the car and the petrol to drive to land reform. If he doesn't get there, there will be revolution, corruption, you name it."

After 30 years of independence and a war fought around the land issue, 4500 white commercial farmers own 40 percent of the best arable land. Some 900,000 black peasants seek a living from 30 percent of the land in the worst rainfall areas."

---
**Banana line's on track for maiden profit**

**Business Times Reporter**

IT's been a long haul, but Port Shepstone & Alfred County Railway (ACR) is heading for profitability. The company, funded by foreign and SA railway bonds and a R1.6-million share issue two years ago, reopened the 122-kilometre narrow gauge line between Harding and Port Shepstone in Natal after SA Transport Services withdrew.

ACR ran up costs of R1.5m and revenue reached R700,000, or 47% of costs, in its first year. Income climbed to almost R2.2m, or 81% of costs of R2.8m, in the second.

The railway has had to counter tough competition from road hauliers, says managing director Allen Jorgensen.

In the last year that Sata ran the line revenue amounted to R1m and operating costs were R8.5m.

Mr Jorgensen says: “We’re doing well enough to encourage investors to make an additional R500 000 available if it is needed.”

---

**Mobil in valley oil hunt**

**Business Times Reporter**

AMERICAN giant Mobil has launched a search for oil in Zimbabwe’s Zambezi Valley.

Mobil Exploration (Zimbabwe) has been established to oversee a R31-million exploration programme in a 31,540 sq km concession. The initial project is expected to run for four years.

Aerial survey work by two British companies began on April 1.

The UK company ULP will carry out a two-month survey to consider the environmental impact because of an outcry by conservationists when the concession was granted.

The project is the first co-ordinated search for oil in Zimbabwe by a major company. The former Rhodesian Government carried out limited drilling for oil and gas in the Lowveld in the late 60s without promising results.

---

**Peanuts**

The company operates the Banana Express in the tourist season, but it contributes peanuts compared with earnings from timber on the coastward trip and general cargo inland.

ACR estimates that it has 30% of all timber carried in the area. Main competitor Haven Hill Transport has 45%.

Mr Jorgensen says: “The line was discredited when we took it over, but we have turned it around. We think our case is strong enough now to ask the railways to help us get more cargo.”

ACR’s drive for freight is being helped by the poor state of roads in the district.
Investors still avoid Zimbabwe

HARARE — A year after Zimbabwe unveiled an ambitious investment code promising easier rules and tax incentives, hoped-for foreign capital has yet to flow in.

The excitement which followed the initial release of the code has faded and government-backed missions to London, Paris and Tokyo to sell the blueprint have not yielded capital. One banker called the code a "damp squib".

Zimbabwe promised tax concessions and dividend repatriation terms in the code and made it easier for foreign investors to borrow on the local money market. It also set up an investment centre to clear away red tape and speed up approval for new projects.

But foreign and local investors remain reluctant to commit themselves to releasing fresh capital.

"The Zimbabwe government's restated commitment to ideologies and policies discarded by the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe is having a very adverse impact on its international investment image," the University of Zimbabwe said in an opinion survey.

Businessmen complain of inconsistent policies on profits, taxes and dividends and say fears about foreign control of the economy are frustrating potential investors.

Businessmen say political stability in Zimbabwe and a lowering of tension in the region since SA began its reforms last year have improved prospects for investment in southern Africa.

But there are lingering worries that Mugabe's plan to establish one-party rule in Zimbabwe will scare off foreign investors in particular.

Unemployed

The lack of new investment has stifled growth in the decade since independence from Britain, with the economy expanding an average 3% a year, just above the rate of population growth.

Some estimates put unemployment at up to one million.

The government plans to liberalize imports, freeze wage bargaining and partially deregulate banking to help deal with the problem, but some experts fear Zimbabwe might have missed the investment train. — Sapa-Reuters.
Life under black rule not enough

The youth of Zimbabwe are restless, expecting more from the post-colonial era, reports ROBIN DREW of The Star's Africa News Service.

HARARE — The rash of strikes experienced in Zimbabwe in recent weeks has been linked by analysts to the generation gap. Nurses and teachers, tax officials and steelworkers have all been demanding a better deal and there are indications that work stoppages will spread to other sections of the workforce.

According to one commentator, writing in a national newspaper, many of the younger people, especially among the professional classes, have taken to the streets to demonstrate their dissatisfaction with their lot. For them, the liberation war and the colonial past are not the most significant events of their lives.

They have grown up in the new Zimbabwe and are not to be satisfied with being told how lucky they are to be living under a black government.

Instead they see prices rising month by month, their own standards of living falling and for those who were not able to secure homes of their own some years back, very little if any prospect of ever being able to afford a decent house in a suburb of their choice.

There has been an outcry in Bulawayo, for example, where the city council last week proposed increases of 20 percent and more for water, rates and rents.

Meat and milk

Beef and milk prices have gone up and increases are expected shortly in the cost of cooking oil and margarine.

Yet employees have been told that in the general wage and salary review held at this time every year, most of them can expect no more than a 10 percent increase.

The teachers who have been on strike for more than a week are demanding a 33 percent rise. Other civil servants want 40 percent.

The National Council of the Public Service Association which represents 33,000 government workers has expressed its solidarity with the strikers and has urged the government to pursue vigorously the question of reasonable salaries for all civil servants.

One commentator here saw the nurses' strike as a result of serious political miscalculation. It was described as the direct result of an attempt to reconcile the two diverse elements of political expediency and economic reality... President Mugabe while on the electioneering trail expressed shock at the conditions for teachers and nurses and promised a new package for the nurses within a couple of days. When it did not appear, the junior nurses left their wards.

It took the president's personal intervention to get them back.

Written guarantees

However the teachers who have been gathering every day in the city centres, their new "common rooms" insist on written guarantees. "We are tired of eating dried fish" read one placard. "Strike until final victory," said another.

The Minister of Education, Ms Fay Chung, a Zimbabwean of Chinese extraction was told to go back to China.

Ms Chung and the Minister in charge of the Public Service Mr Eddison Zvobgo, have tried addressing the strikers and have told them that until they go back to work, there will be no announcement about increases.

The teachers were told to be back at work but hundreds in Harare alone defied the order.

As they gathered in Africa Unity Square, news was received of a strike by artisans employed by the Gweru Municipality which is likely to affect water and electricity services. They are demanding a 20 percent increase.

The striking artisans, said they were waiting for officers from the local fire brigade, and ambulance crews to join them.

President Mugabe is presently out of the country again, this time on a three-day official visit to Indonesia.
Police and strikers clash in Zimbabwe

Harare. — Riot police used teargas and batons here yesterday to break up meetings of striking teachers, income tax assessors and salary bureau staff. Several children were knocked down in the stampede to escape the teargas. None was badly hurt.

In Bulawayo, police failed to distinguish shoppers from 3,000 demonstrating teachers, whom they pursued:

"This is war. This is only the beginning," said one teacher in Harare.
political or economic advantage to the ruler. The people's vote in elections is manipulated to ensure the election of a representative favorable to the government. The opposition is silenced or suppressed. The media is controlled to spread government propaganda. The government is aligned with international powers to maintain its position. The government controls the economy to favor its allies and suppress opposition. The government's actions are justified as necessary for national security.

In summary, the government's actions are manipulated to maintain control, suppress opposition, and maintain power, often through illegal or unethical means, while the people are left with little or no voice in the process.
Half a loaf

Harare Stock Exchange is surging. The industrial index jumped 515 points from 785 in October to 1,300 in May. The January-April turnover reached Z$40m compared to the 1989 total of Z$175m.

Analysts say the surge reflects not only increased investment in Zimbabwe but also fears of galloping inflation as President Robert Mugabe's administration wipes away more than a decade of price control. Officially, inflation is hovering around 15% but economists say the true rate is nearer 30%.

"People are buying stocks because they don't want to be stuck holding cash," says a broker. He adds: "The market is about right for the first time since 1984." In that year confidence plummeted when Mugabe's economic experts nationalised external stocks which accounted for 85% of the exchange's business. The same year government required non-residents to liquidate assets.

This forced millions of shares on to the market and the industrial index plunged to 100 by September — from a peak of 475 in December 1980, which was a year of good rainfall marked by the anticipation of generous Western aid for newly independent Zimbabwe.

The market didn't clear the hump until 1987 when prices of base metals strengthened and a three-year dry spell was broken.

Brokers say the exchange is still driven by pension funds. Institutions like Anglo American and Old Mutual hold 70% of all shares. Analysts blame the imbalance on socialist economic policies which have deterred many companies from expanding.

Now, as one authorised dealer says, "even partial reforms will help the exchange. Businesses are used to being promised the earth and getting only half."
Mugabe peace gamble

Sunday Times Reporter
Harare

President Robert Mugabe said yesterday Mozambican rebels and government officials would meet in Malawi soon for preliminary talks on ending 16 years of war. The state news agency Ziana quoted Mr Mugabe as saying he hoped the talks would succeed.

Mr Mugabe also hoped he and Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi — mediators in the Mozambican peace process — would be invited to the final discussions.

Mr Mugabe said he welcomed the latest moves towards a negotiated settlement and was pleased the rebels had agreed to meet for talks.

Neutral

Mozambique's warring parties have squabbled over a venue for their planned meeting since the beginning of April, when President Joaquim Chissano proposed direct talks.

The left-wing Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) government said it preferred to meet in neighbouring Malawi, which it said was neutral and accessible to both sides.

Rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) wanted the meeting to be held in Kenya, where a series of indirect contacts have taken place over the last year.

The Frelimo government said this week Renamo had accepted its proposal for direct talks in Malawi, but rebel spokesmen in Portugal immediately denied this.
Land acquisition to begin

HARARE — Zimbabwes president Robert Mugabe said at the weekend that his government would soon embark on its land acquisition programme, which would mean taking over some commercial farmland and redistributing it to land-hungry people.

Mugabe, guest of honour at celebrations marking a Zanu-PF election victory in Mashonaland West, said legal drafts were being put to the final touches to a Bill which would soon be brought before parliament, reports Ziana national news agency.

"This law will enable government to acquire land from the commercial sector or any other sector for purposes of resettlement," he said.

The acquisitions would not be arbitrary, he said, and there would be no "necessary consultation". Some commercial farmers had already agreed to give up some of their land.

"Some of the people who will be affected are those with land adjacent to communal land. We feel there should be continuity of communal areas, but there should be no disruption to the extent of affecting production in these areas," he said.

The government also had plans to limit how much land one could own. This, he said, would affect some multinational companies which had large tracts of unused or under-utilised land. — Sapa.
Mugabe firm on one-party

HARARE. - Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe on Saturday re-affirmed his government's commitment to a one-party state on the grounds that it "guaranteed peace, unity and development".

Speaking at a rally 100km south-west of Harare, Mr Mugabe said a multiplicity of parties would cause unnecessary competition, disagreements and disharmony among people.

"My travels in many parts of Africa, Asia and Europe have shown me that elections in those countries with many parties are characterized by killings - many killings of people. If that is democracy, we can do without it," he said. - Sapa
Doctor sounds AIDS alert in Zimbabwe

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — An expatriate doctor who has been working as a specialist physician at Harare’s Parirenyatwa Hospital, the most modern in Zimbabwe, says that AIDS is almost certainly the commonest cause of admission to adult medical wards at the hospital and at the city’s other main hospital.

Dr. Stan Houston said AIDS had already killed more young children than any other illness at the two hospitals.

The number of people who will die in Zimbabwe because they are already infected is not known, he says, because the kind of study needed to determine it has not been done. “It must certainly be into the hundreds of thousands and it is growing daily,” he said in a letter published in the magazine Parade.

Dr. Houston said AIDS had killed more people in Uganda than had died in the past 15 years of war in that country.

“It will certainly kill more Zimbabweans than any conflict we could conceivably become involved in,” he wrote.

He said an AIDS control programme had been in operation for two years, but it was too little, too late.

Health-related information had been subjected to official control. At one stage doctors were instructed by the Ministry of Health that diagnosis of AIDS or reference to HIV, the virus causing the disease, must not be written on death certificates. This restriction had now been withdrawn.
Releases are 'bad news' for Harare 5

ANC leaders get big welcome from trialists

Supreme Court Reporter

FORMER exiled ANC leaders yesterday morning received an enthusiastic welcome in the Supreme Court where Mr Tony Yengeni and his co-accused greeted them from the dock.

They were, however, required to wait for an hour due to the late arrival of the police convoy bringing Mr Yengeni and his co-accused, Ms Jenny Schreiner, Mrs Lanika Yengeni, Mr Michael Lunebargo, Mr Mbutu Ndaku and Mr Wellington Nkwanda, to court.

When they entered the dock, they turned to face the gallery and with a clenched-fist salute said in unison: "Good morning comrades leaders."

The leaders, ANC information and publicity secretary Mr Pallio Jordan, national executive committee members Mr Steve Tshwete and Mr James Stuart and most of the 28 released Robben Island prisoners, greeted them in return.

Mr D P de Villiers, QC, for the defence, expressed regret at the delay and said it was because of dissatisfaction by the accused last week over the quality of the vehicle in which they were brought to court.

They had been plagued by the cold and by exhaust fumes in their van.

The cross-examination of Major Andre du Toit — a security police expert witness — then continued and focused on his interpretation and comment on documents and cryptic notes allegedly found in Ms Schreiner's Wynberg flat.

Major Du Toit reiterated that notes written on toilet paper and found in the Parow police station cell where Ms Schreiner was detained in terms of Section 29, was a communication to ANC cadres outside.

Ms Schreiner had intended to smuggle the note — which included a list of names — out of her cell to tip off the ANC about the detention of its members, he said.

The trial continues today.

Mr Justice S Mokovhe was on the bench. Mr T N Tseke and Mr J V Kekal were the reporters. Mr Hendrik Krom SC, with Mr Johan van Veen and Mrs Sandra Steyn, appeared for the state.
Bethlehem said the figures were alarming but roughly in line with a Nafta ruling a few years ago.

From Page 1

The shooting of workers union

Railroad employees joined in

Here are the plans:

We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid. We are planning a swap of shoes. The shoes are to be paid and the shoes are to be paid.
Red Cross

Soc.

agreement

HARARE — The Zimbabwe government and the Institute for Development of Southern African Red Cross Societies have signed an agreement which allows the institute to operate from Harare, report the country's Ziana news agency.
Mugabe’s rhetoric harmful, says tobacco farmers’ chief

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s 1,400 tobacco growers, under attack at home from land-hungry peasants and abroad from the anti-smoking lobby, yesterday launched a powerful counter offensive.

Retiring president of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association Alan Ravenscroft lashed out at members of Robert Mugabe’s ruling Zanu (PF) party for subjecting commercial farmers to “an unrivalled barrage of rhetoric” during the recent general election, which had been “willfully destructive” of an industry earning 25% of Zimbabwe’s foreign exchange.

Speaking at the ZTA’s annual congress, he said the association was anxious about the industry’s future productive base, because farms in the tobacco belt, taken over by government for resettlement by tribal cultivators, were “virtually non-productive” in good seasons and a burden on state famine relief in adverse ones.

Under-utilised land, especially that owned by absentee landlords, should be brought into full production if Zimbabwe was to cash in on the growing world market for its high-flavour tobacco, said Ravenscroft. This would help alleviate the unemployment crisis.

He predicted that vast new demand from eastern Europe would help counter-balance the onslaught of the anti-tobacco lobby, which he accused of ignoring facts.

A visiting Irish tobacco trade expert, John Lepere, warned that a new cultural movement was gaining momentum in the West, motivated not by health workers but “social engineers”.

“Tobacco is under attack from a new puritanism. The Victorian nanny is making a wonderful come back and she is a killing par excellence,” said Lepere.

Ravenscroft announced that growers will aim for a 146m kg crop in the 1990-91 season.

Problems

One delegate, D H Erasmus, attacked government ministers for failing to take up invitations to attend the congress, and hear about problems afflicting an industry which employed a million people and produced the country’s major export.

Minister of Commerce and Industry Kumbirai Kangai was reportedly summoned to a State House meeting with President Mugabe at short notice.
Prisoners are anxious over release moves

By Robin Drew,
The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — Five people being held in prison in Zimbabwe for involvement in alleged South African-sponsored operations against the ANC are anxiously awaiting word of release after news that 48 political prisoners in South Africa have been freed.

Lawyer Robin Hartley, who visited them at the weekend, said they feared that they had been overlooked in negotiations for the reciprocal release of prisoners.

Death sentence

Three of the men are under sentence of death for the murder of a man after an ANC house was bombed in Bulawayo. They are Kevin Woods, Michael Smith and Phillip Conway. An appeal is pending.

Other prisoners visited by the lawyer were Barry Bawden, serving 40 years for his part in a South African commando raid on ANC properties in Harare, and Leslie Lesia, a South African national who has been held without trial for more than three years in connection with the death of an ANC official's wife in a bomb blast.

Mr Hartley said the men were anxious about their fate.

Also in prison are Odile Harington, the Johannesburg woman serving 12 years for spying on the ANC, and Denis Beahan, a British subject also from Johannesburg, who is serving a life sentence for an abortive attempt to free South African agents from prison.

Mr Hartley did not see them, because he does not represent them, but said he believed they shared the same anxiety about being overlooked.

South Africa is understood to have made representations to Zimbabwe about the release of at least some of the prisoners, but President Mugabe's government is believed to have said it has its own review system.

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela said on his last visit to Harare that the issue was one between Pretoria and Zimbabwe.
Price controls cost ZSR R5.3-m

by Robin Drew

The Star’s Africa News Service
HARARE — Zimbabwe’s sugar refining company, ZSR Ltd, lost R5.3 million in its refining and distribution operations in the last financial year due, it says, entirely to the delay by Government in granting a price increase.

The loss came despite a growing demand for refined sugar and a 6.8 percent increase in sales and record production levels from the refineries.

A company statement said the price increase being requested by the industry was reasonable and, if granted, the cost would still compare favourably with other countries. A recent survey showed that sugar in Zimbabwe was the cheapest in the world, said the statement.

The statement called for policy changes at the highest level in Government to correct the serious shortcomings in the price control system.

It said it was astonishing that other activities of the company in less rigidly-controlled areas were now subsidising refined sugar.

The future of the company was in grave jeopardy, said the statement, unless there was a new dispensation from Government with regard to price control administration.

Other activities by the ZSR group made a profit before tax of R5.1 million, thus reducing the overall loss to R204 000.
HARARE: Anti-apartheid activists will lead a demonstration in Harare today at the offices of the South African Trade Mission to mark Soweto Day tomorrow.

The Liberation Support Committee, one of whose members was severely injured in a parcel bomb blast this year, has organised the demonstration which is expected to be addressed by a senior minister in the Zimbabwe government.

The Star's Africa News Service.
PLO poised to buy Zimbabwean farms

HARARE — Zimbabwean tobacco farmers are alarmed by PLO moves to buy commercial farms in the Trelawney and Beatrice areas near Harare.

PLO ambassador to Zimbabwe All Hall-meh said last week: "What we are planning to do is go into joint co-operation with the government, and this will be signed at any time from now."

The Zimbabwean Tobacco Association’s attempt to gain clarification brought a letter from Secretary for Agriculture Boniface Ndimande confirming the PLO farming venture was on the drawing board.

"At a time when the government is planning to embark on a fullscale resettlement of land-hungry Zimbabweans, it is very disturbing to hear that a foreign organisation has obtained approval from the state to undertake such a move," one tobacco farmer told the Zimbabwe Financial Gazette.

President Robert Mugabe has announced the government plans to buy land from the remaining 4400 commercial farmers for a programme of peasant resettlement.

PLO representatives are reported to have visited Carisbrooke farm in the Beatrice area, 50km south of Harare. The farm is occupied by units of the Zimbabwe Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) after being seized from Joshua Nkomo in 1963. Nkomo’s property is being returned to him following his unity pact with President Mugabe.

PLO representatives have also inspected a farm in the Trelawney area, 40km north west of Harare."

MICHAEL HARTNACK
Zimbabwe plans to buy out Zisco's minorities

HARARE — Zimbabwe's government was considering buying out remaining minority shareholders in the state-controlled Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Company (Zisco), Industry and Commerce Minister Kumbirak separately.

Kangai said at the weekend.

Touring the strike-troubled works at Redcliff, near Kwekwe, Kangai promised to "make sure justice is done" to the five private organisations — Anglo American Corporation, Mestina Development Company, Lancashire Steel, Stewarts & Lloyds, and Tank Investments.

Financial sources here reported the minority shareholders recently threatened legal action when Zimbabwe's government ordered Zisco to issue extra stock, without approval of a shareholders' meeting, in return for subsides which last year totalled $58,8m.

Although, technically, government only holds 49.74% of the shares, Zisco is treated as a parastatal and has a political appointee, Denis Divaris, as chairman. Divaris, once former prime minister Ian Smith's chief whip, was among the first to defect from the Rhodesian Front after independence in 1980.

Kangai said it had been agreed to set up a committee to discuss "who owes who how much" at the same time a rehabilitation and modernisation programme was examined.

Government intended to settle the matter amicably and ensure the minority shareholders were not prejudiced, he said.

Government was also determined to transform the loss-making Zisco into a viable institution because its closure would cost the country about $500m a year, Kangai said. ANO reports he added the government would continue to subsidise the company because of the foreign currency it earned.

"Zisco's contribution to our economy is immense, and I think this is why government continues to pour subsidies into it. The foreign currency which it earns from the international markets is vital."

In May the cabinet approved Z$1.2bn for Zisco's rehabilitation programme, which would include completion of the first phase of a coke oven rebuild and development of a new iron ore deposit to provide a new sinter plant to feed the blast furnaces.

The programme would also include the development of flat steel products aimed at reducing the country's dependence on imported plate and sheet steel.

Kangai urged the Zisco workers to avoid taking industrial action that would affect the company's progress since Zisco was already operating at a loss.

Last month artisans from Zisco struck for backdated pay rises, but their action was declared illegal under emergency powers.
Govt plans buyout of Zimbabwe steel firm

By Robin Drew
The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government, which owns just under half the shares in the Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Company (Zisco), the lynchpin in the steel industry, may buy out the remaining mainly South African shareholders to take full control.

Industry Minister Kumbirai Kangai has said justice will be done to the minority shareholders consisting of Messina (Transvaal), Anglo American Corporation, Lancashire Steel, Stewarts and Lloyds and Tank Investments Zimbabwe.

Approved

Last month the Government approved a rehabilitation programme for Zisco costing R1.3 billion which will include the completion of the first phase of the renovation of the coke oven and the development of a new iron ore deposit at Ripple Creek as well as the production of flat steel products to reduce dependence on imported plate and sheet steel.

Mr Kangai said the Government was determined to transform the loss making company into a viable institution because its closure would cost the country R60 million (about R1.3 billion) a year.

Its contribution to the economy was immense and the Government would continue to subsidise it because of the foreign currency earned from exports.

In the last financial year Zisco made a loss of more than R58 million, bringing the accumulated loss to nearly R200 million. However, the net loss last year fell by more than R20 million from the previous year.

Export sales improved but manufacturing costs increased because of low production levels.

Mr Kangai said a committee had been appointed to discuss the takeover of minority shares. The government intended to ensure the matter was settled amicably.
HARARE - Zimbabwe's schoolteachers have trickled back to work after two weeks on strike over pay. But they have left Education Minister Fay Chung nursing severely wounded feelings.

The minister, a third-generation Zimbabwean of Chinese descent, looked out of her office window at the start of the strike to see black teachers carrying placards telling her to "Go back to China."

"I have been fighting hard to recover from those racist attacks. It's difficult. I hope somebody has the decency to apologise," she said in a voice that betrayed strong emotion.

Sidesteps

Until the strikes, the diminutive, bespectacled ex-teacher had managed to sidestep controversy during nearly three years in charge of Zimbabwe's biggest-spending ministry.

Her racial origins among Zimbabwe's tiny Chinese community had never been an issue, and her appointment by President Robert Mugabe was seen more as a reflection of his desire to promote women to top jobs.

The teachers' strike ended when the government used its emergency powers to threaten them with the sack, leaving the gap between their demands and what the government can afford as wide as ever. Many Zimbabweans are now wondering if their country has created an education system it cannot afford.

In Zimbabwe's first decade of independence the education bill has ballooned from $60 million to $500 million, a quarter of the national budget, while the number of schoolchildren has increased from 120,000 to about three million, one third of the total population.

Chung argues that the massive investment in schooling for blacks was necessary to reverse years of neglect.

"It was necessary for us to democratise the education system at independence. Development requires a core of educated and skilled people and we would have been short on middle management if we had not done this," she said.

Chung, like Mugabe, is a socialist who wears her beliefs on her sleeve. But the teachers' strike showed popular discontent is mounting over bread-and-butter issues.

Salaries

The government stands accused of failing to create jobs for the hundreds of thousands of new school-leavers, who are boosting the unemployment ranks at the rate of 140,000 a year.

The teachers would like free primary education scrapped and the fees used to boost their salaries.

Some 96 per cent of Zimbabwe's 90,000 teachers are non-graduates and earn less than $400 (about R500) a month. Many hundreds are leaving the profession or go to work in neighbouring states like Botswana where salaries and conditions are better.

"Let's face it, free education is just not tenable in our situation. We are a poor country. The government is unable to pay us because of its unrealistic policies. It needs every penny it can raise from fees to pay us well," said one teacher during the strike.

The government has little or no room for manoeuvre in fixing teachers' pay because of its huge impact on the overall deficit, which it is hoping to reduce in next month's budget.

Chung said the issue of abolishing free primary education, introduced at independence, has not been considered. But past hints by Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero have led to speculation that some parents may be asked to pay fees again.

Blackmail

"I don't know," she said tersely, accusing the teachers of blackmail.

"We are as anxious as anybody else to create employment, but the issue of so many unemployed people should not be used to invalidate our successes in the education field," she said.

Before Mugabe appointed her member of parliament in September 1987, Chung headed the ministry of education's planning and curriculum development unit for seven years. She became minister in January 1998.

Her grandparents left China and settled in Harare in 1903, working for Meikles Hotel before opening a bakery which they sold in the late 1960s.

Refugee camps

Born in Harare 49 years ago in a family of nine children, Fay Chung became a teacher in 1962 after an arts degree at the University of Zimbabwe. She lectured in Britain from 1968 before settling in neighbouring Zambia in 1972.

In Zambia Chung joined Mugabe's ZANU PF in 1975, moving with the party to organise education in the refugee camps in Mozambique from where it waged war against white minority rule.

The minister, who has strong backing from Mugabe, still has to establish a constituency beyond the ZANU PF party leadership.

Chung owes her second parliamentary term, like the first, to Mugabe who appointed her in March when she failed to win any seats at party primary elections to pick general election candidates. - Sapa-Reuter.
Insider trading scandal rocks Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

THE sleek stockbroking offices high above Harare were ripe with anxiety and angst this week as a Wall Street-style insider trading scandal rocked the tiny, gentleman’s club that is the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

Zimbabwe’s version of the junk bond and leveraged-takeover debacles that have shaken New York and London centred-on questionable, possibly criminal, methods used to purchase shares in new issues. Two stockbrokers reportedly made unauthorised use of their clients’ stocks and shares to borrow money approved by two bankers, to purchase shares in the recent issue of KCI, a subsidiary of Art Corporation. The brokers are understood to have borrowed $55 million (R44 million) to purchase the new KCl shares and then sold them days later at a profit of about $1 million. The brokers promptly paid off the blank cheque to remove the stocks and bonds from collateral and their clients were none the wiser, richer or poorer.

As members of the financial community expressed less than convincing shock at the “pure greed” displayed by those involved, the two stockbrokers were suspended from the exchange and resigned from their brokerage firm, Sagit Stockbrokers. The two bank officials were suspended. Because of possible criminal charges, the names of the brokers and bankers may not be published.

“It’s Zimbabwe’s biggest financial scandal since independence,” said one Harare financier. “It may seem like small beer compared to New York or London, but millions are involved in any currency.”

Speculation is rife that the doings of the four may have boosted the country’s stock exchange on its unprecedented bull run over the past 12 months. But the general wisdom is that, in the incident is not likely to deflate Zimbabwe’s puffed-up market, because there was no loss to the public and there is widely considered to be “too much money chasing too few good shares.”

A generation gap of sorts has coloured the scandal as the offending brokers are under 30, sport long hair, jeans and drive flashy sportscars in dramatic contrast to the grey-haired, grey flannel existence of the establishment brokers and bankers.

This has led to saccharine utterances by the bankers against the “unethical dealings.”
The triumph of the judiciary

The decision struck down the law

In Zimbabwe

The Constitution of the Republic of Zimbabwe

The judiciary is independent and free from interference by executive or other branches of the Government. The Constitution guarantees that every person has the right to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal. The judiciary is subordinate only to the Constitution. The President, as the Head of State, has no influence or control over the judiciary.
HARARE — Three Zimbabwe mining co-operatives met here this week to discuss the need for a national organisation to streamline their activities.

Opening the meeting, Zimbabwe Mining Development consultant Elieza Kahari said the increase in the number of mining co-operatives should go hand in hand with development of the co-operatives' institutions and structures to make them self-reliant.

He said the co-operatives' performance had improved from an overall turnover of about Z$96 600 in 1987 to almost Z$58m last year.

Kahari expected turnover for 1990 to be "almost Z$58m".

Mining co-operatives now needed an umbrella body to represent their interests and to pool resources at a national level.

He said mining co-operatives faced such problems as lack of capital to buy equipment and finance pre-mining development, the machinery to control and co-ordinate supplies and the financial and technical activities of primary co-operatives.

An umbrella body could also assist liaison and negotiation with government and other bodies. — Sapa.
SA agents in Zim jail say: free us

By Robin Drew, The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — Inmates of a Zimbabwean prison being held for offences committed against the ANC on behalf of South Africa are protesting about the apparent lack of action on their behalf in the release of "political" prisoners by Pretoria and by the ANC.

A lawyer who last week saw six of the seven South African agents said they felt their plight was being overlooked and that their continued detention was unfair.

Released

Mr. Robin Hartley said he had spoken to Kevin Woods, Michael Smith, Philip Conjwayo, Barry Bawden, Leslie Lesia and Denis Beahan.

He had been informed by the attorney for Odile Harington that she too would associate herself with the protest.

Harington is serving a 12-year jail sentence for infiltrating the ANC to spy on the organisation.

The ANC last week released in South Africa Mr. Billy van Zyl, an alleged South African spy who had been held captive.

Apart from Lesia, who has not stood trial but who has been detained for more than two years, the others held in Harare have all been convicted of breaking Zimbabwean law.

Argument in mitigation at their trials made much of the assertion that their actions had been against the ANC and not against Zimbabwe.

South Africa is believed to have made representations in the past but these have been rebuffed by Zimbabwe.

Woods, Smith and Conjwayo are under sentence of death for murder for their involvement in the bomb attack on an ANC house in Bulawayo when the man hired to drive a booby-trapped car was killed in the explosion. An appeal is pending.

Woods and Smith, joined this time by Bawden, were sentenced at another trial to 40 years' imprisonment for their part in attacks on ANC properties in Harare when South African commandos blew up an office and a house. No one was hurt on that occasion. Bawden was also given 40 years.

Beahan is serving a life sentence for his part in the abortive attempt to free South African agents from a Zimbabwean jail.

Lesia is alleged to have supplied the ANC in Maputo with a booby-trapped television set which blew up in Harare, killing a woman.

Mr. Hartley said that Beahan, a British subject, wanted the British government to put pressure on the Zimbabwean government. If he were released, however, he wanted to be returned to South Africa.

Staff Reporter Craig Kotze reports that the ANC may be freed following the release of police spy Billy van Zyl, according to an ANC spokesman in Johannesburg.

The spokesman last night declined to say who or how many people would be released, or when.

Disclosed

Mr. van Zyl's release from the ANC's Quatro detention camp in Angola was disclosed by The Star yesterday after he had been spotted in Port Elizabeth.

It is understood Mr. van Zyl's release followed the personal intervention of the Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok.

Mr. van Zyl was brought to South Africa two weeks ago after being escorted from Lusaka by two senior SAP officers. Mr. Vlok said yesterday after news of the release was reported in The Star.
By Robin Drew
The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE.—Light at the end of the tunnel has been forecast for Zimbabwe's troubled railway system which has lost $125 million last year.

It had great difficulty moving all the traffic. The general manager, M.K. Singh, on loan from India, recently led a delegation to the United States after a year of working closely here with World Bank officials and outside consultants.

The result has been the formulation of a five-year plan which Mr. Singh hopes will see an end to the losses.

Deal

The deal with donor agencies is expected to be signed within the next few months.

It will involve the purchase of new locomotives, rolling stock, and signal equipment, the electrification of marshaling yards and improvements in the management structure and financial practices of the railways.

The negotiations in Washington were successful,” Mr. Singh said.

The provision of more foreign exchange for spares last year helped to clear the backlog of traffic and 20 locomotives were being refitted.

Locomotives were hired from South Africa as a stopgap measure, Mr. Singh said, for the five-year plan to be successful. Fares and rates for freight would have to increase.
Mining exploration at highest level
Economic crisis is at root of discontent

The businessman was angry: "Zambia is not only a one-party state," he said. "We have a one-man party and it's time for that man to go."

As riots rampaged through the streets of Lusaka this week, bottling shops and attacking symbols of wealth, President Kenneth Kaunda faced one of the most severe tests of his 25-year rule.

During much of this time, the president has been preoccupied by events beyond his borders — war in Angola, Mozambique, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and South Africa.

With characteristic stamina, white handkerchief in hand, and frequently weeping, when his emotions overcome him, Mr. Kaunda has often been on the world stage in his search for peace in southern Africa.

But he is now caught up in a domestic crisis that could bring to its end the tough streak in one of Africa's political survivors.

The riots, which started on Monday following a demonstration by 2,000 university students protesting at food price increases, seem to have taken on a wider political dimension, with a broader cross-section of Zambians joining the unemployed and township youth.

Although it is the frustrated job seekers who have been in the thick of the action, they have the support of many middle-class Zambians who have seen their living standards eroded over the past 20 years.

Frustration

What must also be worrying for President Kaunda and his ruling United National Independence Party (UNIP) — the sole legal party since 1972 — is reports that some in the security forces were encouraging rioters. It is still unclear, however, whether any organisation is behind the unrest other than the banned university students' union.

But what is striking is the extent of popular frustration with the government among the urban population, which has grown as the economic climate has deteriorated.

The vast majority of city residents have seen their living standards plunge as export earnings from copper declined, diversification into agriculture failed, and mismanagement of state-owned enterprises took its toll.

Essential commodities have been in short supply or beyond their reach because of black marketeering. Inflation has soared, and a shortage of foreign exchange has caused industry and business to go under or shed workers, swelling the numbers of unemployed.

Anti-government criticism is now directed at President Kaunda personally. Once almost immune from attack, he is today seen as almost entirely responsible for the failings of a party over which he exerts near absolute control.

His philosophy of humanism, a Christian-influenced, broadly socialist doctrine that calls for love, social justice and an end to exploitation, is mocked by many Zambians for whom daily reality is starkly different.

The continuing trial of senior army officers on treason charges arising from an alleged plot last year has provided a platform for allegations of high-level corruption, while newspapers have carried stories which suggest that his sons have been involved in shady deals.

Tarnished

There is no evidence Mr. Kaunda himself is implicated. Nevertheless, his reputation has been tarnished. And it is open to question whether UNIP is capable of presiding over changes in a new political system.

Mr. Kaunda will now need all his skills if he is to ride the current crisis. He was able to defuse the last serious challenge in 1986, when several people died in riots protesting against food price increases, by arguing that the austerity measures were forced on him by the International Monetary Fund.

Mr. Kaunda suspended the IMF programme and sought what was described as a Zambian solution to the country's economic problems.

The latest programme was presented to the Zambian public in precisely these terms, though the measures have a familiar ring. This time, however, Mr. Kaunda may be unable to divert the blame for the hardships it involves.

He is thus in a dilemma. Zambia's go-it-alone policy adopted after 1986 failed, forcing the country back to the structural adjustment policies it has historically pursued.

But if he is to stay in power, the austerity measures and current reforms require — notably cuts in subsidies and a privatisation programme which, if implemented, would see substantial labour cut-backs — will all most certainly have to be suspended or postponed.

The question now is whether they can spread popular, discontent into a coherent opposition to Mr. Kaunda. — The Financial Times News Service
Zimbabwe is now free to change its constitution

By Robin Drew,
The Star's
Africa News Service

HARARE — An historic Bill, which removes the constraints imposed by Britain 10 years ago on changes to Zimbabwe's constitution passed its third and final reading in Parliament yesterday by 368 votes to two.

The Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Mr Ememerson Mnangagwa, yesterday described the measure as one which will remove all existing restrictions of colonial restrictions on the alteration of the Constitution.

With this Bill, all that will be required for a change to the Constitution, including the Declaration of Rights, will be for the single chamber of Parliament to approve it by a two-thirds majority, which comes to 100 of the 150 seats.

The ruling Zanu(PF) party holds all but three of the 120 elected seats with the remaining places filled by 10 chiefs, governors of the eight provinces and 12 members appointed by the President.

Resettlement

The party will thus have no difficulty in bringing in other changes, the first of which will be to amend the Declaration of Rights to make it easier for the Government to acquire land for resettlement.

For the first 10 years of Zimbabwe's life, the specially entrenched provisions in the Constitution were virtually unamendable as they required 100 percent support from all members of the House of Assembly.

The Government of Mr Mugabe regarded this as an obnoxious measure but has waited until now to do away with it constitutionally.

Mr Mnangagwa paid tribute to the Government for its restraint and forbearance over the past decade.

The Bill also makes provision for the appointment of a second Vice-President.

This position will go to former ZAPU leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, who will have the same constitutional ranking as Mr Simon Muzenda, the present sole Vice-President.

The Bill gives President Mugabe the power to nominate which Vice-President will act for him when he is out of the country or on leave.

Should the President be unable to perform his duties without having the opportunity to nominate one of the two Vice-Presidents to act for him, the post will go to the Vice-President who last acted in that capacity.
ZIMBABWE PM 29/6/90

On the road

Zimbabwe signed an agreement last week with the US Overseas Private Investment Corp (Opic), which gives political risk insurance to US investors. This is regarded as a landmark reform.

It marks "the beginning of a process of signing other agreements," says Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero. Similar accords are being negotiated with several other nations.

Opic is a US government agency established in 1969 to promote growth in developing countries by encouraging private investment. It also conducts periodic missions to introduce potential investors to government officials, business leaders and possible joint venture partners. US officials say such a mission may soon come to Zimbabwe.

US companies already established in Zimbabwe include Mobil, Union Carbide and Coca-Cola as well as several smaller joint ventures with Zimbabwe enterprises.

According to US ambassador Steven Rhodes, who signed the agreement for the agency, further legislation towards liberalising the economy is still needed to encourage Americans to prefer Zimbabwe to eastern Europe. Zimbabwe must trim its bureaucracy and get rid of rampant inefficiency and corruption. After independence it bloated its civil service from 60,000 to 100,000 to serve a population of 9.5m.

Next month, government is expected to unveil further reforms in the economic adjustment process that began in May 1989.
MPs ratify constitution

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — The Zimbabwean Parliament yesterday ratified what Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa described as "our solemn constitutional declaration of independence".

The deletion of British-designed entrenched sections of the 1980 Lancaster House constitution was approved by 166 votes to two.

Mnangagwa told the House that with the removal of the Lancaster House provisions, which President Robert Mugabe's government had "honoured over the past 10 years", he would shortly be able to introduce a Bill to amend the declaration of rights "relating to protection from deprivation of property".

He referred to promises in the March general election to redistribute land from farmers to overcrowded peasants.

Political observers have noted that the government will also be able to rescind, by a vote of 100 of the 150 MPs, the guarantees of freedom of association preventing promulgation of a one-party state.

LUSAKA — The death toll after three days of food riots in Zambia was reported to have reached 30, with about 200 people seriously wounded.

More than 1,000 people, including young children, have been detained.

The Zambian government yesterday lifted a 36-hour curfew slapped on Tuesday evening but has instead imposed an indefinite dusk to dawn curfew.

Some Lusaka business and industrial districts opened for business today after three days of forced closure but the majority still remained closed.

Isolated gunfire was heard in the satellite townships of the city. Generally, Lusaka was relatively quiet but civic leaders were taking stock of the damage.

President Kenneth Kaunda's nationwide radio and television broadcast on Wednesday night did not placate the situation because he did not address himself to the maize meal price increases.

Kaunda's critics dismissed his broadcast as meaninglessness. "He said nothing new but an empty rhetoric without realistic and intellectual fervour," said one observer.

Kaunda accused some "power-hungry men" of inciting people to riot against the maize meal price increases of more than 100%, announced last week.

He claimed: "We know the instigators of these criminal stampedes. They hope in that way they can disrupt the new successful economic recovery programme."

Kaunda warned that they would be ruthlessly suppressed.

MPs, meanwhile, have demanded a government explanation of why children under the age of 10 had their bones broken by security forces and policemen.

Police, soldiers and party officials of the ruling United National Independence Party were reportedly also involved in looting. Some soldiers and police had looted several hundreds crates of beer, cooking oil and other essential commodities.

Accusing

Rioting has also erupted in the town of Kabwe in central Zambia, where police shot three looters who rammed a maize meal depot on Wednesday.

In Kabwe, 40km south of Lusaka, rioters burnt a foreign-registered truck carrying inflammable liquid from SA.

Lusaka police commanding officer Hobson Simukubi said the situation was calm yesterday, but reports reaching the Lusaka police district indicated that looting and rioting would continue as long as Kaunda did not reduce the maize price.

People are also calling for the resignation of Kaunda, accusing him of overspending and misusing power through constitutional fraud. — ANA.
Bureaucracy blamed for economic woes

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE — Efforts by private enterprise to develop Zimbabwe’s economy have been hindered by battles with bureaucracy, an industry in itself which has seen unrivalled growth as the public service expanded threefold after independence.

Problems with getting project approval from central and local government and the difficulties in getting the necessary foreign exchange have been a constant complaint.

One businessman who has become renowned for his blunt speaking is the chairman of Mashonaland Holdings, Mr. Terence Hardy, whose conglomerate had a turnover last year of more than R120 million.

“**Incompetents**”

This is what he had to say in his annual report which expressed disappointment with the level of attributable profits of R15 million.

“Zimbabwe does not need a change of government. It needs a change of attitude within itself, which change would result in the routing out of the incompetents put into positions of authority and decision by nepotistic influence.

“If such change occurs, the private sector will support the full the needed changes and will not be found wanting in its support of the government’s principle aims and intentions.

“The frustration of expansion and investment through unnecessary delays caused by a mass of totally inexperienced civil servants does not only damage the private sector and hence the country, but also frustrates and leaves workless the very up-and-coming youth of the country in whom the government has invested so much by way of health and education services.

“Far too many persons are occupying space in government offices and drawing government pay without even trying to do a proper job and honouring their liabilities to their employers, whilst at the same time a large body of dedicated civil servants who can, and do their jobs in a helpful and efficient manner are grossly underpaid.”

Mr. Hardy said his company was still convinced that Zimbabwe was a country of great potential, capable of earning infinitely more foreign exchange than at present.

He referred to the expectations and ambitions of the people which had been fuelled by independence but which were now being frustrated.

The direction in which the country wanted to go was set by President Robert Mugabe and the Cabinet, but the direction in which it was forced to go was dictated by the decisions, or lack of them, taken by the bureaucratic machine.

Mr. Hardy also attacked the “spivs and drones” among middlemen who required investors to pay shockingly high black market prices for vehicles and who made fat profits out of other people’s efforts.
I'LL STRUGGLE ALONE
SAYS ANGRY MUGABE

By DON JACOBS
Harare

President Robert Mugabe this week admitted he was fighting a lonely battle for socialism and a one-party state, but threatened revenge against his lieutenants who were warning him of dire economic repercussions.

Describing pro-Western moderates as Judases, Mr. Mugabe told a special meeting of his 16-member Zanu (PF) central committee: "In my own, sometimes solo, efforts to promote these policies I have noticed some reluctance on the part of Central Committee members to openly endorse them. "There are those who hold the view that we should listen to and comply with the views of Western Europe and the US against socialism and the one-party democratic system. "It is feared that if we fail to do so and hold on to socialism and the one-party state philosophy, we would lose their financial support. "In other words, we should readily trade our principles and policies for Western funds and investment. "We, the leaders of the party, are thus invited to become Iscariots."

The president also attacked the West, which only yesterday were our rampant colonizers and inhuman slave masters."
ZIMBABWEAN security police are reportedly watch-
ing for any secret celebrations of the centenary of white colonisation on Friday.

The centenary was celebrated by Rhodes and Founders week-
end.

The country's remaining 80,000 whites are afraid to hold even private functions, after an incident in November when British South Africa Police pensioners were raided by an anti-
terrorist squad at a dinner that had official approval.

The medals of a 99-year-old veteran were seized and the former policemen's wives were humiliated by having to go to the toilet under guard.

Far from a festive mood, the Zimbabwean political atmosphere is now thick with talk of a one-party state and land nationalisation.

Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa has warned the country's 4,600 commercial farmers, mainly whites, about the impending land bill.
Kamda Plays Golf as Urrest Fades

When businessmen back Mugabe's one-party socialist state plans

Michael Hawthorne

The Zimbabwean election is a key test of the country's political and economic future. The outcome will determine whether Mugabe's long rule survives or falls, and whether the country can move towards a more democratic and open society.

The vote is scheduled for July 31, and Mugabe's Zanu-PF party is expected to win. However, the opposition MDC and other parties are also running, and the election is likely to be closely contested.

The election is being held amid political tension and economic decline. The country is facing high inflation, scarce food and fuel, and low international confidence.

The International Monetary Fund has warned that the country could default on its debts if the election is not peaceful and free of fraud.

The election is also a test of the country's commitment to democracy and human rights. The opposition has accused the government of using violence and intimidation to suppress opposition candidates and voters.

The government denies these allegations, saying it is necessary to maintain order and prevent violence.

The election will be closely watched by the international community, which hopes for a peaceful outcome that can begin to address the country's economic and political challenges.
Industry backs socialism

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — President Robert Mugabe yesterday received unexpected backing for his plans for a socialist one-party state from the organisation representing the white-dominated industrial sector.

Mr. John Deary, president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI), told a press conference: "We accept the (ruling) party's views on the desirability of a one-party state, however we certainly do not believe that at this moment in time it is necessary to introduce it, when government has in effect achieved that and will be in power for another five years." At the general elections in March, Mr. Mugabe's ruling

Zanu (PF) captured all but three of the 150 parliamentary seats.

Mr. Deary was reacting to statements at the weekend by President Mugabe comparing pro-Western elements in the ruling Zanu (PF) leadership to Judas Iscariot for warning of the loss of foreign investment and economic support should he ignore Western objections to political developments here.

The CZI was heavily criticised in 1987 for coming out in open support of Mr. Mugabe's plans to break trade ties with South Africa, although its economists had warned privately of the disastrous consequences for the Zimbabwean economy.
HARARE. — Zimbabwe may end 25 years of emergency rule first imposed by a previous government, Home Minister Mr Moven Mahachi was quoted as saying yesterday.

"Consultations are under way with the various ministries and security departments of the government to determine whether to renew the state of emergency or leave it to rest," Mr Mahachi said in an interview with the semi-official Herald daily.

"Renewed twice a year since 1965, the present six-month emergency term expires later this month.

"We are assessing the political and security situation," said Mr Mahachi. "We are also assessing developments in South Africa and on our eastern borders."

When President Robert Mugabe took power as prime minister of newly independent Zimbabwe in 1980, his government kept the emergency powers introduced by the country's former white minority government in 1965.

Mr Mugabe's government has cited military threats from South Africa and right-wing Mozambican rebels operating along the eastern Zimbabwe border as justification for renewing its emergency powers.

But Mr Mahachi said Mozambican rebel operations had declined. Political changes in South Africa have also eased Zimbabwean fears of its powerful neighbour.

However, Mr Mahachi claimed he had information that 12 supporters of the defeated Zimbabwean opposition parties had been sent to South Africa for "military training" since the March general elections.

Zimbabwe's state of emergency empowers the government to do literally anything from controlling consumer prices, declaring strikes illegal, detaining people without trial to restricting political activity.

The Mugabe government has been stung by recent criticism from the Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Commission that it is retaining emergency measures South Africa is trying to rescind. — Sapa-Reuters and Own Correspondent
Food manufacturers ‘may face huge AIDS claims’

VICTORIA FALLS — The Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) has warned that Zimbabwean food manufacturers could become embroiled in huge lawsuits for infecting unsuspecting customers if the official ban on AIDS testing for workers is not lifted.

Zimbabwe exports beef, processed foods and a wide range of tinned products in addition to earning foreign exchange from its tourist-oriented catering industry.

A paper put before the annual congress of the CZI warns that with up to 30% of Zimbabwe’s 10-million people already infected, 90% of the workforce could be dying of AIDS within 18 years.

Urging Zimbabwe Health Minister Dr Timothy Stamps to rescind the ban on testing food-processing workers, the paper warns there is a “quite high probability of contamination” of some food products.

Manufacturers “could face huge civil claims for compensation in the event of death arising from HIV contami-nation,” it adds.

Discrimination against all HIV-infected employees cannot be condoned, says the CZI paper, but it urges increased openness about the extent of the epidemic.
Jeugkrad members detained in Zimbabwe

HARARE—Twelve young men and women from the Afrikaner political movement Jeugkrad were detained and interrogated for more than four hours in Harare yesterday as they were winding up their four-day visit to Zimbabwe.

The group, with headquarters in Johannesburg, was looking out of the Monomatapa Hotel in Harare's city centre at 11am to catch a flight to Gaborone when Zimbabwean security police arrived.

Source said the group, between 16 and 25 years old, was led by a Mr. Beukes. It is not known what they did and whom they saw after arriving on Sunday, but they were reportedly interrogated about their activities and opinions.
Tekere visits city to feel ‘pulse of change’

ZIMBABWE Unity Movement led opposition leader Mr Edgar Tekere has paid a visit to Cape Town to absorb the “pulse of change”, besides taking in the scenic delights with city friends.

Mr Tekere arrived in Cape Town last Friday and left for Zimbabwe yesterday. During his stay he met community leaders and trade unionists.

At a press conference at D F Malan Airport yesterday, he said he did not meet any ANC or PAC leaders but when he visited Johannesburg in June, he had met ANC internal head Mr Walter Sisulu.

“I have come here to feel the pulse of change and to find out from ordinary people what they think. I am a political animal, myself.”

He said South Africans were “very conscious about what is happening”.

He also said a change of government would mean stability and economic growth for Zimbabwe.

*Zim editorial angers Zambian side - Page 7*
Zimbabwe set to sell maize stockpile to SA for R800m

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s parastatal Grain Marketing Board is on the brink of signing an R800m deal to sell Pretoria nearly a third of Zimbabwe’s cumbersome maize stockpile.

Sources in Harare confirmed that officials of the board and the SA Maize Control Board had negotiated the sale of 300,000 tons of Zimbabwean white maize at approximately R106 a ton.

It does not appear to be causing political embarrassment here that the sale comes as President Robert Mugabe, on an East African tour, is calling for sustained trade boycotts of SA.

The deal represents a much-needed foreign currency boost for Zimbabwe and relief of some of the burden of its 1.1 million ton maize stockpile, for which it lost 450,000 tons of orders last year from international famine relief agencies because of the inability of the Zimbabwe National Railways to deliver.

Zimbabwe’s partner in the Southern African Development Co-operation Conference (SADC), Angola, currently heads the list of SADC countries with a serious maize shortage. Its 255,000-ton estimated need was

Michael Hartnack

ahead of import requirements for Mozambique, Botswana, Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland. Zimbabwe’s Commercial Grain Producers’ Association chairman John Parkin told his annual congress here yesterday.

At a pre-conference briefing he noted the inability of Zimbabwe’s peasant farmers, who had produced 60% of Zimbabwe’s maize over the past five years, to repay government loans.

Losses

He predicted continued reliance on the 1200 commercial growers — mainly whites — for food security and urged liberalisation of heavily controlled trading and pricing policies.

The grain marketing board was buying maize from the farmer at R247 a ton yet was making losses despite supplying at R45.

Sources say the Zimbabwe-SA maize deal is likely to be signed early next week. Details of the methods of payment are reportedly still being worked out.
Mugabe joins Mandela in Uganda

KAMPALA: Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe arrived in Uganda yesterday for a three-day state visit, a few hours after African National Congress Deputy President Nelson Mandela touched down from London.

Mugabe, Mandela and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano, who is expected today, will hold a rally tomorrow.

Mugabe has already found agreement among the leaders that recent changes in South Africa are insufficient to justify relaxation of international pressure against the country.

Diplomatic sources here say Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni is lobbying for support to succeed Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak as chairman of the Organisation of African Unity at its summit next week. — Sapa
Zim cops quiz SA students

GABORONE - A group of South African university students described yesterday how they were grilled for about four hours in a police station in Harare while on an educational visit to Zimbabwe.

The students, nine men and three women belonging to the student organisation, were not told why they were taken in for interrogation.

But they concluded that it was because among the Zimbabweans they had met was a member of the opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement led by the controversial Mr Edgar Tekere.

After being arrested at their hotel on Wednesday morning, they were questioned at a police station by police officers and officials from the office of President Robert Mugabe, according to the group's leader, Mr Pieter Buukes.

They were released, after the South African trade representative to Harare, Mr Len Hartbrock, had intervened, and were allowed to fly to Botswana to continue their two-country tour.

"We were not physically mishandled," Buukes said yesterday.

Detained Jeugkrag members released

By KATHY STRACHAN (362)

THE 12 Youth for South Africa (Jeugkrag) students who were detained and in-terrogated in Harare said yesterday they were safe and ready to continue their tour.

Although they found the conduct of the Zimbabwe Security Police inappropriate, they said they regarded the matter as settled. "We hope that this incident will not harm the relationship between South Africa and Zimbabwe in any way," they said in a statement.

They added that the Zimbabwe Department of Foreign Affairs had been "very surprised" to hear of their detention, as they had been involved in the arrange-ments for the visit.
Zim sends 2 SA spies to jail for long terms

HARARE—Two Zimbabwean men, Gidile Neube and Innocent Dube, convicted of spying for South Africa, were on Thursday sentenced to 24 and 12 years in jail respectively.

The Zambian news agency Ziana reported yesterday that Neube crossed from his home in the Gwanda communal lands area in southern Zimbabwe into South Africa, where he was recruited by members of the South African special branch.

He was apparently recruited to spy on the ANC's activities in Zimbabwe.

The men were not legally represented and had pleaded guilty. — Sape and Own Correspondent.
Peasant farmers score successes

By ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Zimbabwe’s 800,000 peasant farmers have scored notable successes since independence 10 years ago when new horizons opened for them through an agricultural policy which concentrated on giving them technical and financial assistance.

Today the peasant sector produces more than 60 percent of the maize handled by the State’s Grain Marketing Board and half the cotton crop.

Most of it comes from small plots on communal land which this year should see deliveries to the grain depots of 575,000 tons of maize, leaving Zimbabwe with a substantial surplus.

The turnaround from a largely subsistence-farming sector to one which generates millions of dollars in cash has not been without its problems, however.

Recently it was disclosed that the Agricultural Finance Corporation which handles loans for farmers is owed millions by peasant farmers who have defaulted on loans in bad years.

The AFC operates a stop order system under which it can recoup money owed to it when, for example, maize is delivered to the grain depots. To circumvent this, maize growers have been selling to private buyers.

Commercial grain producers, in appealing for an increase in the producer price, quoted the example of the peasant farmers who were trying to get around the system because they were being denied a profit.

There is no question that the granting of loans to enable the peasant farmers to acquire fertilizer and other inputs played a key role in boosting production.

Other factors were the crash courses in farming at agricultural colleges and the instruction to agricultural extension officers to concentrate on helping smallscale farmers rather than the commercial growers who were already well established.
Church pleads: Give AIDS kids a chance

THE Roman Catholic Church has issued a passionate plea for the increasing number of Zimbabwean women reporting opting for abortions in fear that their children will be born with their disease — AIDS.

Father Oskar Wermter, communications secretary of the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference, protested last week: "The life span of an AIDS infected baby should never be used as an excuse for terminating the pregnancy of an HIV-positive mother.

By DON JACOBS
Harare

"Even if the baby is born with the virus and might suffer from several illnesses before dying, people must know the gift of life is more precious than suffering, no matter how short that life might be. Nobody except God has the right to determine what kind of life should be allowed to exist."

Father Wermter was reacting to an attack made by a leading Harare gynaecologist — who cannot be named for professional reasons — on local hospitals and doctors who were, he said, routinely complying with an increasing number of requests for abortions from HIV-positive parents.

"Some request abortions out of ignorance," the gynaecologist told Zimbabwe's Financial Gazette.

"They do not know there is a 25 to 30 percent chance of their babies being born free of the virus."

Meanwhile, alarm was voiced at last week's annual congress of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries at Victoria Falls at the Zimbabwean Government's continued refusal to allow AIDS screening of workers in the food and catering industries.

Employers fear they could be sued for "huge" damages and one CZI paper presented at the conference claimed there was "quite a high probability of contamination" by letting AIDS sufferers handle food. However, doctors have denied this is possible.

The paper said up to 20 percent of Zimbabweans were infected and 50 percent of the workforce could die of AIDS-related diseases within the next 10 years.

In a speech to workers in the Zimbabwean Midlands, the Medical Officer of Health for the state-run Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Corporation, Dr. Paterson Mapipe, said 14,000 of 33,000 blood donors recently tested were HIV-positive, suggesting that 42 percent of Zimbabwe's sexually active population between 15 and 50 were already infected.

Disbelief

But the continuing atmosphere of official and private disbelief confronting health workers indicated Zimbabweans were either clinging to an attitude of "it can't happen to me" or fatally misinterpreting Father Wermter's plea for the rights of unborn children, saying: "We are all born to die anyway."
Mugabe to West: 'Go to hell!'

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela looked on yesterday as President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe lashed out at Western proponents of multi-party democracy.

At a rally in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, Mr Mugabe— who hopes to ban all political parties in Zimbabwe except his own— ridiculed leaders in Europe and America who lectured Africans about political pluralism. "To such teachers of democracy I say: 'Go to hell! Who are you?'

Mr Mugabe and President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique are in Uganda for talks with Mr Mandela and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni before an African heads of state meeting in Ethiopia. Mr Mandela is on the last leg of his tour of Europe, North America and Africa.
Mealie fiasco

By CHARMAINE NAIDOO
SOUTH Africa is not buying Zimbabwe's maize surplus. Nor has it ever planned to do so.

In fact, the Maize Board announced this week that it had an exportable surplus of white maize and had no need to import them.

Denying reports that the board was on the brink of signing an R320-million contract with Zimbabwe, assistant general manager Jeff Wayland says: "Rumours of such a deal are unfounded."

"We might, in a neighbourly fashion, help Zimbabwe to export its maize. But even that is in an early stage as we are still talking to Zimbabwe's Grain Marketing Board (GMB)."

The parastatal GMB has earmarked 350,000 tons of maize for export from its stockpile of 1,096 million tons. But grain industry officials in Zimbabwe believe it is unlikely the target will be met because that country's railways will not be able to move the maize.

A year ago the GMB hoped to export 450,000 tons, but was only able to move 180,000 tons. The railways simply did not have the capacity to carry the maize to Beira.

The costs of keeping such a stockpile — now 23% more than a year ago — are high. Zimbabwe's inability to reduce it through exports, exacerbated by the fact that the delivery of this year's crop has begun, is a source of concern for GMB management.

The GMB expects to receive another 1,18 million tons of maize in the next few months.

Mr Wayland says: "We are not a charity organisation. However, we are prepared to help them to export their grain."

The rand's world value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>06/07/90</th>
<th>06/07/89</th>
<th>06/07/90</th>
<th>06/07/89</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US$</td>
<td>0.2779</td>
<td>0.2721</td>
<td>2.9461</td>
<td>2.8978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK£</td>
<td>0.2114</td>
<td>0.2293</td>
<td>4.7299</td>
<td>4.3910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeutscheM</td>
<td>0.6246</td>
<td>0.7021</td>
<td>1.6910</td>
<td>1.4242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese yen</td>
<td>57.01</td>
<td>51.68</td>
<td>0.0175</td>
<td>0.0184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss franc</td>
<td>0.5222</td>
<td>0.6013</td>
<td>1.8987</td>
<td>1.6631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French franc</td>
<td>2.0586</td>
<td>2.3011</td>
<td>0.4772</td>
<td>0.4189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian $</td>
<td>0.4403</td>
<td>0.4428</td>
<td>2.2712</td>
<td>2.2979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian lira</td>
<td>457.99</td>
<td>509.44</td>
<td>0.0022</td>
<td>0.0019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwean $</td>
<td>0.8246</td>
<td>0.7798</td>
<td>1.0817</td>
<td>1.2824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian $</td>
<td>0.4739</td>
<td>0.4833</td>
<td>2.1102</td>
<td>2.0890</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domestic interest rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONEY MARKET</th>
<th>Friday 06/07/90</th>
<th>28/06/90</th>
<th>22/06/90</th>
<th>Friday 06/07/90</th>
<th>28/06/90</th>
<th>22/06/90</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SARB accommodation rate</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasury bill tender rate</td>
<td>17.91</td>
<td>17.97</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>17.91</td>
<td>17.97</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic call of discount houses</td>
<td>18.75</td>
<td>20.60</td>
<td>18.25</td>
<td>18.75</td>
<td>20.60</td>
<td>18.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three-month banker acceptances</td>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>18.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three-month LCDS</td>
<td>19.60</td>
<td>19.70</td>
<td>19.70</td>
<td>19.60</td>
<td>19.70</td>
<td>19.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime overdraft rate</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAPITAL MARKET

SECONDARY MARKET | RATES ON MOST TRADED STOCKS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average</th>
<th>As on Previous Month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term RSA stocks</td>
<td>16.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term Ecom stocks</td>
<td>16.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Best sections this week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Av % Wt</th>
<th>Av D/Y</th>
<th>Av E/Y</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mining Hold</td>
<td>4.1+</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics, etc</td>
<td>3.4+</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diamonds</td>
<td>2.9+</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>68.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearer</td>
<td>2.5+</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing &amp; Publishing</td>
<td>2.1+</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall market this week
Go to hell! Mugabe tells West

From ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE — In an unusual display of ill-temper, President Mugabe has told Western nations critical of his one-party socialist ideas to "go to hell".

The Zimbabwe national news agency, Ziana, reporting from Kampala, where Mr. Mugabe has been on a state visit to Uganda, said the Zimbabwean leader described himself as "an apostle of a one-party system".

RIGHT TO CHOOSE

He said where people decided on a system based on their right to choose and reject their leaders, this could not be described as undemocratic.

He said Western critics, be they German, British, French, Belgian, Italian or American, could not teach Africa democracy because they had not left democracy behind in Africa.

"I will say go to hell," he told a crowd of about 30,000, also addressed by Mr. Nelson Mandela and President Chissano of Mozambique.

President Mugabe also said the OAU should build an armory to hand to the ANC should negotiations in South Africa fail.

He said conservative whites were arming themselves to the teeth. What would happen, he asked, if President De Klerk was overthrown?
Go to hell, says Zim's Robert Mugabe

Sowetan Africa News Service

HARARE, in an unusual display of ill-temper, Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe has told Western nations critical of his one-party socialist state to 'go to hell.'

The Zimbabwe national news agency, Zina, reporting from Kampala where Mugabe had been on a state visit to Uganda, said the Zimbabwe leader described himself as 'an apostle of a one-party system.'

He said where people decided on a system based on their right to choose and reject their leaders, this could not be described as undemocratic.

Critics

Western critics, be they German, British, French, Belgian, Italian or American, could not teach Africa democracy because they had not left democracy behind in Africa.

'My friends will say go to hell,' he told about 30,000 people who were also addressed by ANC deputy president Mr. Nelson Mandela and President Chissano of Mozambique.

Mugabe also said the OAU should build an armory to hand to the ANC if negotiations in South Africa fail.

Arms

He said conservative whites were arming themselves heavily.

What would happen he asked, if President FW de Klerk were overthrown.
Mugabe to face state 'cowards'

HARARE: Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said yesterday the central committee of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party would soon meet to discuss whether his country should have a one-party state system or not.

He said he was still a disciple of the one-party system but that some people within the party were "backing down" on what was agreed on in the unity accord of December 1987 between Zanu (PF) and PF-Zapu and at the first congress of the united Zanu (PF) in December last year.

Mugabe stressed that the issue of a one-party state was not his idea. "It is a position of the party and if it is to be changed it must be changed by the party. But we now have some political cowards who are changing and who are backing down from what we agreed at congress," he said.

In June the Zanu (PF) central committee had set itself the task of discussing the issue in the light of opposing viewpoints expressed by some members.

"We should be debating this in the central committee, where some people are developing cold feet. Yes, people do change their views. There will be free debate either way," he said.

"But if there is substantial opinion that the matter should be reconsidered, then we will have to get back to congress," he added. — Sapa
**Man-made gems open new doors — De Beers**

**BRENT MELVILLE**

DE BEERS Consolidated Mines spokesman Neville Huxham said last week's announcement by General Electric (GE) of a new synthetic diamond would not change the company's commitment to rough diamond marketing and sales.

The SA company, which controls 80% of the world's rough diamond marketing and sales through its London-based Central Selling Organisation (CSO), said the announcement would have no bearing on its rough diamond operations.

"If it had an impact it would enhance the areas of application for diamond synthesis," Huxham said in response to a report in Friday's Business Day which noted that the GE announcement had served as a catalyst to a drop in the fortunes of De Beers on the market.

"It is not a new concept, but if it has refined the process it does not close the door to other producers but opens it to a wider range of opportunities," said Huxham.

The crystals are the first diamonds comprised almost totally of the isotope carbon-12 (C12), GE said last week. De Beers has been producing C13 since 1985.

Huxham said synthetic diamond producers worldwide, including De Beers, were pursuing research and development of synthetic diamonds for applications in electronics and communications.

Huxham said De Beers had filed in 1985 for a patent for production of isotopically pure diamonds but did not pursue the application when it learned of an earlier application made by a researcher in 1975.

The company had manufactured synthetic diamonds of up to six carats and had produced one of 11 carats, largest ever, he said.

**Steel shipments impounded**

**MICHAEL HARTBACK**

HARARE — The parastatal Mines and Minerals Corporation of Zimbabwe (MMCZ) confirmed at the weekend that three ships containing R18.5m worth of Zimbabwean steel had been impounded in the Kenyan port of Mombasa and the Italian port of Madeira.

An SA sub-charter firm, known as TCI, had allegedly failed to pay the ship owner’s fees, despite being paid US$900 000 by the MMCZ, its GM Njodzi Machirori told the Zimbabwean Financial Gazette.

The MMCZ’s customers had already paid for their steel, and MMCZ managers had been hastily dispatched to Italy and Kenya to get the cargoes released.

“We have reacted very quickly and we think that the situation in Italy is under control,” said Machirori.

“Our interest is to make sure that if our cargo is not released, then the ships are impounded.”

Lawyers for the MMCZ would fight any move to have the Zimbabwean cargo seized by the ship owner, whose identity was not known, said Machirori.

---

**TODAY’S QUOTE**

"Lack of money is the root of all evil."

— George Bernard Shaw

---

**TODAY’S WEATHER**

Pretoria, Witwatersrand and the eastern highveld: partly cloudy and mild but cold in the highveld.

Western and southwestern Transvaal: partly cloudy and mild but very cold in the south.

Central, northwestern and northern Transvaal: partly cloudy in the north, otherwise fine and mild.

Eastern lowveld, escarpment and Venda: partly cloudy and mild but cold along the escarpment.

Free State: partly cloudy and mild.

Cape north of the Orange: partly cloudy and mild.

Cape Peninsula, Boland and the Overberg: cloudy and
Police razed squatter camp in Harare

From ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE - Zimbabwe police have raided a squatter camp, set fire to the shacks and taken about 150 people to a maximum security prison on the outskirts of the city.

It was reported that the squatters' belongings also were burned in the raid yesterday. A makeshift school where a British woman had been teaching local children was destroyed. She was in tears when she visited the scene.

OUTCRY

A social worker, Mr. Declan Gould, said that had the action taken place in South Africa, there would have been an outcry.

The Harare town clerk, Mr. Edward Kanengoni, said squatting was illegal and the council in liaison with other agencies was obliged to remove all squatters.
Zimbabwe lifts emergency after 25 years

BARARE — Zimbabwe's 25-year state of emergency would lapse at midnight on July 25, Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi told parliament yesterday.

Mahachi said the emergency was being lifted because the country was "enjoying peaceful conditions".

It was clear the SA situation had changed. "It appears the SA government is now seriously extending a hand of friendship. The people of SA are now talking of peace and one hopes for a quick solution to the problem of apartheid," he said.

He appealed to Pretoria to maintain good neighbourliness.

The activities of Renamo along the eastern border were under control. Although there were sporadic incidents in the area, Zimbabwe was confident that the situation would be contained through the use of other legal powers.

Mahachi warned that certain political malcontents, saboteurs, agencies of destabilisation forces, certain pressure groups and institutions not to use the lifting of the emergency to undermine government.

The decision to lift the state of emergency was taken after consultations between the ruling Zanu (PF) central committee and government, he said. — Sapa.
HARARE. — The Zimbabwean government announced yesterday that its 25-year-old state of emergency would be lifted next week.

Home Affairs Minister Mr Steven Mabuchi, in a statement to parliament, said the emergency, imposed by the Smith government at the time of the Rhodesian unilateral declaration of independence from Britain in 1965, would lapse from midnight on July 25.

Mr Mabuchi said the emergency was being lifted because “the country is enjoying peaceful conditions and atmosphere, the best ever for a long time in the history of this country”.

By not renewing the emergency, President Robert Mugabe appears to be offering freedom to his sole remaining security detainee, South African businessman Mr Leslie Johannes Lesia, 53, held since May 1987 on suspicion of spying.

The head of the SA trade mission in Harare, Mr Nico Nel, welcomed the move and said his diplomats would be eager to assist Mr Lesia’s reunion with his family in Bloemfontein. Mr Lesia claims he had both legs smashed under torture following his abduction from Maputo, where he allegedly gave the ANC a booby-trapped TV set. — Sapa
Zimbabwe's last detainee, an SA man, to be freed

HARARE: Zimbabwe's last detainee, a Black South African detained in 1987 following a blast in a Harare flat, is to be released before July 25 — the date the state of emergency ends.

The national news agency, Zimana, reported that Home Affairs Minister Mov- en Mahachi said yesterday that Zimbabwe would no longer have any detainees when Leslie Johannes Lesia (52) was re- leased.

"We think he is no longer a security risk, because we have kept him for so long that the information he might have had is out of date," Mahachi said.

Lesia was detained under emergency powers in 1987, following the death of a Zimbabwean woman who was killed when a booby-trapped television exploded in her Harare flat.

Mahachi said he took "great exception" to people who compared Zimbabwe's state of emergency with the one in South Africa.

"Those who connect our state of emer- gency with South Africa's are just being mischievous, because the South Africans used it to repress blacks and they have the Internal Security Act and other provisions.

"The South Africans still have tremen- dous powers to detain people, although, they lifted the State of Emergency. They still have people in detention. Our record on that is too different," Mahachi said.
— Sapa
Govt scores with Mugabe

HARARE — South Africa appears to have made a major diplomatic breakthrough with President Robert Mugabe's government in Zimbabwe, for 10 years the most consistently militant of the frontline regimes.

Diplomatic sources here yesterday attached great significance to the statement made to parliament on Wednesday by the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Moven Blanche, announcing an end to the 24-year-old state of emergency.

He said: "It appears the South African government is now seriously extending the hand of friendship and is now ceasing the carrying out of 'commando' raids on our territory."

Meanwhile, Zimbabwe's last detainee, a black South African detained in 1987 following an explosion in a Harare flat which left a young mother dead, is to be released before July 20, the date on which the state of emergency lapses.
HARARE — The number of AIDS cases recorded in Zimbabwe has passed the 100,000 mark. Latest figures from the AIDS Programme Control Co-ordinator give...
New hands for injured priest

HAMBURG — The Liberation Support Committee yesterday said medical reports on Anglican priest Mr. Michael Lapsley, who was injured in a letter bomb blast earlier this year, were "most positive".

They said Mr. Lapsley, who is in Australia, had recently been fitted with bifocal glasses, which had greatly improved the sight in his left eye and it was expected that he would soon be able to see well enough to read. Mr. Lapsley had been advised to have two artificial hands fitted, rather than have surgery to reconstruct his hands or transplant toes. — Sapa
Thaw across the Limpopo

SUNDAY TIMES, JULY 22, 1990

BY DON JACOB'S HERBE

WATCH
Zimbabwean budget may change course

HARARE – Zimbabwe's government is expected to point the economy firmly to- wards liberalisation in its budget tomor- row after a decade of hesitation.

Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero is expected to set out the framework for a five-year programme that will gradually dismantle Zimbabwe's web of state con- trols over commerce and industry.

"I don't expect more than a broad-brush approach in the speech," says Confed- eration of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) presi- dent John Dever.

Zimbabwean industrialists and econo- mists say the government must move fast to make the economy more competitive in the face of a likely challenge from SA if partheid is ended.

"SA is not just a threat, it is an opportuni- ty," Dever told journalists yesterday.

Industry and Commerce Minister Kumbirai Kangai told businessmen last week they would soon be able to import freely without waiting for import licences.

Chidzero is thought to have little scope for reducing Zimbabwe's high personal taxation, but is expected to offer some prospect of relief in the 1990s. — Harare.
Last detainee freed under Zim emergency

HARARE — Bloemfontein curio dealer Mr. Leslie Johannes Lesia, 53, finally boarded a South African Airways flight to Johannesburg late yesterday, just hours after formal documents after making history as Zimbabwe's last state of emergency detainee.

South African diplomat managed to overcome a last-minute hitch when he walked out of the gates of Harare's grim Chikurubi maximum security prison, after more than three years, he was re-detained by immigration officials.

Shortly after his arrest in 1987, the Herald carried allegations he was a mysterious "Mr. X" who gave the ANC a booby-trapped television set.

The set blew up in Harare, killing the wife of an official. Mr. Lesia later claimed he was tortured into signing a confession at Goromonzi detention cells.
Zimbabwe's last emergency detainee jets into SA hours after being set free.

HARARE - Bloemfontein curle dealer Leslie Johannes Lesia, 33, arrived at Johannesburg's Jan Smuts Airport last night without formal documents after making history as Zimbabwe's last state of emergency detainee.

-SA diplomats managed to overcome a last minute hitch when, as he walked out of the gates of Harare's Chikurubi maximum security prison after more than three years, he was re-detained by immigration officials.

Lesia's lawyer, Robin Hartley, protested that their prohibited immigrant notice was illegal, since Lesia had been brought to Zimbabwe illegally and against his will following his abduction from Maputo in May 1987.

Interview

Murder charges were dropped against Lesia in October 1988, but he was immediately re-arrested in terms of the emergency regulations after his case was dismissed.

International media were kept well away from Lesia following his release, but, representatives of Zimbabwe's state controlled media were able to interview and photograph him within Chikurubi prison before his release.

Shortly after his arrest in 1987, Harare newspaper The Herald carried allegations he was a mysterious "Mr X" who gave the ANC a booby trapped television set.

The set blew up, killing the wife of an official, Tatsi Chilla, after it was brought to Harare.

Lesia later claimed he had both legs smashed under torture at Goromonzi detention cells outside Harare, in a bid to make him sign false confessions.

Lesia's name was subsequently linked with the SADF Operation Azkari in which former activists of the ANC's Umkhonto we Sizwe worked for military intelligence.

MATTHEW CURTIN reports Lesia would not identify himself to the Press after his arrival at Jan Smuts Airport and would not answer questions.

An associate, who joined him before his departure through customs and also refused to identify himself, beyond calling himself "Mr Kemp", told the Press they had the "wrong man".

Two other men who joined Lesia also refused to comment.

Lesia's lawyer and his wife conducted a lengthy campaign for his release.

Last week the Sunday Times reported Zimbabwe Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi said Harare believed Lesia was an SA agent but no longer a security risk.
Harare signals end to socialist economy

ZIMBABWE'S government yesterday outlined plans to open up the country's economy in its post-liberalization programme to attract foreign investment.

Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Chidzero yesterday said the 1999 budget speech was the opportunity for the country to put the last vestiges of the socialist economy behind it.

The opening up of the economy, which follows Chidzero's talk of a "sustainable growth for so long", means the government will no longer restrict investments in the country.

"We are saying, 'Gone are the days when the state was logical of the economy. We say: 'Let's expose this economy to the outside world','" Chidzero said yesterday.

"We are saying, in essence, 'Let's privatize the economy so that we can attract foreign investment, and let foreign investment come in,'" Chidzero added.

The government plans to privatize state entities, and has already set up a national agency to promote foreign investment in the country.

The opening up of the economy is seen as a major step in the government's efforts to attract foreign investment and boost economic growth.
Many pardoned in Zimbabwe amnesty

HARARE. — In a general amnesty to mark Zimbabwe’s 10th anniversary of independence, President Robert Mugabe yesterday pardoned a wide range of criminals, ranging from those convicted of dissident activities and former PP-Zapu political fugitives to women convicted of killing their babies, reports Ziana national news agency.

The amnesty also embraces those who collaborated with dissidents and includes a general remission on prisoners serving determinate sentences, the news agency said.

A statement released here and signed by Mr Mugabe said the amnesty was to enhance national reconciliation and unity among Zimbabweans and to mark the 10th anniversary of Zimbabwe.

Defence expenditure in the Zimbabwe budget tops one billion dollars for the first time, rising by Zim$157.6 million (about R170m) to a record Zim$1,031 billion (about R1.1bn).

The army gets a total of Zim$832.97m (about R800m), of which the biggest share of Zim$614.05m (about R641m) is for salaries, wages and allowances, Ziana reports.

The Air Force gets Zim$178.66m (about R192m), of which Zim$122.8m (about R57m) is marked for wages and Zim$55.8m (about R45.8m) for aircraft procurement, maintenance, modifications and running costs. — Sapa
Prisoners freed for
Zim celebrations

HARARE: In a general amnesty to mark
Zimbabwe's 10th anniversary of inde-
pendence, President Robert Mugabe
yesterday pardoned a wide range of
criminals, ranging from those convicted
of disident activities and former PF-
Zapu political fugitives to women con-
victed of killing their babies.

The amnesty also embraces those who
collaborated with disidents and in-
cludes a general remission on prisoners
serving determinate sentences, ac-
garding to Ziana news agency.

Pardon was also granted to those who
committed criminal offences for political
ends between February 14 this year and
the date of the amnesty.

The amnesty does not cover habitual
criminals serving a sentence of extended
imprisonment, for those who escaped
from prison on or before April 18 this
t year, and were still at large the next day.

Mugabe said the amnesty was being
proclaimed to enhance national recon-
ciliation, to promote the unity of Zimbabwe
and to mark the 10th independence
day celebrations.
It has other options, too. Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi, who announced the end of the emergency, is asking ministers to do some house-cleaning in their departments and look for legal loopholes that in the past might have been covered by the emergency. He is appealing particularly to the labour minister to change sections of the law in order to cover industrial unrest.

The State of Emergency was frequently used to end strikes and detain dissidents without trial. It also gave authorities power to fix prices, control wages and seize assets owned by “enemies of the State.” The emergency was last invoked early last month to end the worst wave of labour unrest since independence in 1980. More than 10,000 teachers and 1,500 civil servants were ordered back to work after demonstrations were dispersed by armed riot police.

Most Zimbabweans welcome lifting of the emergency even though reservations remain.

Zimbabwean Congress of Trade Unions secretary-general Morgan Tsvangirai commends government for “taking a positive step toward democratising Zimbabwe.” Tsvangirai was detained without trial last year for several weeks after criticising government’s handling of student demonstrations.

The outspoken Catholic Justice and Peace Commission in Harare says “now people are going to experience real independence.”

One man to benefit from the lifting of the emergency is South African Leslie Johannes Lesia (53), a Bloemfontein black businessman who had been in prison without trial for the past three years after being accused of importing a booby-trapped TV set from Mozambique early in 1987. The set exploded in a Harare apartment and killed the young wife of an ANC official. Lesia is the last political detainee held without trial under emergency powers in Zimbabwe.

“We think he is no longer a security risk because we have kept him for so long that the information he might have had is out of date. After July 25 we will no longer have any powers to hold him,” Mahachi says.

Seven people, including South African Odile Harrington, are in jail after being convicted on charges of spying on the ANC and assisting commando raids in Zimbabwe.

Explaining the latest move, Mahachi says: “It appears the SA government is now seriously extending a hand of friendship and is ceasing commando raids on our territory.” He adds raids by Renamo rebels into Zim- babwe are under control though sporadic attacks still occur.

Zimbabwe is often criticised for keeping emergency powers in place while denouncing them in SA. Mahachi is indignant about comparisons. “Those who connect our State of Emergency with SA’s are just being mischievous because the South Africans used it to repress blacks. We were using ours to suppress South African commandos.”
End of the road for white settlers in Zimbabwe?
Zimbabwe amnesty for political prisoners

Argus Africa News Service
HARARE — Offenders convicted of crimes of violence during Zimbabwe’s general election campaign in March this year have been pardoned under a general amnesty announced by President Mugabe.

The amnesty also applies to prisoners serving sentences for activities related to the dissident rebellion in Matabeleland and to members of the security forces who committed offences on anti-dissident operations provided these were committed “in good faith”.

Five members of the ruling party were given jail terms last week for assaulting a member of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace whom they accused of being a member of Mr. Edgar Tekere’s Zimbabwean Unity Movement.

Others who will benefit under the amnesty include women convicted of infanticide if the death of the child occurred within three months of birth.

The amnesty does not appear to apply to the six South African agents serving prison sentences for their involvement in actions against the ANC.

The amnesty was granted to consolidate reconciliation and unity among the people of Zimbabwe and to mark the 10th anniversary of independence in April.

The most serious incident of violence during the election campaign was the shooting of one of Mr. Tekere’s senior lieutenants, Mr. Patrick Kombayi, who is still receiving medical treatment in Britain.
Policy of one man, one farm

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE—The Zimbabwe government has a new land policy of one man, one farm.

This policy foresees the removal of 3 million hectares from the commercial farming sector for resettlement by peasant farmers.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Witness Mangwende said the government would pass a law that an individual or a company could own only one farm each. There would be exemptions from this rule.

The government will encourage blacks to farm on a larger scale and to this end will earmark another 3 million hectares for producing “strategic crops.”

This will leave the 500 white farmers with about 80 million hectares, according to previous figures of land holdings.

Compensation will be paid for all land the government acquires.
Attempted coup just one of those things

Argus Africa / News Service
LUSAKA — The army lieutenant who connived to seize a studio at Zambia's national broadcasting corporation a month ago, and announced a coup attempt against the government of President Kenneth Kaunda, says his action "was just one of those things.

The Abo news agency reports that Lieutenant Mwamba Luchembe, released yesterday under a special amnesty announced by the president last week, denied he was drunk at the time and said he acted alone in taking over the studio.

"I don't take beers," he said.

NO DISCUSSION:

After an audience with President Kaunda at State House, Lieutenant Luchembe, speaking from his sister's house, said he had no plans to go into politics.

The lieutenant refused to discuss what prompted him to announce the attempted coup. "It won't help anybody to know all the little details of what I did on June 28."

"Suffice to say that I acted alone and that I am grateful to the president for having pardoned me because I didn't expect such a thing to happen," Lieutenant Luchembe said he had been treated well while in custody.
Zimbabwe to cut back its civil service

By Robin Drew, The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE -- Zimbabwe’s civil service, which trebled in size in the first decade of independence, is to be trimmed by up to one-third over the next two years as part of the government’s economic policy reforms.

Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, in charge of the reform programme, says people who are retrenched will be helped to engage in self-help ventures.

Dr Chidzero said the government had taken a decision to reduce the size of the bureaucracy on a phased basis, beginning this year.

Non-essential posts will be frozen as they fall vacant, ministries overhauled, and incentives for staff to leave voluntarily are being examined.

One incentive may be to allow civil servants to buy service and to retire early on full pension.
One man. One vote

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has lifted the Emergency, freed prisoners and promised peasants land. He is clearing the way for a one-party campaign that will neutralise international critics.

By ANDREW MELDRUM

The story is still many people in Harare who think a one-party state is in Zimbabwe is a distant possibility.

"It won't happen. People don't want a one-party state," said a bus driver. "We just won't let it happen."

Civil servants, teachers and office workers similarly dismiss the likelihood despite regular front-page articles in the government-controlled press about the desirability of a one-party state.

Many diplomats also scoff at the notion that the establishment of single party rule is not probable.

"Of course we have listened to the speeches and read the papers, but we don't really anticipate an actual one-party state," said a calmly assured Scandanavian diplomat. "We know there are many people, top officials within the party, who are opposed to a one-party state. We just don't think it will come to pass."

British and American diplomats also discount the possibility. They point to a political struggle between the 22-member Politburo and the 160-member Central Committee for President Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF).

"More than half of the Politburo are against and nearly half of the Central Committee are opposed," said one well-informed envoy. "We believe Mugabe is looking for a way to back down gracefully on this issue. The Central Committee is carrying out a study of other African one-party states and there will probably be another study. We think the issue will be allowed to fester away without notice."

That widely-assumed attitude of "it can happen here" is a willful misunderstanding of events that amounts to sticking one's head in the sand, particularly following Moscow's warnings in which he unmistakably spelled out his determination to establish his ZANU-PF/Zimbabwe's sole legal party.

"We are so many ignoring the signals! Aren't they listening when the president declares himself to be "an apostle of the one-party state"? Why are so many complicit?"

The successful imposition of a one-party state is completely against the grain of even in Southern Africa, particularly in South Africa that announced on Tuesday that it would become a multiparty democracy. Angola will probably follow and President Kenneth Kaunda has been

forced to hold a referendum on the issue in Zambia. The African National Congress has stated it is against a one-party state in a post-apartheid South Africa. Clearly Southern Africa is going for political pluralism. And the rest of Africa is similarly swinging towards multi-party states. The sweeping multi-party force began in Eastern Europe.

When Zimbabwe relented independence in 1980, and for many years afterwards, scholars said this country was fortunate to have learned from the experience of other independent African nations. Zimbabwe would not make the same mistakes made by so many other countries, they said. Sensible Zimbabwe would not indulge in expensive prestige projects like vast stadiums or glittering conference centres. Efficient Zimbabwe would not allow a bloated bureaucracy to slow down business or corruption to creep into any level of government, let alone the top. Zimbabwe would not use repressive authority against dissenters or minorities. Zimbabwe would not become a one-party state.

Well, Zimbabwe has suffered a day of those things and it appears, if Mugabe has his way, that it will have a one-party state, too.

Another argument against the eventuality of single-party rule in Zimbabwe points to recent events. The unexpected lifting last month of the 25-year State of Emergency and the amnesty granted to some 250 prisoners, convicted of a variety of crimes, indicate the Mugabe government is becoming more tolerant. Last week's economic tour de force by Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero puts Zimbabwe on the path to liberalising its centrally-constrained economy. Doesn't that show the government is loosening up?

This week a major plan to redistribute white-owned land to black farmers was announced. With both the Mugabe government and the opposition accusing the liberation war that has rekindled anti-white feeling. The non-believers ask, "Don't these progressive government actions add up to make it unthinkable that Mugabe will persist with his one-party state folly?"

This is not necessarily so. There is another way to look at those recent events and that view points towards a renewed one-party state drive.
Smith calm over Mugabe's land plans

By MICHAEL HARTNACK: Harare

FORMER Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith has told white Zimbabwean farmers dismayed by President Robert Mugabe's plans to nationalise their land: "Don't get worked up about it."

On his return from Europe this week, Mr Smith said: "There is a lot of politicking going on. My advice is that we should just wait.

"There is plenty of land available and there are plenty of willing sellers," said Mr Smith when asked about President Mugabe's plan to take over 93 percent of the 6.5-million hectare "tobacco and maize belt" source of 41 percent of Zimbabwe's export earnings.

"It is sad that the government has to use this as a political tool and in so doing destabilise the people in the bread basket of central Africa," said Mr Smith.

Holdings

He commended the Commercial Farmers' Union, which represents Zimbabwe's 4,000 white farmers, for its attempt to play down the emotive issue at its annual congress in Harare last week.

Asked whether he feared losing his own holdings, including farms mostly near Shurugwe (formerly Selukwe) where he was born, Mr Smith said: "I am not going to think about it.

"I have got land in a number of categories. I am going to get on with my farming and I think that is what most farmers should do.

Mr Smith denied that his meeting with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher indicated the British government was disturbed by recent developments in Zimbabwe.

"I have had contacts with Mrs Thatcher over the last 10 years," he said.

"I hope I don't appear arrogant, but I think people are beginning to realise that my views are very sensible and my views have come right."

In London, Mr Smith told a BBC interviewer that Zimbabwe's economic problems stemmed from Mr Mugabe's attempts to impose Marxist-Leninist policies.

Mr Smith's praise for the low profile adopted by outgoing CFU president Mr John Brown counterbalanced farmers' accusations that the CFU keeps quiet while the government rages against white land ownership.

"John Brown's body lies a-moulder in the grave," claimed CFU critics, who were outraged by the announcement that the government wants six million hectares near Harare resettled by 110,000 peasant families or handed over to "black emergent commercial farmers".

Diplomat

Over a million of the 3.5-million hectares bought from white farmers since 1960 (with British aid money) lies abandoned, due to the authorities' inability to implement resettlement schemes. Squatters have turned much of the remainder into disaster areas.

Mr Smith's advice on the land controversy is supported by recommendations to the US State Department by a senior diplomat formerly based in Zimbabwe.

The diplomat told Washington that the Zimbabwean Government had "no policy except to make rhetoric" when it came to South Africa, socialism and the one-party state.

But care had to be taken that "the rhetoric does not make the policy," he added.

"The self-styled "glamour boy of Zimbabwean politics" - Energy Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze - illustrated this when he attempted to cut his usual militant pose at last week's CFU congress.

Investment

Farming leaders, who had pointedly ignored the land issue during an entire day of debate, were dismayed when Dr Ushewokunze rose to compare the attitude of white farmers to "a child who has stolen a sweet".

Before handing over the CFU presidency to Mr Alan Birr, a tobacco farmer from Wepa, Mr Brown warned that talk of takeovers could undermine Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero's plan for economic liberalisation and foreign investment.

Dr Chidzero's reforms, aimed at reviving a chronically over-regulated economy, are considered vital by the World Bank for the resolution of Zimbabwe's crisis of 1.5-million unemployed people.
Zimbabwe makes it easier for investors

HARARE — Zimbabwe is revising its investment rules to make them more competitive and is strengthening a drive to attract Western capital into manufacturing and mining.

Zimbabwe Investment Centre director Richard Wilde said a new set of regulations would be published in the next few weeks. The rules, unveiled more than a year ago, promised tax concessions and relaxed dividend repatriation terms. An investment centre was also set up to slice through red tape and speed up approval of new projects.

But businessmen have complained about "vague promises" in the blueprints, and they say the code is not attractive enough.

"One of the problems mentioned about the investment code is that the rules are probably not transparent enough," Wilde said recently.

"There are a whole range of possibilities and possible decisions which might arise," he added.

Industrialists say there is no level playing field for investors, and the government is prepared to make special deals with some.

"What needs to happen is that the rules need to be much more specific so that investors can be much clearer about what the ground rules are," Wilde said. Businesses have also complained that the investment centre is falling back on its promise to process projects within 90 days. They say it is merely a post office for inquiries which are passed to bureaucrats.

The centre only has authority to approve projects valued at up to Z$5m without first referring them to the Finance Ministry. Industrialists want this changed.

Zimbabwe desperately needs investment to stimulate growth and deal with soaring unemployment.

Investment levels have declined sharply in the past decade since independence from Britain, constraining growth.

Wilde told bankers recently that real gross capital formation declined steadily during the 1990s to around 15% of gross domestic product. "If maintained, it would imply that the country was not even replacing its ageing capital stock," Wilde said.

Potential investors held back, citing stifling bureaucracy, shortages of foreign currency and strict state controls on prices and the labour market.

"They said the perceived cost of doing business in this market is high," Wilde said. To reverse this, the government eased price controls, switched to collective bargaining for wages and promised to unveil details of a five-year market reform package in October which will emphasise competition, reduce state subsidies and liberalise trade by 1998.

Wilde said he saw signs of an improvement in investment. He cited more than 100 projects approved by the year-old centre and valued at about Z$650m. About 25% of the total was in foreign cash, he said. — Reuters.

Nkomo officially dons vice-president's mantle

HARARE — Veteran Zimbabwean politician Joshua Nkomo was sworn in as vice-president of Zimbabwe yesterday, Ziana news agency reported. (ZL)

In that election Zapu won 20 seats and Zanu 87 in a 160-member House of Assembly in which 63 seats were contested on, what was called a Common (Black) Voters' Roll.

After almost six years of bitter rivalry, worsened by the emergence of dissidents in southwestern Zimbabwe, where Nkomo drew most of his traditional support, the two parties agreed in December 1987 to unite and form one party.

Nkomo and some of his top lieutenants were immediately awarded senior government posts.

President Robert Mugabe presided at yesterday's swearing in. — Sapa.

Frelimo begins week-long debate on multi-party system

MAPUTO — The Frelimo Central Committee began a week-long meeting in Maputo yesterday during which it will discuss the recommendations from the party's political bureau that Mozambique abandon the one-party state, and switch to a multi-party system.

Also on the agenda is the government's peace initiative which last month led to the first meeting, in Rome, between representatives of the government and of the Mozambican rebel movement, Renamo.

The central committee will also discuss a proposed Central Committee meeting, in December 1989. In his opening speech, President Joaquim Chissano urged Central Committee members and party militants in general to resist "the force of inertia and the comfort of routine" in order to make "the transformations that the ideals of peace, progress, well-being and democracy impose on us.

"As in the past, the Frelimo party must be able to renew itself in order to reestablish society and to continue acting as the political force that expresses the most important desires of the Mozambiquese strengthened hope for stability and progress in the future, he said.

In Mozambique itself, the nationwide debate on the new draft of the country's constitution, said the president, gave "indications of the need to make important changes in our socio-political system."

The constitutional debate was the latest stage in a process of reflection and transformation that had been under way since 1986, he added, and would culminate in approval of a new constitution. — ANO.
New post for Nkomo

ZIMBABWE's veteran nationalist leader, Mr Josiah Nkomo (73), was sworn in yesterday as Vice-President of the country, a position he will hold jointly with Mr Simon Muzenda.

The ceremony put the final seal on the unity pact between Nkomo's old party, Zanu, which has merged with President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF), and the opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC).

After the April general election this year, the Constitution was amended to allow up to five vice-presidents to be appointed by the President.
5 die of Aids in Zimbabwe

OWEU - Five people have died of Aids this year in the Gokwe district in Zimbabwe, and about 80 others have been tested HIV-positive, according to the latest issue of the "Cherui Gokwe Post," which was monitored by the Ziana national news agency.

District medical officer Johnson Dongjena told the monthly newspaper that the number of Aids cases in the district was likely to double by the end of this year.

"By the end of this year, we may have something like 200 cases unless we do something about Aids as a district and do not leave everything to the Ministry of Health," said Dongjena.

He said Aids cases in Gokwe were low in the past, but could rocket if residents do not change their highly promiscuous behaviour.

The situation was really getting out of hand and we call upon everyone to help us in creating an awareness of Aids.

Many people did not believe the killer disease existed."
‘500 000 Aids victims in SA by next year’

BLOEMFONTEIN — Some 500 000 people will be infected by the Aids virus in South Africa by the end of next year.

A workable strategy must be found to stop this prospect, Mr. John Pegge, National Director of NICRO, said in Bloemfontein on Wednesday. He addressed a forum of the National Council of Women of South Africa on "Youth at Risk — Criminality and Aids".

Mr Pegge said within 15 months — by the end of 1991 — 487 000 South Africans would be infected by the Aids virus. It had to be recognised these 487 000 people would be drawn from the sexually active population. This meant they would be young people.

In 1984 among the homosexual community in Cape Town the first people with Aids had been 40-50 years old. In 1986 the age had dropped to 30 years, in 1988 to 25 and this year the youngest was 16 years old.

Women, he said, had a special role to play in the fight against Aids. They had been subjected to "repression and marginalisation".

— Sapa.

Frightening future in Zimbabwe

The Star’s Africa News Service

HARARE — Analysts have presented a frightening picture of the toll taken by Aids in Zimbabwe, where the population, instead of doubling in 30 years as often forecast, will have declined.

By the turn of the century many of today’s young professionals and skilled workers will be dead if the increasingly gloomy predictions by medical specialists, social workers and economists are borne out.

The chairman of the National Aids Council, the main co-ordinating body, Dr Macleod Chitiyo, confirmed the officially recorded cumulative total of 3 634 cases of Aids by the end of June this year, said it was estimated that 460 000 people were HIV positive.

This figure was reached by an analysis of figures from blood transfusion service tests.

This gave a figure of 361 cases per million of the population which put Zimbabwe high on the list of countries most affected by Aids.

Conservative official figures show that in the last six months there were 1 723 new cases of Aids diagnosed.
"Outlook bright for farmers in Zimbabwe"

From ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE:—White farmers in Zimbabwe had gone away from their congress in a very positive mood, the new president of the 4,500 strong Commercial Farmers' Union, Mr Alan Buri, said in an interview.

"We received a strong assurance from the Minister of Agriculture that all the farmers would remain productive and that the agricultural sector, perhaps the largest within the economy, is going to continue and retain that status," he said.

Earlier outgoing president Mr John Brown had said at the opening of the congress that farmers were agitated and alarmed at the prospect of losing half their land to resettlement schemes.

RESETTLEMENT

Mr Buri said: "We look forward to continuing to be a net exporter of the many commodities this country produces and to retaining the quality of production. We are fairly confident the ministries will act only in conjunction with farmers when any decisions are made on resettlement."

Asked if he thought government plans for resettlement could be done in an orderly fashion, Mr Buri said he believed they could provided resettlement was done at a speed which the nation's resources could maintain.

It must also be done in such a way that there was no loss of production at the time resettlement was taking place.

It was very important that the advice of farmers in commercial and communal areas be followed closely.

It was also important that the farmers being resettled should be reasonably sure of being successful.
Zimbabwe picks a white Chief Justice
AIDS epidemic grips Zimbabwe

Biggest killer of children

From ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE—Thousands of babies in Zimbabwe are destined to die of AIDS-related diseases as the deadly virus sweeps through the nation like a bushfire.

AIDS already has killed more children than any other cause at Harare's two main hospitals, says an expatriate doctor who left the country after slamming the Ministry of Health for being secretive about the spread of AIDS.

"Officially, 3,094 AIDS cases have been recorded in Zimbabwe up to the middle of this year—but the true figure is much higher."

Cases soaring

Last year, 80 children under the age of four were recorded as having died from AIDS-related diseases.

"In the second quarter of this year 131 children in the same age group were diagnosed as full-blown AIDS cases."

The National AIDS Council in Zimbabwe says 20 per cent of AIDS cases occur in children under the age of five.

A quarter of all newborn babies are said to be testing positive for HIV and the deputy Health minister, Dr. Swithin Mombeshora, is on record as saying that up to 50 percent of children born to HIV infected mothers die before three years old.

There could be as many as one million HIV positive people in Zimbabwe, according to a study by Mr. Peter Fraser-Mackenzie.

"He has been researching the epidemic for the Commercial Farmers Union."

Guesswork

The National AIDS Council estimates there are 466,000 HIV positive cases but says it is "only" an estimate drawn from a crude extrapolation of Blood Transfusion Service figures.

A Roman Catholic worker, Father Ted Rodgers, has forecast that by the turn of the century most young people today will be dead from AIDS.

Health Minister Dr. Timothy Stamps says Zimbabwe must plan for the worst.

He said it is now policy for health personnel to feel free to publish AIDS statistics.

"We must stop pussyfooting around," he said. "We must get the facts, then we can deal with the facts."
Land reform is key to Zimbabwe's problems

HARARE - President Robert Mugabe on Saturday said solutions to Zimbabwe's economic and social problems are dependent on land reform, accelerated investment, property development, and increased manpower training.

"The national tasks for the next decade must accordingly seek to address the present socio-economic problems facing our nation," he told thousands of people commemorating Heroes Day, Ziana news agency reports.

The solutions to these problems must include:

* An urgent land distribution programme to achieve equity and place the people in a situation where more agricultural resources were easily available;
* The acceleration of the capital investment programme, leading to the creation of increased job opportunities;
* The expansion and development of technical institutions to impart technical skills at various levels;
* Improved housing and commuter transport in both urban and rural areas and the mobilisation of all Zimbabweans to implement the second five-year national development plan.

"As we remember our heroes and learn from them, we need to look to the future and to the tasks that lie ahead of us. The people's material, social and cultural needs must constantly impel us to work hard for their fulfilment."

"Beyond good education and good health lie areas of material needs still crying for satisfaction," he said.

If the present socio-economic thrust was sustained with vigour and dynamism, then a change in the people's incomes and standard of living would certainly occur, he added.

"The challenges before us are multiple and complex. Yet inspired by the example of our heroes, we should be able to muster the courage we need for success."

"It is incumbent upon us all, especially the leadership, to demonstrate our true identity with the heroes lying here and elsewhere, by living the virtues of honesty, loyalty, dedication, courage, sacrifice, selflessness, industry and uprightness," he said. Sapa
AIDS-related diseases killed 567 in Zimbabwe

HARARE — At least 567 people have died from AIDS-related diseases in Zimbabwe since last year, the Health Ministry disclosed in Harare this week.

Ziana news agency reported that a ministry official in the AIDS Control Programme (ACP) epidemiology department said 323 people died in 1989, while during the first half of this year 224 deaths were reported.

ACP spokesman Dr Evaristo Marowa said the ministry only started recording AIDS-related deaths last year and could not provide figures of earlier deaths.

He said it was also important to note that the more than 500 deaths represented only those reported by health institutions. Some deaths were not reported, he said.

It would seem likely the number of AIDS-related deaths for the first half of this year was considerably higher than the 224 reported to the AIDS Control Programme, since during this period 116 people died of AIDS or HIV-related causes in Bulawayo alone, according to city council director of health services Burnett Nyathi, and 69 people died from AIDS in Manicaland, according to the provincial health officer, Dr Salim Rajab.

If figures given by Rajab and Nyathi and the national figure given by the Health Ministry are all correct, this would mean that Bulawayo and Manicaland alone accounted for 207 of the 224 AIDS-related deaths in the first half of this year.

Marowa told Ziana the apparent discrepancy reflected the fact that AIDS-related deaths were under-reported. He suggested the provincial figures were likely to be the more accurate. — Sapa.
Attacks on all
Zulus 'not fair'

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE. — The Black Consciousness Move-
ment of Azania (BCMA) has accused the Afri-
can National Congress of unleashing its mem-
bers against other black organisations and
certain sections of the black community now-
that it has announced the suspension of its
armed struggle against the government in
Pretoria.

In a statement issued in Harare the BCMA
said political feuding in South Africa had taken
diabolical and frightening proportions.

The statement said: "Inkatha is not a
progressive organisation but the racist regime
is far worse. What justification exists in de-
claring peace with the regime and escalating
war against Inkatha? Is it fair to attack all
and every Zulu-speaking migrant worker in
the hostels simply because Gatsha Buthelezi
and the majority of Inkatha members are
Zulus?"
Transfer of Power: Zimbabwe

In the fifth article in our series, Transfer of Power, we will look at the liberation struggle in Zimbabwe. We will look at the gradual struggle which led to the negotiations, settlement, the Lancaster House agreement and independence elections in 1979.

Zimbabwe was a colony of Britain and was called Southern Rhodesia. In 1923 Britain handed over the governing of Rhodesia to the majority white settlers. Until Zimbabwe’s independence in 1979 the whites dominated political power in Rhodesia. Like in South Africa, the black majority of the population was denied any political rights. The whites maintained their rule through oppression and repression. The white capitalists also controlled the economy through their ownership of land, mines and factories and other means of creating wealth. The majority of the population were poor peasants who lived on the land that was already overcrowded. As a result many poor peasants were forced to work for white farmers to make a living. The working class in the cities was very small and not well organised.

Unilateral declaration of independence

In response to calls by sections of the black population and the Commonwealth, the Rhodesians proposed the “multinational” constitution which offered blacks 15 out of 65 seats in parliament and which maintained Britain’s right to cancel or veto any discriminatory legislation. The constitutional proposals were first accepted but later rejected as unacceptable to the black majority by Joshua Nkomo, the leader of the Zimbabwe African People’s Union (Zapu). Zapu was formed in 1960. The whites also rejected the proposals because of Britain’s “reserved powers” to veto legislation. This led to conflict between the British government and the whites in Zimbabwe. In 1965 the Rhodesia Front Party (RFP) with the support of the majority of the whites broke away from Britain and declared Zimbabwe an independent country. This was called Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI) because unlike other colonies, the whites in Zimbabwe declared independence without consulting Britain.

Under pressure from other ex-colonies like Zambia, who all met in the Commonwealth, Britain agreed to impose sanctions on Rhodesia in 1966. UDI placed power more firmly in the hands of the white minority. This family reconstructed the dominant political and economic position of the whites and the extreme inequalities for the black majority.

The struggle against white minority rule

Up until 1966 the black nationalistic organisations pursued peaceful methods of struggle. In August 1962 the Zapu executive split over what strategy and tactics to follow in the liberation struggle. Nkomo and his supporters were in favour of using foreign pressure to force Britain to give Rhodesia independence. A rival group, led by Sithole and Robert Mugabe, wanted to pursue an armed struggle. This group then split and in August 1963 formed the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), led by Sithole. There were conflicts between Zapu and Zanu and they remained separate until 1976 when the two organisations formed the Patriotic Front (PF). But there was no real difference in their goal which was majority rule.

Zanu launched the first major guerrilla attacks in Rhodesia in April 1967. But it was only after the independent wing of Mozambique in 1975 that the guerrilla war intensified. As the war progressed, more and more of Zimbabwe came under the control of the freedom fighters. The war together with internationally imposed economic and military sanctions increased the economic and military pressure on the racist regime. The war brought the economy to a near standstill and the British imperialists were aware that a way had to be found to restore capitalist stability. The regime was forced to try and find some way to accommodate the interests of the black masses and at the same time to maintain their white privileges. Imperialist interests could only be safeguarded by transferring power to a black government.

The internal settlement of 1978

In 1978 the US and the Smith government initiated talks between Ian Smith and moderate black leaders. These talks resulted in the Internal Settlement which excluded Zapu and Zanu. On 1 June 1978, Abel Muzorewa of the United African National Council (UANC) became the first and only premier of Zimbabwe Rhodesia. Key positions in the government were maintained by Smith’s colleagues. The Rhodesia Security Forces (RSF), the police and the civil service remained in white hands. Also, negotiated by Lord Carrington and they were attended by Commonwealth representatives. The PF between Zanu and Zapo entered Lancaster House prepared to have a consistent position on all the issues. Even though by this time the PF was not much of a political force, it was important to maintain unity among the two organisations as the British government was still biased towards the white minority. The British were still hopeful of a Muzorewa solution to suit their interests.

The PF was weak at the negotiating table because of pressure from the front-line states but also because of the weakness of mass organisations. Because the mass organisations were not strong, the PF could not depend on them for support for their demands. The PF were forced to make many compromises:

- Carrington imposed a ceasefire which brought the PF’s 35,000-strong guerrilla army into isolated camps or assembly points.
- Britain appointed a governor, Lord Soames, to oversee the process until a suitable black government was installed.
- Britain made sure that the army, the police and the civil service remained in white hands until the new regime was firmly established.
- White power was further entrenched with 20 of the 105 seats in parliament reserved for whites.
- Generous compensation was guaranteed to the 6,000 white farmers who owned as much land as nearly 700,000 black peasant families.

As a result of the Lancaster House agreement, Britain installed an interim government and control the transition period, through Lord Soames, and with the help of the Commonwealth force of 1,200 soldiers and about 500 British policemen.

Independence elections

In December 1979, Soames arrived in Salisbury to supervise the ceasefire, ensure free elections and set up the new government. To facilitate this, Soames removed the states of emergency for another six months in January 1980. Muzorewa’s Zapu PF became the major target for repression in the period between the ceasefire and the elections. It is likely that Zapu PF was found is difficult to hold bold meetings because of widespread intimidation by the security forces and private armies. As the election date approached, it became clear that Muzorewa’s support had disappeared. The intimidation of Zapu PF supporters did not prevent Zanu from winning 37 of the 80 seats. Muzorewa’s Zapu lost to Zanu PF gained only 3 seats. The Rhodesia Front Party won the 20 seats allocated to whites.

Conclusion

In this article we have seen that Zapu and Zanu were forced into negotiations because of the weakness of the front-line states. The front-line states, battered in an endless war, were forced into meetings of two parties to accept Britain’s settlement. We also saw that the absence of mass organisations within Zimbabwe also made Zanu and Zapu dependent on the front-line states. Britain was therefore able to force Zanu and Zapu into a settlement that brought about majority rule but maintained the interests of the capitalists and landowners in Zimbabwe.
Mugabe murder 'plot' baffles experts

heads of state who were in
Harare for independence
celebrations.

Abortive

Security force veterans were
this week racking their
memories for details of
the plot, no hint of
which
came to light in the past 10
years.

"There were quite a few
attempts to kill Mugabe," said
Peter Stiff, whose book
See You in November
recounts a 1979 bid to kill
the president in London.

Stiff also recalled an
abortive attempt in 1980 to
blow up Mr Mugabe's car in
Masvingo.

But none of the attempts
on his life took place on the
date mentioned in the cita-
tion and all of them
involved Rhodesians — not
South Africans.

By DON JACOBS
Harare

ZIMBABWEANS are agog at Presi-
dent Robert
Mugabe's mysterious
award of his country's high-
est decoration for bravery,
the Zimbabwean Gold
Cross, to a white former
Rhodesian.

At a Heroes' Day inven-
ture at State House last
Saturday, President
Mugabe's "head of internal
security", Danny Stannard,
60, emerged from his habi-
tual place in the shadows for
a brief moment to receive
his medal.

Cryptic

Then he disappeared
back into the secret world
of Zimbabwe's Central
Intelligence Organization,
in which he is the only
known white officer.

A cryptic citation said
that on April 23, 1980 — two
days before Britain finally
handed over the reigns of
power to Mr Mugabe — Mr
Stannard "failed an assassi-
nation attempt by South
African agents" against Mr
Mugabe and international
Zimbabwe and SA Come out of the Cold

By DON JACOBS
Harare

Despite a blanket of official silence, South Africa's minilateral diplomacy with Zimbabwe is continuing to thaw frosty relations between the two countries. Government spokesmen have said nothing of the secret contacts which led to a statement by Zimbabwe's Minister of Home Affairs, Moven Mabhida, that "...a policy of "good neighbourliness" was being followed.

At a meeting of the British-Zimbabwe Society in Harare, this week, local businessmen expressed anxiety that their country could be left behind by the pace of developments in South Africa.

Progress

Top London executive John Doury, head of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, told the meeting that contacts with South Africa were cautious as Zimbabwe wanted to see progress towards democracy. Said Mr. Doury: "We are talking with representatives of South Africa both in this country and countries to the north of us, in terms of future trading relations."
Steps by ANC, Govt to end apartheid are welcomed

HARARE — New strategies to tackle the problems of South Africa in the light of recent developments are the goal of the Commonwealth's new secretary-general, Chief Emeke Anyaoku. Arriving in Harare yesterday for a four-day visit on his way to the 10th anniversary celebrations of the Southern African Development Co-ordinating Conference (SADCC) in Gaborone this week, Chief Anyaoku welcomed the steps taken by the South African Government and the ANC to end apartheid.

However, Chief Anyaoku said he was troubled by the fighting taking place in South Africa's townships. The violence had to be seen as attempts to destroy peace initiatives, he maintained, adding the ANC and Pretoria needed to be encouraged to press on and negotiate a political settlement.

On the issue of relaxing sanctions on South Africa, Chief Anyaoku said the Commonwealth would wait until the changes reached a point of no return. "It will be helpful to have the ANC's view as to when irreversible changes have been made," he said.

Considering the odds stacked against the SADCC when it was formed 10 years ago, it had done extremely well, he added.

The Commonwealth secretary-general also said he hoped to hold discussions with all heads of state of SADCC member-countries.

Chief Anyaoku leaves on Wednesday for Gaborone where he is expected to address the SADCC meeting.

Sapa.
WINDS of political change are gusting across southern Africa, sweeping away old beliefs and dogmas in some countries but meeting stiff resistance in others.

A new spirit of pragmatism is in the air, boosted by the changes in Eastern Europe, the emerging dialogue between black and white in South Africa over the past year and the imperative economic needs of impoverished peoples.

The former Portuguese colonies of Mozambique and Angola offer the most dramatic changes as they move away from Marxist policies to political pluralism and market economies.

Zimbabwe under its veteran President Robert Mugabe, however, is considering a move in the opposite direction — towards a one-party state while at the same time liberalising the economy.

"It's like a political poker game, and no-one is sure where the chips will fall," commented one European diplomat.

In Zambia, with eight million people and the highest per capita debt in the world, President Kenneth Kaunda is battling to preserve 17 years of one-party rule against the stirrings of multi-partyism.

He has delayed a promised referendum on the issue until August next year while warning that a multi-party system would lead to tribal conflict.

The regional balance of power has changed since President F W de Klerk came to power in Pretoria last year, opening dialogue with South African nationalist movements seeking to end white minority rule.

Economic necessity

As southern Africa's economic giant turns its attention inwards, it has ended years of aggression against the majority-rules states over its borders.

With fears of South African invasions, economic blockades, funding of rightist rebel groups and sabotage operations across the region receding, Pretoria's neighbours have an unforeseen chance to put their own houses in order.

Economic necessity has also played a large part in changing their political attitudes.

Mozambique's Frelimo Party, which has ruled since independence in 1975, hopes that by introducing political pluralism it can end a long civil war that has shattered an already impoverished country.

Frelimo threw out Marxist-Leninist ideology a year ago and formally endorsed the multi-party system and a market economy last week.

President Joaquim Chissano has said the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), which demands political pluralism, should turn itself into a peaceful party to contest parliamentary and presidential elections next year.

The Angolan government, due to reopen peace talks on Tuesday in Portugal with US-backed UNITA rebels, is also studying a constitutional move to political pluralism.

It has also approved an austerity package worked out with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to revive a once-rich economy now almost entirely dependent on oil exports.

President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos has acknowledged that recognition of UNITA — the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — will continue to be a problem until the constitution provides for a multi-party state.

Zambia's economy, also implementing IMF-style reforms, is close to collapse, forcing President Kaunda's back to the wall.

A government move to double the price of food staples led to riots in June in Lusaka and other centres, while a coup-then-never-was in July brought people onto the streets in short-lived celebration.

There is some confusion in neighbouring Zimbabwe over its future political course. Local press reports that President Mugabe had been defeated within the ruling ZANU party to his bid to institute a one-party state brought vehement denials from Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira.

"The party has not deviated from the resolutions it made at its historic congress in December last year," he said last week.
Danhiko: A ladder of hope

Zimbabwe's Danhiko Project, which offers education and training to disabled freedom fighters and ex-combatants, can also be used as a model to help re-integrate retornees to South Africa. Andrew Meldrum reports

Josephat Zenda does not present the expected image of a guerrilla warrior fought to liberate his country, yet he was a political commissar in the Zimbabwe People's National Army (Zanla), which won independence and majority rule for the country in 1980.

In contrast to the ranks of Zimbabwe's disillusioned former freedom fighters who sometimes question what they were fighting for, Zenda has found fulfillment in his work.

He is a services and boarding master at Danhiko Project, a school and training center for ex-combatants, disabled and other disadvantaged Zimbabweans, and is in charge of twenty-five who had fallen through the cracks of Zimbabwe's formal education system.

Ten years after Zimbabwe's independence, much of the country's 450,000 nationalist fighters remain unemployed and many more are in low-paying casual jobs.

Zenda (22) takes pride in being part of a project that trains ex-combatants like himself, many of them disabled, with skills valued in Zimbabwe's job market.

"Lots of ex-combatants are bitter," said Zenda. "We put demobilisation pay for two years, but to give people money without education and jobs was a mistake. Now most ex-combatants feel spent and therefore no hope to get jobs. It doesn't make sense when they fought for our country."

Like many other Zimbabweans, Zenda has not spoken out about politics.

"Things started not well in independence, but I guess it's human nature that we discuss and comment when things go well for them," observed Zenda. "Ministers drive in Mercedes while we have such unemployment. Politicians play around with words and ex-combatants were given lots of promises from 1981 to 1992, but then things died down and nothing changed."

But Zenda has not lost hope. "I have faith in God and His wisdom." He said, "I have high hopes for our country when I see what we can do here. I started here and learned here and I have seen so many people who have been helped. For instance, once our computer studies got off the ground our whole school people will really do well and they will get very good jobs."

He tells of other Danhiko success stories. The manager of a Durban bakery is a Danhiko graduate, five other disabled ex-combatants are working at the Ministry of Labour.

"You are our students all over the country, but you are Danhiko students," said chief instructor, Chibhaye, in Kukwe and at Musa Pola," said Zenda. "One of our graduates is now a bawdmaster at Ezita, near Kutama. Another is now a police officer at National Breweries and another in Coca Cola.

Danzhiko, which means ladder in Shona, is designed specifically to offer education to disabled freedom fighters and war veterans.

"I was living at a camp for disabled ex-fighters near Harare Hospital, we weren't doing anything," said Zenda, who was seriously injured with a fractured pelvis. "Then Sharon Ladin came to us and brought the idea of setting up a school. About 20 of us started with her and then our numbers kept increasing."

Ladin, an American woman, was the first director of Danhiko.

Zenda was part of a motley crew of war veterans who studied for their O-levels in an old kitchen at Monihi hotels, an overcrowded workers' dormitory. The cramped, crime-plagued quarters next to a brothel had become completely inadequate by 1983 when the number of students had grown to nearly 300. New premises were found on the outskirts of Harare and students boarded in their classrooms.

"We had a kind of war hangover. We were just getting over the struggle and people didn't know if it would help to go to school. Many thought the government would do everything for us," explained Zenda of Dhanki's early years. "But then we began to realise that we would have to find our own jobs and build our own future."

An appeal for funds regarding jobs became clear. Ladin saw that Danhiko needed to expand its capacity in order to train in practical skills that would help graduates find employment. After visiting for their O-levels, Danhiko students now go on to carpentry, garment-making and electronics workshops where they get skills sufficient to train at vocational units at homes of activity where students learn skills in functioning workshops.

"We're going for self-reliance in all aspects here," Zenda said Danhiko director Stella Commias. "As our workshops start people, they also sell the goods produced. After training costs are deducted we put the proceeds back into the project."

The climate-making workshop produces furniture worth 232 000 which is in 1989 with a net profit of 23 000 after deducting training and administrative costs. With the money, the unit expanded its workshop area. Danhiko is the only institute in Zimbabwe which offers training for a City and Guilds certificate in climate making. One of the specialties is the wooden tools programme, in which low-cost carpentry tools such as woodcutters are made available from locally-available materials. The tools are available for rental and other carpenters, particularly the self-employed. Previously only imported tools were available and now the Danhiko tool set sells for one-tenth the price of the imported set.

Simultaneous success can be seen at the garment-making unit, which has seen its sales expand from 16 000 in 1987 to 21 000 in 1986. The unit is essentially a small workshop using skills from re-pair electronic equipment. There is a severe demand for skills in Zimbabwe that most students are offered jobs even before their examination results are known.

Danzhiko has had many benefactors and, with the help of Scandinavian donors, new classrooms, dining rooms, workshops, clinics and other facilities were built. One of the new buildings going up will be the computer centre, where students will learn to use computers as well as how to repair them. The project's buildings are all low-cost yet with full access for the disabled and a striking design that has won Zimbabwean and international awards.

One of the most impressive facilities on the campus is the sports centre which offers a wide range of athletic activities for the disabled. The sports centre is used by disabled groups from throughout Zimbabwe and Danhiko and, in co-operation with corporations, sponsors races and athletic events for disabled.

"Sports are not a luxury for the disabled," said Zenda. "Sports are a necessity because it keeps their minds in what they can do. It clears them and makes them ambitious. I have seen so many come here and they are working. With athletics they learn they can do things on their own, they learn to fend for themselves and they become much more active."

Most of the 332 students currently attending Danhiko Project are Zimbabweans, but 17 per cent are from neighbouring countries.

"Zimbabwe cannot be isolated from the rest of the region," said Commias. "Danhiko is committed to assisting victims of the regional conflict."

Commias, a South African exile, believes that in addition to getting his students back to work, Danhiko Project can make a more general contribution to the region by serving as a prototype for other training facilities.

"Danzhiko could be an appropriate model to help co-operate the same work in Mozambique and Angola. There is also a need for similar projects in South Africa. It's exciting to think that institutions like Danhiko could serve our whole region."

Carpentry students are being instructed by Jarosz Kumuda, wooden tools production supervisor.

Pictures: TESSA COLVIN

Josephat Zenda, services and boarding master at Danhiko. Zenda was a political commissar in the Zimbabwean National Liberation Army (Zanla).
battle to stay alive

Freedom fighters now
CAFCA EARS SAME AS ITS SHARE PRICE

CENTRAL African Cables (Cafca), listed in the electronics section, is one of the strangest anomalies on the JSE. The Zimbabwean electrical cable company reports first-half earnings virtually equal to its share price of 170c.

The PE of this hot-performing company, based on last year's earnings, is the lowest in the electronics sector at 0.7.

In the six months to June, earnings were 122 Zimbabwean cents a share, up 56% from 78c in the comparable period of 1989. Sales rose 39% to $24,8-million and pretax profit 57% to $21,8-million.

Even stranger, the share is priced at $2.25 in its home country, a Zimbabwean dollar is allegedly worth $1.10. So the price in Zimbabwe is $8.05 and here it is a fifth of that.

In spite of a 50% increase in copper smelting capacity, the company cannot meet demand for its products. Zimbabwe needs large amounts of electrical cable and so does all the Southern African Development Co-ordination Committee (SADCC) countries.

Zimbabwe authorities say that it is an important exporter.

The reason for the huge gap in share prices is that no arbitrage can take place between Zimbabwe and SA. A South African holder can neither buy nor sell into or out of Zimbabwe.

But there are no problems with dividends, which, after non-resident shareholders' tax of 20%, are freely remittable.

Cafca is obliged to keep dividend cover at 4.1. It earned 146c last year. If it can keep earnings ahead by 50% for the year, it could achieve earnings of 223c.

The year's dividend would be 54c or 44c after NHRST tax to a South African. That translates into 48 SA cents, giving a startling dividend yield of 29%.

An additional attraction is potential for Cafca after political relations with Zimbabwe normalise. Then, not only might dividends be more remittable but exports to SA could boost business further. The only problem is to find the shares because there are only 50 000 on the SA register.

By DAVID CARTE
Ex-Zim leader in peace appeal

MASVINGO. — Former Zimbabwean president Professor Canaan Banana yesterday called on the leaders of the ANC and Inkatha to meet and discuss ways of ending factional fighting, the national news agency Ziana reports.

Officially opening a three-day seminar on social justice, peace and reconciliation in Southern Africa here yesterday, Prof Banana said leaders of the ANC and Inkatha should meet for the sake of trying to end the violence.

And Mr Edgar Tekere, leader of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM), has reportedly made contact with ANC leaders including Mr Nelson Mandela, as well as Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi over the past few months.

Prof Banana said that by engaging in tribal wars, people would be destroying vulnerable resources which will be hard to replace or rebuild when peace finally prevails.

Mr Tekere has visited South Africa twice in the past four months, according to the latest edition of Africa Confidential.

The journal says that in May he spent time in the Johannesburg region “where he claims to have met Chief Buthelezi and Mr Walter Sisulu”.

“Mr Tekere has also said that while he was in Johannesburg he had a telephone conversation with Mr Mandela, at that time in hospital prior to his major world tour. According to Mr Tekere, Mr Mandela participated by phone from his hospital bed during the Tekere-Sisulu encounter.

Meanwhile, the six-nation Southern Africa frontline group is expected to hold a one-day summit in Lusaka this week to discuss developments in South Africa, official sources said yesterday.
AIDS payouts could increase 499%.

MICHAEL HARTWAG

HARARE - Zimbabwe's leading life insurance company, the Old Mutual, has drastically revised its rules on new policies after a 499% rise in payouts to families of AIDS victims.

Dr. Kapadia said in a statement released in Harare that the financial viability of Old Mutual was threatened because of the Zimbabwean government's ban on AIDS testing of applicants for policies: worth less than R104 000. This would be the new minimum instead of the previous R10 400.

The number of AIDS-related claims trebled during 1989, while sums paid out quadrupled, he said.

Kapadia said that despite Old Mutual's R150m assets there was a danger AIDS deaths could undermine its ability to meet obligations to policy-holders.

A recent study in the Zimbabwean midlands suggested that more than 40% of Zimbabweans between the ages of 15 and 59 were now infected with the HIV virus.
'Too few Blacks in top management'

HARARE - Zimbabwe's 10th independence anniversary has found the country's white population in the same position of command economically as they were in 1980, the Ziana news agency, quoting a lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe, said this week.

"In a paper presented at a seminar in Harare on Zimbabwe's first decade of political independence and the lessons from this for Namibia and South Africa, Mr Luke Mhiba, of the department of public law, said changes in the racial composition of management at all levels in the private sector had been inadequate or cosmetic."

"Further, not only are there relatively too few blacks in positions of management, some of them not exercising the power and authority commensurate with their positions...blacks have largely remained on the fringes of business enterprise. Very little of the locally owned company shares and businesses is in the hands of blacks," he said - Zana
ANC, SACF will split, says Marxist Zim academic
Estimates place the gold reserves in Zimbabwe at 300,000 tons, with a value of $150 billion. However, the government has been accused of underreporting its gold resources to avoid sanctions. The country's gold industry is one of the largest in the world, and the government has been keen to keep a tight lid on its reserves to prevent dilution of its currency. The gold is mostly mined in the Harare district, where the drilling and extraction processes have taken a toll on the environment. The illegal mining of gold has also been a significant issue, with miners operating in the bush without proper licenses. The government has taken steps to crack down on illegal mining activities, but the problem persists. The gold industry is crucial to Zimbabwe's economy, and any disruption could have severe consequences.
All quiet on the northern front

A DEAFENING SILENCE has fallen over the propaganda war between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Last week President Robert Mugabe's state-run Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation mysteriously halted its nightly programme, The Struggle Against Apartheid, while his party newspaper, the People's Voice, noted "with satisfaction" that Radio Truth had "finally gone off the air.

Radio Truth, allegedly broadcast from a secret transmitter near Louis Trichardt, spreading anti-Mugabe "subversion" in English and Zimbabwe's two vernacular languages, Shona and Ndebele.

The station aroused the fury of Mr Mugabe and his ministers, who regarded it as the cornerstone of South African "destabilisation.

The propaganda ceasefire, after 10 years of verbal attacks, dovetailed with the July announcement to parliament in Harare by Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi of a new policy of "good neighbourliness" with Pretoria.

There was speculation here that the next stage would see the long-awaited release of six people convicted of working as South African agents in Zimbabwe, including self-confessed spy Odille Harrington, 29.

Three of Zimbabwe's six "South African politicians" - Philip Conways, 37, Kevin Woods, 39, and Michael Smith, 38 - last week had their lawyers' petition the High Court for an injunction against "inhuman and degrading" treatment in the condemned cells of Chikurubi Maximum Security Prison.

The three, all former members of Ian Smith's Rhodesian security forces, were sentenced to death in November 1986 for killing a Zambian driver in a bomb attack on the house of the Tsumba, Bulawayo, allegedly sponsored by ANC guerrillas.

Although their appeals are still to be heard, they say they are "stripped naked at 4am every day and left with only their blankets until 7am. Their windowless 1.5m by 4m cells are "naturally cold" - they said in sworn statements, adding that months of written complaints by lawyers had been ignored.

Conways, Smith and Woods "said constitutional safeguards against cruel and inhuman treatment were also being violated because they weren't getting enough exercise.

A date has not yet been set for hearing their petition.

Love giri

Sunday Times Reporter

A STRICT Sikh father urged his teenage daughter to kill herself after she discovered she had a black boyfriend, a London inquest was told this week.

Indr Singh Gohal, aged 17, said his daughter, made a noise from his turban and invited her to put her head in it.

Gordiev told friends she refused and several months later was found hanged in a flat above her father's shop. Gordiev's fingers were be-
100 years: Ian Smith looks back

"I will always be proud to have been a Rhodesian. This 100th anniversary is a great day in history. With the passage of time, more and more Rhodesians realize what a wonderful job the pioneers did in this country," said the 71-year-old best-known ex-Rhodesian as he walked in the garden of his home in Harare.

The gate to the street, a wedge away from Royal Harare Golf Course, was open. There are no guards. A flock of guinea fowl, patrolling the rough, called.

"I love to hear them in the morning," Mr Smith says. "They remind me of the farm."

So, too, does a large landscape of the lowland in the sitting room of the house where these days Mr Smith spends more of his time working on his memoirs.

His love of the bush and his concern for Zimbabwe's future are apparent in any talk with Mr Smith, as is his bitterness about the way he feels the country is being mismanaged.

He says he has been reading an article about what is happening in sub-Saharan Africa, how it is going down the drain because of incompetence, corruption and nepotism — and pointing out that the black rulers must stop blaming other people for their problems.

And it was written by a black man, he says.

"But I find it sad to have to say that, after only 10 years, I see this situation starting in this country. And if these people don't come to their senses and change their habits, we will go the same way."

Of the white man's contribution after his arrival 100 years ago, Mr Smith says the obvious benefit was the tremendous economic development that took place: the railways, the wonderful road system, the electricity supply system superior even to that of South Africa: the building of Kariba Dam, a masterpiece of engineering.

"But what might be even more important is that they brought with them a code of conduct and behaviour which above all stood for freedom and justice, where no one could twist the laws of the country, where there was a lack of corruption, and nepotism was a dreadful crime."

He goes on: "I think of the wonderful farms and the soil conservation, the production of crops surpassing many countries, how we avoided the devastation of our resources."

But what about the charge that the white government neglected the half of the country known then as tribal trust lands?

No, it was not true that the white man took the best land for himself. The story as told to him was that the blacks were
rs: Ian Smith looks back

On September 13 1890 of Fort Salisbury. Lieutenant-Tyndale-Biscoe ran up the British flag to mark the occupation of Musina and by Cecil Rhodes' Pioneer Column. The country became Rhodesia, then Zimbabwe in 1980. Former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith (left) spoke to ROBIN DREW of The Star's Africa News Service about that period.

left to farm mainly in those areas where they wanted to farm, where the soil was light. There was a certain amount of "shuffling and juggling", but in the main they were left as they were.

It was true, he conceded, that African areas had been subjected to greater erosion. But that, he maintained, was because they were overstocked in times of drought and would not sell their cattle. In any case, it was the British who had insisted on the policy of land segregation, says Mr Smith.

"The British government said we had to keep half the land for the blacks, because otherwise all of it would be owned by the whites, by the entrepreneurs, the capitalists. That was absolutely correct."

On September 13 1890 of Fort Salisbury. Lieutenant-Tyndale-Biscoe ran up the British flag to mark the occupation of Musina and by Cecil Rhodes' Pioneer Column. The country became Rhodesia, then Zimbabwe in 1980. Former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith (left) spoke to ROBIN DREW of The Star's Africa News Service about that period.

left to farm mainly in those areas where they wanted to farm, where the soil was light. There was a certain amount of "shuffling and juggling", but in the main they were left as they were.

It was true, he conceded, that African areas had been subjected to greater erosion. But that, he maintained, was because they were overstocked in times of drought and would not sell their cattle. In any case, it was the British who had insisted on the policy of land segregation, says Mr Smith.

"The British government said we had to keep half the land for the blacks, because otherwise all of it would be owned by the whites, by the entrepreneurs, the capitalists. That was absolutely correct."

I have always got on very well with black people. I grew up with them and played with them as a kid. I have always been opposed to forced discrimination based on race, colour or creed, and I believe that my record substantiates this.

But, anyway, segregation in those early days was, in his opinion, a natural and understandable division based on history, culture and tradition. "I think it was quite normal and natural. Gradually we got away from it, even in this country. But we had to be careful we did not go too fast. One thing uppermost in my mind was that we might have gone too fast and created conditions which would have upset the confidence of the whites and exacerbated emigration.

"There are some who would say we should have accepted this in the overall good. But in our opinion, and I still subscribe to this, the overall good was to get them (the whites) to come here and not to drive them away, because the rate of development was proportional to the amount of expertise, the professionals and brains they could bring in and keep in the country."

What about the mistakes? Sure, there were some. "Well," says Mr Smith, "I don't know about those things. Everybody makes mistakes in life and it is easy to be wise through hindsight."

"I don't dwell on them. I try to be more positive. I would ac-
cept that some of the things we did should have been done more quickly. I don't think the prin-
ciple was wrong. It was the tim-
ing."

He had never regarded himself as a racist. "Honestly, I don't believe I am. I have al-
ways got on very well with black people. I grew up with them and played with them as a kid. I have always been opposed to forced discrimination based on race, colour or creed, and I believe my record substantiates this."

Of the white people who opened up the country, does he have a hero? He does not think one man stood out. They were a wonder-
ful bunch of people. As a child he loved talking to the old pione-
ers who called on his father. "I loved reading about the Pioneer Column. They filled me with pride and gave a tingling through my system."

Of Cecil Rhodes, Mr Smith says he always admired his overall concept. But he was an internationalist. He was prime minister of the Cape Colony, and much of his life was in South Africa.

I have great respect for Rhodes and I'm not trying to run him down. But I don't see him only and completely (con-
cerned) with Rhodesia."

Of later politicians, Mr Smith says he has great regard for Sir Godfrey Huggins (later Lord Malvern). "But, like many other good Rhodesians, he had been born in Britain and remained basically British. That was the difference between them and myself."

"I never found one of those early people who really stood out as my ideal, because I never found one of them who was, as I see it, a Rhodesian and not a Britisher."

And on the September 13 centen-
tenary, tomorrow, what will Mr Smith be doing to mark the day? He has received requests from all over the world to attend functions. There will be gatherings in Britain, the United States and Australia, and dozens in South Africa. He has decided to attend a function in the northern Transvaal.
Let Zimbabwe’s first decade be a lesson to SA

Regional Notebook
by PETER VALE

People’s Hero... Zimbabweans see the ending of the formal enmity between the Shona and Matabele as one of the most important achievements of President Mugabe’s policy of reconciliation.

IT MUST be 30 years since I first visited Salisbury, as the city was then known. In those days, the downtown area was very white: at least people with white skins directed the traffic, served in shops and sat behind desks in official-looking buildings.

Now — 10 years after the same city became Harare — people with black skins are about their nation’s business.

The northern suburbs — streets still leafy green — bask in the bright spring sunshine. Security around the houses is light but the gardens remain well-tended and neat.

Reopened in mid-summer, the Syrinxia — as it has done for decades — projects the brilliant of crimson flowers against the blue African sky. Not surprisingly, the racially demeaning “Traffic-Boon” is now known as the monkey tree.

Everything — and yet nothing — seems to have changed across the Limpopo. While the smells and scenery are unchanged by a decade of independence, things are very different on the streets of the capital.

At the fringes of the hotel — a good place to tap a city’s pulse — taxis and their drivers look worn. Interestingly, so business is to be seen; only heavy pedestrian traffic moving in all directions.

At nightfall stories of street girls emerged from the shadows. HIV-positive figures have reached alarming proportions in Zimbabwe but, denied access to scarce resources, many of the city’s unemployed must reckoned that the risk of AIDS is one worth running.

Are whites also being drawn into the emerging underworld? Perhaps, so 1 saw a face from youth crossing Camera Machel Avenue late one afternoon. On first glance, an obviously drugged or drugged from your house? But his eyes betrayed him. The velosleens tied in the defunctly Rhodesian fashion: tied to the top, no socks. And the striped “Gatoons” worn on the head by the shabby charcoal jersey.

The cars, as they once were, are no longer exclusively of British manufacture. A surprising number of them are flashy, many bearing diplomatic plates. But owning a vehicle is a taxing experience: expensive to buy, costly to maintain and easily stolen.

Most of Harare’s burghees, it seems, now prefer to travel in a motor car. Their daily ritual begins long before dawn when ageing bases crank their way through “high density” suburbs to a giant bus station near the city centre.

Our conference, which met in the university’s council chambers, is part of the “Zimbabwe’s first decade of independence” series. And the country’s Africans and Namibians.

It’s impressive. The lessons are to be learnt and the university seems a good place to start. The opening speaker was the principal, a gentle lady and Dundie-educated lawyer. It told us that the university has “very few white students: most chosen to continue their training in South Africa”.

In this there is a lesson: unlike the former Rhodesia (and the present Zimbabwe), South Africa’s whites have no convenient escape hatch to another country — close to hand. Surely, this means that it will be easy to avoid the impact of the deep-seated changes which will come to the country’s higher education.

Our host impressed on us the need to bridge the gap between rich and poor. Reconciliation — the cornerstone of Mr. Mugabe’s policy — has not, they argued, enabled the redistribution of wealth. All the indicators suggested that the income gap — already estimated to be 40:1 — will widen.

The long-term implications of this trend and the lessons for South Africa seem perfectly obvious, of course, is what can be done about it?

In South Africa, nationalisation (as a means to redistribute wealth) has been suggested. In Zimbabwe, this route was never tried. The government did, however, one other mechanism in an effort to realise resources. As a result, income taxes soar and the bureaucracy has amassed in the economic process. Now, it seems, these policies have lost their appeal. There are even suggestions that to attract necessary foreign investment, taxes in Zimbabwe might fall. In addition, the new trade liberalisation proposals promise to remove the dead hand of bureaucracies from this crucial area of economic policy.

It may, however, be necessary to redistribute land. For 10 years the government has presided over an agricultural revolution in peasant farming, particularly in the north-east. However, the sequence is near an end: demands on the land have amplified calls for redistribution. Not surprisingly, the well-entrenched commercial farming sector has howled in protest.

Regardless of their importance, these debates have been overshadowed by Mr. Mugabe’s plans for a one-party state. Most — no, all — the Zimbabweans at our conference were opposed to this idea but believed their country would overwhelmingly support this president if he called for a referendum on the issue.

Why is Mugabe so keen to have a one-party system? The only convincing answer came from an African source who argued that Mugabe’s elevation to the presidency had isolated him from public opinion. But why would they support him in a referendum?

Well, my source intimated, he remained the hero of the revolution.

For all his personal isolation and uneven economic policy, however, Mr. Mugabe has achieved much in the past decade. By keeping as many whites in the government as possible, he has forged a creative partnership.

On the other hand, the Zimbabweans were near disastrous of this feat. For them the importance of Mugabe’s policy of reconciliation was the ending of the formal enmity between the Shona and Matabele which had been destroyed other independence.

This may be the most important lesson for South Africa of Zimbabwe’s independence. As we daily count the tragic toll in our towns, we might not be witnessing our version of the violent bloodletting which occurred in 1980 and 1987.

Peter Vale is director of the Centre for Southern African Studies, University of the Western Cape.
Zimbabwe's leaders have been criticized for their economic policies and their handling of the country's economy. Many people feel that the government has not done enough to improve the economy and provide opportunities for its citizens. The country has also been affected by the global economic downturn, which has had a negative impact on its exports and foreign investment. Some critics argue that the government's policies have been too focused on the rich, while others believe that the government needs to do more to help its people. Despite these challenges, there are still some who remain optimistic about the country's future and believe that with the right policies, Zimbabwe can once again become a prosperous nation.
PAC’s ‘watershed meeting’

By Kaizer Nysmahamba

Political Staff

The top leadership of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) will hold “a watershed meeting” in Harare, Zimbabwe this week.

The PAC will discuss the Government’s invitation to the organisation to become involved in negotiations.

PAC adviser Dikgang Moseneke said yesterday the meeting, which starts on Thursday evening and ends on Sunday morning, would “probably be a watershed meeting” in the organisation’s history.

Philemon Tefu, PAC assistant general secretary, said the entire internal national executive committee, headed by general secretary Benny Alexander, will travel to Harare to consult with the PAC’s central committee.

PAC president Zephania Mothopeng will also attend the meeting.

PAC publicity secretary Benny Ntoele said the organisation’s national congress in October would also be discussed.

For the first time since it was formed in 1959, the PAC will hold its national congress inside South Africa next month.

However, external PAC leaders will not be able to attend the congress because, unlike African National Congress leaders, they have not been granted temporary indemnity from prosecution.

In order for them to benefit from agreements reached between the Government and the African National Congress, the PAC would have to be engaged in exploratory talks with the Government.
ZIMBABWEAN police this week raided the offices of the newly-formed Southern African Human Rights Foundation and confiscated documents, apparently fearing the organisation had links with local opposition groups.

The group's executive director, Archibald Ngoboh, said it had been planning a seminar on the one-party state envisaged by President Robert Mugabe and the proposal to send a mission to South Africa to probe current violence.

Mr. Ngoboh said that in a month of operation, the foundation's Harare office had received numerous communications from South Africa's black homelands.
Civil action against death row prisoners

HARARE — While the Zimbabwean authorities have agreed to improve death row conditions for three condemned South African agents here, anti-apartheid activist Jeremy Brickhill is bringing a civil action against two of them for injuries he received in an October 1987 car bomb attack.

A lawyer acting for Mr Brickhill, Mr Bryant Elliott, confirmed yesterday that papers for a £450,000 suit had been served against Kevin Woods and Michael Smith in the Chitungwiza prison, and against Barry Bawden, who is serving a life sentence for aiding the May 1987 SADF raid on ANC premises in Harare.

Woods, Smith, and a third former member of the Rhodesian security forces, retired police sergeant-major Philip Conway, 55, were sentenced to death in 1988 for the killing of a Zambian civilian in an attack on an ANC "safe house" in Bulawayo.

Their lawyer, Mr Robin Hartley, said yesterday that he had been assured they would no longer be stripped naked from 4pm to 7am nor kept locked up for over 23 hours a day in their individual windowless cells measuring 4.5m by 1.5m.

Referring to recent reduction in tension between Zimbabwe and South Africa, officials here told Mr Hartley "new circumstances" allowed death row conditions to be relaxed.

Meanwhile, Mr Hartley said he was awaiting a reply to his request to see President Robert Mugabe personally and appeal for an amnesty for Woods, Smith, Conway, Bawden and two other convicted people, Odile Harington, 29, and Denis "Sammy" Beahan, 42.
SA agents to appeal for amnesty

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE - Six convicted South African agents, three of them under sentence of death, are to ask President Mugabe to grant them an amnesty in view of the release of political prisoners in South Africa.

Lawyer Robin Hartley said this week he had asked to see Mr. Mugabe at the request of the prisoners. He said they were understandably anxious that their position was being overlooked.

The prisoners include a South African national, Odile Harrington, who has served nearly three years of her 12-year jail term for spying on the ANC.

Studies

Mr. Hartley, who saw her last week, said the 29-year-old Johannesburg woman was in good health, apart from a skin complaint which was being treated by a specialist.

She was continuing with her studies of African languages and wanted to enrol for a Unisa course in the history of art.

She is being held in the women's section of the maximum security wing at Chikurubi Prison on the outskirts of Harare. She has a cell to herself.

Mr. Hartley said she had asked for ear plugs to deaden the noise from the prison as a whole.

The other prisoners for whom Mr. Hartley will request an amnesty are Kevin Woods, Michael Smith and Philip Conlwayo (all under sentence of death for the murder of a man who died when a car bomb exploded at an ANC house in Bulawayo). Barry Bawden, serving 40 years for his part in the bombing of ANC properties in Harare, and Denis Beahan, an ex-SAS soldier, doing a life sentence for his role in the abortive attempt to spring South African agents from jail.

The lawyer said conditions under which Woods, Smith and Conlwayo were being held in the condemned prisoners' section had improved in response to a petition to the High Court for relief from inhuman and degrading treatment.

The prisoners are now to be allowed two hours exercise a day instead of only 30 minutes and they are being allowed to keep their prison clothes for the night.

Mr. Hartley also revealed that new blankets and prison clothing had been issued to Bawden and Beahan who are in another section.

He confirmed that Bawden, Smith and Conlwayo were being sued by Jeremy Brickhill, an anti-apartheid activist and victim of the Avondale car bomb blast of October 1987.

Mr. Brickhill is claiming about R420,000 for general damages, pain and suffering, loss of earnings and medical expenses as well as psychological and emotional distress. He suffered multiple shrapnel wounds and burns.

The defendants have denied involvement in the blast, for which charges were not brought against them.
Two one-party change course

AFRICA

BUSINESS DAY, PM
Activist bomb victim sues 'SA agents'

By DON JACOBS
Harare

ONE of the most sensational courtroom battles in southern African legal history is looming with veteran socialist activist Jeremy Brickhill suing Death Row prisoners Michael Smith and Kevin Woods for alleged South African destabilisation.

Mr Brickhill, a former campaigner for the ruling Zanu-PF party, is claiming R40 000 in damages from Woods, Smith and Barry Bawden, who is serving a life sentence for assisting the May 1997 SADF raid on ANC premises in Harare.

Woods, 37, and Smith, 36, were sentenced to hang for killing a Zimbabwean drifter in a January 1996 attack on an ANC safe house in TzANEEN, Bulawayo.

Evidence

But Brickhill, claiming he was served on the men in prison, that they and Bawden were also involved in the October 1987 car-bombing of Harare's Avondale shopping centre in which Mr Brickhill suffered severe internal injuries, has never led evidence linking Woods, Smith and Bawden to the incident, and Mr Brickhill's lawyer Bryant Elliott declined to say what witnesses would be called to prove the civil damages case.

He acknowledged that allegedly key figures in the case — other members of the Bawden family — were now in South Africa and beyond the jurisdiction of Zimbabwe's courts.

Mr Brickhill, currently researching at St Catherine's College, Oxford, England, has a long history of support for the 'armed struggle' both in Rhodesia and South Africa.

Naked

Acknowledging reduced tension with South Africa, officers at Chikurubi Maximum Security Prison last week relaxed Death Row conditions for Woods, Smith and fellow convict Phillip Conwaysayi, 50, who, since 1988, have been stripped naked from 4pm to 7am and locked in their windowless 1.5m by 1.5m cells for over 23 hours a day.

They are now allowed to wear clothes and spend two hours in the open each day.

Their lawyer Robin Hartley is seeking an audience with President Robert Mugabe to appeal for amnesty for them.
SA delegates invited to Zimbabwe trade talks

MICHAEL HAMPSON

HARARE — Resident Robert Mugabe's government has agreed to an SA delegation being invited to a trade conference organised by the Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries in December.

This was a sign of radical change in the policy of isolating SA, confederation president John Deary told a media conference at the weekend.

"The conference is being held with the full approval of the government," Deary said.

Beira

SA observers had been welcomed by Zimbabwean government representatives at a recent conference of countries belonging to the east and central African Preferential Trade Area (PTA).

As a result of "unofficial" Zimbabwean trade and SA resistance to Zimbabwean products, exports to SA had fallen to "disappointingly" low levels in recent years, while Zimbabwean imports from SA had remained high.

About 40% of exports were now made through Beira.

However, Zimbabwe could save an estimated R200m a year by rerouting more imports through the Mozambican port.

Deary said the cost of involvement in the Mozambican war had put a major brake on Zimbabwe's economic development, with 19% of the annual budget funding defence.
Easing up

HARARE - In another significant shift away from socialist policies, the Zimbabwean Government has lifted strict price controls on most products as part of its economic restructuring programme.

Up to now hundreds of products have had to have price increases or price change formulas approved by the Cabinet or the responsible Minister. They will now move on to a variable mark-up system based on an overheads loaded cost.

Source: African News Service
US warns on trends
WASHINGTON
Dangerous trends had the potential to undo the work done so far to create a climate conducive to negotiations and peaceful change in South Africa, the Bush Administration has warned the US Congress.

In its annual report on progress in South Africa to the Congress, the Administration said the trends included growing political extremism from the right and left, intolerance to opposition within the black community, and general violence and crime.

The note of warning contrasted with the general tenor of the rest of the report, which was generally positive and optimistic about developments in South Africa in the past 12 months.

Mugabe’s appeal
UNITED NATIONS
Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe said he made an unsuccessful appeal to US President George Bush to impose a ceiling on rising crude oil prices.

"The developed nations can do much more to halt this hiking of oil prices," Mugabe told reporters after addressing the U.N. General Assembly.
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE

After more than three years of debate, planning and indecision, Zimbabwe this week launches its trade liberalisation programme. The timing is inauspicious: the balance of payments is deteriorating, inflation is on the rise, the budget deficit remains stubbornly close to 10% of GDP and, if all that were not enough, Zimbabwe will be hard hit by surging oil prices.

Blanket import controls, imposed 25 years ago, will gradually be replaced with an open general licence system and tariffs restructured over a five-year period.

Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, who admits that real incomes have fallen during his eight-year tenure, will liberalise other things too, decontrolling prices and interest rates and relaxing labour market controls. The odds are heavily stacked against success. Not only is there a lot to liberalise, but also a reluctance to loose the reins.

Ministerial speeches are larded with promises to “control” economic reform. If only Chidzero could actually implement them.

Ministerial speeches are larded with promises to “control” economic reform. If only Chidzero could actually implement them.

It is more than three years since government accepted the principle of “opening up” the economy; little has been achieved. It took more than 10 years to sign a bilateral investment treaty with the US. Newly independent Namibia did it in 10 weeks.

The much-vaunted one-stop investment centre launched a year ago has approved Z$600m in new projects, but at least two listed companies — Falcon Mines and Central African Cables — complain that the promise to answer within 90 days was not met.

There has been precious little new foreign investment. Recently, Dalgety became the latest in a stream of foreign companies to “disinvest. Dividend controls are to be liberalised further to encourage newcomers.

Estimates of the additional foreign exchange required to sustain the programme range from US$1.5bn to $3bn. To date, only Z$250m has been raised from the African Development Bank and International Finance Corp.

Even more ominous is Chidzero’s continuing failure to tackle the budget deficit. In 1990-1991 it will rise by more than 25% to Z$10bn — roughly 10% of GDP. In the past, the minister has blamed military spending in Mozambique. This year he’s shifted focus, blaming parasitical subsidies, which he says account for 4% of GDP.

Realism is in short supply, say economists. Chidzero promises to tackle the parasitical
Coetzee gives evidence at UK hearing

LONDON — A detailed description of the office and home of SAP forensic chief Lt Gen Loots Neethling, and details of how he allegedly provided poison to kill anti-government activists, were led in evidence at a special hearing in London yesterday.

Alleged former police hit squad leader Dirk Coetzee said he was involved in the “knock-out” drops and poison from Neethling.

Coetzee said he was interested in killing activists and ANC members in 1981, when he was in charge of the alleged Viakhlasah death squad camp near Pretoria.

The civil action is linked to the inquiry into hit squads by the Harms Commission, before which Neethling denied Coetzee’s claims, suggesting Coetzee might have seen his office and home during the course of his duties while he was posted to the police narcotics bureau, South Africa.

The Rand Supreme Court, which is to begin hearings on November 12, gave permission for evidence to be heard in London from Coetzee, who is now in exile. — Sapa.

No end yet in sight to township rent boycotts

RENT and service payments in Transvaal townships improved in September, but there was still no indication that the payments boycott had been broken, TPA official Liesl Vermeulen said yesterday.

Residents of 27 Transvaal townships are refusing to pay rent and services charges. Of these, 25 owe Eskom R70m in electricity arrears.

Meanwhile a body representing southern Transvaal township civic organisations yesterday reiterated a call for the rent boycott to continue until the authorities met its demands.

A conference of 30 civic organisations, organised by the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast), unanimously resolved to co-ordinate “mass activity” within the next three weeks to demand the scrapping of rent arrears and abolition of racially based local authorities.

At a Press conference yesterday, Cast president Moses Mayekiso said the envisaged mass activity would include protest marches and mass meetings.

Vermeulen said in a statement that payments improved last month after agreements had been reached in Greater Soweto, eastern Transvaal and the Rand Rand townships of Daveyton and KwaThema.

"However that is no indication that the boycott has been broken as yet, as only two of the regions (eastern Transvaal and far northern Transvaal) had payments of over 50%," he added.

Maguire fears for life after being freed

BULAWAYO — The Zimbabwean government has unconditionally released Rory Burt Maguire, 39, who two years ago was jailed for failing to report the presence of SA agents and of assisting them in carrying out sabotage.

Maguire — who prison sources said was freed about two months ago — told Ziana national news agency on Monday he was afraid for his life.

He was jailed for seven years on July 14, 1988 for withholding information from authorities about the fat bomb attack on January 11 1988, at a house in Trenchard suburb, Bulawayo, which resulted in Obert Mwanza being killed and a number of SA refugees being injured.

It is not clear whether Maguire’s release was in terms of the presidential amnesty proclaimed last July, when President Robert Mugabe pardoned a wide range of criminals. — Sapa.

WILSON ZWANE and TIM COHEN

It was the TPA’s view that any township that did not maintain a payment percentage of 80% was engaged in a rent and services boycott, she said.

Talks on how to resolve the boycott were under way, but were not going well in some affected townships such as Atteridgeville and Zithobeni, Vermeulen said.

She added that Mamelodi and Atteridgeville faced power cuts unless electricity payments were made to the Pretoria City Council by Friday.

Eskom communications manager Johan du Plessis said Eskom would not consider writing off any of the R70m electricity arrears as it still hoped to recoup them.

He said Eskom had a strategy to achieve this.

Rand Water Board PRO Louise Fourie said the board would not discontinue or reduce any water supplies before exhausting all legal remedies.

The Cast conference also rejected flat rates for township services.

Instead, the TPA would be given a specific period to repair or install working meters and charge affordable rates.

Cast intended requesting urgent meetings with Eskom, the Rand Water Board and the TPA to discuss guidelines for negotiations between provincial bodies and civic organisations, said Mayekiso.
Zim unconditionally frees Rory Maguire

BULAWAYO. — The Zimbabwe government has unconditionally released Mr Rory Burt Maguire, 39, who two years ago was jailed for failing to report the presence of South African agents and of assisting them in carrying out sabotage inside the country.

The Zimbabwean national was jailed for seven years on July 14, 1988, for withholding information from authorities about the 1988 bomb attack which resulted in the death of Mr Obert Amon Mwanza and injured a number of South African refugees. — Sapa
SA MPs to visit Zim this weekend

By BARRY STREEK

A Multi-Party delegation of South African MPs is to make a breakthrough in the Zimbabwe-Lesotho conflict. The delegation will visit both countries to make a second trip to South Africa at the end of the month. The delegation consists of members of the Progressive Party, Communist Party, African National Congress, and the African Convention. The delegation will meet with government officials and discuss ways to improve bilateral relations between South Africa and Zimbabwe. The delegation includes two National Democratic Party MPs, two Labour Party MPs, and one Independent MP. The delegation will also visit South Africa's five countries in the region. The delegation includes members of the Progressive Party, Communist Party, African National Congress, and the African Convention. The delegation will meet with government officials and discuss ways to improve bilateral relations between South Africa and Zimbabwe. The delegation includes two National Democratic Party MPs, two Labour Party MPs, and one Independent MP. The delegation will also visit South Africa's five countries in the region.
Results for the twelve months ended 31 July 1990

HYPERETE STORES LIMITED

HARARE - A WORLD BANK TEAM IN HARE

World Bank team in Harare
Shift in control of Zimbabwean textile firm

"ZIMBABWEAN-based Textile Mills' controlling shareholder Security Mills has acquired all Textile Mills' business operations, assets and liabilities, effective from September 30, according to a statement published today.

Once preference dividends have been paid, all the reserves and profits earned in the nine months to end-September will be paid out as a dividend to ordinary shareholders.

Minority shareholders are likely to receive not less than 28c for each share payable in December. Dividends of non-resident clients are likely to be blocked in Zimbabwe.

Textile Mills is to become a Luxembourg-based company. It is to acquire three mining companies with interests based in SA for approximately R33m. This will be paid for by means of a rights issue and R7m in cash.

The shares will be consolidated on the basis of eight for one.

JSE listing of the shares will continue.

The forecast net asset value of the Luxembourg company is 490c a share, and earnings for the year to end-June 1991 are expected to be not less than 296c a share."
Skills shortage hits Zimbabwe economy

By TREVOR GRUNDY

THOUSANDS of qualified Zimbabweans are leaving the country to seek employment in South Africa and Botswana, Zimbabwe's Minister of Labour, Manpower and Social Welfare, John Nkomo has said.

He attributed this drain to low wages and salaries in Zimbabwe compared to better incentives offered in other countries - particularly South Africa.

He said: "Skilled people are internationally mobile and will go to countries where their skills are adequately rewarded."

In 1989 a qualified tool maker in Zimbabwe earned 2500 Zimbabwe dollars a month (R2 550), while his South African counterpart earned R3 622.

And in South Africa a vast range of consumer goods is available while in Zimbabwe such goods are few and far between.

Luxury imported cars cost almost as much as three-bedroom houses with swimming pools and three acres of land.

When the few new cars that are available break down, owners have to drive south in borrowed vehicles, or fly to Johannesburg, to obtain spare parts.

Nkomo blamed the brain drain on poor pay, high income tax, poor economic packages and a shortage of consumer goods.

So people with available skills move elsewhere, causing severe shortages. Such a shortage is being felt in Zimbabwe's hospitals and clinics.

The Ministry of Health alone needed 6 700 skilled people, Nkomo said, while by 1995 it would need another 4 915 professional staff. Of this, 57 were specialist doctors, while 137 were general practitioners.

At current losses of doctors from the Ministry, 141 specialist doctors and 672 general practitioners were expected to leave.

Nkomo said the government was trying to minimise such problems through training programmes in skills needed in the much publicised "open economy".

He said: "We live in a dynamic world and we have no option but to liberalise our economy if we are to avoid being relegated to the dustbin of development."

Liberalisation has started in a modest, limited way, but everyone knows to make it work there must be massive defence spending cuts, the removal of subsidies on most foodstuffs and the removal of tariffs protecting outdated and ill-equipped industries.

The poverty datum line is now R450 a month (for a family of six) but hundreds of thousands of people with jobs are well below it. Many Zimbabweans are asking what happened to the socialist dream and why it had to fade so quickly after the collapse of so many East European governments this year.

Commented leading businessmen and author Lawrence Vambe: "For too long now we have modelled ourselves either on Britain and the US or on communist countries.

"We must now go for what is best for Zimbabwe and I personally believe words like capitalist or socialist don't add up to much in the 1990s."

Meantime, the sheer weight of indifference by Europeans towards African problems hasn't been felt here yet.

Zimbabwean leaders speak about the need to rival the mighty European Economic Community after 1992.

But few realise Europe's obsessions with its own problems, particularly among the Germans who have the massive task of bringing 17 million poor East German relatives into the next century.

With the Americans inflating the Middle East, Britain dipping its financial toes into Europe and Europe trying to rebuild after the collapse of the communist bloc, Zimbabwe is expected to tread a lonely economic path towards development during the rest of the 1990s.
Zimbabwe talks 'historic'

HARARE: The meeting on Monday between South African parliamentarians and Zimbabwean MPs was an historic ice-breaking event, the head of the South African trade mission said. But he told newsmen after the two-hour meeting that it would be premature to speculate on the rapprochement at government level between Harare and Pretoria.

Neil said Zimbabwe had shown some reluctance initially but finally the visit had received Cabinet approval.

The leader of the six-man delegation, Mr Tommy Abrahams, Labour Party Member of the House of Representatives, said the friendliness with which the South Africans had been greeted by 14 Zimbabwean Members of Parliament had been striking.

No reaction

Newsmen were told, however, that a hoped-for meeting with Vice-President Simon Muzenda had not taken place. There had been no reaction to a request to pay a courtesy call on the Vice-President.

The Zimbabwean delegation which met the South Africans included a deputy minister.

Since independence Zimbabwe has maintained trade relations with South Africa but has barred political or diplomatic contact with Pretoria.

The parliamentary visit was part of a five nation tour undertaken by the delegation which also visited Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique and Malawi. Soweto Correspondent.
Police fire teargas at Harare students

HARARE — Riot police fired teargas yesterday to break up a day of student demonstrations against plans to bring Zimbabwe University under greater government control.

At least 12 students were arrested after they refused to disperse in central Harare, witnesses said. Hundreds of university students demonstrated outside the parliament building to protest against a proposed Bill that allows the Higher Education Minister to interfere in the university's administration.

Riot police with batons and shields dispersed the students and confiscated anti-government placards.

Earlier yesterday, riot police fired teargas at students who had demonstrated in the middle of a major road leading to the capital.

"Academic freedom and autonomy are not privileges. They are prerequisites for the functioning of the university. This current legislation will destroy the university," said Tony Reeler, secretary of the 120-member Association of University Teachers.

The students originally intended to demonstrate first in front of Zimbabwe's parliament building, but were barred from entering Harare by riot police and army trucks.

On campus, some students hurled bricks at the university administration building and set fire to garbage bins.
Revolutionary legacy

HARARE - President Mugabe said last night that the late president of the PAC, Mr Zephania Mothopeng, had left behind a tradition of revolutionary militancy for the PAC and the people of South Africa.

Mr Mugabe said Mr Mothopeng's views were consistently militant, revolutionary and unrelenting. He saw apartheid as an immoral system that could not be accommodated, modified or in any way reformed, but which had to be uprooted through the armed struggle.

The Zimbabwe leader said Mr Mothopeng had been a hero of the freedom struggle whose personal sacrifice and commitment was an example for many others to follow.

At a gathering in Harare last night, Mr Romero Danlslart, political commissar of the armed wing, APLA, said it would continue mounting attacks mainly against South African security forces as long as the PAC political leadership ordered it to do so.

Sowetan/Africa News Service
SADF spy jailed for eight years

By DON JACOBS
Bulawayo

DETAILS emerged this week of a spring incident in southern Matabeleland which has deeply embarrassing implications for both the Zimbabwe and South African governments.

Lovemore Ndou, 26, was jailed for eight years on two counts under Zimbabwe's Official Secrets Act after pleading guilty to telling SADF agents in the Transvaal about the movements of armed ANC guerrillas near his home in the Shashe area where Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa have a joint border.

Ndou was one of over 14,000 people who have been caught "border jumping" from Matabeleland. Many are hoping to find work in SA.

President Mugabe has always insisted that the ANC's Umkhonto we Sizwe was not allowed to operate on Zimbabwean soil, and South Africa has assured Black neighbouring states it has halted all espionage.

Bulawayo magistrate Mr Wilbert Mapombere heard evidence that Ndou made repeated illicit trips across the Limpopo and was paid a total of R500 by SADF officers.

He saw armed ANC guerrillas at Shashe in September 1989 and again in April this year, the court heard.

President Mugabe has always insisted that the ANC's Umkhonto we Sizwe was not allowed to operate on Zimbabwean soil, and South Africa has assured Black neighbouring states it has halted all espionage.
Zimbabwe university keeps up anti-Bill protest

Argus Africa News Service
HARARE. — Teargas drifted over the University of Zimbabwe campus amid continuing opposition to a proposed greater government say in the running of the institution.

Staff and students are united in their objections, although they are not of one mind over the violent tone of the student protest.

Arson and stoning occurred after police stopped a student march through the city. Five student leaders were arrested.

The trouble began last week when a Bill was rushed through parliament which would allow the government to appoint most of the members of the university council and which would give the vice-chancellor much wider powers to discipline staff or students.

The appointment of the vice-chancellor and other senior staff would be subject to the approval of the Minister of Higher Education.

The Bill has passed through parliament but still has to receive the assent of President Robert Mugabe, who is also chancellor of the university.

Students boycotted classes yesterday as police patrolled the campus, occasionally dispersing groups.

Today members of the Association of University Teachers plan to stage a march in academic dress. There have been calls on deans and heads of faculties to resign in protest.

The glass doors to the building housing the office of the principal, Dr Walter Kamba, were smashed in the stoning last week when three offices in the administration block were set on fire.

Last year the university was closed for six months because of violent anti-government demonstrations.

Members of the ruling party claimed that students were being encouraged to support Mr. Edgar Tekere's opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement and accused staff members of subversion.

Student meetings condemned corruption and moves towards a one-party state.
Opinion

BY MICHAEL HARTNACK

THE late Mr W D "Bill" Gale, Rhodesian journalist and historian, made his sole foray into politics during the 1962 general election.

He always blamed his defeat as candidate for the governing United Federal Party in the Harare suburb of Mabelreign on Sir Edgar Whitehead’s emergency announcement that he planned to “revise” segregation imposed under the Land Apportionment Act. While voters living on Mabelreign’s quarter-acre (0.1 ha) plots were suddenly “terrified they would find themselves living cheek-by-jowl with Africans”, Bill lamented.

So the newly-formed right-wing Rhodesian Front triumphed, setting a course for Mr Ian Smith’s November 1965 Unilateral Declaration of Independence and the disastrous 1972-80 bush war.

Escalating prices

When the English husband of Zimbabwe’s present Deputy Minister of Transport, Mrs Amina Hughes, moved down from Zambia in 1967, he had no initial difficulty renting a house in Highlands, the capital’s most exclusive suburb. But when he was joined by his coloured wife and children, the white neighbours tried to petition for their eviction. Fearful for their property’s value, the neighbours were unimpressed by Mrs Hughes’s personal achievements both academically and as a former top Rhodesian Girl Guide.

The petition fell flat, because it had no basis in Rhodesian law, but the embittered Mr Hughes seemed prescient of his widow’s enmity in Zanu (PF) when he confided: “Perhaps the terrorists (sic) have the only answer to this sort of thing.” The Hughes family moved away from Highlands “voluntarily” to avoid ostracism such as that by an American neighbour, who stopped her children playing with theirs.

It is a bitter irony that nearly 30 years after the UFPT lost that fateful election over the housing desegregation issue, homes in Mabelreign which then sold for 2 000 Rhodesian pounds (R4 000 at contemporary exchange rates) change hands for at least R170 000, although the suburb is now predominantly black.

The Hughes’s old home in Maiden drive, Highlands, which would have had a R7 000 price tag in 1967, would cost at least R400 000 — partly because it is zoned for one of the few government primary schools with a largely white enrolment (the fees are less than R100 a term, compared to up to R1 300 for private schools).

Part of the reason for this lies in the recent “monetarisation” of real estate, alongside vehicles and imported capital machinery. Fiscal ineptitude and bureaucratic hostility to the private sector have forced businessmen to seek hedges for inflation and pull their profits out of the stock market or employment-generating investment.

‘Inward pressure’

Mr Mugabe’s very success in recreating political stability has attracted up to 20 000 expatriates — and the agencies or companies that employ them think the equivalent of R500 000 an excellent price for a home with a pool and a tennis court in which to base their Central African representative.

But most important of all, there were barely 4 m people in Rhodesia in 1962, while today there are 10 m. There is a resulting inexorable “inward pressure” from the overcrowded rural “communal areas” on to the “high density suburbs” (the former black towns), from the former townships on to the former lower-income white suburbs, such as Mabelreign, and from Mabelreign onto Highlands.

Towards the end of the 80s some houses in the former “European” suburbs began showing signs of deterioration while white right-wingers claimed would result from desegregation: lawns were planted with starveling meals, paint peeled, three bedroomed houses and their servants’ quarters seemed to accommodate entire villages.

Widening gap

Then, with the surge in house prices after recovery from the 1982-84 drought, the developers moved in. The developers, deploying armies of gardeners, painters and carpenters, reaped handsome profits while the neighbours, both black and white, were delighted to see their avenue move “up-market.”

Harare is not yet surrounded by squatter shanties, as is Lusaka, nor have former beachfront palaces become rookeries of refugee tribal people, as in Beira.

Although half a million people area live in the new satellite city of Chitungwiza, the capital is still 100 000 houses short. “Loggers” may pay up to R200 for a single room in the servants’ quarters of a former white home. The official news agency, Ziana, reported prostitutes were considered the best tenants, since they pay most reliably.

In the prevailing situation of rural land degradation and urban poverty, such schemes offer scope for an explosion of Dickensian “slum landlordism” which could increase the tensions arising from Zimbabwe’s dangerous, ever-widening gap between rich and poor.
WHAT CHANGES FROM WORKS TO ZIMBABWE, AFRICA?

Zimbabwe — a glimpse of

Post-Apartheid South Africa

For some analysts, Zimbabwe's Black-ruled democracy has become the

\[ Image of a map of Africa with a picture of a lion in the center. \]
Zimbabwe opens door to SA MPs

HARARE — Zimbabwe will not stop South African MPs from coming to talk about changes taking place in South Africa, the Speaker of Zimbabwe’s Parliament, Notah Makombe, said at a press conference yesterday.

Replying to a question on how Zimbabwean legislators interacted with their “reactionary” counterparts from South Africa, he said: “We cannot deny people the chance to come and talk about change in their country. There are changes going on in South Africa and discussions between the ANC and the South African Government which are of interest.”

He added that the door could not be closed to people who wanted to learn from Zimbabwe’s success under a black majority government.

Six MPs from the National Party, Conservative Party, Democratic Party and Labour Party visited Zimbabwe recently. — Sapa.
Zimbabwe academics in big demo

Argus Africa News Service
HARARE, — Heavily armed riot police stood by outside parliament as more than 100 professors and lecturers in academic gowns demonstrated against moves to tighten government control of the University of Zimbabwe.

A petition was handed in at President Robert Mugabe's office by a deputation from the Association of University Teachers.

The decision by the academics to take to the streets is an indication of the depth of feeling among staff and students over provisions in a Bill passed by parliament to amend the Act governing the running of the institution.

It is intended to have a majority of government appointments on the university council and to give the vice-chancellor much greater disciplinary powers.

President Mugabe, who is also chancellor of the university, has still to assent to the Bill before it becomes law.

The campus was quiet yesterday but no lectures were held.
University of Zimbabwe opposed to State

Heavily-armed riot police have this week stood by outside parliament in Harare as more than 100 professors and lecturers of the University of Zimbabwe have demonstrated against moves to tighten government control of the university.

ROBIN DREW of the Argus Africa News Service traces the university's history and government instructions to clamp down heavily on hooliganism.

Recent years have seen numerous clashes over issues such as corruption, and one-party state moves which the students felt demanded protest action.

Last year matters came to a head when the university was closed for six months after violent demonstrations on the campus in the wake of police action at student gatherings when the government came in for heavy criticism for its alleged failure to practise socialism, democracy and political tolerance.

Once again the University was seen as a place of subversion. There were dark hints that lecturers were bent on the downfall of the government and using the students to achieve their ends.

A prominent Marxist law lecturer was kicked out of the country. Another was detained. Student leaders preaching revolutionary confrontation were arrested.

The events this month are a sequel to that unhappy episode. The ruling party, upset at the vocal campus support for Edgar Tekere's opposition party and angered by the hostile reception given senior government personalities like Vice-President Joshua Nkomo, decided that the time had come to put a stop to this through control of the governing body, the council, and appointments to the key posts of vice-chancellor and his deputies.

The vice-chancellor, whose appointment will have to be approved by the Minister of Higher Education, is given wide disciplinary powers.

The Association of University Teachers, which organised the staff demonstration, said the main thrust of the amendments was to increase the role of the Minister of Higher Education in the operation of the university, to give the vice-chancellor greater powers and to reduce the protection afforded to both staff and students from being disciplined.
These criminals are so organised
they've even got their own union

Harare's street criminals are slick and sharp, and the chances are that they belong to Zato, the Zimbabwe African Thieves Organisation. ANDREW MELDRUM reports

YOU are walking along Harare's First Street busy pedestrian shopping area when a well-dressed, well-spoken young man asks you to sponsor him for a charity walk. Then a bustling, confusing crowd sweeps by. The man is gone — and so is your wallet.

You have been hit by Zato, the Zimbabwe African Thieves Organisation.

"I know they say each trade should have its own union but this is going too far," said a cashier whose purse was snatched by a group of young men who had followed her from the bank where she had cashed her salary cheque.

The organisation is blamed for the alarming rise in thefts and muggings in Harare's city centre as well as the increase in armed robberies, sometimes accompanied by stabbings, in the capital's townships at night.

"If inflation and the taxman don't get you, Zato will," joked one township resident. But for Harare residents, and especially foreign tourists, the notorious Zato is no laughing matter.

Such organised crime is a shocking development to Harare residents, who were proud of the city's tidy, tree-lined streets and its safety.

The emergence of Zato signals Harare's coming of age as a big city which, despite its population of well over one million, maintains a deceptively reassuring appearance as a sleepy little provincial capital.

Zato may not be in the international league of Chicago's mob, Medellin's drug cartels or Miami's vice, but Harare's residents grab their bags tighter when they walk the streets by day and are more careful about going out at night.

Zato's daytime methods are nothing new. One or two presentable young men distract the victim's attention by offering something for sale, asking for directions or the time, or banging the victim's car. Then confusion is caused by a gang which 'brushes' up against the victim and promptly whisk away wallets, bags and watches.

The organisation's night-time methods are more direct. The victim is held at knifepoint by four to eight men and robbed.

These are time-worn, petty criminal methods. What is new is that Zato has choreographed the groups of up to a dozen people and systematically works busy shopping areas like First Street, the parks, the area around the National Gallery of Art and the tourist hotels.

The gangs have their own territories and they sell their pickings through the Zato network. The organisation is particularly evident, according to police sources, when a petty thief is caught; he doesn't spend the night in jail because a lawyer will promptly pay bail.

Zimbabwe's growing number of tourists are being hit with increasing frequency. Zato is successful with the well-heeled tourists on glamorous safaris and the shaggy, back-packing travellers. Foreign currency goes on to the thriving black market; travellers' cheques are sold to bank connections and it is rumoured that passports are sold to wealthy black market network.

Zimbabwe's tourism rose to nearly 500 000 foreign visitors last year, almost as many as Kenya. The regular numbers of distressed travellers seen reporting thefts at the police station and at their embassies is viewed as a threat to tourism.

Controversy was stirred last month when a top police official stated that Zato did not exist. Rank and file police privately attest that the gang does indeed exist and is thriving. Some fear the official denial means the Zato situation could be like Zimbabwe's Aids problem where health officials stuck their head in the sand until the health crisis could no longer be ignored.

One person who does believe Zato exists is a man who stopped a bag snatching and detained one of the thieves who was arrested by police.

"Later a group of young men approached me on First Street," said the man. "One flashed a knife and said, 'We are Zato and we're going to get you.'"

Shortly after the official denial of the existence of Zato, the alleged leader of the thieves' ring appeared in court on 397 counts of armed robbery since 1988. Fortune Mutumbirwa (23) pleaded guilty to 23 counts and then, apparently on his lawyer's advice, switched to not guilty plea on all counts. He and seven others have been remanded in custody.

Harare's crime rate continues to rise and police are hard-pressed to keep up with it. Some say the cause is the rising numbers of unemployed people, particularly among the 200 000 who leave secondary school each year, many with O-levels and high expectations, but no prospects of jobs.

Harare shopkeepers despair at the number of thefts they witness.

"People come in here so upset — tourists, locals, black and white," said a woman who runs a department store cosmetics counter. "Often, when the Zato gangs split up, some move right through our store. I can recognise some of them. They are so well organised, it is hard to believe they don't have their own training institute."
Harare campus calm after student protest.

NEW government regulation designed to increase discipline at the University of Zimbabwe had the opposite effect—protesting students disrupted classes, burned offices and caused final examinations to be postponed.

The clashes between the students and armed riot police started on Thursday and Friday last week and continued on Monday and Tuesday.

Lecturers joined the students in opposing the new Bill which they say will destroy the university's academic independence. Calm was restored to the campus yesterday after the administration agreed to try to reach a compromise with the Mugabe government to soften the Bill before it becomes law.

The Bill, which grants the vice-chancellor the right to expel students and fire staff members, was passed by parliament last Thursday and only needs to be signed by Mugabe.
PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR PROMOTION OF THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

In From the Cold

Welcomes home South Africans Spy, they in SA-Zimbabwe Relations

On her own

The Pope's envoy to South Africa, Miss Jenny Pillay, returned to Italy last night after a visit to the country for the first time in more than a decade. The visit was part of the Vatican's efforts to strengthen relations with the African country, which has been a key player in the continent's political and economic affairs. Pillay, who spent several weeks in South Africa, met with top officials and religious leaders to discuss a range of issues, including the role of the Catholic Church in the country's development and the challenges facing the African continent. She also addressed the media to express her views on the current state of relations between the Vatican and South Africa. The envoy's visit was seen as a significant step in the ongoing efforts to improve relations between the two sides, and it is hoped that it will pave the way for further cooperation in the future.
Calm as Zim University appeals to govt

HARARE. — Calm returned to the troubled University of Zimbabwe campus yesterday following an agreement by administrators, faculty and students to make a joint appeal to the government to modify new legislation affecting control of the university.

"It looks as if things are back to normal, at least for now," said one student on his way to classes yesterday for the first time in a week.

New legislation drafted by the government was designed to increase discipline on the campus of Zimbabwe's only university in the capital's posh Mount Pleasant suburb. But the opposite was the effect, as protesting students disrupted classes, burnt administration offices and caused examinations to be postponed.

President Robert Mugabe, chancellor of the university, is known to favour strict disciplin-
ary measures for the university's 8,000 students.

The new legislation was passed by parliament last Thursday and needs only Mr. Mugabe's signature to become law.

If the university representation persuades the president to modify the bill before it becomes law it will be one of the few instances where his government has altered its stance on a legislative issue. — UPI
Hopes that more prisoners will be freed
Pik asked Mandela to help Odile

SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha personally asked ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela to urge Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe to free Odile Harrington, the SA spy who returned home from four years in a Harare prison on Thursday.

SA authorities say that they also asked the PAC to intervene and they don't know who had the greatest influence on her release in the end.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and the National Intelligence Service worked "hand-in-glove" for her release all the time she was in prison, using "orthodox and unorthodox means".

Officials said that Ms Harrington had not spied for NSP but would not say whom she had worked for. They said she felt no bitterness towards the country where she was tormented in jail and wanted to "play a positive role" in SA.

They did not specify what this might be.

They disclosed that Ms Harrington was now staying with friends and was in good psychological, mental and physical shape although underweight. She was only avoiding the media and others in order to rest.

One of the first things she had done yesterday, after arriving from Harare on Thursday night, was to shop for clothes in Pretoria.

Later she met President F W de Klerk and Mr Botha in Mr de Klerk's office in the Union Buildings for talks lasting an hour. She thanked them for securing her release.

TO PAGE 2.
‘I just want to rest’ — free spy Odile

By ALAN DUNN, Political Staff

PRETORIA — Convicted South African spy Odile Harington arrived home from a four-year nightmare in Zimbabwe pleading for time to recuperate and readjust to life beyond bars.

"Give me a break," is what she told officials on her first day of freedom in Pretoria. "I just want to be by myself. I just want to rest."

This emerged after Miss Harington, 30, jailed in Harare on November 27 1987 for spying on the African National Congress, was freed and flown home on Thursday following years of effort — orthodox and unorthodox — by South African officials to win her release.

A variety of attempts at various levels to free her included Foreign Minister Pik Botha personally asking the deputy president of the ANC, Mr Nelson Mandela, to raise the matter when he met Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe.

Mr Botha, apparently obsessed with the case through revulsion at the cruelty and abuse she had to endure in prison, also tried via the Pan Africanist Congress to liberate her.

Meeting with FW

The Department of Foreign Affairs is said to have worked hand-in-glove with the National Intelligence Service to achieve her return.

Miss Harington met Mr Botha and President de Klerk in the Union Buildings.

"Miss Harington indicated that she would like to rest for a while and that she was happy with the arrangements in respect of accommodation and care which were made in co-operation with her," said a statement issued by Mr de Klerk’s office.

"The government is appealing to the media to respect her wishes. When she feels ready, a media appearance will be arranged."

Mr de Klerk sent a personal message of appreciation to Mr Mugabe yesterday. The release is seen as a sign of improving relations between South Africa and its neighbours.

Those who have seen Miss Harington since her return say she looks attractive but frail and small, but showing no outward signs of physical cruelty.

"Psychologically, she is in very good shape considering what she went through," said one who has seen her and knows details of her prison ordeal.
Copper miners strike over pay

LUSAKA — More than 2,000 copper miners in Zambia have gone on an illegal strike, paralysing production at the Nchanga division's open pit and underground operations.

Workers at the second largest open pit cast-mining operation in the world are demanding higher salaries after the recent general price increases of all consumer goods, triggered by the Gulf crisis.

Zambia Industrial and Mining Corp (Zimco) has in the past three months increased the price of fuel by more than 200%, which subsequently resulted in price increases of services and consumer goods.

Workers yesterday ignored appeals by Mineworkers' Union of Zambia (MUZ) general secretary Kosita Shengamo and his deputy Francis Kunda to return to work.

Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM) public relations manager Dunstan Chaphema spent yesterday morning trying to gather information on the extent of the illegal strike and what the lost production would cost.

If the strike does not stop, it could cause a great deal of harm to the already weak Zambian economy which has been hit by a series of calamities making it impossible for government to effectively implement its adjustment programme.

With inflation at a staggering 200%, the strike could cast a lot of gloom on the growth of the economy which has been battered to almost bare threads.

Bank of Zambia governor Jacques Bussieres said recently bringing inflation under control was one of the most difficult problems the country's economy faced.

This view has been echoed by President Kenneth Kaunda, who has attributed recent huge salaries and housing allowances for civil servants as having been responsible for the high inflation.

While a skeleton staff has continued to run some essential operations at the mine, nearly all production has been stalled. — ANO.

Bicycle makers expect windfall

HARARE — The cloud of the Gulf crisis and soaring fuel prices has brought hopes of a silver lining for one corner of Zimbabwe's industry — bicycle makers.

Manufacturers say sales have risen since the Middle East crisis erupted in early August, but production is being held back by lack of foreign currency to buy equipment from overseas.

A 45% jump in fuel costs is encouraging people back into the saddle. (£10 = £1.19)

Bicycle makers hope thousands of people will boost an industry hard hit by falling sales in the past decade. Sales dropped from over 80,000 in 1979 to around 30,000 in 1980.

At independence in 1980, mostly poorly paid blacks who cycled to and from work in the 1970s switched to "respectable" buses after the government boosted the minimum wage level.

But in present-day Harare, workers queue for buses for two to three hours and hitch-hiking is a recognised way to get around the city.

Now bicycle sales are booming and a bicycle would provide freedom and independence, an industry official said. — Reuters.
MICHAEL HARTNACK IN JERUSALEM

PROPERTY MARKET

MOVED ZIMBALDESHE

HOW INDEPENDENCE

APPROPRIATION ACT

Israel's Defence (Appropriation) Act 1949.

No. 6900.

Passed by the Knesset on 29th November 1949, with the assent of the Governor-General.

The Governor-General hereby approves the following appropriation for the year 1949:

1. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Defence, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

2. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Finance, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.


4. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Labour, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

5. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Health, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.


7. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Agriculture, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

8. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Works, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.


10. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Post and Telegraphs, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

11. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

12. The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of External Affairs, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Finance, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Education, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Labour, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Health, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Commerce, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Agriculture, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Works, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Transport, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Post and Telegraphs, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.

The sums required for the expenditure of the Ministry of External Affairs, without regard to the provisions of section 14 of the Appropriation Act 1949.
Pik flies to meet leaders at ‘breakfast’

By Ken Vernon
Star Africa Service

LUSAKA — Foreign Minister Pik Botha flew into Lusaka today for a prayer breakfast and a “seminar” with the chairman of the Organisation of African Unity and other African leaders.

On his arrival at the airport Mr Botha congratulated President Kaunda of Zambia for arranging the “spiritual initiative” in an effort to help solve southern Africa’s problems.

The presence at the meeting of President Museveni of Uganda is seen by observers to be especially significant as he is the current chairman of the OAU. In addition, his country at present is playing host to a thousand members of the African National Congress’s armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

Also attending the meetings is ANC secretary-general Alfred Nzo.

President Chissano of Mozambique arrived yesterday for the meetings. The head of the Lesotho government, Major-General Metsing Lekhanya was expected to pull out of the meeting following the government’s decision yesterday to de-throne King Moshoeshoe. President Buyoya of Burundi has also withdrawn.

President Quett Masire has sent his Foreign Minister, Dr Gassitwe Chipe, in his place. Others due to take part were Transkei’s military leader, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, Swazi premier Sotsa Dlamini and a representative of the Namibian government.

Significantly, Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe — still the most vociferous opponent of Pretoria — declined to attend or send a representative.

A Zambian government spokesman said the prayer breakfast and the seminar that was to follow it were a demonstration of reconciliation in southern Africa following the easing of regional tensions.

However, observers in the Zambian capital see it as a desperate attempt by Dr Kaunda to regain credibility in Africa as a regional peacemaker.

Zambia’s economy is in a parlous state and the president, having agreed in principle to a multiparty state — should that be what the majority of his people want — could be on the brink of political extinction.
Tyre manufacturing plan

HARARE — The Zimbabwe government was looking into the possibility of setting up a company to compete with Dunlop in the manufacture of tyres. News agency plans quoted Vice-President Joshua Nkomo as saying on Wednesday. He was addressing the Zimbabwe Transport Organisation annual congress.
out in July.
Aid workers said famine threatened the rest of the

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tyre manufacturing plan
HARARE — The Zimbabwean government is looking into the possibility of setting up a company to compete with Dunlop in the manufacture of tyres, news agency Ziana quoted vice-president Joshua Nkomo as saying on Wednesday. He was addressing the Zimbabwe transport organisation annual congress.

New petrol price hike in Maputo
MAPUTO — For the second time in two months, the Mozambican authorities have announced a rise in the price of fuel. The price of a litre of petrol in Maputo rises by 22.5%, from 0.95c/l to 1.15c/l. Diesel suffers the same percentage increase, rising from 0.93c/l to 1.14c/l.

R10m deal for Botswana bank
GABORONE — The Bank of Botswana has signed a contract worth about R10m for the construction of a four-storey building. The bank was experiencing an office accommodation shortage.

Mozambican peace talks
MAPUTO — A government delegation was in Rome to hold peace talks with Renamo representatives, SABC radio news yesterday quoted Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano as saying. But he said much was still to be done in the process of reconciliation.

Fewer Cuban doctors in Angola
LUANDA — Angola has reduced the number of Cuban doctors in the country from 310 in 1988 to 86, a source close to the Ministry of Health said yesterday.

REPORTS: SABC, ANO.
Defiant Smith flouts Mugabe ban

FORMER Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith, 71, plans to lead a defiant party of wreath-layers at Harare's cenotaph today, flouting President Robert Mugabe's ban on commemoration of Armistice Day.

"They talk about reconciliation but they practise retribution. They are creating resentment and bitterness," protested the former RAF fighter pilot who declared Rhodesia's UDI on Armistice Day, November 11, 1965.

"The government has no power to interfere," said Mr. Smith, who added that other veterans would be joining him at the Central Gardens cenotaph.

Mr. Smith said the 8,000-member veterans organisation, The Legion, had been told that not only would a wreath ceremony be impermissible on the 25th anniversary of Mr. Smith's UDI, but also the following Sunday, November 18.

"I think it is absolutely iniquitous," said Mr. Smith. "We are remembering people who died fighting for freedom."

Sadness

President Mugabe's enduring rancour at his 10 years in detention during the UDI years surfaced again in a message of sympathy to the family of former British governor Sir Humphrey Gibbs, who died on Monday, aged 87. While Mr. Smith voiced his sadness that the UDI dispute saw him "on a different side" from an old friend and parliamentary colleague with whom he enjoyed "the odd game of snooker", Mr. Mugabe tongue-lashed "the illegal Smith regime" and the failure of Harold Wilson's Labour government to send in British troops to remove it.

Mr. Mugabe said Sir Humphrey was "a hero in his own right", but at the height of the UDI dispute Zimbabwe's exiled black nationalists denounced Sir Humphrey as "a white settler who has played a despicable role" because he worked tirelessly from Government House to avert military confrontation.

Sources said Sir Humphrey, the first Rhodesian governor of Rhodesia, styled Mr. Wilson's bid to instal the late Earl Mountbatten of Burma in Government House as a prelude to invading Rhodesia with the Irish Guards regiment.

Sir Humphrey, a Matabeleland farmer who became chairman of the Rhodesian Farmers' Union after emigrating from Britain in 1938, set up the abortive Anglo-Rhodesian settlement talks on HMS Tiger and HMS Fearless in 1966 and 1968.

Untouchable

Mr. Smith said he would have liked to attend Sir Humphrey's funeral in Harare's Anglican cathedral yesterday "but I decided to keep in the background. For some reason I am unacceptable. I am what is known as an untouchable in India".
Odile’s jail horror is over, but the scars still remain

The suffering of torture and jail is etched forever on the face of former beauty Odile Harington.

The 30-year-old South African spy, who was released last week after nearly four horrifying years in a grim Zimbabwean jail, is emaciated and prematurely aged.

Sources said Odile was under observation and received medical treatment at a military hospital until Thursday.

Odile was jailed in November 1997 after she confessed to supplying security-related information to South African agents in contravention of Zimbabwe’s Official Secrets Act.

She was jailed for 25 years by the High Court in Harare but the sentence was reduced to 12 years on appeal.

Rest

During her time in prison she was repeatedly abused—brutally flogged with wire flex, starved and sexually molested.

“She looks much better than she did when I saw her in March this year,” said her mother, Mrs Rose de Wet, after lunching with her daughter and Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha this week.

Odile left for a game farm belonging to friends after seeing her mother for the first time since her return on Thursday.

Mrs de Wet said she did not know when she would be seeing her daughter again and had no idea of her plans for the future.

Government sources said Odile felt she was not ready to face the media and needed to rest for a while longer.

Rumours of a rift between her and her mother have been denied.
Abortion rocket

HARARE: Approximately 700,000 women have illegal abortions each year, Health Minister Timothy Stamps said last week.

Addressing delegates to a Safe Motherhood Conference, Stamps said the problem of illegal abortions needed to be addressed.

"Most of these abortions are domestically arranged and/or self-induced and, aside from the actual maternal mortality, the morbidity following illegal abortion, especially in the young, is a huge, lifetime burden for many a woman," he said.

Merely legalising abortion would not reduce mortality and morbidity.

He cited overstretching of facilities, inadequate maintenance and unavailability of facilities and late transfers from subsidiary centres, as some of the causes of maternal mortality, especially in Harare.

"In Harare, where there is the heaviest concentration of obstetric and gynaecological specialists, the maternal mortality rate is worse than in rural Murambinda or Manama," he said.

The education of women was crucial in combating the problem.

Educated women should make proper use of available health institutions, Stamps said. "Super
Zim support for shared electricity

By MICHAEL HARTNACK
HARARE. — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe yesterday declared his support for the formation of a common electrical grid linking South Africa and Zimbabwe.

"Yes, it makes sense," Mr Mugabe told Dr Ian McRae, chief executive of Eskom, who mooted the idea when taking the formerly militant advocate of sanctions round an Eskom exhibit at a conference here of the World Energy Council.

Dr McRae disclosed later in an interview that talks have already taken place on Zimbabwe receiving 500 megawatts of South Africa's estimated 1 350 megawatt share of power from the rehabilitated Cahora Bassa hydro-electric scheme for the first five years after it is put back "on-stream".

Zimbabwe is currently 200 megawatts short of consumption needs, while Eskom has over 4 000 megawatts surplus generating capacity.

In a passionate appeal for regional cooperation to break out of traditional patterns of underdevelopment, Dr McRae told the opening session of the three-day conference that the first major set of constraints on confronting poverty had been political ones.

"And one of the joys I am finding now is that political constraints are dropping like leaves from an autumn tree," he said, unveiling a map of a potential power grid stretching from the Cape to Zaire.

"I believe we are really at the beginning of a future power grid for Southern Africa and the development of wealth-creating projects, if we come together and create markets for these," predicted Dr McRae.

As a measure of recently-relaxed tension between the two countries, there were 100 South African delegates present, including the chairman of South Africa's Atomic Energy Corporation, Dr Wynand de Villiers.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) also mounted an exhibition, which was toured by Mr Mugabe.
Zambian demo for democracy

CHONGA, Zambia. — Paramilitary riot police fired teargas and live ammunition to disperse supporters of pro-democracy activists who went on trial yesterday for allegedly holding an illegal political meeting.

At least 14 people were arrested but there were no immediate reports of injuries.

Hundreds of baton-wielding police, some on horseback, fought running battles with more than 1,000 pro-democracy supporters outside the courthouse in this farming centre 200km from Lusaka.

Magistrate Mr Sylvester Simachela adjourned the trial of labour leader Mr Frederick Chiluba and eight colleagues of the Movement for Multi-party Democracy as police fired warning shots in the air.

It was not clear when the hearing would resume.

The eight men were charged with convening an illegal meeting and belonging to an illegal political organisation. They pleaded innocent.

Both charges carry a maximum penalty of six months in jail under the legalised one-party system imposed by President Kenneth Kaunda in 1973. — Sapa-AP
Last of great white fighters quits Zim army

From MICHAEL HARTNACK
HARARE. — The last white veteran of the Rhodesian army has retired from the Zimbabwe National Army, receiving rare praise from President Robert Mugabe’s defence minister.

There are still no white officers above the rank of major, it is understood, but some black former Rhodesians remain, one a brigadier.

Colonel Lionel Dyck, 46, won Zimbabwe’s second-highest decoration, the Silver Cross, when he led his paratroopers in 1986 in an assault on Renamo in Mozambique.

Born in Pretoria, he was commissioned into the Rhodesian light infantry after joining the army as an officer cadet. At independence, he commanded a battalion of the Rhodesian African Rifles, a unit which played a key role in helping Mr. Mugabe resist the threat from Mr. Joshua Nkomo’s ZAPU forces.

A Ministry of Defence statement praised Colonel Dyck’s “unquestionable loyalty to the state” and dedication to “his country, Zimbabwe”, at a time other white experienced officers had left the service.

Colonel Dyck now works for the Commonwealth youth adventure training programme, Operation Raleigh.
Female control over contraception sought

HARARE - The United States-based Family Health International says researchers are trying to develop female-controlled contraceptive methods that also guard against HIV infection, reports Zimbabwe’s news agency Ziana.

In its latest quarterly publication, Network, the international health body said condoms were currently the best protection from HIV transmission but their use was mainly controlled by men.

**Sexual**

In many settings women lack the power to negotiate with their partners about the condom use.

"This raises issues of sexual politics."

"Researchers are trying to test and develop female-controlled contraceptive methods that also provide protection against HIV infection," said the publication.

WHO said it was evaluating a female condom which was inserted like a diaphragm and held in place by an outer ring.

"Even if the female condom became com-
Fuelling the schools boom without regret

Star Africa Service

HARARE — A teacher by profession, Zimbabwe Education Minister Fay Chung has been well placed to witness the education explosion which followed independence in 1980.

She is a former Head of Educational Planning and Curriculum Development and, before being invited to join the Cabinet she rose to Deputy Secretary in the Ministry in charge of schools administration.

Asked if she thought it had all been worthwhile, Ms Chung said: “The changes I have seen are very much for the better. If we are to have a modern economy and a modern society, you have to educate everybody.”

The massive expansion in education in Zimbabwe in the first decade of independence has been an expensive undertaking. Primary education is now compulsory and secondary education has increased 12-fold. Education takes about 26 percent of the budget and is the biggest single consumer of public money. But next year fees at primary schools are to be reintroduced.

Ms Chung, a Zimbabwean of Chinese extraction, said primary school fees were being reintroduced to lessen the burden on the fiscus and to emphasise the responsibility of parents for the education of their children.

“Look at China or Japan,” she said. “Education has never been free there although both have gone for massive educational expansion. Japan started doing so before World War 2 after which many countries expanded education. Even in the 1970s, Japan had an enlightened emperor who believed in education for everybody. But they had to pay for it. Things that are free get misused.”

In the modern industrial world, highly skilled people were needed. Unless a country had a highly educated core of people, it would be held back.

Unemployed

Zimbabwe, which now has 700,000 secondary school pupils against 66,000 before independence, would be well placed to take advantage of industrialisation. But she agreed there was a danger in having large numbers of educated unemployed who would not be interested in peasant agriculture.

There was no question that the country had been right to develop primary school facilities as rapidly as possible. The disadvantages of ignorance were greater than disadvantages apparent in a rapid expansion.

But perhaps Zimbabwe should have gone a little slower at secondary level, increasing, say, eight or nine times would have been easier to handle than the 12 times increase.

Ms Chung said she thought that the standard of primary education in rural, urban, township or formerly white schools was better than it was 10 years ago and was competitive internationally.

At secondary level, half the schools would stand comparison with those in other countries, but half would not.

“‘A’ Level (post-Matric) we are among the best in the world, but that is because we are highly selective,” she said. “Last year we had 186,000 pupils sitting ‘O’ Level and less than 8,000 ‘A’ level candidates. To get into ‘A’ level, it is much more competitive now and the same goes for university admission.”

There was a plan to introduce screening after the ninth year of school to direct those with more of a practical leaning into vocational and technical subjects.

In Zimbabwe racially-segregated schools were abolished virtually overnight and overcrowded township schools were zoned to match up with former whites-only city schools.

“Those schools were half-empty,” said Ms Chung, “and we also thought it necessary to mix children from different backgrounds.”

However, after the novelty had worn off, it has now been found that most black parents in townships prefer to send their children to township schools close to home.”
PAC man accused of drug smuggling

A senior official of the PAC is in custody accused of complicity in a huge drug smuggling operation involving Mandrax valued at $10 million.

The deputy chief representative in Zimbabwe of the PAC, Ramuji Michael Maphai, was refused bail when he appeared in court yesterday with an Indian, Dawood Mohammed Syad, and Ali Shaukat, a Pakistani. The three men were remanded to January 29. They were not asked to plead.

The court was told police last week seized 983 kg of Mandrax in tablet and granular form consigned to Harare from Bombay.

The prosecutor said the case concerned a drug ring involving nationals from a number of countries, some of whom had still to be arrested.

Further consignments of Mandrax were on their way to Zimbabwe and the chances of the police recovering them would be greatly reduced if bail were granted.

The drugs seized last week were in cartons addressed to Africa Intercom (Pvt) Ltd. Mr. Maphai allegedly visited a customs clearing agency inquiring about the arrival of the cartons from India.

He arranged for the cartons to be sent to an address in Harare. Some of the cartons contained metal scrapings.

Police set a trap and the three men were arrested last Wednesday.

Mr. Syad was said to have been found in possession of two passports, one issued by India and one by Lesotho.
Shocking results in tests for Aids from blood donors

HARARE - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has launched a week of national Aids awareness, warning that the deadly disease's rapid spread threatens the future of his southern African nation.

If Aids continues to spread at the rate "we have experienced in the last 10 years, then the future of our nation is placed in great jeopardy," Mugabe told the national Sunday Mail newspaper.

Doctors at Harare's Parirenyatwa Hospital say first-time blood donors in the first half of 1990 show just over 15 percent of urban adults tested HIV-positive.

The World Health Organisation says five million people in Africa are infected.

"Twenty-five per cent of all Aids cases in this country are children under five, while 60 percent are young adults between 20 and 40 year of age with an equal number of men and women," Mugabe said.

"The direct and indirect social and economic impact of this easy loss through Aids has the potential to reverse the development progress we have made in the last decade (since Zimbabwe became independent)," he added.

Aids was first diagnosed in Zimbabwe in 1983, and official figures given out early this year show 2,375 confirmed Aids cases, or 225 cases per million people.

The relatively low figure is an indication of the late arrival in Zimbabwe of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) which precedes full-blown Aids, doctors say, and of the long time it takes for the full disease to develop.

Mugabe said he hoped that by World Aids Day on December 1, Zimbabwe's week of education would leave people "in no doubt as to how HIV is transmitted and how it can be prevented."

In Zimbabwe, as in other African countries, Aids attacks mainly heterosexuals. It is most prevalent among truckers and prostitutes working along the main road arteries connecting one country to the next.

A 1987 survey showed around 70 percent of prostitutes working in bars along the road from Zimbabwe to its northern neighbour Zambia were HIV positive.

Although the disease is most common on truck routes and in cities, a farmer who set up a pilot Aids awareness campaign at his home north of Harare said it was also a rural problem.

Peter Fraser-Mackenzie began handing out condoms with his workers' pay packets because "the prevalence of the disease... was so frightening that many commercial farmers had awakened to the fact that they might lose productive labour through Aids-related deaths," the weekly Financial Gazette newspaper reported.

Zimbabwe began a drive against the epidemic in 1989. Doctors are now allowed to tell patients they are HIV positive, and Aids can be given as the cause of death on death certificates.

A national Aids Control Programme has a 1990 budget of $15 million and plans to distribute 26 million condoms this year. It was the third country in the world to routinely screen blood for HIV.

Early this year, after warning that Aids was one of the five major problems Zimbabwe had to face, Mugabe appointed prominent anti-Aids campaigner Timothy Stamps as Health Minister.

"Stamps was quoted in the Swiss Review of World Affairs as saying: "The amount of work that needs to be done is pretty immense. Sexual attitudes are not really changing. We have to establish mutually faithful, life-long marriage as the norm."" - Sapa-Reuters
Inyangas to help in battle against Aids

HARARE—Throughout Zimbabwe the traditional healer, or n'ganga has great influence, a factor which was recognised by both sides in the war to end white rule.

Now, once again, the power of healers and mediums is to be employed in a campaign, the outcome of which will decide the fate of millions of people and chart the future course of the nation.

The campaign, to alert people to the catastrophe which will eventuate unless the spread of AIDS is checked through a revolutionary change in sexual patterns.

Promiscuity is rife in the country where already half a million of the population of nine million are believed to be infected with the virus and where it is officially recognised that nearly 10,000 victims are already suffering from full-blown AIDS and awaiting death.

The President of the national association of traditional healers, Dr. Gordon Chavunduka, a sociologist and university professor, appealed this week to the Ministry of Health to involve the thousands of traditional healers in the AIDS awareness campaign.

Workshops

Give them the proper information through workshops, he said, and they will be invaluable in spreading the facts.

Chavunduka said the advice given by n'gangas was taken seriously by many people who regarded them as experts not only in the field of health but in many other areas of social and cultural life.

The co-operation of the healers would be needed to change attitudes, customs and habits that had been established.

These included polygamy, the custom whereby widows were "inherited" by another member of the family and the practice of "seed-raising", where a close relative of a childless couple was allowed to sleep with the wife in an effort to produce a child.

There was also the need to inform all healers of the dangers of the disease, say, a blood blight on more than one patient, because of the range of spreading the disease through contaminated blood.

Efforts

The first cases of AIDS in Zimbabwe were diagnosed five years ago but it was not until last year that meaningful efforts were made to alert people to the dangers of the disease.

The appointment of the current Minister of Health, Dr. Timothy Sampa, earlier this year saw the awareness campaign shift into high gear.

His predecessor, Dr. Gabriel Felix Muchemwa, has been criticised for playing down the threat. He once referred to AIDS as a "petty issue" and doctors were instructed not to refer to AIDS or HIV infection on death certificates.

It was extremely difficult to obtain official figures and the Ministry of Health cancelled a film on the disease which was on the point of being made after many months of preparation.

Last year saw the beginning of change in official attitudes following mounting pressure in the newspapers and from medical sources for the Government to face up to the enormity of the problem.

Now there are radio ...
Still searching for loved ones

THREE years after a government amnesty ended a post-independence dissident conflict, relatives of people who disappeared during the strife are still searching and suffering.

The fate of the disappeared is shrouded in secrecy by the government. Security agents refuse to make their records public as calls for information increase.

Between 1983 and 1987, dissidents who had been members of the Zimbabwean African People’s Union (Zapu), led by Joshua Nkomo, turned to banditry in protest against what they saw as unfair treatment by the ruling Zimbabwean African Nationalist Union (Zanu) led by then Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

Fifth Brigade

Government responded with a wave of repression. Troops occupied villages. Most notorious was the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade, now disbanded.

International human rights’ groups joined local associations, led by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe (CCJPZ), to allege arbitrary arrest, detention, torture, and summary execution.

Since 1987 there has been amnesty for dissidents, bringing an end to the conflict. Zapu and Zapu have united. More than 1,000 detainees have been released. Refugees and fugitives who fled to Botswana and Zambia have returned.

But slowly it is emerging that many more people disappeared during the conflict.

Mothers cannot get birth certificates for their children because fathers cannot be traced. Children cannot be admitted to school without birth certificates.

The property of the disappeared cannot be disposed of because death cannot be proved. Families cannot perform traditional death rituals.

Many people blame the activities of the Fifth Brigade, during its deployment in the region during 1983 and 1984, for the disappearance of their relatives.

The elusive operations of the dissidents, who numbered no more than 500, are believed to have convinced the brigade that the guerrillas had local civilian support.

The brigade is alleged to have gone on a rampage, shooting suspected dissident supporters on the spot and burying their victims in mass graves.

Excesses

When the brigade was eventually withdrawn, the government was pressured by public opinion to set up a commission of inquiry.

Evidence was taken from hundreds of people, including journalists who claimed to have witnessed atrocities. The results have remained secret. Mugabe denied that atrocities had occurred but admitted that excesses of war might have happened.

But as local people continue to search for missing relatives, there are increasing calls for the report to be released.

Prominent University of Zimbabwe educationist Ben Moyo began the debate recently when he said the release of the findings would signal the government’s commitment to consolidating national unity.

This would be a way of addressing the roots of national disunity which sparked the dissident insurgency and offer a chance to examine the whole issue of tribal enmity between the Ndebele of Matabeleland and the Shona who live in...
Nyngas to join Aids fight

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s traditional healers are to be used in a campaign to alert people to the catastrophe which will occur unless the spread of Aids is checked through a revolutionary change in sex patterns.

The outcome of the campaign will decide the fate of millions of people and chart the future course of the nation.

Promiscuity is rife in Zimbabwe where already 500,000 out of the 9 million population are believed to be infected with the deadly virus and where it is officially recognised that nearly 10,000 victims are already suffering from full-blown Aids.

Dr Gordon Chavunduka, president of the national association of traditional healers, appealed this week to the Ministry of Health to involve the thousands of traditional healers in the Aids awareness campaign.

“Give them the proper information through workshops,” he said, “and they will be invaluable in spreading the facts.”

Dr Chavunduka, a sociologist and university professor, said the advice given by nyangas was taken seriously as they were regarded as experts, not only in the field of health, but in many other areas of social and cultural life.

The co-operation of the healers would be needed to change attitudes, customs and habits surrounding established sex patterns, he said.

These included polygamy, the custom whereby widows were “inherited” by another member of the family, and the practice of “seed-raising” where a close relative of a childless couple was allowed to sleep with the wife in an effort to produce a child.

There was also the need to inform all healers of the dangers of using, say, a razor blade on more than one patient because of the chance of spreading the disease through contaminated blood.

The appointment earlier this year of Dr Timothy Stamps as Minister of Health saw the Aids awareness campaign shift into high gear.

His predecessor, Brigadier Felix Muchemwa, has been criticised for playing down the threat. He once referred to Aids as a “petty issue” and doctors were instructed not to refer to Aids or HIV infection on death certificates.

Last year saw the beginning of a change in official attitudes following mounting pressure in the newspapers and from medical sources for the Government to face up to the enormity of the problem.

Now there are radio and television programmes and interviews with sufferers. Currently an Aids Awareness Week is under way with rallies and processions.

President Robert Mugabe launched the campaign with a warning that the future of the Zimbabwean nation had been placed in great jeopardy by the spread of Aids.
Harare, new centre of drug trade

By Andrew Mwanungu

The drugs are seen from the air.
Zimbabwe's former Chief Justice, Mr. Simon Mupfumira, has slammed government proposals to amend the constitution's Bill of Rights, describing the proposed changes as a "retrogressive step" that would "whittle away fundamental human rights."

The latest to protest against the bill, Mr. Mupfumira, highly respected internationally for his spirited defence of individual human rights, has called on the government to reconsider introducing the bill.

The Constitutional Amendment Bill proposes to permit flogging, which the Supreme Court last year ruled out as unconstitutional, and hanging, despite moves in the Supreme Court to have it declared a "degrading" punishment.

The bill has been gazetted but not yet introduced in parliament. While commercial farmers see it as a preparation for taking over their land to resettle black peasants, Sape...
Ex-chief justice joins critics of Zimbabwe Bill

BULAWAYO.— Former-Zimbabwe chief justice Enoch Dumbutshena has slammed government proposals to amend the constitution's Bill of Rights, describing the proposed changes as a retrogressive step that would "whittle away fundamental human rights".

The latest to join an outcry against the Bill, Dumbutshena — highly respected internationally for his spirited defence of individual human rights while Zimbabwe was under a state of emergency — called on the government on Monday night to reconsider introducing the Bill. [Editorial note: The specific date should be included here.]

The Constitutional Amendment Bill, published last month, proposes to "permit" flogging, which the Supreme Court last year ruled unconstitutional, and hanging despite moves in the Supreme Court to have it declared a "degrading" punishment, which would also be in conflict with the constitution. No-one has been hanged in Zimbabwe since 1987.

The Bill also allows the government to confiscate property and to compensate at a rate which the government may determine is "fair". In all three cases, the courts are prevented from reversing a government decision.

The Bill has been gazetted but not yet introduced in Parliament, and has sent shockwaves not only through the legal community, but also through white commercial farmers who see the Bill as a preparation for a major acquisition campaign of their land for resettling black peasants.

Speaking in Bulawayo, Dumbutshena said: "The fear I have is that the executive and the legislature will whittle away fundamental human rights enshrined in our constitution."

He was surprised that the Bill should have been introduced now, soon after the ending of the state of emergency in July and when the government's human rights record had become respected. "It is my view that fundamental human rights provisions should only be strengthened, and not weakened." — Sapa.
Ex-chief justice joins critics of Zimbabwe Bill

BULAWAYO — Former Zimbabwe chief justice Knoch Dumbushena has slammed government proposals to amend the constitution's Bill of Rights, describing the proposed changes as a retrogressive step that would “whittle away fundamental human rights”.

The latest to join an outcry against the Bill, Dumbushena — highly respected internationally for his spirited defence of individual human rights while Zimbabwe was under a state of emergency — called on the government on Monday night to reconsider introducing the Bill.

The Constitutional Amendment Bill, published last month, proposes to permit flogging, which the Supreme Court last year ruled unconstitutional, and hanging despite moves in the Supreme Court to have it declared a “degrading” punishment, which would also be in conflict with the constitution. No-one has been hanged in Zimbabwe since 1987.

The Bill also allows the government to confiscate property and to compensate at a rate which the government may determine is “fair”. In all three cases, the courts are prevented from reversing a government decision.

The Bill has been gazetted but not yet introduced in Parliament, and has sent shockwaves not only through the legal community, but also through white commercial farmers who see the Bill as a preparation for a major acquisition campaign of their land for resettling black peasants.

Speaking in Bulawayo, Dumbushena said: “The fear I have is that the executive and the legislature will whittle away fundamental human rights enshrined in our constitution.”

He was surprised that the Bill should have been introduced now, soon after the ending of the state of emergency in July and when the government’s human rights record had become respected. “It is my view that fundamental human rights provisions should only be strengthened, and not weakened.” — Sapa.
Renamo ignores ceasefire rules

HARARE - Despite ceasefire moves in Mozambique, attacks on civilians in areas of Zimbabwe close to the border are increasing and thousands of people are to be moved into protected villages as a matter of urgency, the Herald reported yesterday.

In the Mudzi district in north-eastern Zimbabwe, hundreds of families have fled their homes and thousands are reported to gather at schools during the night where security force units can offer protection.

The agreement was reached in Rome between the Mozambique government and Renamo for a partial ceasefire under which Zimbabwean troops will be confined to the Beira and Limpopo corridors.
R25m is needed to save kids

HARARE - Zimbabwe needs about R25 million this year to save people, especially young children, from dying of malnutrition, Health Minister Timothy Stamps said in Harare this week.

He was speaking at Sharon School after receiving maize meal and beans, presented by the Union of Jewish Women in association with the school, to help the child supplementary feeding programme.

Stamps noted that millions of children would die this century in various countries and Zimbabwe was no exception.

"The Ministry of Health only has R1.2 million and the number of the malnourished is increasing every day."

"Even during this rainy season, when food is believed to be available, transport will always be a problem to ferry food to some remote parts of the country," he said. - Sape.
Bid to alter Zimbabwean bill of rights slated

BULAWAYO — Zimbabwe's former Chief Justice, Enock Dumbutshena, has criticised government proposals to amend the constitution's bill of rights, describing the proposed changes as a retrogressive step that would whittle away fundamental human rights.

Mr Dumbutshena, who is highly respected internationally for his spirited defence of individual human rights while Zimbabwe was under a state of emergency, has called on the government to reconsider introducing the bill.

The Constitutional Amendment Bill, published last month, proposes to permit flogging, which the Supreme Court last year ruled out as unconstitutional; and hanging, despite moves in the Supreme Court to have it declared a "degrading" punishment, which would also be in conflict with the constitution. No one has been hanged in Zimbabwe since 1987.

The Bill also allows the government to confiscate property and to compensate at a rate which the government may determine is "fair".

In all three cases, the courts are expressly prevented from reversing a government decision.

The Bill has been gazetted but not yet introduced in Parliament and has sent shockwaves through the legal community and among white commercial farmers, who see the Bill as a preparation for a major acquisition campaign of their land for resettling peasants. — Sapa.
SA-Zimbabwe trade set to soar, says envoy

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Trade between South Africa and Zimbabwe has increased tremendously over the past five years, and with trade liberalisation in Zimbabwe it is expected to rise even further, says South Africa’s trade representative in Harare, Nico Nel. Mr Nel yesterday said a post-apartheid SA would offer opportunities to other African states.

“Contrary to popular belief that a post-apartheid economy will swamp neighbouring countries, we view the development rather as a great opportunity and not as a threat. "South Africa will be so preoccupied with internal reconstruction that most of its resources will go towards that end," he said.
Zimbabwe set to nationalise farms

By Michael Hartnack

HARARE - Leaders of Zimbabwe's 4,000 white commercial farmers held a crisis meeting yesterday as Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa introduced legislation paving the way for the nationalisation of 4 million hectares.

Mnangagwa attacked the white "landed gentry," urging them to "resist their inherited lust for wealth" and to give their farms to governments for black resettlement in return for the gains they had harvested "at the expense of the masses since the days of Cecil John Rhodes".

Return chanted punctuated Mnangagwa's second reading introductory speech with applause as he defended plans in a constitutional amendment to strip those who have their property nationalised of any right of appeal to the courts.

Recently retired Zimbabwean Chief Justice Epangelo Dambuzo warned earlier this week that the move attacked internationally recognised legal norms and could have a disastrous effect on the current investment drive, aimed at creating jobs for 1.5 million unemployed people.

But Mnangagwa told parliament yesterday that, only government knew the nation's financial state and what it could afford to pay for expropriated property.

"We cannot leave this matter to the unregulated benevolence of the judiciary, which cannot withstand the world's scrutiny," he said.

To Page 2
Concerts and condoms against Aids

BAGPIPES, concerts and condoms highlighted Zimbabwe’s efforts to increase public knowledge about how to prevent the spread of Aids, which has badly affected this country.

"Don’t ask what your country can do for you. Do what you can now to save your country from Aids," said Health Minister Dr Timothy Stamps, addressing a rally to mark World Aids Day last weekend. Zimbabwe held its first-ever Aids Awareness Week to coincide with the international event.

Stamps has been instrumental in getting Zimbabweans to face up to the growing Aids crisis. More than 9 000 Zimbabweans have died from or suffer from full-blown Aids, while nearly 500 000 of the country’s 9.5-million people are infected with the HIV virus and the number is growing.

A festive atmosphere marked the World Aids Day parade — the fourth anti-Aids march in Harare during the week — which featured the distribution of free condoms and balloons as well as a traditional Scottish bagpipe band in full kilt regalia.

Christmas shoppers stopped at a kiosk to buy anti-Aids T-shirts and pick up educational leaflets in English, Shona and Ndebele. Zimbabwe’s Women and Aids Support Network ran an information booth in the central shopping district, while a hospice for Aids patients also sold T-shirts.

Zimbabwe marked World Aids Day last weekend with bagpipes, banners and reggae, reports ANDREW MELDRUM.

Such public action is itself a major breakthrough in Zimbabwe, which for years has maintained an embarrassed silence about the prevalence of Aids and HIV infection in the country. Zimbabwean health officials stuck their heads in the sand to the growing Aids threat to the extent that doctors were advised to avoid telling patients that they had Aids or were HIV positive.

Such willfully ignorant policies allowed many Zimbabweans to continue to spread the virus which, as in the rest of Africa, is primarily spread through heterosexual contact.

With his appointment as health minister in April, Stamps dramatically threw back the cloak of secrecy. Now articles about the incidence of the virus, its treatment and ways to prevent it are in the media nearly every day. Stamps has been a tireless campaigner, although some politicians have charged that he is exaggerating the danger.

"Some people say I am an alarmist," said Stamps. "I think the figures show there is ample reason to be alarmed."

More than 4 000 Zimbabweans attended a free concert held in the Harare Gardens by the new organisation, Artists Against Aids. Top musicians like Oliver Mtukudzi, Transit and the Afro-fusion jazz group Mudzimu played for enthusiastic crowds.

"This is a fun and positive event," said anti-Aids activist Andrew Morrison.

"If people learn something about safer sex, then so much the better."

By the bandstand banners decorated with instructive cartoons proclaimed "Talk to you partner about Aids" and "Teach Your Children About Aids."

"I think art is the best way to get people to think about Aids," said Stephen Mazure (18), who painted some of the banners. "Even those who have come just for the music and fun will hear the message. People should know that it doesn’t make sense not to be careful."

Many of those at the concert were teenagers and pre-teens. "I’m glad so many youngsters are here," said musician Zola Dalisile (19). "It’s important to make an impression on them before it’s too late. If you don’t take care of yourself, then your indulgence will take care of you."

Unfortunately for Zimbabwe not all those attending the concert were so committed to the anti-Aids drive. A cluster of five teenage boys stuckered an educational pamphlet.

"Some people may pay attention to this, but I don’t want to," said one of the boys, who would not give his name. "I don’t care about Aids, I’ll do whatever I want."
Zimbabwe announced plans to take over most of Zimbabwe's 8-million hectare maize and tobacco belt, the source of most of the country’s agricultural exports.

Mnangagwa adjourned the debate to Tuesday, promising to make a further statement on the restrictions imposed on the judiciary's powers, which he acknowledged could affect Zimbabwe's trade liberalisation programme.

The Commercial Farmers' Union did not issue a statement yesterday.
Zimbabwe’s trade with S Africa on the increase

VICTORIA FALLS
Trade between Zimbabwe and South Africa has increased over the last five years, according to Mr. Nico Nel, South African trade mission representative in Zimbabwe.

In an interview with the national news agency Ziana, Nel - attending the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries business conference at Victoria Falls - said trade was expected to increase even further in the future because of Zimbabwe’s trade liberalisation.

“The volume of trade has increased tremendously and is still rising. We foresee, with trade liberalisation now in place in Zimbabwe, that the figure will even rise further,” said Nel.

Imports
South Africa primarily imported agricultural produce and minerals from Zimbabwe, especially tobacco and asbestos.

“We hope to soon import some maize, since Zimbabwe has a surplus. We would also prefer to import meat as well, like in pre-independence days,” Nel said.

He predicted that trade with the rest of Africa would also increase, provided a free market economic system was maintained.

South Africa was a potential market for frontline states, with its population of between 35 and 40 million people.

“Our large population presents a relatively large unexploited market and for Zimbabwe it can only mean greater opportunity, which will fit in well with trade liberalisation, which has an accent on exports,” he said.

He believed a “post-apartheid South Africa would be so preoccupied with internal reconstruction, which would require most of its resources, that it would not dominate trade in the rest of Africa in the post-apartheid era.”

Optimism

“Contrary to popular belief that a post-apartheid economy will swamp neighbouring countries, we view the development rather as a great opportunity and not a threat.”

Nel described the mood of the conference as extremely optimistic and said this had surprised him and delegates from the South African chambers of commerce who also attended.

“We received a clear message from our colleagues that they would prefer a closer relationship with South Africa, either in the SADCC or PTA (regional groupings which presently exclude South Africa). We would like to see what initiative is being taken to improve relations,” he said.

He expected 260 000 Zimbabweans to visit South Africa by the end of the year, compared to 120 000 in 1988 and the 80 000 who visited the country in 1987. - Sapa.
HARARE - Opposition to a controversial Bill currently before the Zimbabwe Parliament has fuelled fears for the protection of human rights.

Zimbabwe's recently retired Chief Justice, Judge Enoch Dumbutshena, says he fears the government of President Mugabe intends whittling away fundamental human rights enshrined in the constitution.

He was commenting on a Bill to amend the Constitution which has had its first reading in Parliament.

**Changes**

Provisions in the Declaration of Rights concerning protection from deprivation of private property are being changed to make it easier for the Government to acquire land for resettlement.

The section in the Declaration dealing with protection from inhuman treatment is also due for amendment so as to nullify a Supreme Court decision which outlawed whipping of juvenile offenders and also to make it quite clear that hanging as a form of execution does not contravene the constitution.

**Objections**

Dumbutshena's comments follow objections from the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace and from lawyers at the University of Zimbabwe.

Of primary concern is the provision in the Bill which allows Parliament to fix the basis for compensation for expropriated land.

The former Chief Justice said the proposal to stop the courts from examining what Parliament had decided "flies in the face of all accepted norms of modern society and the rule of law."

Inhumani.

On the move to restore whipping of juvenile offenders as a punishment, Dumbutshena said what was inhuman and degrading for adults was equally so for juveniles.

A letter from a leading lawyer in Harare which appeared in a local publication said the Bill indicated a sinister intention on the part of government.

The whole purpose of giving the courts the authority to adjudicate was to ensure the citizen was not unduly bullied by the State.

The writer said the proposed amendments could have disastrous effect upon the commercial farming community.

Compensation fixed by Parliament could result in a farmer being paid a fraction of the sum he had paid for the property.

Following the expiry of the first decade of independence, the Parliament of Zimbabwe is able to amend the constitution including the Declaration of Rights as long as there is two-thirds support.
Zimbabwe bond payout envisaged

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Bureau

HARARE — White farmers in Zimbabwe who stand to lose more than half their land under the resettlement programme may be paid in government bonds rather than in cash.

This was revealed yesterday by Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Emerson Mnangagwa when he introduced the controversial Bill in parliament. The Bill seeks to amend the constitution to make it easier for the government to acquire land compulsorily for resettlement.

Mr. Mnangagwa said rich landowners would have to make sacrifices to avoid the explosion of class warfare.

The Bill, which has been criticised by human rights bodies and the ex-Chief Justice, Enoch Dumbutshana, will bar the courts from inquiring into the fairness of the compensation.

The existing right to have compensation paid promptly and outside the country if desired was to be abolished. Rich landowners should not be allowed to hold the people to ransom, said the Minister.

He did not say how much land would be acquired, but the government has said that white farmers, the large-scale commercial farming section, would be left with 8 million ha from 11 million ha.

The Bill would also change the name of Zimbabwe to the "Republic of Zimbabwe"
Mugabe's Land Grab

Farmers Despair at Price for Land, They're Told

YOU WON'T RECEIVE MARKET

BY DON JACOBS, HERALD

362

Mugabe's Land Grab
As the President of the Board, I would like to welcome you to our annual general meeting. At this time, we want to express our gratitude to you for your continued support. It has been a challenging year for the organization, and we are grateful for your patience and understanding.

We would also like to introduce our new board members. They bring a fresh perspective and new ideas to our organization, and we are confident that they will contribute significantly to our success.

In our annual report, we have outlined our achievements and challenges for the past year. We have made significant progress in expanding our programs and services, and we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

Our financial report shows a strong financial position, thanks to our dedicated volunteers and donors. We are committed to using our resources efficiently and effectively to ensure that we can continue to provide high-quality services to our clients.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our donors and sponsors for their support. Your generosity has made a significant impact on our organization, and we are grateful for your ongoing commitment.

Finally, we would like to encourage all of you to get involved in our organization. Whether you can offer your time, expertise, or financial support, we need and appreciate your help.

Thank you for your attendance today. We look forward to a successful year ahead.
By Gerald L’Ange
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe has sent a blunt message to President de Klerk. He admires his courage and reforms, but will not meet him until he is satisfied that apartheid is irreversible.

In an interview at State House in Harare, Mr Mugabe said he had deliberately avoided meeting Mr de Klerk because he did not want to be seen bestowing acceptance on him until the main issue of removing apartheid had been resolved in South Africa.

He described his attitude towards Mr de Klerk as “warming him off and not giving him the comfort that he is already completely acceptable to us — he’s not, and he will not be until he has resolved the issue”.

Mr Mugabe’s refusal to meet Mr de Klerk is being maintained in spite of the growing move among black African states to deal openly with South Africa and that several African leaders have met him.

However, his decision to grant an interview to a South African journalist, believed to be the first of this kind he has given in 10 years, is seen in diplomatic quarters in Harare as a significant indication of a desire to communicate his views across the Limpopo.

Asked whether he was prepared to follow the example

Mugabe speaks bluntly

- From Page 1

of other African leaders and meet Mr de Klerk, he said: “Deliberately we have avoided him, not because we don’t admire what he is doing — we do very much.

“We hope, however, that he will step up his efforts in getting the various parties in South Africa to meet at a round table so they can finally resolve the whole political issue.

“And we encourage him, but we do not want to be used now, opportunistically, for purposes of attaining other goals which are divorced from the main theme (which is internal): the resolution of this whole apartheid issue and the creation of a democratic state.”

On Mr de Klerk’s reforms, he said: “We admire Mr de Klerk. He really has done the unexpected.

“All of a sudden, there emerged in South Africa a man who was very courageous, who had the courage to denounce a philosophy that for quite a long time had been criticised and denounced by the international community, the philosophy of apartheid, and to try to redirect the thinking of his party and his people.

“We are happy that this event has occurred. It’s a revolution.”

Asked what further actions were expected from Pretoria before Harare would abandon its refusal to deal with it at Ministerial level, Mr Mugabe said that the fundamental issue was whether political power had been given to the people.

He said he could see no reason why a dispensation recognising the oneness of a community should not be a good one for South Africans.

“If anything, our experience has placed on record that whites and blacks can live in harmony with each other, and that past differences will not really persist and be allowed to affect the new philosophy of oneness, and I would want to believe that what we have experienced, and still are experiencing in Zimbabwe, could very well be the experience of South Africa.”

Mr Mugabe conceded that in the beginning whites in South Africa might feel anxious about their position under black majority rule. But he did not believe the ANC or the PAC would want to see an all-black parliament or an all-black government.

A View From a Distance
Mugabe’s hopes for South Africa

QUESTION: As South Africa moves closer to throwing off apartheid, members of the ruling white minority are giving serious thought to what political system should replace it. Some, fearing being swamped by the black majority, favour a division of political power in some form of federal system.

Your government, which instituted a policy of racial reconciliation on gaining power, favours a one-man-one-vote system in a unitary state in South Africa, which means black minority rule, as in Zimbabwe. What reasons for accepting majority rule in a unitary state would you give to South Africans looking for guidance?

ANSWER: Let me begin by clarifying our position on South Africa vis-à-vis the political system that South Africa should have in the event of a negotiated settlement being reached.

We have no right to dictate to the South Africans what system they desire. It is up to South Africans to determine that system. We can only advise them if that advice is sought.

But certainly the issue of the nature of the political system is one that the South Africans themselves must seek to negotiate.

I want to believe that some ideas have already been given or thrown about by both sides, the blacks as represented by the ANC and PAC and others and then the white side as represented by President de Klerk.

But our distant view, if it means anything, is that South Africa must work to preserve its oneness.

It’s a oneness that is historical and if it has been found workable and better to have a South Africa that is integrated in a unitary system all along, why should it be allowed to disintegrate merely because the blacks are now recognised as having a role to play in the future of South Africa?

It would be a pity if it was allowed to disintegrate. If the South Africans prefer now a federal system to a unitary one it’s up to them but our belief is that a unitary system is better.

Our own view regarding Zimbabwe is that Zimbabwe is one. We are a small country and perhaps our example may not be one South Africa would want to follow in regard to a political system, that is in regard to its being unitary or federal.

QUESTION: Could you give white South Africans any reassurance from Zimbabwe’s own experience and from its influential position in Africa, that they would benefit from accepting a dispensation similar to that in Zimbabwe?

ANSWER: Sure, I don’t see any reason why a dispensation like ours, namely one which recognises the oneness of the community, the oneness of the people, should not be a good one for the South Africans.

If anything, our experience has placed on record that white and blacks can live in harmony with each other and that past differences will not really persist and be allowed to affect the newer philosophy of oneness.

I would want to believe that what we have experienced and still are experiencing in Zimbabwe could very well be the experience of South Africa.

QUESTION: Many white South Africans are looking at Zimbabwe as an example of what South Africa might be like under a simple majority rule system.

Some argue that whites in Zimbabwe have ended up without political influence and therefore dependent on people of a different cultural background to look after their interests. Could you comment on this view?

ANSWER: I don’t think that the whites have ended up without influence. The whites still have a tremendous amount of influence in the country. We have three White Ministers in government who are playing a very vital role in helping to shape the destiny of the country and they are highly regarded and respected by the white community.

But, of course, we regard them not just as representatives of the whites but as representatives of the entire Zimbabwean nation.

This is the concept which I think in the long run will help us consolidate this non-racial oneness which we have created and would also, in circumstances in which South Africa would follow our experience, help it also to consolidate that oneness.

If the view is maintained that whites, because they are white or because they have a different cultural background, should be treated as whites, then you will have to do that in respect of the other groups and you might have to sub-divide the whites.

Why should the whites be considered as one culture merely because of the colour of their skin? You have Germans, you have British and Afrikanders, you have Jews, you have Portuguese and should all those now be sub-divided into little categories each deserving its own treatment? Otherwise we end up with a society that is really torn up rather than united.

And if it is unity that people are aiming at then there should be a move towards integration, integration, mind you, that will not be compelled but which will have its parameters well spelled out by way of enunciated policies.

There are certain things that can be compelled, of course. We should never tolerate discrimination, for instance.

I personally believe, and I think this is also the philosophy of many progressive forces in South Africa including, of course, the ANC and PAC and the progressive white groups, that a man should be recognised just as a man, a human being and that’s it.

But if we are going to recognise that other members of the human race have better qualities than others merely because they are of that race then we continue to maintain a backward philosophy and it will be apartheid in another form.

I do concede that at the beginning the whites might feel a bit nervous and anxious about their own position given the political history that South Africa has had and even here they had that fear. Now you have whites being returned to Zimbabwe’s parliament on the same basis as everybody else.

I have three whites in the Cabinet. And I think that is welcomed by all members of our society and I would want to believe that the ANC, PAC, the black community, would not want to see an all-black parliament.

It would be a disgrace if that happened. Nor would they want to see an all-black government in the country in which you have such a substantial number of whites and so the whites should not be afraid.
Don’t panic over land Bill, Zimbabwe’s farmers told

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — White farmers in Zimbabwe have been urged by Transport Minister Denis Norman not to panic over land expropriation.

This has become a major issue as parliament continues the debate on legislation which will give it, and not the courts, the right to decide on compensation.

Mr Norman, one of three white cabinet ministers and a former leader of the farming community, hinted that there might be changes to the Bill which has been attacked by human rights and legal bodies.

In an editorial yesterday, the Herald said land ownership was a legal fiction.

“Land is a natural attribute of state sovereignty and territorial integrity of a country. It is for that reason that land is supposed to be for the general populace’s wellbeing and development,” said the paper.

It said the interests of the vast majority must transcend the economic interests of the few. The government, it believes, would not confiscate willy-nilly, but would target under-utilised land.

Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa is due to continue his second-reading introductory speech in parliament today. He has already said the government cannot afford to pay the market price for land taken for resettlement and has called on “rich land-owners” to make sacrifices to help the “landless peasantry.”
Mugabe: sanctions must stay

HARARE—President Robert Mugabe said yesterday that although "some encouraging reforms" had been instituted in SA, Zimbabwe demanded that the international community keep up its "economic pressure".

"While we continue to retain cautious optimism, the apartheid system remains intact," Mugabe said in his end-of-year State of the Nation address to parliament.

Referring to the current debate over plans to nationalise 3-million hectares of white-dominated farmland for peasant resettlement, Mugabe affirmed that a constitutional amendment would complete its course through parliament, facilitating takeovers.

He reportedly plans to offer $540m compensation for farms (worth $82m on the open market last year) which grew all Zimbabwe's main export, tobacco, and most of its staple food, maize.
Long queues for Zimbabwe visas

HUNDREDS of people planning to visit Zimbabwe over the holiday season are having to queue for hours to obtain visas from the trade mission in Johannesburg.

The daily queue stretches around the block outside the service entrance of the Sanlam Building in Sauer Street. Security guards prevent people getting to the mission through the building's front entrance.

Up to 150 people fill the trade mission's 10th floor premises.

"It has never been this bad, even in November," says one woman who waited a month instead of seven days for her visa. "She says the mission is understaffed.

"The Zimbabwean trade mission is particularly rude and unco-operative," says the manager of a company which collects visas on behalf of clients. Five of his clients' passports have been lost recently.

Another company, Visa Services, has employed a woman specifically to collect visas from the trade mission during November and December, says Visa Services Johannesburg manager Mona Waldek. She spends up to four hours a day at the mission which is open four mornings a week.

A trade mission spokesman says his staff is under tremendous pressure and the mission has been staying open into the afternoon to cope with about 400 visa applications and passport queries a day. This is about 300 a day more than usual.

Delays are usually due to immigration officials in Harare who have to issue authority for every visa, he says.

Inquiry finds no corruption in cycad exports
Bill made law to
boos and cheers

MICHAEL HARTBACK

HARARE - Zimbabwe's parliament
erupted into tumultuous tribal dancing and
singing yesterday as President Robert Mu
gabe's government steamerrolled through
tenacious, constitutional amendments
removing all right of appeal to the courts
over nationalised property.

The committee stage and third reading
of the Bill, revising the declaration of
rights Britain entrenched in Zimbabwe's
1890 Lancaster House independence,
constitution, were taken at a single sitting.

Two opposition MPs in the 150
member legislature rose to a prolonged
chorus of boos as they recorded "no" votes,
against 115 for the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

"Where land was taken, we are
paying for it," said Justice Minister Em
nason Mnanagwa, referring to
Mugabe's reported plans to offer R546m in
compensation to the 4,500 white commer
cial farmers who own the 6m-ha "maize, and tobacco," until recently
worth R8m on the open market.

"When the land was taken away (by 19th
century white settlers) there was no com
pensation court to which our forefathers
could appeal," he said. Oct 14 1979

The prime farming belt grows 2m
Zimbabwe's R1bn-a-year major export earn
ner, tobacco, and most of the "maize crop.

Opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement
leader Edgar, Terek, yesterday accused
cabinet ministers who already owned
large numbers of commercial farms of
planning to acquire more through the
nationalisation scheme. Two ZUM MPs voted
against the Bill.

The only other opposing voice to the Bill
was from the lone member for Zanz, whose
leader, the Rev NThabaingi Sihole, is in
exile in the US.

Mnanagwa lashed out at government
backbenchers who expressed muted dis
quiet over the government's removal of
the jurisdiction of the courts over expro
priations, which Matabeleland rancher
Max Rosendel warned could be extended to
commandeer other forms of property.

But Rosendel, a former member of the
Rhodesian Front who later joined Mu
gabe's party, voted for the Bill, together
with Transport Minister Denis Norman, an
ex-president of Zimbabwe's Commercial
Farmers Union, and Peter Hewlett, an
other Zanu (PF) white farmer.

Mnanagwa accused Zimbabwe's
Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Com
mission and its Law Society of lobbying
MPs in a bid to draw them away from their
duty to their landless constituents.

The Catholics and the heads of the legal
profession have warned the Bill may dest
roy investor confidence.

Of 5m hectares of former white
farmland already bought at market prices
with British aid money, over a million
hectares remain fallow.
MPs sing and dance as land Bill is passed

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — MPs sang and danced in the Zimbabwe parliament yesterday when the Bill to amend the constitution and take away half the land owned by white farmers passed its final stage.

The Bill, which required 100 votes, was given its third reading with 113 in favour and three against. Amid boos and jeers, the no votes came from members of the two opposition parties represented in parliament, Edgar Tekere's ZUM and the Reverend Ndabarini Sithole's Zanu (Ndonga).

Among those who voted for the controversial Bill, which has been slammed by human rights and legal bodies, were the former Minister of Agriculture, Denis Norman, now Transport Minister, and a leading Matabeleland farmer, Max Rosenfeld.

The legislation specifically excludes the courts from inquiring into the fairness of compensation which will be decided under another piece of legislation still to come before the house.

Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa, who piloted the Bill through the house, said no one would suffer unnecessarily.

But Mr Mnangagwa criticised some opponents of the Bill, accusing them of expressing "textbook fears".

The Minister said there was no compensation court when the land was taken away from the blacks' forefathers by the white settlers.

Passions ran high during the debate, with supporters of the Bill stressing that land was at the heart of the liberation struggle, which saw 30,000 people die in the Rhodesian bush war.

The government says it intends to resettle another 100,000 families on farmland formerly owned by white farmers. It says it will target under-utilised land, though the law will allow any land to be acquired compulsorily.
Nationalisation row in Zimbabwe

HARARE. All 8,800 members of Zimbabwe's Commercial Farmers' Union are being summoned to an extraordinary meeting here on January 11 to discuss President Robert Mugabe's plans for sweeping land-nationalisation.

Opposition leader Mr Edgar Tekere, retired chief justice, Mr Enoch Dumbutshena, Zimbabwe's law society and the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission have clamoured against parliament's ratification of a constitutional amendment which allows property to be expropriated without appeal.

The amendment was passed on Wednesday and now goes to President Mugabe to be signed into law.

Farming sources say that with morale among farmers at rock bottom, especially in the prime "maize and tobacco belt" north and east of Harare, the CPU is calling its members together to discuss letters allegedly have received from the government urging them to offer their farms for sale at prices well below the market value to fulfill the land hunger of Zimbabwe's six million overcrowded peasants.

The area grows Zimbabwe's major export, tobacco, which earned $886 million in foreign currency last season, and most of its staple food.
SA changes ‘irreversible’

— Mugabe

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe softened his fierce criticism of the South African government yesterday by saying that its programme to end apartheid was irreversible.

Mr Mugabe said this during a meeting with Mr. Oliver Tambo when the ANC president stopped over here on his way to SA.

"We are optimistic. The momentum has been there and there can be no going back," Mr. Mugabe said.

ANTHONY JOHNSON reports from Johannesburg that the ANC will begin charting a course for a new SA when more than 1,600 delegates attend the organisation’s first legal congress here since its banning in 1960.

Mr. Tambo will set the tone for the ANC’s future course when he delivers the opening address today.

His address will be followed by a speech by Mr. Nelson Mandela, who is expected to spell out the main decisions facing the ANC.

Two issues are expected to dominate:

The ANC’s short-term strategic objectives in its negotiations with the government and other organisations in 1991.

Ways of briefing up the ANC’s organisation and support base in an increasingly competitive political environment.

Other issues that will enjoy the attention of delegates include SA’s international isolation (particularly sanctions), the violence and the ANC programme of action (including mass action) for 1991.

The conference is viewed by organisers as a way for rank-and-file supporters to make a more meaningful input into ANC decision-making — particularly the organisation’s stance on negotiations.

The PAC, Azapo, the Democratic Party and diplomats have been invited to attend today’s opening session as observers.

Neither the National Party nor Inkatha have been invited.

Arrangements have been made for recently released prisoners and returned exiles who have not formally rejoined ANC structures to attend.

The conference will also be attended by representatives from dozens of ANC missions abroad.
A city covers the scars SA made

Harare has covered up the scars caused by South African bombings, but anti-apartheid activist Jeremy Brickhill intends to make South Africa pay — to the tune of R1.2-million. By ANDREW MELDRUM in Harare

Harare, the bustling capital of Zimbabwe, has always been known for its Italian Bakery, where freshly baked bread and pasta are a staple. The bakery's fresh bread and cappuccino is a favorite among locals and tourists alike.

But the bakery's reputation has been tarnished by recent events. A block of flats was left uninhabitable after an explosion, leaving many residents homeless. The destruction and displacement caused by South African bombings have left a lasting impact on the city.

Despite the challenges, Harare—and its people—remain resilient. The city continues to thrive, with daily life going on as usual. But the scars of the past are hard to forget, as residents work to rebuild and move forward.

The anti-apartheid activist Jeremy Brickhill has taken it upon himself to seek justice for the victims of South African bombings. He plans to make South Africa pay for the damage caused, with a claim of R1.2-million.

Brickhill's efforts are a testament to the enduring spirit of Harare and its people. As the city covers the scars, it also remembers the events that have shaped its history.
Farmers call meeting on Mugabe's land plan

HARARE — All 4,800 members of Zimbabwe's Commercial Farmers' Union are being summoned to an extraordinary meeting in Harare on January 11 to discuss President Robert Mugabe's plans for sweeping land nationalisation.

While opposition leader Edgar Tekere, retired chief justice Enoch Dumbutshena, Zimbabwe's Law Society and the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission clamoured against parliament's ratification of a constitutional amendment which allows property to be expropriated without appeal to the courts, the farmers' union has to date maintained silence.

The union's refusal to speak to the Press or to lobby MPs about the land controversy drew grudging praise from Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa when the controversial amendment to the entrenched Constitutional Declaration of Rights completed its passage through parliament on Wednesday.

It now goes to Mugabe to be signed into law.

Farming sources say that with morale among commercial farmers at rock bottom, especially in the prime maize and tobacco belt stretching north and east of Harare, the union is calling its members together on January 11 to discuss letters many have received from the government urging them to offer their farms for sale.

Previously, say farming sources, the farmers' union feared it might "talk itself into a confrontation" over the land hunger of Zimbabwe's 6-million overcrowded peasants.

Mugabe reportedly plans to offer R$6bn for the 6-million hectare belt, which is worth R$1bn on the open market. The area grows Zimbabwe's major export, tobacco, which earned R$885m in foreign currency last season, and most of its staple food.

Transport Minister Denis Norman, a former president of the farmers' union, appeared withdrawn as he recorded his vote with the "aye" in the Zimbabwean parliament on Wednesday.

The previous week he had urged white farmers at Wedza, southeast of Harare, not to panic as the constitutional amendment would, he said, be revised during its passage through the House.

But at the conclusion of the second reading debate Mnangagwa said plans for an amendment on the right of appeal to the courts had been cancelled as the Bill "met the aspirations of the majority" as it stood.

Norman strode past a waiting journalist when he left the chamber, avoiding comment.

Mugabe brought Norman into his 1980-85 cabinet as minister of agriculture in a specific bid to retain the confidence of the white farming community and assure Zimbabwe's food security. He was brought back in April as minister of transport after five years' with the Beira Corridor Group.

Former Rhodesian prime minister Ian Smith said yesterday that if he had been a member of a government that enacted such iniquitous legislation, "then they would have my resignation."

"There have been a lot of people like Denis Norman saying 'Don't worry, there is going to be a change', but of course it hasn't been changed," Smith said in an interview.

The 71-year-old former premier said Western nations had a moral duty to exert pressure against Mugabe's "Marxist-Leninist, one-party-state philosophy."

"The feed-back I am getting is that some farmers are living in hope," said Smith. "But the average attitude is 'What is the good of going on, and putting your heart and soul into your farm, if this is the sort of thing that is going to happen?'"
ZIMBABWE 14/1/90

FAIR'S FAIR?

Zimbabwe's parliament continues the debate this week on a controversial constitutional amendment Bill, which will empower government to set a “fair” price for productive commercial farm land earmarked for resettlement. The outcome will determine the future of 4,000 white farmers, who own nearly 40% of the best land.

Lawyers describe the Bill as an abuse of power and say the word “fair” can’t be interpreted objectively because many Zimbabweans are still angry over what they term the “colonial land grab.”

So far, only 52,000 families have been granted smallholdings, following President Robert Mugabe’s pledge at independence to resettle 162,000 families, within three years. Last August, government announced it will buy 5.5 million ha of the 11.4 million ha owned by whites. Much of that has some of Zimbabwe's most lucrative commercial farms.

Farmers fear the country will turn into a wasteland. “No one in the communal lands has the skills to run commercial farms,” says Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU) director David Hasluck.

It is estimated that, in 1990, agricultural earnings will reach Z$2.5 billion, compared with Z$5.5 billion in 1980. On the domestic market, farms supply 82% of all goods sold. Between 1980-1989, the value of exports increased sixfold from Z$269 million to Z$1.7 billion a year. These represent 41% of export earnings.

The CFU says the targeted 5.5 million ha land is worth about Z$3 billion. The July budget set aside only Z$1.6 billion for land acquisition. Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero has pointed out he has another Z$1.6 billion in international aid earmarked for resettlement.

What worries farmers and lawyers most is the damage the Bill could do to potential foreign investment. The Law Society of Zimbabwe says the Bill will erode public confidence and damage the country’s “steadily improving international image in the area of human rights and the rule of law.”
Zimbabwe grabs private land

HARARE: Zimbabwe's parliament overwhelmingly approved a controversial bill that gives the government powers to take private land, fix its price and deny landowners the right to appeal to courts for fair compensation.
Annexing white farms justified

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe yesterday justified his government’s plans to allow nationalisation of white-owned farmland, saying that it was necessary to stop growing apartheid within his “disorganised” ruling Zanu (PF) Party.

Speaking at the start of a meeting of the party’s central committee, Mr Mugabe said the issue of landlessness among the “masses” of the party was creating apathy, compounded by discontent over transport shortages, high prices, poor roads, lack of housing and food shortages.

The people were “our king-makers”, he said, “We must remain absolutely firm on this matter. If we fail the people now then we fail unto us.”

Controversy

It was the first time Mr Mugabe had spoken on the controversy since the publication of a Constitutional Amendment Bill six weeks ago which allows the government to seize land at a price it considers fair and stop aggrieved landowners from challenging the compensation figure in court.

The Bill was passed amid jubilation in parliament on Wednesday, but to the horror of white commercial farmers.

Mr Mugabe admitted the party was “disjointed and disorganised” and the government had “not moved fast enough in fulfilling promises”.

“That, he said, had created the false impression among the people that either the government is lying to them, or is failing.”

Although the Commercial Farmers’ Union, the body representing the white farmers, has yet to issue a public statement on the controversy, it is unlikely they will accept it as a reassurance.

“The Land Bill contradicts everything the government has assured us on since independence in 1980,” said one well-known farmer, who asked not to be named.

Observers say the new law is widely regarded as a “betrayal”, coming after a decade of promises of fair play over land.

Mr Mugabe added that the government “cannot brook any contentious arguments or disputes in court on this subject”.

That is not to say they are shrugging off the threat posed to them by the speedy passage through parliament of the Constitutional Amendment Bill, which clears the way for new legislation aimed at reducing by more than half the land currently owned by 4,000 commercial farmers in Zimbabwe to make way for 100,000 peasant families.

They are worried and they are confused. They are incensed at the refusal of the legislature to heed the warnings about the damage to confidence through the provision which deems the courts from inquiring into compensation.

The Commercial Farmers’ Union, by its silence, and its decision to call an unprecedented open meeting of all farmers next month, does not seem to know what to do.

The CFU fought strenuously and hoped to see at least a tribunal to rule on compensation. But the government did not budge.

Demands for the white farmers to give up some of their land have been frequently made over the past two years.

But the farmers have also repeatedly been given assurances from people at the highest level of government, including Vice-President Joshua Nkomo, that there will be no land-grabbing.

Last August Agriculture Minister Mangwende told farmers: “Take heart and get on with the business of farming. There is no intention whatsoever to grab anybody’s land.”

Sacrifices

It was a different story in parliament this week when a Minister railed against rich landowners whom, he said, would have to make sacrifices and accept that the government could not afford the market price for their land and property.

There is a view that the change in the constitution itself does not change anything, but enables the government to bring in legislation which could be damaging to landowners’ interests.

It is this attitude which is thought to have led to a vote for the Constitutional Amendment Bill from a former leader of the farmers and now Transport Minister Denis Norman.

White farmers have contributed substantially to Zimbabwe’s economy with the value of production totalling more than R2 000 million this year, four times as much as it was at independence.
Mr. Smith hoped to secure independence under the Commonwealth, but it was not to be. The move to independence was met with a violent insurgency by the opposition party, which led to the imposition of martial law and the arrest of thousands of people. The country became increasingly unstable, with widespread human rights abuses and a decline in economic prospects.

In the face of these challenges, Mr. Smith sought to strengthen the economy through agricultural programs designed to increase production and stimulate growth. However, the efforts were hampered by poor infrastructure, lack of investment, and limited access to international markets.

Despite these challenges, Mr. Smith remained committed to the vision of a prosperous and peaceful Zimbabwe. He believed that through hard work, diligence, and cooperation, the country could overcome its difficulties and achieve a brighter future.

AN explosion of corruption and uncontrolled squatting on once-prosperous commercial farms is feared in the wake of President Robert Mugabe's constitutional amendment paving the way for nationalisation.

Mr. Smith predicted that the nation's millions of peasants in the 17-million-hectare "communalized areas" may flood into the 6-million-hectare "mainland and tobacco belt," expecting the government to expropriate their land from the 4,500 commercial farmers, mostly whites.

There will also be an overwhelming temptation for multi-national companies and wealthier farmers to bribe officials of President Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Party (ZANU-PF) Party to keep squatters at bay, said sources yesterday.

Mr. Smith was also concerned about the "goodwill to the masses" by subtle gifts of cars or cash to likely have their fences cut and crops flattened.

**Peasants**

Former Rhodesian prime minister Ian Smith, 71, said: "Nobody denies the government the right to expropriate land in the national interest, but where it is being manipulated by gangsters thinking of fixing up themselves, one has cause for complaint."

Mr. Smith challenged President Mugabe to settle the dispute on the extensive private farms covertly acquired by members of his cabinet since independence in 1980.

The source of Zimbabwe's woes had given blood assurances to cut off band sails...
In Zimbabwe, all things have come to those who waited

Robert Mugabe, aimless in pursuit of power, has now resorted to violence and intimidation to maintain his grip on the government. His policies have resulted in economic collapse, mass unemployment, and widespread poverty. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has imposed strict austerity measures to bring the country's economy back on track, but these have only worsened the suffering of the poor.

The opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), has been targeted by Mugabe's regime. Many of its leaders have been arrested and imprisonment. The media has been censored, and independent journalists have been harassed.

The situation is desperate, and the world must take action to prevent a humanitarian crisis. The United Nations should be urging Mugabe to release all political prisoners and allow free and fair elections. The international community must also impose sanctions on Mugabe's regime to ensure accountability for its actions.

In conclusion, the situation in Zimbabwe is dire, and the international community must act now to prevent a humanitarian crisis.
Zimbabwe discreetly edging closer to SA, say diplomats

HARARE — Zimbabwe has ignored SA’s diplomatic drive to make friends with long-hostile black African states, but diplomats say Harare is discreetly moving closer to its powerful neighbour.

“Certainly Zimbabwe is more reluctant than the other front line states to have a high-profile relationship with SA. But there has been a distinct, if gradual, improvement,” a senior Western diplomat said.

Zimbabwe is the only southern African country still giving SA a wide berth, although it has maintained a trade mission in SA for the past 10 years.

Diplomats cite a lingering bitterness over the way SA backed Ian Smith’s white minority Rhodesian government. They also point to fears that SA will swamp relatively prosperous Zimbabwe’s recent attempts to open up its economy to foreign competition.

But one Western diplomat said there were signs of a thawing in tensions between the two countries. He said Zimbabwe was being steered in its policy towards SA by ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela.

Another diplomat noted that Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe “doesn’t attack De Klerk any more, and he no longer minimizes the changes taking place.”

Diplomats cited a number of developments to back their argument:

- A South African radio station, Radio Truth, used to beam propaganda into Zimbabwe denouncing the Harare government, but it stopped transmitting earlier this year.
- The SA trade mission in Harare was given permission recently to build new premises. The two countries have kept trade missions in each others’ capitals since 1980, but Harare does not want full diplomatic relations.
- SA and Zimbabwe are working on improving trade links.
- Five SA parliamentarians who visited Harare in October on private fact-finding mission stayed in a government ‘guest house and met Zimbabwean legislators.
- SA spy Odile Harrington was freed from a Zimbabwean jail last month, after serving three years of a 12-year sentence for spying on the ANC.
- Zimbabwe hosted a meeting of African Olympic representatives in November at which SA sports officials invited for the first time agreed to work towards abolishing apartheid.
- Analysts say Zimbabwean worries that a lifting of trade sanctions against SA would damage their own economy may be exaggerated.

Zimbabwe’s reluctance to raise its profile with SA stems partly from its own history, diplomats say. “Ministers accept the good faith of De Klerk and Pik Botha because they have been told by Nelson Mandela that he accepts their good faith,” said one. “But they may think back to (former Rhodesian prime ministers) Edgar Whitehead and Garfield Todd, progressive liberals who were unhoused by their own colleagues when they tried to reform the system.”

“People here don’t want to be made fools of if reform goes wrong in SA.” — Sapa-Reuters.
Zimbabwe has ignored South Africa’s diplomatic drive to make friends with long-hostile black African states, but diplomats say Harare is discreetly moving closer to its powerful southern neighbour.

“Certainly Zimbabwe is more reluctant than the other frontline states to have a high-profile relationship with South Africa. But there has been a distinct, if gradual, improvement,” a senior Western diplomat said.

South Africa’s reformist President F.W. de Klerk launched a massive diplomatic offensive this year to sell reforms which he says will bring about a non-racial democracy to replace the internationally abhorred apartheid system.

De Klerk and his Foreign Minister Pik Botha have put great efforts into wooing black Africa, which has campaigned strongly for many years for tough economic sanctions to force Pretoria to end apartheid.

Impressive

They have notched up an impressive list of meetings with the leaders of Kenya, Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Mozambique, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Cape Verde and Morocco.

Zimbabwe is the only southern African country still giving the Pretoria leadership a wide berth, although it has maintained a trade mission in South Africa for the past 10 years.

Diplomats cite a lingering bitterness over the way South Africa backed Ian Smith’s white minority Rhodesian government in its losing battle against the guerrilla groups which now rule Zimbabwe.

They also point to fears that South Africa will swarm relatively prosperous Zimbabwe’s recent attempts to open up its economy to foreign competition.

But the Western diplomat said there were signs of an easing in tensions between the two countries.

He said Zimbabwe was being steered in its policy towards South Africa by African National Congress (ANC) deputy president Nelson Mandela, who is negotiating with de Klerk.

Another diplomat noted that Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe “doesn’t attack De Klerk any more and he no longer minimizes the changes taking place.”

The diplomats cite a number of developments to support their argument:

- A South African radio station called Radio Truth used to beam propaganda bulletins into Zimbabwe denouncing the Harare government, but it stopped transmitting earlier this year.
- The South African trade mission in Harare was given permission recently to build new premises. The two countries have kept trade missions in each other’s capitals since 1980, but Harare does not want full diplomatic links.
- South Africa and Zimbabwe are working on improving trade links.
- Five South African parliamentarians who visited Harare in October on a private fact-finding mission stayed in a government guest house and met Zimbabwean legislators.
- South African spy Odie Harrington was freed from a Zimbabwean jail last month, after serving five years of a 12-year sentence for spying on the ANC here.
- Zimbabwe hosted a meeting of African Olympic representatives in November at which South African sports officials invited for the first time agreed to work towards abolishing apartheid.

Analysts say Zimbabwean worries that a lifting of trade sanctions against Pretoria would damage their own economy may now be exaggerated.

Large chunks of the economy - tobacco farming, other agriculture and mining - would either be unaffected or would benefit,” said a Harare-based economist.

“There would be both gains and losses in industry. Some components would become cheaper if Zimbabwe dropped its present policy of not sourcing imports from South Africa unless it’s inevitable,” said a former minister who also heads a group supporting de Klerk.

“Some industries are already exporting to South Africa: the cheaper end of the footwear market, textiles and clothing. Others would be put under extreme pressure.”

“There are both opportunities and risks, and it’s hard to say exactly how it would work out, but the idea that the Zimbabwean economy would be squashed flat if overplayed.”

Zimbabwe’s reluctance to raise its profile with Pretoria stems partly from its own history, diplomats say.

“Ministers accept the good faith of De Klerk and Pik Botha because they have been told by Mandela that they accept their good faith,” one diplomat said.

“But they may think back to (former Rhodesian prime minister) Edgar Whitehead and Garfield Todd, progressive liberals who were unseated by their own colleagues when they tried to reform the system here.”

“People here don’t want to be made fools of if reform goes wrong in South Africa.” - Sapa-Reuters.
SA barters cars for neighbour’s maize

HARARE — Zimbabwe is to exchange its maize for South African motor vehicles in a countertrade deal worth as much as US$85m, it was reported last week.

It will be the first deal of its kind between the two countries since 1980.

Zimbabwe’s weekly Financial Gazette reported last week that the final go ahead depended on whether the maize seed passed SA Maize Board tests.

As long as Zimbabwe receives good rains, delivery of a minimum consignment of 200 000 tons of maize will begin in March and, if successful, will be increased to 400 000 tons. Although SA has sufficient maize to satisfy local demand, the Zimbabwean maize will be used to supplement export orders. It will be delivered to the northern Transvaal.

ADRIAN OOSTHUizen

In return, Zimbabwe will import 2 000 Nissan car kits and 300 heavy duty trucks, backed by spares worth US$11m. The vehicles will be assembled by Leyland Zimbabwe.

Earlier, Nissan proposed sending refurbished second-hand Skylines, but the Zimbabwean government rejected the offer as it did not want to import used cars.

The Gazette reported that the package faced snags, as multinational company Lonrho was keen to obtain a stake in the deal to import luxury Mercedes cars. It appears this part of the deal depends on whether SA takes the full consignment of 400 000 tons.
Zimbabwe could seize Anglo's land next

HARARE — Multinational companies with farmland holdings in Zimbabwe would have their confiscations by government in terms of the controversial new land programme, senior sources in the ruling Zanu (PF) Party said yesterday.

The land policy also rules out absentee landlord ownership except in special cases, ownership of more than one farm, and proposes limits to the size of farms.

The Constitutional Amendment Bill established the principles by which government could confiscate land, legal experts said, and the next move would be amending the Land Acquisition Act, which provided the procedures for seizing land, to fit in with the new policy.

Sources confirmed that land was owned by all cabinet members (and some owned several farms), but their ownership was disguised by putting it in the name of a relative.

Anglo American refused to comment last night.
Zimbabwe planning to ‘confiscate land’

HARARE — Multinational companies with farmland holdings in Zimbabwe would have them confiscated by the government in terms of the controversial new land programme, senior sources in the ruling Zanu (PF) Party said yesterday.

They quoted Witness Mangwende, the Minister of Agriculture, as telling the Zanu (PF) central committee at the weekend that legislation being drafted aimed expressly at taking the multinationals’ land.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the decision was part of the government’s new land policy which held that foreigners should not be allowed to own land.

The proposed legislation follows parliament’s approval last week of an amendment to the constitution which adds to the government’s powers of confiscation by allowing it to choose its own price for compensation — and stops affected landowners from contesting the payment in court.

A Harare lawyer, Robin Hartley, said land values could be fixed at something substantially less than the market value and could cause banks to lose huge amounts owing to them which were unsecured and not payable.

A financial source said the main threat would be to the farming community as lower land values would greatly reduce bank loans to farmers. — Sapa.
ANC cleric accuses CCB of parcel bomb attack

By ANDREW MELDRUM

ANGLICAN priest and African National Congress member Father Michael Lapsley accused South African President FW De Klerk of responsibility for the parcel bomb which nearly killed the militant cleric in Harare this year.

Both Lapsley’s hands were blown off and one eye destroyed by the April 28 blast which came in a book mailed to him from South Africa, according to evidence held by the Zimbabwe police.

Speaking publicly for the first time since the explosion, Lapsley addressed a protest demonstration in front of the South African Trade Mission in downtown Harare on Monday. “It was the South African government that sent the bomb through its sinister Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB) which mailed that bomb to me,” charged Lapsley, shaking the metal hooks that now serve as his hands.

“The bomb was not supposed to injure me, but to kill me.”

“Ultimately De Klerk holds responsibility for those covert death squads.”

Pretoria still maintains a Department of Death, a department to kill the opponents of apartheid inside and outside South Africa,” Lapsley (43) urged the international community to maintain pressure on the South African government through sanctions.

“The international community is making a mistake if it thinks apartheid is gone just because Nelson Mandela has been freed and the ANC and the South African Communist Party are now legal,” he said.

Many in Harare believe that it was Lapsley’s effective campaigning for sanctions in Canada, Australia and his home country of New Zealand, that caused him to be marked for assassination.

Surveying the crowd of some 300 ANC exiles and a few hundred Zimbabweans holding anti-apartheid banners, Lapsley said: “I am surprised to see so many of my South African sisters and brothers still here. I thought you would have been in South Africa by now.”

As a result of his injuries Lapsley went to Australia for several months for reconstructive surgery and therapy before returning to Harare last week.
Zimbabwe split over new laws

FRONTLINE STATES

BY ANDREW MELDRUM

20/12/90 - 10/11/91

There was singing and dancing in the aisles of Zimbabwe's parliament last week as MPs welcomed the passage of a Constitutional Amendment Bill, but human rights groups are alarmed by the new legislation, which gives the government sweeping powers to purchase land and endorses flogging.

"We are going to get our land back now," exclaimed one member of parliament as the Bill passed. The parliamentary members broke out into Chirungu (revolutionary) songs in Shona, including one which said "We are starving for Zimbabwe's land."

"The white colonials took our land without paying for it. Why should we pay them exorbitant prices to get it back?" asked President Robert Mugabe, President Robert Mugabe's sister and a member of parliament. She said that at the end of World War II white Rhodesian soldiers were rewarded with large tracts of land while blacks who had served in the army had been given bicycles.

"Must we stay as squatters in the land of our birth?" asked Mugabe. "Give them (whites) bisket and take back our land."

The new Bill gives parliament the right to order the compulsory purchase of land and to set the price for that land. It also removes the right of the seller to appeal to Zimbabwe's courts for a fair price.

Despite fierce criticism of the bill, its passage was assured as Mugabe's ZANU-PF party controls 147 of the House of Assembly's 150 seats.

Under Zimbabwe's Lancaster House constitution, any land compulsorily purchased from white farmers had to be paid for in foreign currency. The new amendment means that parliament will set the price in local currency.

Zimbabwe's own human rights watchdog, the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, attacked the new measures for land, saying that parliament should not be the judge of what is a fair price for land. The international organisation, Africa Watch, also criticised the Bill.

Zimbabwe's 4,500 commercial farmers, virtually all of whom are white, are distraught over the Bill. The government has plans to purchase half of the commercial sector's 12-million hectares. Since independence in 1980 the Mugabe government has purchased three million hectares of land from the whites, but has not succeeded in successfully resettling a significant number of black peasants.

The most potent criticism of the Bill came from Zimbabwe's recently retired supreme court chief justice, Enoch Dumbutshena, who lambasted parliament's new powers to set the price for land as "regressive" and said the measures "fly in the face of all accepted norms of modern society and the rule of law". Dumbutshena predicted the Bill "will have a marked negative effect on future foreign investment."

Dumbutshena also was scathing about the amendment for including measures to allow the whipping of male juveniles, calling it a "retrogressive step". Regarding the declaration that hanging is a constitutional form of punishment, Dumbutshena said the Bill "seeks to rule out any future court argument that hanging may be inhuman and degrading punishment and therefore unconstitutional."

Summing up his objections to the new Bill, Dumbutshena said he feared "the executive and legislature will whittle away fundamental human rights enshrined in our constitution."
Bulawayo bomb
aimed at ANC

BULAWAYO. — A bomb exploded this week at a suburban house here where ANC members are living.

Zimbabwe's official news agency, Ziana, said the bombing was blamed on "enemy agents" whose targets also included ANC houses in Lusaka.

Sources close to the ANC told Ziana yesterday that five other ANC houses were bombed in Lusaka two weeks ago, including that of the movement's treasurer-general, Mr Tom Nkosi.

No one was injured in any of the blasts.

The blast at 117 Ulswater Drive in Morningside, Bulawayo, shattered windows and some parts of the house. The occupant, a member of the ANC, said he had so far not assessed the extent of the damage.

The bomb went off at 9 am on Tuesday and was planted at a place he frequented a great deal.

The man, who did not want to be identified for security reasons, was visibly shocked and said he was waiting for "some people" before he could give more details on the matter. He was referring to ANC officials who were expected to arrive yesterday or today from Harare.

'Maximum destruction'

Police here could not immediately say what type of bomb was used. The house is currently under police guard.

Other sources in Bulawayo said the Lusaka houses were extensively damaged and household goods destroyed.

"It must be a well-planned and executed move by enemy agents because the Lusaka houses all belong to the ANC. All the bombs were set to explode during the lunch-hour for maximum destruction, as that is the time when most people return home for lunch," an unnamed source said.

"Had the explosions taken place 15 minutes later than they did, many people would have been killed or maimed," he said.

An ANC official in Harare said, however, that he had not been informed by his Lusaka headquarters about the bombings in Zambia.

Bulawayo police confirmed that the bombed house was occupied by South African refugees sympathetic to the ANC and that investigations were in progress, Ziana reported. — Sapa
BULAWAYO — The bomb blast at a Bulawayo house occupied by ANC members on Tuesday was seen as an act of "enemy agents" whose targets also included ANC houses in Lusaka, Ziana news agency reports.

Sources close to the ANC told Ziana yesterday that five other ANC houses, including that of the movement's treasurer-general Tom Nkobi, were bombed in Lusaka two weeks ago.

No one was injured in any of the blasts.

The blast at 117 Ullswater Drive in Morningside, Bulawayo, went off at 9 am.

The occupant, who did not want to be identified for security reasons, said he was waiting for "some people" before he could give more details on the matter.

He was referring to ANC officials who were expected to arrive by today from Harare.

Other sources in Bulawayo said the Lusaka houses were extensively damaged and household goods destroyed.

"It must be a well-planned and executed move by enemy agents, because the Lusaka houses all belong to the ANC. All the bombs were set to explode during lunch-hour for maximum destruction, as that is the time when most people return home," an unnamed source said.

"Had the explosions taken place 15 minutes later than they did, many people would have been killed or injured," he charged.

An ANC official in Harare said he had not heard about the bombings in Zambia.

Bulawayo police confirmed the bombed house was occupied by South African refugees sympathetic to the ANC — Sapa.
Mugabe bunkers
Harare's famous
Royal golf club

HARARE — Royal Harare, one of Africa's most renowned and picturesque golf courses, is to be taken over by the government and developed into a complex of offices, club members said yesterday.

The course, laid out nearly 100 years ago by Zimbabwe's first white settlers, is on state land adjacent to President Robert Mugabe's official residence.

Members, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Ministry of Rural and Urban Development was believed to have offered Royal Harare officials between three and five years to move out.

Legality

As part of the notice to quit, the state was expected to offer the club $10 million Zimbabwe dollars (R10 million) for the construction of a new course and clubhouse on the outskirts of Harare, they said.

Golf officials who said they would fight the legality of the move were evidently told that any court action would result in the club being given 12 months to quit without compensation.

Royal Harare, often rated among the world's top 50 golf courses, opened in 1899. It received its Royal status in 1947 following a visit by Britain's King George VI.

Soon after this former British colony of Rhodesia became independent Zimbabwe in 1980 the government closed down a polo club next door to Mugabe's residence for security reasons.

High protective walls topped with razor wire, a helipad and barracks for presidential guards were built at the polo field. — Sapa-AP
Businessmen given reassurances after Zimbabwe passes land Bill

HARARE - A visit by US businessmen from the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (Opic) to Zimbabwe was almost cancelled because of adverse publicity following the passing of the Constitution Amendment Bill last week.

The visit, scheduled for February, had been reconfirmed after assurances had been given, Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) president John Derry said at the weekend.

The land announcement had also had a negative impact on Zimbabwean stocks quoted in London.

However, Derry reassured businessmen that the government would not "grab property" indiscriminately in terms of the controversial Bill.

He said there had been alarm and dependency after the unanimous adoption of the Bill due to a misinterpretation of its contents.

"I don't believe that there is any intention on the part of government to appropriate property, whether it is factories, commercial farming land or any other property," he said following CZI's consultations with cabinet ministers.

"The government is well aware that it cannot make expropriation (of property) compatible with structural adjustment and trade liberalisation," he said.

Zimbabwe would not jeopardise new agreements with the Multinational Investment Guarantee Agency (Miga).

It was unfortunate that the amendment Bill had been rushed through parliament, he said. However, he did not see any "sinister motives" in this. The CZI foresaw "good reason for tempered optimism" in 1993 regarding the Zimbabwean economy.

The CZI seemed more reassuring about the impact of the Bill than other private sector organisations who "suffered in their interpretations".

The Commercial Farmers' Union, whose 4,000 mainly white members stand to lose most through government land acquisition, decided not to issue a statement until early January.

The government intends purchasing enough land to resettle über 100,000 families to solve one of its biggest headaches since independence in 1980.

-- ADRIAN OOSTHUizen --
Zimbabwe army fears fresh Renamo offensive

HARARE - Zimbabwe army commanders fear the rebel Renamo movement plans to launch a major rainy season offensive following the withdrawal of President Robert Mugabe's troops to the Beira and Limpopo corridors.

The estimated 9,000 Zimbabwe soldiers in Mozambique began pulling out at the weekend to the areas demarcated under the ceasefire agreement reached in Rome earlier this month between Renamo and President Joaquim Chissano's government.

The Herald, which usually reflects the view of the Zimbabwean authorities, reported yesterday that Zimbabwean officers believe a major offensive will be launched in the Gorongosa area, former stronghold of Renamo, following the withdrawal of the 1,000 Zimbabwean soldiers from the dense bush of what was, under Portuguese rule, one of Africa's leading game reserves.

Zimbabwean commanders told the Herald they were only 'cautiously optimistic' the Rome ceasefire with Renamo would end the 15-year civil war. They predicted the rebels would make a special effort to step up hostilities and recapture their former headquarters at Casa Banana, in the heart of Gorongosa.

Capt Bernard Kapunutenga of the Zimbabwean Armoured Car Regiment reportedly told the Herald that civilians in the area were already defecting to the rebels, fearing their resumed control.

The Norwegian children's relief organisation Redd Barna believed that Mozambican government forces on their own might not be able to ensure safe distribution of food, causing a renewed threat of famine to the 58,000 inhabitants of the Gorongosa region. Food convoys have in the past been protected by Zimbabwean forces.

Since the Rome talks there has been a notable lack of reports of rebel raids into eastern Zimbabwe. Farm stores were frequently robbed as rebels sought supplies, forcing local people to act as porters for their loot.
SA Ports in line for boost

NEWS

Sey 28/12/1994

By Nolan Drew

African News Service
ZIMBABWE - 1991

JANUARY - JULY
Zimbabwe withdrawal might lead to fresh attacks by Renamo

From MICHEL HARTMANN

HARARE - Zimbabwean army commanders in Harare have been told that Mozambique's military resistance movement (Renamo) is planning a major rainy-season offensive following the withdrawal of President Mugabe's troops to the Buzi and Limpopo corridors.

The estimated 8 000 Zimbabwean soldiers in Mozambique began pulling out recently to areas demarcated under the cease-fire agreement reached in Rome in December between Renamo and President Chir- mano's government.

The Herald, which usually reflects the view of the Zimbabwean authorities, reported that Zimbabwean officers thought a major offensive would be launched in the Gorongosa area, former stronghold of Renamo, following the withdrawal of 1 000 Zimbabwean soldiers from the dense bush of what was, under Portuguese rule, one of Africa's leading game reserves.

Special effort

Casa Banana, Villa Palma de Andrade, Maputo, 29th October 1987

Drsoldiers in Mozambique were killed in recent battles in 1986 and 1987 and held in the face of severe supply problems.

Zimbabwean commanders told the Herald they were only “cautiously optimistic” that the Rome ceasefire with Renamo would end the 15-year civil war which has claimed more than a million lives and displaced half the former Portuguese colony’s population.

They predicted the rebels would make a special effort to intensify hostilities and recapture their headquarters at Casa Banana in the heart of Gorongosa.

Captain Bernard Kuputsunga of the Zimbabwean Army's Air Regiment, reportedly told the Herald that civilians in the area were already being attacked by the rebels, fearing their resumed control.

The Norwegian children’s relief organization, Redd Barna, believed Mozambique’s armed forces on their own might not be able to ensure a safe distribution of food, causing a renewed threat of famine among the 80,000 inhabitants of the Gorongosa region. Food convoys had been protected by Zimbabwean forces.

Notable lack

Travellers on the main Zimbabwe-Malawi road through Mozambique's Tete Province, said Zimbabwean troops stopped escorting convoys before Chilima. As a result of diplomatic pressure from President Mop- da’s Malawian government, the road has been free of rebel ambushes and landmine incidents for many months, as has Malawi’s Nacala railway to the Indian Ocean.

Since the Rome talks there has been a notable lack of reports of rebel raids into eastern Zimbabwe. Farm stores were frequently robbed as rebels sought supplies, forcing local people to act as porters for their loot.
No transport for relief food in Zimbabwe

MUTARE (Zimbabwe) - Drought relief food being ferried to more than 140 000 people in Chipinge has ground to a halt due to a lack of transport, according to acting district administrator Obert Muzawazi.

"In an interview yesterday, Mr. Muzawazi said 10 000 tons of maize made available to the district for December could not be delivered.

"The only two roads that we used are fully road. We are appealing to anybody to assist us with transport," he said.

He said drought relief committees in 30 wards had been forced to use their meagre financial resources by hiring private contractors to distribute relief food.

A total of 278 815 tons of relief food had been distributed in the district since January 1991.

"On the issue of administrative changes, Mr. Muzawazi said there were negative financial controls, which over time could make the district less effective."

"These changes were intended to improve provincial officers being transferred last November," he said. - Sapa
HARARE — Rebels cut the rail line between Zimbabwe and Mozambique’s port of Beira twice this week ahead of today’s deadline for a partial truce in Mozambique’s 14-year civil war, officials of the Beira Corridor Group (BCG) said on Thursday.

The BCG officials said the rail cuts were quickly repaired and international transport routes along the Beira and Limpopo corridors and through western Tete province were quiet.

But the officials said there was some apprehension, particularly among truck drivers through Tete, and the situation could change overnight.

**Agreement signed**

The Maputo government and the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) signed an agreement on December 1 under which Renamo undertook not to attack the Beira and Limpopo corridors if Zimbabwean troops supporting the government withdrew to the corridors.

The government and Renamo are to hold further peace talks in Rome this month.

Zimbabwe, with about 7,000 troops in Mozambique, redeployed its soldiers from combat positions to the corridors before the end of December, ahead of Saturday’s deadline.

The Zimbabwean army also stopped escorting truck convoys from Zimbabwe to Malawi across Tete province on December 21, although this route was not covered by the partial ceasefire.

**Driver killed**

BCG officials said one truck driver was killed in an attack on December 50 by a Renamo group on the last escorted northbound convoy, the first such incident since 1989.

No incidents have been reported along the vital oil pipeline to Zimbabwe through the 300-km Beira corridor.

The BCG officials said all was also quiet along Limpopo railway corridor, guarded by some 3,000 Zimbabwean soldiers. — Sapa-Reuters.
Zimbabwe central bank swindled

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s fraud squad is trying to trace a former senior official of the gold and foreign exchange department of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe in connection with $3.5m reported to have gone missing in an offshore transaction.

Appeals have been issued regarding the whereabouts of Titus Pasipanodya, who is thought to have travelled to the UK.

Zimbabwe’s extradition treaty with SA lapsed in 1986, but fugitive offenders who are not SA citizens are usually deported by Pretoria.

And last month the parastatal Zimbabwean Bank of Commerce and Credit was swindled out of R600,000 in a computer fraud. An employee has pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentence.

The Zimbabwean Financial Gazette, which has close ties with Zimbabwe’s business community, says that in the latest scandal at the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, an American trust company was duped into paying $1,310 into a London commercial bank account, thinking the funds were going to the Reserve Bank.

The funds were withdrawn between November 23 and December 5 by “persons of African appearance”, according to the Financial Gazette.
ANC pays tribute

BULAWAYO: The Zimbabwe ANC yesterday paid a moving tribute to the Zimbabwean Government and people in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the formation of the movement. In his address to the party's 15th anniversary celebration in Bulawayo, President Mugabe thanked the ZANU-PF and ZAPU for their role in the struggle against the apartheid regime.

ZANU-PF's national news agency reported that Mr. Mugabe spoke of the need for solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe. He thanked the ANC for its support and solidarity with the struggle.

The ANC's chief representative in Zimbabwe, Mr. de Klerk, also spoke of the struggle for freedom.
Rebel leader orders attack

BEIRA - Alphonse Dhakama, leader of Mozambican rebel movement, Renamo, last week ordered his forces to hit Zimbabwean aircraft, troops and economic targets within the Beira corridor, Zimbabwe's Ziana news agency reported yesterday.

The commander of the Zimbabwe Task Force protecting the Beira corridor, Capt. Clever Chimba, said radio intercepts within the operational area revealed that Dhakama ordered his troops to attack Zimbabwean aircraft.

"These attacks were done deliberately to violate the Rome accord. According to our radio intercepts, Dhakama specifically ordered Renamo to charge and attack us in the corridor. No aircraft has so far been hit, but the railway line was attacked twice last week at Muda and Msandwe, near Beira," Supa.
LAGOS. — Zimbabwean President Mr Robert Mugabe said yesterday that he had abandoned the idea of a one-party government for his country.

Mr Mugabe, who is on a West African tour, told the Nigerian Institute of International Relations that although Zimbabwe had once favoured a legislated one-party state it had abandoned the idea when it was met with stiff opposition.

African countries, he said, could be applauded for being realistic and embracing political pluralism in accordance with the wishes of their people.

Mr Mugabe warned that Africa's failure quickly to integrate itself was the cause of its being left behind and isolated as a continent to be ravished and exploited.

"I see our continent once again economically slaving to feed and fatten masters elsewhere," he said.

It was up to African governments to clean up their political houses, he added, if they were to play a visible regional role.

Africa's only salvation lay in quick economic integration accompanied by fast-moving internal political reforms.

Mr Mugabe noted that if Africa's erstwhile colonisers had realised the need for uniting economically and politically, then the need for African countries to do so promptly was even more impelling.

It was saddening that Africa was home to the largest number of least developed countries and that the continent boasted the highest refugee population in the world. It was also a theatre of endless civil conflicts, he said.

 Whereas standards of living in other continents had risen over time, in Africa they were no better than two decades ago.

"High unemployment, inflation, civil strife, poverty, refugee crises, desertification, disease, malnutrition ... appear to be the only legacy the continent is capable of passing on from one generation to another," Mr Mugabe said.

One thing in Africa's favour, though, he said, was its resolve to rid itself of the shackles of colonialism. — Sapa
Zimbabwe buys Nigerian crude

LAGOS - Zimbabwe is buying about US$38 million worth of crude oil from Nigeria, which lies promised cheaper supplies to African nations hit by increased fuel prices.

The agreement was signed yesterday by visiting Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe and the Nigerian leader, General Ibrahim Babangida.

- Lagos newspapers report that Mr Mugabe and his entourage narrowly escaped a road accident on Tuesday.
- A car swerved to avoid the president’s convoy and ploughed into spectators who had gathered to welcome him at the roadside.
Farmers protest at losing land

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — Traffic in central Harare was brought to a standstill yesterday when thousands of commercial farmers, who fear imminent nationalisation, converged on the city's international conference centre for by far the biggest gathering of the white community since Zimbabwe's 1980 independence.

Many of the estimated 5,000 whites who attended the special public meeting, convened by the Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU), were visibly dismayed, however, when Agriculture Minister Dr Witness Mangwende told them there would be no going back on government plans to take over five million hectares of their land.

He said a recent constitutional amendment, which now denies those who have their property nationalised the right of appeal to the courts, was "not negotiable".

Dr Mangwende was applauded by the handful of his black officials, but got silence from the rest of the vast conference centre auditorium when he declared that Zimbabwe's present system of land distribution was "untenable and indeed unacceptable".

"Delays (in taking over white commercial farmland) may yield political, social and economically disruptive instability," he warned.

But he gave a cautious welcome to proposals from the CFU, which represents some 4,500 registered commercial farmers, suggesting the establishment of national and regional land authorities to guide resettlement.

"Trust us," pleaded Dr Mangwende, saying that President Robert Mugabe's government had not victimised the remaining 100,000 Zimbabwean whites following the 1972-80 bush war.
Mugabe ‘courting economic disaster’

LONDON — President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe is courting economic catastrophe by threatening to confiscate white farmers’ land at prices his government fixes, The Times said in an editorial yesterday.

It said there were 250,000 black youngsters leaving school each year. While they may want land, they wanted jobs even more.

‘These will not be provided by destroying the main prop of the economy,’ The Times said.

The Times said Mr Mugabe’s pragmatic approach had until now kept at bay the kind of political chaos that has engulfed much of the rest of Africa.

This stability was underpinned by prosperity, but he now seemed bent on a course which will impoverish Zimbabwe.

Having handled the white-dominated commercial farming sector, the ‘powerhouse of the economy’, with caution, he now suddenly seemed intent on destroying the farmers’ confidence.

Draft amendments to legislation which will deny landowners any right of appeal to prices fixed by the government for land it wishes to buy out, The Times said, had caused near-panic among farmers.

With only Mr Mugabe’s signature needed for the amendments to become law, The Times urged him to build in mechanisms of consultation, should he be unable to abandon the bill completely.

The Times urged Britain to consider giving back aid for land resettlement should Mr Mugabe fail to take the steps it urges.

‘There is no sense in pouring in good British money to support a catastrophically bad Zimbabwean policy.’

Under the British-designed constitution, land could be acquired only on a ‘willing seller, willing buyer’ basis, with the funds for purchase being provided mainly by British aid.

The Times noted that British Foreign Secretary Mr Douglas Hurd warned Mr Mugabe last month that seizing land without proper compensation would ‘deter essential foreign investment’.

Before independence, white farmers owned half of all farmland, including the most fertile areas. Today, the 14,000 white farmers still own about a third of the land.

The government intends resettling 162,000 black families, but has managed to settle less than a third of that over the past decade.
Zimbabwe’s whites split over nationalisation of farmland

HARARE — A major rift appears imminent in Zimbabwe’s 100 000 white community over the best response to President Robert Mugabe’s removal of the constitutional safeguards against nationalisation, and planned takeover of 5-million hectares of prime commercial farmland.

The president of the Commercial Farmers’ Union (CFU), Alan Buri, pledged at the weekend that his organisation would seek “an ongoing dialogue” with the government on the way in which its land policy would be implemented.

On Friday Agriculture Minister Witness Mangwende bluntly warned a huge meeting of white farmers at the Harare Conference Centre that the basic principle of the land takeover was “not negotiable”, despite detailed CFU studies predicting it would lead to mass unemployment, ecological degradation, a flight of investment and a dangerous fall in agricultural production.

However, former Rhodesian prime minister Ian Smith, 71, who has been re-entering the political arena as the fiercest critic of government policy, described Friday’s meeting as “a shambles” and a bitter disappointment to farmers who had come from as far as the Botswana border on the promise of getting a hearing.

“It is no use namby-pambying to Marxists-Leninists. It is no use being logical with them,” said Smith, condemning the CFU leadership for convening the meeting without putting the proposals they gave to Mangwende to grass roots members.

The CFU asked Mangwende to establish national and regional boards to ensure all land was fully utilised and put in the hands of competent farmers, and to institute arbitration machinery to replace the farmers’ lost right of appeal to the courts. This was removed by a constitutional amendment last month.

Mangwende appeared to scorn the suggestion of land boards, claiming they would delay plans to resettle 110 000 peasant families. He said the High Court judge the CFU wanted to head the process “would better serve the country by channelling his energies elsewhere”.

CFU vice-president Anthony Swire-Thompson warned Mangwende in a detailed study put before Friday’s meeting that past resettlement failures suggested peasant families would earn less than half the annual wage of farmworkers. Up to 1.5-million farmworkers might be left jobless, to join Zimbabwe’s existing 2-million unemployed.

Buri said the massive turnout for Friday’s meeting proved the farming community’s concern. Smith confirmed he was heading a group which planned a major constitutional court case to challenge the legality of land takeovers if they were enforced.

“What they are attempting to do really is indulge in a bit of daylight robbery,” said Smith.
Judge challenges Mugabe on land law

Argus Africa News Service
HARARE. — The Zimbabwean government’s plans to seize white-owned commercial farmland by undermining the constitution’s Bill of Rights has lashed it in the midst of a major constitutional crisis.

Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay has denounced legislation passed by parliament last month which, if signed into law by President Robert Mugabe, will bar the country’s courts from adjudicating in cases of unfair compensation for seized land.

Mr. Gubbay said that any law attacking “certain fundamental principles” on which the constitution is based, “would be pronounced invalid by the judiciary.”

His remarks, made as he opened the new judicial year on Monday and contained in a speech released yesterday, are seen as a direct challenge to the government and a sign that the judiciary, acclamed throughout the Commonwealth, will not let its independence be trampled.

Mr. Gubbay attacked the compensation provisions in the amendment and clauses that re-introduce the legality of juvenile flogging, and which establish hanging as a legal punishment.

Another obstacle

It is another obstacle for Mr. Mugabe, who saw 1999 as the year in which the “colonial constraints” of the Lancaster House constitution reached the end of their 19-year life, to be replaced by a framework “more fitted to Zimbabwe.”

Last week it was reported here that British Foreign Secretary Mr. Douglas Hurd told a House of Commons select committee that the constitutional amendments — chiefly those that related to the land question — posed “rather deep implications” for Zimbabwe and that they would be “a deterrent” to future aid and investment.

The provisions on property were to be the legal means to allow the government to acquire half of the 11 million hectares owned by commercial farmers, mostly white, and re-distribute it among peasants from overcrowded, ecologically degraded tribal reserves as part of a “revolutionary land reform programme.”

Mr. Gubbay said the re-introduction of juvenile flogging, declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in 1989, “will undoubtedly erode a basic and fundamental human right.” He described flogging as “reminiscent of a form of cruelty practised in the Dark Ages.”
Zimbabwe judge in threat to land law

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Chief Justice has publicly criticized new legislation aimed at removing safeguards against the nationalization of land, and threatened that the courts might declare the law invalid.

If Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay's open challenge to President Robert Mugabe's government seems likely to draw Zimbabwe's judges into a constitutional crisis.

Speaking on Monday at the opening of the Supreme Court term, the judge warned that although Lancaster House constitutional guarantees had elapsed, the government did not have unquestionable power to enact laws "destroying the very foundation or structure of the constitution." (3c-2)

He predicted the judiciary would pronounce invalid any law to that effect.

He said removing the right of appeal to the courts over compensation payments reduced constitutional pledges of "fair" treatment to "an empty handed gesture".

At the heart of the crisis are Mugabe's plans to settle 110,000 peasant families on 5-million hectares in the highly productive maize and tobacco farming belt, which is largely in the hands of 4,800 white farmers.

The farms were worth R82m at market prices, but only R40m has reportedly been set aside for compensation.

Gubbay said the Bill into law, as expected, a constitutional crisis appears inevitable, as judges cannot be sacked.

Chief Justice Gubbay said he had to allay citizens' fears "that the judiciary's power to enforce the law, the rights and freedoms of the individual is now in jeopardy."

The judge also condemned a constitutional attempt to reinstate whipping as a legal punishment.

GFSA interim profits slide nearly 30%

REDUCED income from its major gold mine saw Gold Fields of SA's interim attributable profits for the half-year ending December slide 29.5% to R134m (R190m).

This translated into an equivalent fall in interim earnings a share to 16c (19c), though the interim dividend was maintained at 70c. Dividend cover accordingly dropped from 2.5 to 2 times.

Instrumental in the less than satisfactory mid-year showing was the fall in investment income — the mainstay of GFSA's revenue — to R136m (R189m).

GFSA corporate finance executive director Alan Wright attributed this largely to reduced gold earnings — illustrated recently by reduced interim dividends from Kloof and De Grey, two major producers.

Overall revenue was further reduced by an absence of profits on realization of investments (R31m profit last time around).

With surplus cash and a low stock market, GFSA had not felt the necessity to deal, Wright said.

He said that with adverse developments in the world economy and continuing strain on gold, the trend was likely to persist for the remainder of the year.

San family finds new home on game farm

CAPE TOWN — Members of a destitute tribe of Khoi San people were resettled yesterday on a game farm in the north-western Cape — an area where their ancestors lived 200 years ago.

The plight of the family of about 30 men, women and children was seen on television by the owners of the farm Kagga Kamma, who decided to offer the San a more secure environment.

Kagga Kamma, in the Ceres-Karoo region near the Koue Bokkeveld, was home to San people until 200 years ago.

"We hope to create a symbiotic and not an exploitative relationship with them," said Hester Alberts, who markets the farm. "The men will work as trackers and the women will make their traditional bead and artwork for sale. They will have a secure environment which is not too different from the one they are used to," she said.

The San seemed delighted with their new home when they arrived in traditional skins and beads yesterday.

Tribe leader David Krupfer immediately suggested that the old, faded rock paintings be touched up by one of his sons.

"There are a lot of matters we still need to discuss and negotiate," said Alberts. One of these was hunting, said Kagga Kamma manager Jopie de Preez. "They use bows and arrows and poison to hunt animals. We will allow them to kill a certain number of buck each year, but because this is a commercial game farm, we will obviously have to have some rules.

Krupfer described the long journey from their previous home in Vreystaar, near Upington, as "a short, cold winter", referring to the air-conditioning in the minibus.

His family would build traditional reed homes and had already discovered edible plants in the region, Krupfer said.
Chief Justice of Zimbabwe slates Land Act

Star Africa Service

HARARE — The Zimbabwe government's plans to seize white-owned commercial farm land by undermining the constitution's bill of rights have landed it in the midst of a major constitutional crisis.

The Chief Justice, Mr Justice Anthony Gubbay, has denounced legislation passed by parliament last month which, he said, would bar the country's courts from adjudicating in cases of unfair compensation for seized land.

Mr Justice Gubbay made it clear that any law which attaches "certain fundamental principles" on which the constitution is based would be pronounced invalid by the judiciary.

Challenge

His remarks, made as he opened the new judicial year on Monday and contained in a speech released yesterday, are seen as a direct challenge to the government and a clear sign that the judiciary is not about to let its independence be tampered over by the government.

Mr Justice Gubbay attacked not only the compensation provisions in the amendment, but also clauses that reintroduce the legality of juvenile flogging and which "establish hanging as legal punishment."

"It is not another serious obstacle in the path of President Mugabe," he said.

Robert Mugabe, who saw 1980 as the year in which the "colonial constraints" of the British-drafted Lancaster House constitution reached the end of their 18-year life, to be replaced by a more fitted to Zimbabwe.

The provisions on property were to be the legal means to allow the government to acquire half of the 11 million hectares owned by commercial farmers, nearly all whites, and redistribute it among peasants from overcrowded tribal reserves.

Mr Justice Gubbay said the reintroduction of juvenile flogging and the declaration of unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in 1989 will undoubtedly erode a basic and fundamental human right: "On hanging, he suggested, that the government was acting out of spite, as the Supreme Court had been due in November to hear a test case on whether hanging was a "degrading" form of punishment, and therefore ultra vires the constitution.

The government granted an amnesty to the prisoners shortly before the case was due to be held. "It is beyond question that the proposed amendment is designed to pre-empt any Supreme Court ruling by explicitly declaring hanging to be constitutional," he said.

Both amendments had "serious implications for the future protection of human rights," he said.

Mr Justice Gubbay angrily condemned the provisions relating to compensation, which, he said showed "a lack of confidence in the judiciary, at the very least, a desire not to brook any possible interference by the judiciary."
HARARE — Zimbabwe's simmering constitutional crisis over President Robert Mugabe's land nationalisation plan was yesterday fuelled by an attack on the Chief Justice by the attorney-general.

Patrick Chinamasa, a political appointee who holds cabinet rank, accused Mr Justice Anthony Gubbay of delivering a judgment on a matter not properly put before him when the Chief Justice warned on Monday that the judiciary would declare laws undermining the constitution invalid.

The chief justice challenged the authority of parliament to remove the courts' jurisdiction over legislation which eroded the fundamental principles of the constitution. He said a recent amendment of the entrenched declaration of rights reduced constitutionally-protected property to "an empty-handed gesture".

Sapa reports the amendments expressly bar the Supreme Court from arbitrating in cases of unfair compensation of land seized by the state, re-introduce juvenile flogging and establish hanging as a legal form of execution.

Chinamasa was in court with two senior cabinet ministers and they were visibly startled by the judge's unprecedented challenge to government.

Chinamasa said the issue of the validity of the amendments had not been put before the court in the proper way, and that "one is left with no doubt that a judgment has already been delivered on it".

The attorney-general appears to be arguing that the Supreme Court can judge the issue only once a specific case contesting the amendments is brought to the court.

"I have no doubt he holds the views given. However, after reading his speech, I am left with the impression that his comments went further than was warranted by the occasion. "I cannot hide my disappointment at this development," he said.

Observers are anxiously awaiting word from Mugabe on the crisis. He returned from a trip to West Africa yesterday.

MICHAEL HARTNACK reports that while the judge cannot be removed by law in terms of the existing constitution, legal sources say his remarks could give state counsel grounds to demand his recusal from any test-case about its validity.
Zimbabwe's A-G slams chief justice

Star Africa Service

HARARE - A constitutional crisis in Zimbabwe took a new twist yesterday when Attorney-General attacked Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay for his denunciation of controversial amendments to the country's Bill of Rights.

Patrick Chinamasa said in The Herald, Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper, that Mr Gubbay's condemnation of legislation passed by parliament last month was "unwarranted".

This week Mr Gubbay said the Supreme Court would pronounce invalid changes to the Bill of Rights. He made it plain that he was referring to amendments which would deprive the Supreme Court of its right to judge cases of unfair compensation of confiscated farmland; reintroduce whipping of juveniles and legalise hanging.

Mr Chinamasa was quoted as saying that even though the Chief Justice had not been presented with a dispute over the amendments, "yet one is left with no doubt that a judgment has already been delivered on it".

"However, after reading his speech I am left with the impression that his comments went further than was warranted by the occasion. "I cannot hide my disappointment at this development."

The Zimbabwe government's plans to seize white-owned commercial farmland by undermining the constitution's "Bill of Rights have landed it in a major constitutional crisis."

Mr Gubbay made it clear that any law which attacked certain fundamental principles on which the constitution is based, "would be pronounced invalid by the judiciary."

His remarks, made as he opened the judicial year, were seen as a direct challenge to the government and a clear sign that the judiciary was not about to let its independence be trampled on.

Mr Mugabe wants the "colonial constraints" of the British-drafted Lancaster House constitution, which has reached the end of its 18-year life, replaced by a framework seen "more fitted to Zimbabwe". 
Mugabe calls on his chief justice to resign

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — President Robert Mugabe yesterday called on Zimbabwe's Chief Justice, Mr Anthony Gubbay, to resign if his conscience could not accept the recent amendment to the declaration of rights, permitting nationalisation of land without appeal to the courts.

"I do not know whether he is using his legal brains or any other brain," President Mugabe told a press conference when asked to comment on Mr Gubbay's warning that the constitutional amendment might be repudiated by the judiciary.

He challenged Mr Gubbay's statement on Monday that the legislation—which undermined the principles of the constitution—could be invalidated by the courts despite the lapsing of the 16-year guarantee in Zimbabwe's 1980 Lancaster House constitution—and President Mugabe's majority of more than two-thirds in parliament.

"If we decide that a certain law is necessary and that law is duly passed by parliament, the role of the judges is to interpret the law and not seek to reverse it," said Mr Mugabe.

The attempts to debar the judges from adjudicating over plans to acquire nearly six million hectares of prime land from 4,500 white commercial farmers gave the impression that constitutional promises of "fair" compensation were "an empty-handed gesture", said Mr Gubbay.

Mr Mugabe also said he was "surprised" by former chief justice Mr Enoch Dumbutshena's reported acceptance of a position on the Transkei bench.

Mr Dumbutshena was last year refused permission to continue past the optional retirement age of 70 after a crisis in which former parliamentary speaker Mr Didymus Mutasa (since promoted to senior minister for political affairs) refused to accept the authority of the Supreme Court.
Hedged gold sales bolster Anglo results

MATTHEW CURTIN

ANGLO American bolstered the December quarterly results of its gold and uranium division by hedging gold sales, division chairman Clive Sunter said yesterday.

Anglo posted improved after-tax profits of R1.65bn for the quarter, with earnings up 25% on the year-earlier figure of R1.31bn. Anglo's earnings were driven by strong performances in the coal and uranium divisions.

Hedging gold sales are expected to boost the company's earnings by R0.45bn in the full year. The company also said its uranium division was on track to hit its earnings target for the year.

30% bid surprises Saambou

SAAMBOU Holdings's board of directors was taken by surprise yesterday when a 30% bid, rumoured to be backed by the Bankorp group, for 30% of the building society's share capital was announced.

Market rumour suggest that everyone from Nedbank to Mannie Simchowitz is behind the Bankorp bid. But the strongest suggestions surround the Bankorp group. Bankorp's executive chairman Piet Liebenberg was unavailable for comment last night.

Saambou's chairman Hendrik Sloet says that the first time he heard of the bid was when he opened yesterday's paper. "We have not been approached by any of Trafalgar's directors and I haven't a clue as to what they intend doing should they gain a 30% interest."

Mugabe calls on Chief Justice to quit

HARARE — Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe yesterday called on Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay to resign if his conscience could not accept the recent amendment of the declaration of rights, permitting nationalisation of land without appeal to the courts.

"I do not know whether he is using his legal brain or any other brain," Mugabe said when asked to comment on the judge's warning the judiciary may repudiate the amendment.

"If certain laws are repugnant to the conscience of a judge then that person should not sit as a judge, pure and simple."

ANC set to buy R20m Jo'burg building

THE ANC is set to buy the 22-storey Shell House in central Johannesburg.

A property broker put the value of the 600m² building at about R20m. Negotiations for the purchase are at an advanced stage, implying either the ANC or Shell would formally confirm yesterday that they were dealing with each other.

A Shell employee said, however, that staff were told at a meeting on Wednesday that they would move to new premises in Rosebank in October. They would share their present premises with the ANC from March.

A decision had been taken to allow the ANC to use the executive suites on the eighth floor, the employee said, adding that Shell staff were perturbed by the deal because it raised fears of possible bomb attacks and political protests in their midst.

Reacting to a Business Day inquiry, a Shell spokesman said Shell SA had informed the Shell Pension Fund, which owned the building, that it wanted to leave. The fund's trustees had decided to sell the building.

"We are currently negotiating with an interested party and hope a deal can be concluded in the near future," he said.

The ANC would not confirm that it was buying the building.

A spokesman said the organisation had been searching for a building to accommodate all its headquarters staff under one roof and was looking at a number of possibilities.

However ANC sources this week also confirmed the deal.

The ANC head office is now in Munich Reinsurance Building, Sauer Street.
Mugabe takes judge to task

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe has plunged Zimbabwe deeper into a constitutional crisis by launching a stinging attack on the judiciary.

"If certain laws are revolting to a judge's conscience, then that person should not sit as a judge," he said at a press conference on Monday.

Mr. Mugabe was responding to criticism on Monday by Chief Justice Anthony Gubbey against amendments to the constitution's bill of rights passed in December, which block the courts' right to intervene in cases of unfair compensation, seized land, and also legalise juvenile flogging and hanging as punishments.

The Manchester-born Chief Justice indicated that the judiciary would pronounce the amendments invalid, as they threatened basic structures of the constitution.

The provision on compensation is what the government sees as its legal means to allow it to implement what it calls a "revolutionary land programme", and take six million hectares of land owned by the commercial farming sector for redistribution among 110,000 peasant farmers.

"We said once government has decided what is fair and reasonable compensation, that's it. No one can go to court on what is fair and reasonable," he said.

**Warned**

He also indicated that he believed the role of the judiciary to be a strictly limited one.

"Once parliament has made up its mind and put an idea into a statute, then that's it," Mr. Mugabe said.

He also delivered a veiled threat to Renamo and warned that Zimbabwe would reconsider its adherence to a partial ceasefire.

Confirming that there had been violations of the ceasefire, which was signed in Rome on December 1 between Renamo and the Mozambique government, Mr. Mugabe said: "Once we are satisfied that Renamo doesn't mean serious business, then we cannot be expected to honour the ceasefire."

However, any such move would only be taken after consultations with the Mozambique government, he said.

He also expressed surprise that former Chief Justice Enock Dumbutshena, the first black judge to head the judiciary here, had been reported to have accepted the post of Chief Justice of the Transkei.

Mr. Mugabe also said Mr. Dumbutshena, who retired in February last year after Mr. Mugabe refused to allow him to continue beyond the optional retirement age of 70, had discussed the issue with him and he had told the judge that he wished to discuss it with the ANC and the PAC.

He had not spoken to Mr. Dumbutshena since then, however, but added: "He is free to become a judge there. We have no law preventing any person from that, whether that person is working for the devil."

-Sapa
De Beers plan to open Zimbabwe mine put off

By Derek Tommeny

Plans by De Beers to open a marginal diamond mine in Zimbabwe have been shelved because of a conflict with the Zimbabwean government over the disposal of the diamonds.

De Beers said yesterday that Zimbabwe wanted the diamonds to be handled by its Minerals Marketing Corporation, which would have the right to take a percentage of the production for domestic processing.

Production

De Beers opposed this on the grounds that the production of one small marginal mine could not provide a regular supply for economic processing by Zimbabwean industry.

What is probably De Beers' major concern is that it believes the mine could not market its entire production successfully if it was obliged to allow a local factory first choice on a portion.

De Beers said the single-channel marketing operated by the CSO had functioned successfully for more than 50 years to the benefit of producers and consumers alike and was the key factor behind the stability in the international diamond industry.

This claim had not found any positive response in Harare where the Ministry of Mines said it was planning to cancel De Beers' mining claims as a result of its failure to develop them.

Appraisals

De Beers said yesterday that in the Seventies one of its companies, Kimberlite Searchers Limited, had discovered a small diamond-bearing kimberlite at River Ranch, west of Beit Bridge, Southern Zimbabwe.

Appraisals showed that a mine would be uneconomic.

However, when the market improved, De Beers re-appraised the River Ranch kimberlite and in August 1989 submitted proposals to the government of Zimbabwe for the development of a small mine, even though still only marginally profitable and for the marketing of the production through the De Beers Central Selling Organisation (CSO).

De Beers also made proposals for the establishment of a long-term partnership with the government of Zimbabwe, which included resumption of prospecting for new diamond sources and assistance with the development of the small local cutting industry by means of regular supplies of rough diamonds from the CSO.

The government of Zimbabwe, however, insisted that its Minerals Marketing Corporation (MMCC) act as agent for the marketing of any diamond production and that it took a portion for domestic processing.

De Beers was unable to reach agreement with Zimbabwe and it had now been informed that the Zimbabwean Ministry of Mines had initiated procedures for the forfeiture of the River Ranch claims.

Potential

De Beers said it regretted the step, particularly as it believed that the country's diamond potential would be developed more successfully through co-operation with other diamond producers represented by the CSO.

It had told the Zimbabwean government that it was willing to re-open discussions should the government review its position.
Zimbabwe, DE BEERS IN WAR OF DIAMONDS

Zimbabwe's Ministry of Mines began a campaign to avoid diamond mining and to keep De Beers from exploiting the country's natural resources. The government claimed that the diamond industry was harming the country's economy and environment. The campaign was aimed at international investors and the diamond industry itself, seeking to pressure them to adopt more responsible practices.

De Beers, on the other hand, saw this as a threat to its business and interests. The company accused the Zimbabwean government of using the diamond industry to divert funds from its own budget and of not properly regulating the industry. De Beers also argued that the government's policies were not consistent and that they could lead to a decrease in the value of the country's diamonds.

The war of words between Zimbabwe and De Beers reflects a deeper conflict over resources and control. Zimbabwe, with its vast diamond reserves, has been trying to assert its sovereignty over its own natural resources. De Beers, with its global reach, has been defending its interests and business operations.

The outcome of this conflict is likely to have significant implications for both Zimbabwe and the global diamond trade. It highlights the ongoing debate over how resources should be distributed and managed, and the role that multinational corporations play in shaping these outcomes.

Zimbabwe's move to nationalize the diamond industry is a clear indication of its commitment to controlling its resources. This is part of a broader strategy to diversify the economy, reduce foreign dependence, and improve the living standards of its citizens. The government hopes to attract foreign investment and to ensure that the benefits of the diamond industry remain within the country.
Zimbabwe talks on South African exiles

The United Nations' role in the repatriation of South African exiles and the shortage of funds to resettle them will be discussed at a conference in Harare next month.

Among the parties invited to attend the conference - starting on February 4 - are the ANC, PAC, the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania, the National Coordinating Committee for the Repatriation of Exiles and representatives of the Frontline states.

BCMA and PAC spokesmen said yesterday they had not received invitations.

ANC spokesman Mr. Saki Macozoma was also not aware of the conference and referred enquiries to the South African Council of Churches, which will be represented.

An SACC spokesman said the conference would be hosted by the National Christian Council of Zimbabwe and the Liberation Support Committee of Zimbabwe.
Maputo's new transport fees put on hold

HARARE — Zimbabwe and Mozam- bique have agreed to a two-month delay in implementing a new hard currency payment system for trans- port fees, which threatened a whole- sale rerouting of Zimbabwean im- ports to SA’s ports.

Sources in Harare confirm that Zimbabwe Transport Minister Denis Norman and his Mozambican coun- terpart, Gen Armando Gwezuza, have met to seek a compromise pay- ments formula to ease the critical cashflow situation for Mozambique's state-owned railways, CFM.

Six years of efforts to divert Zim- babwean traffic away from SA ports were jeopardised in December when Mozambique demanded that Zimbabwean shipments be paid for in ad- vance in US dollars. Previously, Zim- babwean importers paid in arrear in local currency.

Gwezuza and Noman have agreed to delay introduction of any new pay- ments system until April 1, pending negotiations, say transport industry sources. About R500m has been spent since 1984 on rehabilitating Zim- babwe's direct access to the Indian Ocean via Mozambique, with the re- sult that trade sent through the SA transport system has declined from 93% to less than 70%.

CFM's cashflow crisis has been ag- gravated by the need to hire extra locomotives from Zimbabwe. Even greater demands will be placed upon CFM's locomotive pool if Zimbabwe succeeds in reopening the 700km Limpopo corridor as planned this quarter, restoring direct access to Maputo's deep water harbour. Rout- ine traffic was halted by Renamo sabotage in August 1984.

All traffic in the Tete corridor link- ing Zimbabwe and Malawi halted fol- lowing a series of rebel ambushes earlier this month.
HARARE—Zimbabwe plans to intensify security along its 700km border with Mozambique because there is no guarantee peace will result from December's Rome ceasefire agreement between Renamo and President Joaquim Chissano's government, says Zimbabwe's Home Affairs Minister Movem Mahachi.

In an interview with the The Herald newspaper, Mahachi said the many weapons cached in the border areas of the two states were "not conducive to peace."

There has been no decline in rebel activity since talks between Renamo and the government began.

He said President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) government would "deal ruthlessly with anyone threatening national stability, despite last year's termination of the state of emergency which permitted indefinite detention without trial."
OVER THE BORDER, PETROL COSTS R2.50 A LITRE
Zimbabwe set for runaway inflation as fuel prices soar

HARARE — Runaway inflation appears likely to hit Zimbabwe's battered economy after further massive hikes in the price of fuel as a result of the Gulf war.

Zimbabwe, which imported much of its oil from Kuwait before Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's August 2 invasion, has raised the price of petrol and diesel by more than 110% since September.

Increases which came into effect at midnight on Wednesday make petrol R2.41/l, diesel R1.27/l and aviation turbine fuel R1.61/l.

A current water crisis in southeastern Zimbabwe, where cane sugar is grown, has restricted the amount of ethyl alcohol that is routinely blended with imported petrol to a maximum 23% content.

Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries president John Deery described the latest increases as "a tragedy." The hikes risked causing a serious recession at a time when the country was desperately seeking to address its unemployment problem.

There are estimated to be 1.5 million jobless among Zimbabwe's 10 million people, many of them certificated school leavers produced by President Robert Mugabe's schooling programme.

Before the fuel price rise, the inflation rate was estimated at 20%, with the Zimbabwean dollar depreciating 17% against the rand in 12 months.

The price of paraffin remains frozen at R0.67/l in an attempt to spare Zimbabwe's lower-income groups.
Huge fuel hike rocks Zimbabwe

THE petrol price in Zimbabwe this week rocketed to R2.50 a litre, largely as a result of the war in the Persian Gulf.

It seems Zimbabwe has been unable to take advantage of the drop in world oil prices which enabled countries such as South Africa to ease the burden.

According to Zimbabwe’s fuel minister, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, who this week announced crippling price hikes, the fuel bill incurred by the national oil company responsible for all imports had resulted in losses of more than R300-million.

This week’s increases mean that the petrol price has almost doubled in less than six months. It went up by 53 percent yesterday following the 45 percent jump last September.

Ushewokunze said the Gulf war was the main reason for increases. He said other factors such as the declining value of the Zimbabwe dollar and increased freight rates had contributed.

Poor rains which have led to a fall in sugar production and a consequent drop in the percentage of ethanol in the blend petrol have exacerbated the situation.

Industrialists have been shocked by the size of the increases which included a 47 percent hike for diesel fuel.

Industry leader, Mr John Deary, said the impact would be severe and would hamper efforts to avoid a serious recession.

The blow has come at a time when Zimbabwe is battling to introduce a freer economy, an adjustment which would require substantial international assistance, he said.

A leading financial commentator, writing before the fuel announcement, had called for a substantial increase in exports to help stabilise the value of the currency.

Mr Eric Bloch said that the Zimbabwe dollar had been declining against most international currencies for years and would continue to fall for the foreseeable future.

Argus Africa News Service.
Zimbabwe's farmers want to trek

By TREvor GRUNDY

SOME white commercial farmers in Zimbabwe believe life could be better for them on the other side of the border and several have asked the Mozambican Government for permission to start farming in that war-ruined country.

An undisclosed number of whites want to emigrate to the Beira corridor, which links the eastern highlands town of Mutare to the Indian Ocean port; others want to extend existing operations into Mozambique.

They want to go to the former Portuguese colony because they believe they no longer have a future in Zimbabwe because of powers recently handed by Parliament to the government to seize the burning 100-year-old-land issue in a way which could put many of this country's 3,800 farmers out of business one day.

Following Parliament's overwhelming approval of the Constitution Amendment Bill last December, the government can now expropriate any piece of land, farm or buildings on farms and pay a "fair" price to owners in local dollars; but owners would have no recourse to the country's courts if they are unhappy about the amounts paid.

The government wants to resettle about 151,000 black families and to do that, it says, it needs a million hectares of presently commercially owned land will be required, leaving the commercial sector with only five million hectares to grow strategic crops.

Farmers will be able to discuss the modalities of resettlement but no one should kid himself that the government is not thinking about reclaiming land "stolen" by "pioneers" - all of them Europeans - 100 years ago.

Shortly after the arrival of the white "pioneer column" in 1890, whites settled in Matebeleland and Mashonaland. By 1907, Europeans had taken roughly 200,000 head of cattle from the Matabele and were buying up ranching land for eightpence an acre, and arable land for three shillings and ninpence an acre.

Ten years after independence, and the end of the Lancaster House constitution of 1980, which gave special land rights to whites for the first 10 years of independence, blacks are demanding their land back. They say they will pay "fair" and not "market" prices.

Whites are still planting and working but their future is uncertain.

So far, applications to settle in Mozambique are being tickled. A spokesman for the Mozambique Embassy in Harare said: "Although inquiries started in 1986, there has been an upsurge this year."

Commercial farmers in Zimbabwe are a wealthy breed of men and women - white Rockefellers living next to black Cinderellas.

Whites have large farms, imported cars and children at expensive private schools. Holiday-time usually means a trip "down south", often to "good old Durban".

Fewer than 4,000 whites own some 35 to 40 percent of the best land.

They produce most of the cash crops which make 20% of the value of Zimbabwe's exports.

Whites say they have the capital, the know-how, the commitment and believe if they are removed from the land, organised agriculture would collapse over a period of time. That's an assertion strongly denied by black farmers, who are land hungry and backed by President Mugabe.

Since independence, a tiny group of hardworking black commercial farmers - no more than about 30 - have done well. But the vast majority of blacks moving into the "big time" are politicians and top civil servants who are known as "telephone farmers".

"They make a few calls every week to find out if the crops are growing and if it's raining," said one disgruntled white who is considering greener pastures in Mozambique.

"Often they secure substantial loans from the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) and commercial banks, buy land in prime areas, equip it with boreholes and tractors and then watch it rot."

An article in the current edition of Parade magazine tells an embarrasing tale of disaster which befell a minister who dipped his inexperienced toe into the sea of commercial agriculture. Journalist Peta Thornycroft wrote that in Africa it takes but a few short years to go from productive farming land to wasteland.

An example, she said, is what happened to Joseph Msika, Minister of Local Government but a senator in 1981 when he bought 553 hectares of superb, high-yielding farmland in one of the country's richest cropping areas near Mazowe.

Eight years later in 1989 the farm was declared derelict by the government's own Derelict Land Board (DLB).

Parade lists many others who own commercial farms but who have, at one point or other, been in debt to banks or the AFC. They include several ministers, one of the best known being farming-enthusiast Dr. Herbert Ushehwonze, today's Minister of Energy and the man who has put the price of petrol up by 120 percent since September because of the "Cabinet Crisis".

Ushehwonze has been having a running battle with a black "neighbour" who has "squatted" on a farm said to be owned by Ushehwonze.

A British Broadcasting Corporation radio programme said this week that Ushehwonze donated battle-taxes on his farm and with the help of six guards equipped with AK-47 rifles, slashed crops on his rivals' territory.

South African farmers aren't the only people on the African continent who are concerned about their government's land policies.
Why our farmers do badly

George Nicholas, The Star's Agricultural Correspondent, reports on the huge gap between Zimbabwean and South African farming production.

with the South African average in brackets, are:

- Wheat 5.5 tons per hectare (RSA 1.4 tons);
- cotton 1.05 (0.9);
- groundnuts 4.0 (7.6);
- soybeans 2.4 (1.1);
- sorghum 2.1 (1.3);
- sunflowerseed 2.2 (1);
- and virginia tobacco 2.5 (1.9).

South Africa's national cattle herd numbers about nine million head and its annual beef output is not enough to meet the needs of the country's population of about 28.5 million, so meat has to be imported.

Zimbabwe's national herd numbers 1.5 million head which, in spite of periodic temporary shortages, not only supplies the meat needs of its 8.2 million population but also produces about 10 million tons of beef a year for export (mainly to Europe, where it earns on average R5 million a year in foreign exchange).

Understandably, there are many outstanding individual farmers in both countries whose crops regularly return yields well above the averages mentioned.

The superior field husbandry of Zimbabwe farmers, however, is self-evident.

Like their South African colleagues, they also face the realities and uncertainties occasioned by market prices, production cost increases, high interest rates, droughts and so on.

But in the face of these adverse factors they have demonstrated their resilience and their ability to overcome, with a reasonable degree of success, even the most unfavourable seasons.

They do not make threats or organise crisis protest actions when they suffer hard times.

They make representations to their government, calmly and through organised agriculture, and are big enough to see and accept the other point of view or the other's limitations.

Throughout my many years of association with farmers in both countries I have come to know the Zimbabweans not only as outstanding professional farmers but also as clear-thinking businessmen, willing to take normal risks so long as these are reasonable.

And in business they seek to make profits and avoid losses.

Few, for instance, will tolerate a situation involving the production of unprofitable crops.

They will not hesitate to discard a doubtful line in favour of one that is more lucrative.

They think positively and believe in saying "my glass is half full" rather than "my glass is half empty.""}

And it is this attitude that has made their industry the very basis of their country's economy.

It would be nice to say the same for South African farmers, but unfortunately this is not possible.

So many of them run a hit-or-miss business, behaviour for the South African farmers, who can't seem to decide whether they want to be prosperous or not.

But in business they seek to make profits and avoid losses.

Few, for instance, will tolerate a situation involving the production of unprofitable crops.

They will not hesitate to discard a doubtful line in favour of one that is more lucrative.

They think positively and believe in saying "my glass is half full" rather than "my glass is half empty."
HARARE - Persistent rumours that there had been an attempt on the life of Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe last month were discounted in a newspaper report here yesterday.

The Herald said Mugabe's plane had been damaged when a security guard accidentally fired his shotgun through the roof of the aircraft, three days before the president was to fly to West Africa.

The security guard, an Air Zimbabwe employee, had not reported the incident and had tried to hide the damage by covering the holes with masking tape.

But on the pre-flight check engineers found the holes. Another aircraft had to be obtained for the flight to West Africa.

The newspaper said that failure to disclose what had happened had led to "persistent and far-fetched rumours" about an attempt on President Mugabe's life.

-Agna Africa News Service.
Mugabe stands firm

HARARE — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe says there is no way he is going to be taken to court over his government's intention to take land from white farmers for resettlement.

Belgian TV asked him if it was not "disrespectful" to bar the courts from ruling on compensation.

"We have respect for the rule of law but on this fundamental question, it is a deep-seated grievance," he replied. — Star Africa Service.
Black Peasant Farmers Drive in Zimbabwe
FW's aims criticised in Zimbabwe

By Kobin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE, President de Klerk had disappointed observers by failing to get to grips with the question of the returns of exiles, the release of political prisoners and South Africa's security laws, President Robert Mugabe said here last night.

The Zimbabwean leader told a dinner for visiting African heads of government that Mr. de Klerk's moves to end apartheid were commendable. But he seemed less interested in progress towards democracy than in attempting to satisfy the external requirements for the lifting of sanctions.

In a way, he had achieved this goal, but he should know that foreign investors would want to see a stable, settled society in South Africa.

In a statement released in Harare last night, the Soviet Union said an immediate repeal of racist laws in South Africa would be an important step along the way to democratic transformation of South African society.

Suzman pleads against sanctions

GENEVA — Former Democratic Party MP Helen Suzman yesterday asked the United Nations Human Rights Commission to respond positively to South Africa's latest steps to abolish apartheid.

"I ask this not as a reward for the promised repeal of laws that should never have been passed in the first instance, but because the new South Africa depends on economic growth which sanctions are presently restricting," Mrs. Suzman said in a letter to the UN's main human rights watchdog.

Mrs. Suzman said she disagreed with the European Community's plan to implement its announced intention to ease sanctions after President de Klerk's promise on Friday to dismantle apartheid laws.

Reuter
HARARE: Zimbabweans are bracing themselves for a worsening period of shortages of a wide range of products, thanks partly to the Gulf war.

"Tinned" goods, matches, razor blades, filtered cigarettes and toothpaste will join the other goods in short supply or unobtainable.

At the heart of the crisis is the shortage of foreign exchange needed either from machinery or the imported content of goods, such as the steel for blades and material for tin cans.

Economists say the foreign exchange problem has been worsened by the slowdown in the world economy, the allocation of funds for trade liberalisation and the fact that a large proportion of foreign reserves has been earmarked for higher fuel costs.
Zanu state at odds over Land Act amendments

Changes Hands: (left) The Zimbabwean government insists that commercial farmers must give up their land to re-settle peasant farmers. PIC: UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

From Deborah Carter, Harare

PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) government remains at odds with the nation's commercial farmers over a controversial constitutional amendment that will allow state appropriation of land.

The government is amending the 1985 Land Acquisition Act to give itself the power to acquire any commercial property on its own purchasing terms to be paid over a period determined by the state.

Furthermore, the property owner won't have the right to appeal the purchase terms in court.

Amendments

These amendments are intended to allow the government to acquire 5.5m hectares of white-owned commercial farmland to resettle peasant farmers who had been based on "reserves", called Tribal Trust Lands, during colonialism.

The reserved were removed Communal Areas after independence but remained overcrowded, intensively grazed, infertile and prone to drought.

The government also claims the land acquired will assist black, large-scale commercial farmers in competing on equal terms with their white counterparts.

Last April, Mugabe's government repealed property laws agreed under the so-called "Lancaster House" constitution of 1979 that limited its ability to purchase commercial farmland for 10 years.

During that time, the government resettled 52,000 families on 2.5m of the 3.5m hectares, falling short of its target of 162,000 resettlements.

The government owns a further 500,000 hectares which it has not yet settled.

At independence in April 1980, 6,000 white commercial farmers owned 15.5m hectares of Zimbabwe's 39m hectares of land.

Opposing

The Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU) has responded with its own document titled "Proposals for Land Reform for Zimbabwe, 1991". The union is opposing the land acquisition amendments mainly because of their pending property rights' losses, and the loss of productivity they feel Zimbabwe's agricultural sector will consequently suffer.

CFU president Alan Buri has assured the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement Dr Witness Mangwenzi that the union’s concern is "not racial but economic" and that the union’s opposition to the amendments are not based on "racial interests".

Expertise

But he cautions that land must only be given to those with proven expertise and training in farming—a demand which, if implemented, excludes the majority of those whom the government intends to resettle.

The remark highlights the contradiction between the high technology, capital intensive techniques used by commercial farmers managing thousands of hectares of land and small-scale peasant production mixing maize and grains on small plots with free-range livestock grazing.

The fact that the commercial techniques are practised by white farmers and the letter by black farmers means the racist connotations remain part of the debate.

Productivity

The CFU report a productivity reduction will conflict with structural adjustment programmes recently adopted by the Zimbabwean government.

These call for increased productivity and trade liberalisation policies. But the government position on the bill has remained unchanged.

"It is clear that some commercial farmers have to give up some of their land as dictated by our social-political realities," Mangwenzi told commercial farmers at a recent meeting.—AIA
Zimbabwe seeks aid to go free market

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe is to seek massive international aid of about $40 billion to help the country switch from socialist-style controls to a free market economic system.

Zimbabweans have been warned that reforming the economy is going to be painful, with thousands losing their jobs.

They have been told they will have to bite the bullet and suffer shortages and crippling inflation if the government is able to proceed with its five-year reform programme aimed at ending subsidies to parastatals, lifting price control and labour regulations and phasing out the system of foreign exchange allocations for imports.

The first key to the door to reform is due to be turned next month at a donor conference in Paris from March 25 to 26 when the Zimbabwean government will be asking for US $3.4 billion (about $9 billion) to set the programme in motion.

The programme has been drawn up in close consultation with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and there have been indications that the United States for one will lend its support.

Most of the money will be needed for increased imports to revitalise industry, which desperately needs up-to-date capital equipment if it is to be competitive in export markets.

Money will also be needed for a "social fund" to be established to cushion the blow for the poorer members of the community when the inevitable rises in the prices of staple food occur.

It has not been revealed how this fund will work, but clearly it is aimed at preventing the kind of disturbances which occurred in Zambia and other African countries when steep increases resulted in food riots.

Finance

Zimbabwe is looking for grants and a blend of concessional and other long-term loans to finance the programme, which altogether is expected to cost Z$42 billion.

It is intended that most of this will come from increased exports, with the aim of building up foreign reserves to reach the equivalent of three months' worth of imports by 1995.

The same year is due to see the budget deficit reduced to five percent of gross domestic product, half of what it is now.

In the process some 32,000 people are expected to lose their jobs, of whom 10,000 will be civil servants as the public service is reduced in size. The remainder will be from parastatal bodies and the business sector as firms go under when trade liberalisation takes hold.

A government document warns that although the reform programme is aimed at easing inflation in the long run, the general level of prices is projected to increase before being reduced to more acceptable levels.

Commenting on the five-year programme, the country's main newspaper, The Herald, said every effort must be made to cushion the most vulnerable groups against the worst effects of the adjustment process.

It said that if the programme was not given a chance to work, stop-start growth, shortages and long queues of people waiting to get jobs would become a feature of Zimbabwean life.

Industry has basically been given five years to get its act together and workers have been given notice that efficiency will have to be their watchword.
Position

The government and the white farmers in Zimbabwe have been at odds since the early 1980s. The government, under President Robert Mugabe, has been trying to expropriate white-owned land and redistribute it to black Zimbabweans. This has led to a series of violent land invasions and clashes between the government forces and white farmers. The situation has been exacerbated by the economic sanctions imposed by the Western countries on Zimbabwe, which has led to a severe economic crisis in the country. The government has faced international pressure to end the violence and respect property rights, but has continued to push for land reform.

Conclusion

Land grab could spark nightmarish scenario.

Mugabe blames slow pace of resettlement 8 November 1988

Land grab could spark nightmarish scenario. 8 November 1988

Mugabe blames slow pace of resettlement
The Damelin Diploma in Retail Management

The Damelin Diploma in Retail Management is a comprehensive program designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary for a career in the retail industry. The program covers a wide range of topics including retail sales, customer service, and store management.

Promotional materials highlight the program's commitment to providing students with practical experience through real-world projects and case studies. The curriculum is structured to ensure that students develop a strong understanding of the retail environment and are prepared to succeed in a retail career.

For more information, interested students are encouraged to contact the Damelin office or visit their website. The Damelin Diploma in Retail Management is an excellent opportunity for those looking to enter the retail industry with confidence and expertise.
Failed Zim co-ops undermine Mugabe

HARARE. — Only days after a fierce denunciation of his controversial resettlement programme, Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe has had his position undermined by reports of the collapse of land reform efforts.

The Herald, Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper, yesterday told of the failure of resettlement programmes on nearly 23,000ha of former white-owned land in the north of country. It's source was the Zimbabwe Information Service, a government body which specialises in rural reporting, usually praising peasant farmers.

It claimed that 3 million hectares of white farmland, acquired since independence had not been productively farmed.

An example was the 42 families who moved on to a 1,000ha farm about 100km west of Harare, and who were determined to make a fortune like the farmer before them growing maize, tobacco and cotton. But before long, members of the co-operative started arriving for work drunk, and there were no controls over finances, which included a loan from the state, said the report. — Sapa
Farm settlers beg for food as lands lie fallow

O F GRAVE concern to many Zimbabweans is the prospect of a dramatic fall in agricultural production because of the government’s insistence on reducing white farmers’ land holdings by half.

Much of the 6 million ha which the government says it intends acquiring would go for resettlement schemes that have largely failed to live up to expectations.

President Mugabe accuses white farmers of trying to block land takeovers when they point to the failure of existing schemes on the 3 million ha already acquired from commercial farmland for resettlement.

The Commercial Farmers Union says in the document outlining its own proposals for land reform that, for many reasons, but with few exceptions, the current exercise has failed.

But despite Mr Mugabe’s assertions, it is not just white farmers who are prepared to point out failures to date.

The Zimbabwe Information Service, a State body, this week described in an article how a resettlement scheme in the Chigutu area had proved to be a disaster.

Eight years ago, 43 village families had been resettled on a big formerly white-owned farm.

One of the settlers, Cousmas Mukanganise, saw his dream come true. Here he was on a farm with 1,000 ha of arable land, 800 ha suitable for grazing, in a high rainfall area.

The previous owner had made a fortune growing tobacco, maize and cotton.

The Mukuvapasi Collective Co-operative came into being with high hopes of following in the white farmers’ footsteps. But now its members have appealed to the governor of the province for food handouts.

The Information Service said that after the first season, things started to deteriorate.

There was no proper control of expenditure, the workers ignored technical advice and the Agricultural Finance Corporation withdrew its support.

This season only 16 ha has been cultivated.

According to the Information Service, Mukuvapasi is typical of the majority of co-operatives in the province.

The 14 other resettlement concerns owe thousands of dollars to the Agricultural Finance Corporation and none qualifies for new loans. Two have been served with attachment notices.

Of 21,716 ha allocated to the co-operatives, only 3,654 are under cultivation and the average yield of maize is five bags.

The article calls for better screening of applicants, the eviction of those who have failed and revised models for resettlement schemes.
Zimbabwe's plans overshadows economy

The government has announced plans to introduce a new currency, the Zimbabwe dollar, to replace the South African rand. The move is expected to boost the country's economy and improve living standards.

However, experts warn that the plan could lead to inflation and hyperinflation, which would have a negative impact on the country's economic growth.

The government has also announced plans to increase investment in the agriculture sector, with the aim of increasing food production and reducing imports. This is expected to create jobs and boost economic growth.

Despite these plans, the country remains challenging, with high unemployment and poverty levels. The government is under pressure to address these issues and improve living standards.
Bulawayo hit by lack of beef, water supplies

By CHARLES RUKUNI, Harare

WHILE the rest of the world are preoccupied with the Gulf crisis, the average person in Bulawayo is more worried about how to survive, not because of the war but because of conditions at home. (Image)

Water rationing was introduced on January 15, limiting families to 600 litres a day. Six days later there was no beef. The sole supplier in urban areas, the Cold Storage Commission (CSC), cut allocations to 40 percent, had no beef for several days, and then resumed 40 percent supplies on January 28.

The shortages of both water and beef are baffling. The city council said the dams had only 92-million cubic metres — just enough to last till February 1992. Yet it is the middle of the rainy season and, although falls have been reasonable, water rationing goes on.

This has prompted sceptics to claim that the council introduced rationing not because there was not enough in the supply dams, but because it does not have the pumping capacity.

The city can only supply 154,000 cubic metres a day. Although consumption averages 102,000 cubic metres, it has gone up to 180,000 in hotter months, putting the city on the verge of supplying raw water.

As for beef, only in October the CSC had a surplus and was giving butchers 105 percent of their needs. The country was concentrating on local supplies because from June 1989 exports to the European Community had been banned after an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease.

The ban was lifted last November and by the beginning of December supplies to local butchers had been cut by 30 percent. In early January another 30 percent cut was imposed. The cut became 100 percent on January 21.

The CSC says exports stopped in December and the shortage has nothing to do with sales abroad. The problem, it says, is due to low slaughter bookings which dropped from 18,200 in December to 9,844 in January. To meet local demand and remain viable the CSC has to slaughter 33,000-40,000 a month.

It complains of stiff competition from private abattoirs which can buy cattle at higher prices as they normally have their own butchery outlets and can therefore still sell the meat at a profit. — Gemini News
IMF cautions Harare on confidence

HARARE — Maintaining the confidence of investors would be central to President Robert Mugabe’s planned land reform programme, IMF MD Michel Camdessus warned yesterday.

After two days of talks on urgent economic restructuring, he gave IMF endorsement to a R42bn, five-year Zimbabwean structural adjustment plan aimed at moving away from the command economy introduced by Ian Smith’s Rhodesian government to fight international sanctions, and persevered by Mugabe for socialist goals.

"Socialism has failed," the French banking expert said at a news conference at the conclusion of his visit. Zimbabwe’s senior Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero disclosed that most of the estimated R42bn was scheduled to come from sources such as increased export earnings, but a crucial R3.1bn would be needed from private investment.

Camdessus tried to parry questions about the impact of Mugabe’s recent controversial constitutional amendment removing farmers’ right of appeal against nationalisation, but conceded it could have a major effect on Zimbabwe’s planned “donors conference” in Paris next month.

He welcomed the improved political climate in southern Africa. “It is my dearest wish that reduction of tension in the area could allow Zimbabwe to devote more resources to its economic objectives.”

He said Zimbabwe suffered a 26% unemployment ratio.

Camdessus said he was impressed by the courage and determination of the Zimbabwean government to carry through its planned economic liberalisation.

"But this is due to the fact that the country recognises there are no alternatives to such an effort," said Camdessus, who arrived from Maputo on Tuesday and flew on yesterday to the Zambian capital on the last stage of his southern African tour.

He did not spell out how much IMF aid would be given Zimbabwe, only stating that the fund would urge donors to back it.

When Camdessus met local business leaders on Wednesday night Chidzero rounded on the chief executive of Zimbabwe’s Commercial Farmers Union, David Hasluck, and urged his 4 800 members to “stop moaning and groaning about the land issue”.

Hasluck protested that he had not raised the land controversy. Zimbabwe Chamber of Mines president Elias Nguzama had asked Camdessus whether removal of entrenched constitutional guarantees against nationalisation might scare off foreign financial support.

"Do not be cowards," Chidzero chided commercial farmers. "Have faith and confidence. I must emphasise as strongly as I can our reform programme on land is not to dispossess people, it is to utilise land.”
The Great Economic about Face

(Continued from page 1)
Harare stops Marxism in some schools

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — The teaching of Marxist-Leninist principles, as political economy, has been suspended in the lower classes of Zimbabwean secondary schools to enable educationists to "refine" the syllabus.

This was only a temporary measure, an education ministry official said in reaction to reports that some schools did not offer the subject.

Roman Catholic educators slammed the subject, when it was introduced several years ago.

Before the collapse of socialist policies in eastern Europe, Education Minister Pay Chang said the government would not be stopped from presenting political economy as a subject.

"The conflict, if any, is being blown out of proportion by the right-wing Churches, which are speaking out of prejudices fuelled by a superficial knowledge of political economy," she said.

Zimbabwe is switching to a free-market economy, said President Mugabe, still favours a socialist system.
‘Notifiable disease’ controversy re-opens

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — Sweeping powers to declare any sexually-transmitted disease a “notifiable disease” were given to Zimbabwe’s Minister of Health, Dr Timothy Stamps, in legislation tabled here yesterday.

Two clauses, buried in the huge General Laws Amendment Bill, which revises no fewer than 30 unrelated statutes, appear certain to re-open the furious controversy which surrounded Dr Stamps’ abortive attempt last year to have Aids made a notifiable disease.

Dr Stamps backed down on an initial bid to force doctors to inform health authorities of every case, after they protested it would lay Zimbabwe’s estimated 400,000 human immuno-deficiency virus (HIV) positive patients open to ostracism and blackmail.

There are currently only 9,000 confirmed Aids cases, says Dr Stamps.

The bill appears certain to become law, with the government holding 147 of the 180 parliamentary seats.

As the act stands, persons infected with notifiable diseases can be compulsorily quarantined and local authorities must be given their names and addresses.

Zimbabwean doctors have protested that unless they are notified, suffered from Aids-related illnesses to have HIV blood tests, they cannot be certain they are carrying the virus.
Zimbabwe's press feels the heat

Robin Drew reports on a media conference in Harare

[Image of Zimbabwean flag]

The government has been cracking down on the media in recent years, with journalists facing harassment and arrests. The press is feeling the heat of this crackdown.

[Quote from a government official]

The new media law, which was recently passed, has raised concerns among media organizations. The law gives the government the power to issue licenses to media outlets, which could lead to a tightening of the already restricted media landscape.

[Quote from a journalist]

We feel like we're being pressed into a corner. The government is always watching us, and it's a very difficult environment to work in.

[Quote from a human rights activist]

It's not just about the laws, it's about the culture of censorship. The government is using any means possible to control the media.

[Quote from an international press freedom organization]

We are concerned about the erosion of press freedom in Zimbabwe. The government needs to respect the rights of journalists and ensure a free and independent media.

[Quote from a government spokesperson]

The new laws are necessary to maintain law and order. The media has a role to play in promoting good governance.

[Quote from a media outlet]

We are determined to continue operating in the face of these challenges. Our readers rely on us for information.
Children's rights to give away power for Zimbabwe's good

MICHAEL ARANTHACK

Zimbabwe's government is good

Children's rights to give away power for Zimbabwe's good

MICHAEL ARANTHACK
HARARE – Sweeping powers to declare any sexually transmitted disease a "notifiable disease" will be given to Zimbabwe's Minister of Health, Timothy Stamps, in legislation tabled here yesterday.

Two clauses, buried in a huge General Laws Amendment Bill, which revises no less than 30 unrelated statutes, appear certain to reopen the controversy surrounding Stamps's abortive attempt last year to have AIDS made a notifiable disease.

Stamps backed down on an initial bid to force doctors to inform health authorities of every case, after they protested it would lay Zimbabwe's estimated 400,000 HIV-positive patients open to ostracism and blackmail. There are currently only 9,000 confirmed AIDS cases.

Two clauses in the General Laws Amendment Bill give the Minister a wide-ranging definition of a "notifiable" infectious disease. A schedule to the Bill says this will redefine the terms to "clarify them and make them more flexible".

If the Bill becomes law – as appears certain with the government holding 147 of the 150 parliamentary seats – Stamps may declare any disease to be a venereal disease for the purposes of the Public Health Act.

As the Act stands, persons infected with notifiable diseases can be compulsorily quarantined, and local authorities must get their names and addresses. Zimbabwean doctors have protested that unless they force suspected sufferers from AIDS-related illnesses to have HIV blood tests, they cannot be certain they are carrying the virus. Since AIDS is presently incurable, quarantine presents a vast social and personal problem.

The second reading of the Bill is set down for today. Lawyers are likely to be outraged by the Bill, which lumps together revisions of the law on subjects as diverse as subversive publications, judges' salaries and wild life.

---

TRAINING CENTRE
in
RIVER CLUB

On this riverine site in Sandton our clients would like to build a Training Centre for:

— your specifications
— purchase or lease

Contact: KOHLER 883-1401
Journalism under fire in Zimbabwe

It is not easy being a journalist in Zimbabwe, says someone who ought to know: a former newspaper editor and now the new editor-in-chief of the national news agency Ziana.

Mr. Henry Muradzikwa ran afoul of President Robert Mugabe when the Sunday newspaper he was editing carried a story about Zimbabwean students being deported from Cuba.

The story appeared prominently on the very day a senior Cuban minister arrived on a visit to Zimbabwe.

The upshot was that the editor was hastily removed by Zimbabwean newspapers to do research. He languished at the post for several years before getting the Ziana appointment.

When journalists gathered last week to review media developments in Zimbabwe, Muradzikwa told them, "You can take it from me, the kitchen can be hot.

Young journalists are taught to be honest, fair, truthful and to report without fear or favour.

But when they enter the newsroom, "they have to learn to fear, to be partisan in their reports and above all to learn to leave the truth alone," he said.

Critic

Another critic of government interference was an analyst at the Zimbabwe Institute of Development Studies, Mr. Bonwell Chakaodza.

He said that the Mass Media Trust - established to be a buffer between the Press and the government - had failed to protect editors from direct pressure from the government.

Chakaodza also accused newspapers and broadcasting of concentrating too much on leaders' speeches, workshops, public rituals and ceremonies.

"Such kind of reporting does not reflect the reality of our society. There is a culture of silence when it comes to the situation of the majority of men, women and children," he said.

Yet he also criticised the independently owned publications which have been critical of government policies, saying they were guilty of overemphasizing the negative aspects of society.

Code

Judge of Appeal Mr Justice Manyara called for the formation of a Media Council to administer a code of conduct for the industry.

He said a council should report publicly on infringements of the code to protect media owners and journalists against intimidation.

An act of parliament would be necessary to empower such a council.
Zimbabwe's BOP deficit widens by 140%
Mugabe asks Nkomo to stand in as president

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe has set the final seal on reconciliation with his former political rival by appointing vice-president Mr. Joshua Nkomo to act as executive head of state during a reported domestic crisis caused by the illness of Mrs. Sally Mugabe.

Mrs. Mugabe is said to be seriously ill with a recurrence of a chronic kidney complaint but it has not been confirmed whether Mr. Mugabe will take her back to London, where she received emergency treatment last September.

Joint vice-president Mr. Simon Memba, who has deputised for Mr. Mugabe on every past occasion since an executive presidency was created in 1988, is at his post in Harare.
De Beers loses gem claims

HARARE — Zimbabwe's ministry of mines has cancelled the rights of a De Beers company, Kimberlitic Searches, to the river diamond claims near Beit Bridge, reports Ziana national news agency. 3/23/86.

This follows Mines Minister Chris Anderson's rejection of the company's insistence that it would develop the claims only if all output was marketed by its Central Selling Organization, and none by the Minerals Marketing Corporation of Zimbabwe. 11/14/84.

In a statement yesterday the ministry said the mining commissioner in Mashonaland had been instructed to forfeit the claims and to reserve the area comprising the claims against prospecting and pegging.

The ministry had been advised that numerous companies were interested in the claims and said applications should be made by parties for a special grant.

ROBERT LAING reports De Beers spokesman Andi Lamont said last night the group regretted the announcement and would comment on the decision after it had received a formal statement from the Zimbabwean government. — Sapa.
De Beers claims cancelled
By Robin Drew
Africa News Service

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government has cancelled diamond claims in the Beitbridge area held by a De Beers company because of a disagreement over marketing arrangements.

The South African company insisted on a policy of selling through its central selling organization while the Zimbabwe Government wanted the diamonds marketed through its own Minerals Marketing Corporation.

Public statements over the wrangle were issued in January when the Ministry of Mines threatened to cancel the claims.

In a statement the Ministry said the mining commissioner for Masvingo had been instructed to forfeit the claims and to reserve the area against prospecting and pegging.
Land-hunger bites into reconciliation

Robin Drew in Harare on Zimbabwe's land redistribution debate

What? Reconciliation
Zimbabweans under pressure

By Hubert Drew

Mr. Mupfumira, the Roward of Broughton, was yesterday arrested by the police for allegedly terrorizing the villagers.

The police, who were tipped off by a local councilor, went to the village and arrested Mr. Mupfumira after he refused to pay a fine of $100.

The arrest came as a surprise to the villagers, who had been living in peace for months. They were shocked to see their neighbor, who had been known for his generosity, being taken away by the police.

"We were all shocked," said one of the villagers. "We didn't know what had happened. Mr. Mupfumira had been our benefactor, and we never thought he would be arrested for anything like this."
Revolving on Death Row

SA men, lawyers say harsh treatment of minister must be halted

1932

LAWYERS CALLING FOR THREE
Nkomo calls for more urban land

CHARARE—Zimbabwean Vice-President Jozefu Nkomo has said that a "dangerous feeling of frustration" among blacks Zimbabweans because most urban property is historically owned by whites or Asians.

During a tour of Matabeleland Mr. Nkomo said that to avert a revolution, which would be more serious than the war of liberation, there was a need for concrete action by the Zimbabwean government.

He suggested that urban councils should open up new areas for blacks who wanted to acquire property could be helped to do so. —Star Africa Service
Oil exploration in Zambezi valley

HARARE — The US Mobil Oil Corp will resume oil exploration work in the Zambezi River Valley via local subsidiaries in April, project manager George Opara said yesterday.

Seismic ground surveys would be conducted this year on the Zimbabwean and Zambian sides of the valley divided by Lake Kariba and the Zambezi, Opara said.

The Lusaka and Harare governments signed four-year exploration agreements in December 1989 with Mobil Exploration Zambia and Mobil Exploration Zimbabwe, and geophysical surveys started in April last year.

The Gulf crisis and soaring fuel bills have added impetus to the search for oil in Africa.

Gravity

The Mobil concession covers 3-million ha on the Zimbabwean side of the mid-Zambezi Valley and 3.5-million ha on the Zambian side.

It runs from just east of the Victoria Falls to the Mozambique border and takes in a stretch about 50km wide on each side of Lake Kariba and the river.

"What we have done so far is gravity and magnetic data acquisition using helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft ... we also acquired about 800 line kilometres of seismic data on the ground on the Zimbabwean side," Opara said.
Steep hike in paper prices

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE - A massive increase is expected in the price of Zimbabwe's national newspapers, which are being forced to import newprint at $200 a ton, compared with $40 a ton from their traditional supplier in Mozambique.

The Herald, which is controlled by the parastatal Mass Media Trust, said last week it was down to a nine-week supply of newprint.

The country's only independent newspaper, the Financial Gazette, costs $2, but has to limit its print order because of shortage of paper.
The lady 'bankers' of Shashe...

SHASHE - About 30 women in white sit motionless under a muka tree, its boughs draped with shawls as if for an impromptu religious ceremony.

But drive slowly by with the car window down and the impression of spiritual peace is shattered.

As the women of Shashe spot a car heading towards neighbouring Zimbabwe, they leap up, grab wads of cash from their bags and make a frenzied dash for the motorist.

"Zim dollars! Zim dollars! I was here first, buy from me!" cry the first four or five who manage to push head and money-laden right first through the driver's window.

"They call that tree the Central Bank of Botswana," businessman Joe Matome said with a chuckle in the capital, Gaborone. "Everybody knows about it, but no one does anything to stop it."

The official exchange rate of Botswana's currency, the pula, is 70 for 100 Zimbabwe dollars. The Shashe ladies only offer 55 pulas for 100 dollars, but that suits their customers fine.

Zimbabweans are officially allowed to take abroad each year a holiday allowance of only 450 dollars (about R340 at the official exchange rate). It does not go far towards buying the hi-tech electrical goods they can only dream about at home.

The Harare government keeps strict tabs to ensure that non-essential imports do not eat up scarce foreign exchange - no foreign televisions, cassette and compact disc players, fans, irons, videos and electric kettles are seldom found in Zimbabwean shops.

Pariah

The big frustration for Zimbabweans is that all these goods are available just over their southern border with South Africa. It may be the political pariah of the region, but the wealthy, white minority-ruled republic is widely seen as a consumer paradise.

Acquiring a South African visa can take weeks, and getting hold of the annual holiday allowance involves lengthy negotiations at the bank.

But Zimbabweans need no visa to go to black majority-ruled Botswana, on their western frontier, and shopping there carries no political stigma. Botswana is a member of South Africa's regional customs union and its shops are packed with imported electronic hardware.

The only problem for cash-strapped Zimbabweans is getting a big enough supply of convertible pula before they head for the electrical store.

"This is where the Shashe tree, conveniently located about 100km inside Botswana on the main road from Harare to Gaborone, comes in. Foreign residents of Francistown, a grim desert town some 30km nearer Zimbabwe, say they all change money at the tree when they slip over the border to the pleasant Zimbabwean town of Bulawayo for rest and recreation weekends."

"Everyone goes to the Shashe tree," said Eva Kaltenthaler, an American researcher in Francistown. "Being able to change your money for Zim dollars at a good rate oils the wheels when you go away for the weekend."

"We make a lot of money here," said Hari, one of the women at the tree, pocketing her Zim- dollar and pula after neatly wrapping elastic bands around them.

"We don't take the Zim dollars anywhere. People come down the other side of the road and buy them back from us," she added.

The Shashe women are a church group of Zimbabwean origin and speak a Zimbabwean language, although they hold Botswana passports. Botswana - people who come from Botswana - call them MaZeza, a sub-group of Zimbabwe's ethnic majority, the Shona.

Wrinkling her nose, Arletta, who works at a hotel, said many Zimbabweans on shopping sprees sleep at the railway station when they arrive in Gaborone to save their money for shopping - but try to sneak into the plumpest hotels for an occasional wash. "Eh! those Zimbabweans. They bring all their children with them because they can get more travel allowance that way, and they won't take a room and wash while they're here, so they smell!" - Sapa-Reuters.
Partners in a new prosperity

Zimbabwe is seeking support for an economic turnaround. It hopes will rank it alongside SA, reports David Br...
HARARE — The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe has slammed some of the country's political leaders for giving "an extraordinarily bad example" and of abusing the power they hold.

In its latest newsletter, the commission refers to the incident when Minister Herbert Ushewo reportedly threatened workers at a farm he partly owns.

Apparently he and his bodyguards appeared in military uniform and brandished weapons.

It said this was simply the most recent of a number of examples of abuse of power.

Leaders had not shown themselves to be outstanding people who lived exemplary lives. Surely we as a nation do not elect people of low morality, whose first responsibility is not to the people on whose votes they depend, or whose first duty is not to uphold the dignity of their position," the commission said.

It said the people should consider very carefully the calibre of the people standing for election. Leaders who showed clearly they were unable to lead responsibly should be called on to resign.

The commission said it appeared the country might well need a leadership code laying down rules for leaders which should be enforced.

The commission also took as a "task the failure of the authorities to take action against those responsible for the wounding of a prominent opposition leader, Patrick Kombevura, during last year's elections and for the delay in investigating the murder of an army captain who had made several allegations of corruption."
The big thaw in relations between SA and its African neighbours is continuing. In the latest development, Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe and SA's Windhoek representative, Rianan Eksteen, exchanged pleasantries at an official function hosted by Namibia's Sam Nujoma.

Earlier, Mugabe delivered a speech which Eksteen describes as "his most moderate speech concerning SA yet." Says Eksteen: "In diplomatic language, one could hardly expect a better speech."

Eksteen congratulated Mugabe on his speech afterwards in the company of Nujoma and Namibian Premier Hage Geingob. "I used the opportunity to inform both presidents and Geingob of the latest release from Robben Island of 31 political prisoners," Eksteen tells the FM. "I said it was evidence of President F W de Klerk's commitment to do what he had undertaken to do."

Eksteen says Mugabe expressed his joy about the latest release and told him that he was impressed with what De Klerk has been doing.

In his speech at a rally in Windhoek, Mugabe said Zimbabwe is impressed by the progress so far made by the SA government in dismantling apartheid, especially the repeal of the Group Areas Act. This will remove one of the major hurdles in the way to the establishment of a free, democratic and nonracial SA, he said.

"We would like to believe that President De Klerk is irrevocably committed to this process," said Mugabe.

He issued a stern warning, however, about the killing among black factions in SA. "We are dismayed at the continuing killing between the black communities in SA. We call upon the leadership to continue to restrain their supporters..."

Mugabe said that with a constitutional conference to be convened soon, "it would be disastrous for the black majority to go into the conference in disarray." Mugabe also referred to the Walvis Bay issue and the calls by the Namibian government that SA hand the harbour town and surrounding islands over to Windhoek. Eksteen tells the FM that despite describing the Walvis negotiations as part of a "critical period" in Namibia's history, Mugabe did not make any demands on SA.

Instead, the Zimbabwean president said: "We are heartened by the fact that your country and the SA authorities have decided to sit down to resolve the existing differences. It is our sincere hope, not only in Zimbabwe, but in the subregion as a whole, that a mutually beneficial agreement will be reached on this thorny issue."

In a message to the Namibian youth (which could easily apply to SA as well), Mugabe urged children to work hard. The opening up of educational opportunities involved a lot of work, he said. "You, therefore, have to show patience and understanding when these facilities are not ready on time or not quite adequate."
Boost for Zim's reform plans

HARARE: Zimbabwe's main newspaper, The Herald, yesterday welcomed the pledges of more than R1 750 million made by donors at last week's conference in Paris to raise funds for Zimbabwe's economic reform programme to give market forces a fair play.

It said the confidence shown by major donors was at least as important as the actual money.
Free market plan is a cornerstone for economic and financial stability. It promotes efficiency and innovation while reducing government intervention. The private sector is given the freedom to make decisions, which ultimately drives economic growth.

The adoption of a free market economy in Zimbabwe has been a complex and controversial issue. There have been debates on the impact it will have on the country's economy, with some arguing that it will bring about significant changes while others believe it will exacerbate existing problems.

Money talks and exchange rates are critical in determining the value of a country's currency. The exchange rate is influenced by various factors, including the demand for a currency, interest rates, and inflation. As Zimbabwe moves towards a more market-oriented economy, these factors will play a crucial role in shaping the country's economic landscape.
HARARE — A prospective British investor has recounted his losing battle with Zimbabwe's bureaucracy, which despite promised economic liberalisation, has defeated his attempts to set up a manufacturing enterprise in the country.

The investor, a Mr. Elliott, says in a letter to the Herald that he was so impressed by a holiday in Zimbabwe in January 1990 that he ignored a local businesswoman's advice, which was: "This is a wonderful place to visit, but you would be a fool to come and work here."

Elliott sold his London business and formed a partnership with three Zimbabweans. After a four-month wait for a work permit, he arrived in Zimbabwe in December, expecting to begin work.

"Since then it has been a nightmare. I cannot believe that a country can be so heavy with bureaucracy, with nobody willing to accept responsibility for anything."

Elliott said he had amassed evidence of "bungling inefficiency" within innumerable government and quasi-government bodies. Most of these bodies seemed to be staffed "by people who are charming, polite, courteous, but completely useless".

Elliott said he admired government efforts to steer Zimbabwe towards an open market economy, "but I fear it will be a very uphill task unless they put considerably more emphasis on the private sector which, generally speaking, seems capable and motivated".

MICHAEL HARTNACK
Belt-tightening in Zimbabwe

By ANDREW MELDREUM, Harare

ZIMBABWE'S structural adjustment is off and running, with some doubts.

Fresh from the Paris conference where Zimbabwe sought international support for its economic reform plan, Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero smiled broadly as he announced that US$700-million had been pledged to fund the structural adjustment plan.

While the amount is just half of the US$1.4-billion that Zimbabwe said it needed for the programme, Chidzero explained that the pledges were to support the first two years of the five-year plan and he expected further assistance would be forthcoming.

"All in all, the Paris meeting met our expectations," said Chidzero, who pointed out that nearly 20 percent of the US$700-million pledged would be in outright grants, while the remainder was in low-interest loans or aid restricted to purchases from a given country. He said that of the US$16-billion needed for the structural changes, US$12.5-billion would be raised in Zimbabwe itself.

The World Bank and the African Development Bank are sending missions to Zimbabwe next month to discuss further support loans worth US$225-million. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) will also send a delegation to Harare next month.

"We are still discussing the nature of assistance the IMF can give," said Chidzero. Zimbabwe is understood to be applying for a special dispensation from the IMF and the World Bank to be re-classified as a low-income economy, which would bring it especially favourable loans.

In fact Zimbabwe's per capita income of US$650 is considerably higher than the $100-480 GNP per capita of the low-income countries. Chidzero and others argue that because the distribution of wealth is so heavily skewed in favour of the whites, who make up less than two percent of the population, the vast majority of Zimbabwe's 10-million people have incomes well below the per capita average.

Chidzero said Zimbabweans would suffer "transitional hardships" as the structural changes were made to the economy. Indeed, with food price rises of nearly 30 percent and annual inflation estimated to go above 25 percent, the average worker on fixed wages is already feeling the pinch.

Times will be even tougher when, according to the plans own estimates, nearly 10,000 Zimbabweans lose their jobs because their employers cannot cope with international competition and 20 percent of the nation's 189,000 civil servants are trimmed from the budget.

Industrialists have welcomed Chidzero's sophisticated economic reforms, but they question whether he will have the political clout to carry through the plan which will undoubtedly bring economic troubles in the next two years to the average supporter of Robert Mugabe's government.

Many sceptical economists and industrialists are watching to see what kind of 1991/92 budget Chidzero will present in July. It will be a major test of whether or not the finance minister can actually reduce the budget deficit.

"If Chidzero is not able to substantially reduce the deficit, it will be a bright red warning light that the government cannot successfully carry that programme through," said a leading industrialist.
Unity

‘Patriotic front’

to be discussed

in historic talks

HARARE — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe will deliver the opening address at the meeting between the ANC and PAC due to start here on Monday morning.

The two-day meeting, to discuss common ground between the ANC and PAC, promises a working unity between the two movements.

Front

It has been suggested that a patriotic front, not dissimilar to the pre-independence Zimbabwean effort under the leadership of Mr Mugabe, be established in the foreseeable future.

During the Rhodesian era, the Patriotic Front galvanised the last phase of dismantling Ian Smith's government.

The meeting between the ANC and PAC will also deal extensively with the demand for a Constituent Assembly.

According to Gora Ibrahim, the PAC's secretary for foreign affairs, his movement had for a while been encouraged by both the Government and the ANC to attend a multiparty conference (MPC), planned for later this year.

But, he said, an MPC was just a clever play by the Government to circumvent the principles contained in the United Nations Declaration of December 1989 and the Harare Declaration.

However, with the ANC increasing its demand for a Constituent Assembly — albeit through an MPC — there had emerged more reason for a united front, or a patriotic front, he added.

- A full PAC (internal) delegation left for Harare from Johannesburg yesterday "very hopeful" of finding common ground with the ANC, reports Thebo Leshtlho.

For the first time since Robert Sebukw and others broke away from the ANC to form the PAC in 1989, the full national executive committee of the two liberation movements are to come together.

Speaking before departing from Jan Smuts Airport, PAC president Clarence Makwetu said exploratory talks between the two organisations had "a long history".

Strategy

The meeting was to be attended by the full external leadership of the PAC, led by first deputy-president Johnson Mambbo.

A patriotic front would enable the two groups to speak with one voice and adopt a common strategy on issues.

Mr Makwetu said Azapo, the exiled Black Consciousness Movement of Azania (BCMA) and the NUM would also be consulted about the PF.

Mr Makwetu said the chances of forming a patriotic front of all of SA's liberation movements were very high.
Unity is the key, insists Mugabe

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe yesterday issued a plea for unity between the ANC and PAC when he opened a two-day conference aimed at healing divisions between the two organisations dating back to 1958.

Mugabe, who is understood to have played a key role in setting up the meeting, said the organisations should recognise that the most potent weapon in the liberation struggle was unity.

In what conference sources saw as a reference to the two organisations possibly joining forces in township “self-defence committees”, PAC president Clarence Maketu said the closed session talks would include an attempt to “identify the causes and isolate the perpetrators of violence in our country.

“We are optimistic that the formation of a principled, democratic front will assist towards minimising the violence,” Maketu said at an emotional opening session.

Observers were also intrigued by Maketu’s remarks on the possibility of joining talks with President F W de Klerk, previously denounced by the PAC as a “beachmark”.

To Page 2

Unity

trayal of the struggle.

“The PAC formally rejects the regime’s strategy of wanting to engage us in bilateral talks,” said Maketu, using the qualification “bilateral” for the first time here.

But by going on to say that “the people should talk with one voice”, he appeared to suggest the PAC might come into the process under the “national front” proposed by Mugabe.

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela urged both organisations to put aside the exaggerated counter-claims which have characterised past backbiting between them.

Mandela stressed ANC-PAC unanimity on the need for immediate one-person-one-vote elections for a constituent assembly, which would draw up SA’s first majority rule constitution.

Mugabe roused interest with his earlier remark that although a constituent assembly was “undoubtedly the most attractive transitional strategy towards a democratic SA, we encourage... all possible options, which may in the long run achieve the same results, be explored”.

“In the interests of peace we are willing to make reasonable compromises,” said Mandela. But he could not countenance a “Lancaster House” compromise, such as existed in Zimbabwe from 1980 to 1987, in which specific racial groups had reserved, entrenched representation.

Comment: Page 6
BAMING faces emerged from a closed session of the ANC and PAC held in Harare this week.

They belonged to men once political poles apart but who now say they have a common approach in viewing a constituent assembly as the "only mechanism through which South African society could be made democratic."

Senior officials of Zimbabwe's Ruling Zanu (PF) - which sponsored the two-day meeting of the ANC and PAC's national executives - described the historic indaba as a "miracle."

But sources in Harare said that while Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe viewed the constituent assembly idea as a first prize, he said clearly in his opening speech that Zimbabwe would also encourage all possible options which, in the long run, achieved the same results.

The results needed are quite obviously the total eradication of apartheid, one man, one vote, and the emergence of a truly democratic system of government.

Just how successful the talks were remains to be seen, but spokesmen for the ANC and PAC painted a pretty enough picture.

Total agreement had been reached on the need for a constituent assembly and the most positive result of the Harare talks was the decision to call an all-party conference in Cape Town in August or September to create a coalition.

The PAC's second vice president, Dikgang Mosekoe, diplomatically told reporters at a final news briefing that all organisations with a minimum basic demand of a constituent assembly would be invited.

Overtures would also be made to organisations not yet committed.

"The constituent assembly is the only mechanism through which our society can genuinely be democratised," said the ANC's director of information and publicity, Pallo Jordan.

The meeting rejected the South African Government's multi-party formula which it had advanced as a substitute for a constituent assembly.

There was agreement that there would be no engagement with the South African Government on the modalities for a constituent assembly until it released all political prisoners, allowed all exiles to return home, and met all the other demands of the now well-thumbed UN Consensus Declaration of 1989.

The joint communiqué referred to the unprecedented rise in mass violence in South Africa and put the blame on the apartheid system and Pretoria's use of special "anti-insurgency units" such as the CCB, koevoet, 32 Battalion and other groupings.

Both the PAC and the ANC called for the "verifiable" disbanding of all death squads and, at the same time, were given the task of speedily isolating these among their ranks who indulge in attacks on supporters of other political groups.

The Harare meeting came at a time when the European Economic Community (EEC) took another step towards dismantling sanctions against South Africa.

The communiqué described the lifting of EEC sanctions as a "premature" move which could seriously undermine the fight against apartheid.

As far as the ANC and PAC are concerned, irreversible change has not yet taken place.
Senior Stats adviser talks to Mugabe

HARARE (Reuters) - Desmond Krogh, senior adviser to the South African Reserve Bank governor, held a meeting with Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe yesterday.

Krogh is in Harare to attend the Institute of Directors meeting which began yesterday.

The Zimbabwean news agency, Zimpapers, said Krogh told Mugabe that South Africa was working on future cooperation with other African countries.

He said the implementation of trade liberalisation and structural adjustment in Zimbabwe had impressed South African officials.

"Structural adjustment and trade liberalisation will open up trade cooperation between Zimbabwe and South Africa," he said.

There were also prospects for cooperation between the SA Reserve Bank and the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, he said.
Banking on closer ties with Zimbabwe

Star Africa Service

HARARE — A significant shift towards closer relations between Zimbabwe and South Africa took place yesterday with a call on President Mugabe by Dr Desmond Krog, a senior adviser to the Governor of the South African Reserve Bank.

Dr Krog, in Harare for a meeting of the Institute of Directors to discuss the challenges facing Southern Africa this decade, told reporters that South Africa was working on the prospects for future co-operation with other African countries.

Already there were some areas of co-operation between Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Zimbabwe’s economic reform programme would open up trade co-operation between Zimbabwe and post-apartheid South Africa, he said.

Zimbabwe broke diplomatic relations with South Africa after independence in 1980 but the two countries maintained trade missions in each other’s territories.

The missions also handle consular matters.

Mr Mugabe has maintained that there should be no political links.

The meeting between Dr Krog and President Mugabe was described by the Zimbabwe national news agency as the first between an official link to the white minority regime and the Zimbabwean president.

Dr Krog said there were prospects of co-operation between the reserve banks of South Africa and Zimbabwe which would be positive for both countries.

The two neighbours were exploring ways of working closely together in their mutual economic interests.

Dr Krog served with the Reserve Bank of Rhodesia in the 1970s and stayed on with the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe until 1983.
Basic food prices rise sharply in Zimbabwe

HARARE—Steep increases in the price of basic foodstuffs in Zimbabwe were announced yesterday as the Government acted to restore confidence in the farming industry. (24-2)

Mealie meal, the staple diet, goes up by 30 percent and will now cost the consumer the equivalent of nearly R2 for 50 kg instead of R1.50.

Producers have been given a 20 percent increase in an attempt to boost production.

Consumers will pay 69c for a loaf of bread. (24-2)

The inflation rate has been estimated at nearly 50 percent.

— Africa News Service
Support for trading bloc

HARARE — Backing for a "state of Directors convenci
a regional trading bloc with option Berelings this ween on
southern Africa, came from the post-apartheid era.

today from Zimbabwe. The paper said such a
main newspapers. The bloc, based on mutual
Herald, which endorsed trust, would create a
the support given by top businessmen at the Insti-
Africa News Service.
Paper backs trade idea

NEW YORK - The New York Times, one of the keenest - and often most intemperate - critics of South Africa in the United States has called for a new shifting of the goalposts when US sanctions are lifted.

In an editorial yesterday the newspaper urged Washington policymakers to preserve US leverage "even as sanctions phase out" by continuing to insist that the International Monetary Fund deny loans to South Africa.

Recognising that by next month South Africa will "probably" have complied with the minimum conditions for lifting sanctions as set out in the anti-apartheid legislation adopted by Congress in 1986, the paper asked:

"What then? Should Americans declare victory and embrace Pretoria as a penitent prodigal?"

SA critic urges IMF squeeze

Not quite, said the paper, answering its own question.

Eliminating repressive racial laws is only part of the job. Still ahead is the task of writing a new constitution that respects democratic rights of all South Africans.

The paper added: "This does not mean that Washington should defer lifting sanctions when stipulated conditions have been met. But it should not abandon other forms of leverage until the job is done."

Criminals paraded

BEIJING - Authorities in Lhasa paraded 44 criminals before a public rally as part of a crackdown on crime before the 40th anniversary of Chinese communist rule over Tibet, a local newspaper said.

"Our public security officers will work tirelessly to ensure the anniversary celebrations go smoothly in a good social environment," the Tibet Daily from April 15, soon in Beijing yesterday, quoted a police official as saying. - Sapa-Reuters.
Zimbabweans told "Socialism can't work, only way to reform," says Minister
anarchy.

of moral

warns
‘Youth sees violence as a right’

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s Education Minister Fay Chung last week said some young Zimbabweans considered violence and destruction to be their democratic right.

Referring to recent violence at secondary schools, Minister Chung said the worst wave occurred at the Dadaya High School where property worth R4,3 million was destroyed.

Ms Chung, who was addressing a two-day meeting of Catholic school headmasters in Harare, said when secondary schools increased from 177 at independence to the present 1,600, there was no administrative machinery to handle the workload.

She said only 39,000 blacks were allowed to sit for O-levels between 1958 and 1977, but that about 300,000 candidates sat for O-levels last year.

The opening up of educational opportunities, the ending of racial discrimination and the implementation of democracy led to a certain euphoria.

“What has ended this has been the unemployment of thousands of school-leavers, many of them with excellent records.” — Sapa.
Bulawayo facing water shortage

BULAWAYO—South African civil engineering concerns may have to be called in to save Zimbabwe’s second largest city, Bulawayo, from dying from lack of water.

This view, expressed by John Petrich, a former water engineer for the city, has gained ground among concerned businessmen who fear that delays in augmenting the city’s water supply could prove fatal.

Bulawayo is already rationing water and the city council has warned that water stored in the council’s dams cannot be guaranteed to last much beyond the end of this year.

There are proposals to build two more dams, but these schemes would take between 18 and 30 months to complete.
SA 'agents' ask ANC for help

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Five convicted South African agents have appealed to the ANC to help secure their release from prison in Zimbabwe in terms of the release of political prisoners under way in South Africa.

In a statement, they asked the ANC to give the matter immediate attention “as an act of good faith” during the process of reconciliation.

They said their alleged offences, which are the subject of appeal, were of a purely political nature in that they were allegedly undertaken against the ANC.

The men are Kevin Woods, Michael Smith and Philip Conway, all sentenced to death for the murder of a man in a car-bomb explosion in 1985; Barry Bawden, serving 40 years for the bombing of ANC properties, and Denis Beahan, who was sentenced to life imprisonment for an attempt to spring the agents from jail in 1988.

They hold Zimbabwean or British citizenship.
Students on boycott praised for discipline

Star Africa Service

HARARE: Students at the University of Zimbabwe whose boycott of lectures enters its third week today have been praised for their discipline by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace.

The commission appealed to the government to reopen channels of communication with the university, whose staff and students are opposed to legislation which has given the government new powers to be involved in the running of the university.

The Catholic body said however undesirable the protest might be in the eyes of the authorities, the students had chosen a peaceful course and had refused to resort to violence.

At the weekend the Minister of Higher Education, David Chidadzira, urged individuals, students who wanted to continue with their studies to break the boycott.
Zimbabwe pushes for its man to head world body

The UN Security Council is probating on a successor to Javier P业务, writes Michael Livingston.
Lecture boycott may force varsity closure

HARARE. - The Zimbabwe government has threatened to close down the University of Zimbabwe if students continue a lecture boycott, now into its 17th day.

The Herald, Zimbabwe’s main daily newspaper, on Wednesday quoted a statement by the Minister of Higher Education saying students had until yesterday to return to class, “failing which the University of Zimbabwe will have to close.”

No hesitation

“Government will not hesitate to take such privileges from those who abuse them, and offer them to those who will take full advantage of them,” the statement said, and noted that when it had screened applications for entrance at the university this year there were another 7,000 applicants who qualified but were not admitted because there was not enough room for them at the institution.

The university presently had an enrolment of about 10,000 students.

The tough new stance from the government came after student leaders refused an offer, mediated by former State President the Rev Canaan Banana, to meet them to discuss their grievances but only after they returned to classes. - Sapa.
Harare students call off boycott

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE — Hours before a secret ballot was to be held to determine the views of students at the University of Zimbabwe on the three-week-old boycott of lectures, the Students Representative Council called off the strike.

The council called on all students to go back to classes today but gave no reason for its last minute instruction.

It was apparent, at a rowdy meeting last week, that there was a considerable body of students who favoured a return to work. The SRC maintained that the majority wanted the boycott to continue.

The University Council, the supreme body, urged the government to defer its decision to close the university until after a secret ballot and this was agreed.

At the weekend the deans appealed to the students to return, saying the threat of government intervention was real, while a return to classes would enable negotiations to take place.

The boycott was in protest against two laws which give the government control of the university through its nominated members on the council and which give the vice-chancellor wide disciplinary powers.

The deans said the boycott had had the sympathy of the whole university community.
Zimbabwe halts issuing of passports

HARARE - Zimbabwe’s registrar-general’s office has stopped issuing new passports, apparently to allow the processing office to catch up with an enormous backlog stemming from an unprecedented demand from Zimbabweans wanting to travel abroad, mostly to SA.

Registrar-General Tsvangira Musende on Friday refused to give any explanation, but since Wednesday the passport office has turned away hundreds of applicants.

The demand is believed to stem from what has developed into a mini-industry, as thousands of black Zimbabweans, mostly women, swarm across the border at Beit Bridge for the hypermarkets of the Transvaal, returning laden with flashy hi-tech goods for resale at home at exorbitant prices.

It takes at least two hours to pass through the border post, congested with women stepping off buses, many of them scarcely literate and taking hours filling in customs and immigration forms, and arguing with customs officials over the value of the goods.

Last week, Nico Nel of the South African trade mission said he would issue multiple-entry visas, valid for a year, to “bona fide businessmen and women”. — Sapa.
Zimbabwe students call off three-week lectures boycott

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

BARARE - Hours before a secret ballot to determine the views of students at the University of Zimbabwe on the three-week-old boycott of lectures, the Students Representative Council called off the strike.

The council called on all students to go back to classes today but gave no reason for its last-minute instruction.

It was apparent at a rowdy meeting last week that there was considerable body of students who favoured a return to work but the SRC maintained that the majority wanted the boycott to continue.

The University Council, the supreme body, urged the government to defer its decision to close the university until after a secret ballot and this was agreed.

At the weekend the deans appealed to the students to return, saying the threat of government intervention was real, while a return to classes would enable negotiations to take place.

The boycott was in protest against two laws which give the government control of the university.

State Security Minister Dr Sidney Sekeramayi has blamed some staff members for poisoning the minds of students.
Zimbabwe to adjust dollar in aid of economic reform

VICTORIA FALLS — Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank plans to adjust the dollar's exchange rate in support of the country's five-year economic reform programme, said bank deputy governor Richard Wilde.

"The ultimate aim is to have an exchange rate compatible with an end to foreign currency rationing," he said on Friday. "The exchange rate will be managed in a flexible manner to support the ongoing process of the reform programme." 

Wilde was in Victoria Falls for the annual congress of the National Chamber of Commerce.

He added in his capacity of director of the new Zimbabwe Investment Centre, and emphasised the need for local and foreign investment for the success of the economic reform plan.

Wilde said there were no plans to change the mechanism of Zimbabwe's exchange rate system, in which the dollar is set against a trade-related basket of about 15 currencies.

Before the country's last major devaluation in 1982, the exchange rate was set against a transaction-related basket of currencies in which the US dollar weighed heavily.

He declined to name the precise currencies or give their relative weights in the basket but said the currencies of Zimbabwe's major trading-partners carried the most weight.

The Zimbabwe dollar, currently selling at 0,3337 against the US dollar and at 0,3431 against the South African rand, has been generally weaker against the US currency but firmer against the rand in the last six months. 

Sapa-Reuters
SA eases curbs on Zimbabwe business visits

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE - Zimbabwean businessmen will welcome the easing of visa restrictions for visits. Such a move was announced by the South African Trade Mission.

From June 1, businessmen visiting South Africa will be able to do so on a multiple entry visa valid for a year instead of having to apply ahead of each trip. There will be no charge for the multiple entry visa.

In spite of the fact that Zimbabwe charges for visas for South Africans coming here, the Trade Mission head Mr Nico Nel said the move would lead to a freer flow of goods, services and people and was in line with President de Klerk's view of greater co-operation in Southern Africa.

It would also support Zimbabwe's trade liberalisation programme and will benefit businessmen going south to buy goods and Zimbabwean exporters selling products in South Africa.

Trade between the two countries last year was valued at R1 000 million.
Mengistu said to be in Harare

By Robin Drew
Star Foreign Service

HARARE — A cloak of secrecy was thrown over the arrival in Harare shortly before midnight last night of a man presumed to be Mengistu Haile Mariam, the former Ethiopian leader who was forced out of office earlier in the day.

Reporters who kept vigil at Harare International Airport were locked in the airport building to prevent them watching the arrival of a four-engined jet which touched down less than an hour after President Robert Mugabe had flown out to London to see the British Prime Minister, John Major.

No explanation was given for the stringent security precautions. But an airport employee whispered "It was Mengistu" as cars which had been drawn up in front of the terminal building sped away.

Another man said the main figure was dressed in combat fatigues and appeared to be close to tears.

The Ethiopian ambassador to Zimbabwe, Aserat Wolde, was at the airport but denied he had come to meet Colonel Mengistu. He said he was there to see Mr Mugabe off but there was a noticeable absence of other diplomats except for the dean of the diplomatic corps, Ali Hallal, the Palestinian envoy.

It was reported earlier that Mengistu's wife had arrived on a scheduled Ethiopian Airlines plane. Security officials confiscated film from news photographers.

It is possible that one reason for the elaborate secrecy is the concern that Ethiopian exiles here could pose a threat to the former leader who has long been regarded as a ruthless ruler with scant regard for human rights.
Missing Mengistu expected to surface in Zimbabwe

ADDIS ABABA — Ethiopia's President Mengistu Haile Mariam, under severe pressure from northern rebel groups, has fled the country, Ethiopian state radio said yesterday.

The radio said Vice-President Tesfaye Gabre Kidan had taken over as acting head of state.

Western diplomats said earlier that Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka summoned Western ambassadors in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa on Tuesday morning to say Mengistu had gone.

Mengistu had been in power since 1977.

One possible refuge mentioned for Mengistu was Zimbabwe, where he is reported to own a ranch.

In Harare, official sources said: "There are indications he may be coming."

Diplomats said Mengistu, a close friend of Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe, was believed to have sent members of his family to Zimbabwe last month as rebels tightened their grip around Addis Ababa.

This was denied by the Ethiopian embassy in Harare at the time.

He met Zimbabwean Justice Minister Emerson Mnangagwa in Addis Ababa on Monday. — Sapa-Reuters.
Mengistu is in Harare - claim

HARARE - Ousted Ethiopian president Mengistu Haile Mariam flew to Zimbabwe late on Tuesday night where he was expected to seek sanctuary, official sources said.

He fled Ethiopia to Kenya on Tuesday after 14 years in power, with rebel groups advancing on the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

Officials said Mengistu arrived at Harare airport wearing a green military uniform shortly before midnight.

"He was looking grim and was quickly driven away by some Ethiopian embassy officials and local security agents," said one official.

He touched down shortly after Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe left for London.

Mengistu was met by Ethiopia's ambassador to Harare, Asrat Wolde, but no senior Zimbabwean officials were present.

The Zimbabwean government has not commented on Mengistu's arrival. Sources said he was immediately driven to a farm 50km northeast of Harare.

The former president's wife, Web Anchi, arrived in Harare on Tuesday afternoon.

A report from Addis Ababa said Zimbabwean Justice Minister Emerson Mnangagwa met Mengistu in Ethiopia on Monday and was believed to have passed on a message from Mugabe.

Diplomats said the deposed Ethiopian ruler was a close friend of Mugabe. - Sapa-Reuters
In new Zimbabwe
Peace, unambiguity
real Whispers
speech of the

By David Hennessey
In New Zimbabwe
Peace, Tranquility

By David Witters
Mengistu seeks asylum

HARARE - Ousted Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam has taken refuge on a farm he owns near Zimbabwe's capital and official sources said yesterday he was likely to seek political asylum.

Official and diplomatic sources said it was "almost definite" the government would grant asylum to Mr. Mengistu, who fled Ethiopia on Tuesday after 14 years in power.

"You can say it is almost definite: the man is here today," said one official in Harare. "He has been preparing to come for sometime now.

Mr. Mengistu, in a military helicopter, arrived at Harare airport on Tuesday. He stood defiantly behind a jet shortly before midnight on Tuesday, an hour after his close friend, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, left for a visit to Britain.

He was looking grim and was quickly driven away by some Ethiopian embassy officials and local security agents," said an airport official. He was later seen crying, another official said.

Mengistu's uncle, Mr. Mengistu Asrat Wolde, is reported to be Mr. Mengistu's uncle - for a long discussion before leaving for London.

Mr. Mengistu and Mr. Mugabe became close friends in the late 1970s when the Ethiopian strongman trained Mr. Mugabe's guerillas to fight for Zimbabwe's independence.

They are both Marxist ideologues. Mr. Mugabe is rhetorical but pragmatic in practice while Mr. Mengistu is the classic hardliner. But they drink from a common fountain," said one source.

The government has not commented on Mr. Mengistu's arrival. The country's semi-official daily newspaper, prominently covered his departure from Zimbabwe without comment.

"We will talk when we have to," a senior government official said.

Official sources, however, said Mr. Mengistu was driven immediately on arrival to the farm he owns 30 km north-west of Harare.

Ethiopian exile sources said Mr. Mengistu, who rose to power after the 1974 overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie, lived with an iron fist, owned the farm in Norton district.

Mr. Mengistu's wife, Dr. Abeba, said the Zimbabwean Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa met Mr. Mengistu in the Ethiopian capital on Monday and was believed to have passed on a message from Mr. Mugabe.

Mr. Mengistu stepped down from office on Tuesday as rebels fighting for political autonomy and democracy advanced on Addis Ababa from several fronts, -- Sapa-Reuters.

The Star Africa Service reports from Harare that one view being expressed in local circles is that by agreeing to give Mr. Mengistu asylum, Zimbabwe is assisting in the peace process in Ethiopia by giving peace talks a better chance of succeeding with the former president out of the way.

Britain and America have encouraged this approach, it is understood.
Ruling Party Reminds Government of Its Supremacy
Why did he head for Zimbabwe?

Graham Timsic looks at the plight of Ethiopia's former stronghold.

What could more accurately
describe the situation?

A high price for decadence. And now hovering over the scene of the crime, or copy of the colonial record:

362
HARARE — Self-exiled Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam will be allowed to stay in Zimbabwe, President Mugabe said yesterday.

Colonel Mengistu arrived here secretly on Tuesday night and has been in hiding since then with no official acknowledgment that he was here.

However, Mr Mugabe, confirming his presence, said: "It appears he resigned by agreement and with the consent of his colleagues. If he wants shelter we will provide it if it will provide stability in Ethiopia."

There has been no word of the fate of the Ethiopian ambassador in Zimbabwe, Asrat Wolde, an uncle of Colonel Mengistu, who has been sacked according to Ethiopian Radio, because he was at the airport to welcome his nephew.

The radio said Colonel Mengistu fled his country after pretending that he was going on a flight to visit troops away from the capital. Once in the air, the aircraft changed course.

His wife and daughter arrived here ahead of him.

Rebels' move awaited

— Page 4.
Mengistu keeps a low profile as he jets into Zimbabwe

By ANDREW MEIYUM, Harare

IT WAS midnight on Wednesday and the Harare airport runway was dark and deserted, except for a Mercedes parked on the tarmac. A four-engined jet, with no markings visible in the gloom, landed and taxied toward the Mercedes.

Just then, Zimbabwean security officers armed with AK rifles briskly herded the 15 or so jourmalists into the airport lobby and locked the doors. No one could see out to the runway for several minutes until the Mercedes, identified by its license plates as the Ethiopian embassy’s, sped off followed by a station wagon.

Ethiopia’s feared ex-ruler, Mengistu Haile Mariam, had arrived in Zimbabwe to begin a life of exile...

“Hi, it’s Mengistu,” an airport official whispered. Mengistu was wearing green fatigues and looked close to tears, he said. Mysterious and substutgued were the arrival of the former strongman of East Africa, in stark contrast to the pomp and ceremony which greeted him when he came here as head of state. Fleeing his war-wrecked, famine-stricken country, Mengistu could hardly hope for a more effusive welcome.

Clearly the Ethiopian leader is expected to keep a very low, even invisible profile, if he intends to stay in Zimbabwe.

Privately, government officials have suggested that Mengistu may well settle here. But just to make sure that Zimbabwe’s new guest does not become controversial, it is virtually certain that Mengistu’s sanctuary here would be on terms of strict avoidance of any political or public activity.

Apparently the Ethiopian leader has been planning his departure to Zimbabwe for some time as his wife, ‘Wab-anchi Beshaw’, has been in Zimbabwe for two months, according to members of Zimbabwe’s Ethiopian community.
Zimbabwe Pows out in Socialism

WILLIAM DE LANGE
Zimbabwe upbeat on mining

HARARE — Zimbabwe would be well placed under its trade liberalisation programme to compete with post-apartheid SA for international mining investment, Zimbabwe Chamber of Mines retiring president Elias Ngagama said yesterday.

Before the chamber's annual meeting, Ngagama said Zimbabwe's advantage was that its mining unit costs were lower than SA's. Chamber of Mines CE Derek Bain said while R1bn to R2bn was needed to open a new Rand gold mine, R1bn would suffice for a venture in Zimbabwe.

Ngagama regretted that the issue of land reform in Zimbabwe had "not been handled properly", with amendment of the constitution to permit nationalisation of property without right of appeal to the courts.

He did not believe Zimbabwe would destroy its food self-sufficiency or victimise white Zimbabwean farmers when implementing a land redistribution programme.

He believed Zimbabwe remained "more British than the British" in providing a secure environment for the investor.

Welcoming government's moves towards economic liberalisation, Ngagama said the mining industry was already feeling the benefits of increased forex for inputs.

Ngagama said Zimbabwe's miners planned a strong exploration programme, with projects afoot for zinc, lead and platinum group metals in the hope of expanding the industry's 96 000 workforce from the 1.3-million pool of unemployed.

Sustenance

He said no firm plan had been formulated by mining industry, environmentalists or the Reserve Bank to solve the problem of the 50 000 illegal gold panners whose excavations were devastating river systems and encouraging an international smuggling racket in raw gold.

"We have to realise they have no other means of sustenance," Ngagama said the future of the government Miners' Marketing Corporation (MMCZ) lay in its ability to market Zimbabwe's minerals with new strategies. Mining chiefs have claimed the MMCZ imposes a costly and inefficient bureaucracy on the industry. However, Ngagama hinted that miners had to accept the MMCZ as a political fact of life.

Zimbabwe remained dependent on exporting its base mineral output through SA ports as international insurers refused to underwrite shipments on the newly reopened Chincalacuila line to Maputo.

Fear of Renamo ambushes and doubts about Mozambican ports' ability to synchronise loading operations left Zimbabwean miners largely reliant on the harbours of Port Elizabeth, East London, and Durban.

Maputo was potentially the most economic port for Zimbabwean products such as ferrochrome and asbestos, and trial shipments were being sent through Beira.

Ngagama said Zimbabwe also relied on SA sources for most of its 40% foreign-sourced mining inputs.
Prisoners take hostages

ELMIRA - State police fire teargas into a maximum-security New York prison after inmates took seven guards hostage, witnesses said.

The inmates released two badly beaten captives several hours after they were seized in the Southport Correctional Facility in Pine City, New York.

Reporters at the prison saw at least one hostage on the roof of the prison stripped naked, with a bag covering his head. Other hooded captives were also reportedly seen naked inside the jail, forced to lie down on the ground.

Authorities said the prisoners were asking for more visitation rights and better medical care at the so-called "maxi-maxi" prison which holds some 800 inmates, including convicts who have killed other inmates, attacked guards or sold drugs while behind bars.

Prison authorities said 53 inmates took control of the facility, located 200 miles northwest of New York City, on Tuesday morning. - Sapa-Reuters.

Ceasefire aids Zim's security

HARARE - The security situation along Zimbabwe's eastern border has improved since the signing of the partial ceasefire in Mozambique, but the concept of consolidated villages should not be abandoned, the government said.

Zimbabwe security minister Dr Sidney Sekeramayi said that since June 1987, Renamo bandits had killed 510 civilians, abducted 894 and wounded 391.

The village programme, similar to that in force during the Rhodesian war to protect the population, was introduced in 1989 to make it easier for the security forces to provide protection.

It had worked successfully in some areas but run into difficulties elsewhere.

But the government felt it was worth continuing with the programme because it was a sound development concept.

Soviet correspondent
Ruling will hit trade

HARARE - A sharp drop in the number of Zimbabweans visiting South Africa is expected after the government's decision to suspend the issue of new passports.

The South African Trade Mission, which is besieged every day by hundreds of applicants for visas, was issuing them at a rate which would have meant 270,000 visas this year. But a spokesman said the suspension was bound to mean a drop in time.

The government gave no explanation for the suspension except to say the passport office could not cope with the demand.

Thousands of Zimbabweans, mainly women, visit South Africa to buy goods for resale here in a flourishing cross-border informal trade.

Holiday allowances are used to buy goods not available here.

There is speculation in diplomatic circles that the decision to suspend the issue of new passports was taken to enable investigations to be undertaken into allegations of a passport racket.

Zimbabwe's main newspaper, The Herald, today slams the action to suspend the issue of passports and says the decision deserves utter condemnation and will create more problems.

The paper demands an explanation and suggests there has been a massive passport fraud involving foreign exchange.
Zimbabwe passport freeze ‘will end in July’

HARARE - The Zimbabwe government will start issuing passports again in July when it has more funds allocated to it in the new financial year.

This was revealed by Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi after the outcry that followed the bald announcement that no new passports would be issued until further notice.

He said there was nothing sinister in the move. The passport office had been allocated funds to issue 90,000 passports a year, but the demand had been higher. The suspension would also enable the staff to tackle the huge backlog.

Mr Mahachi denied allegations that a passport racket had led to the suspension, and repeated that emergency applications would still be considered. — Africa News Service.
NYANGA, Zimbabwe

— Zimbabwe’s mining industry needs investment of about US$300m to bring it into a modern state, new Chamber of Mines president Rodney Banks said at the weekend.

This was the amount needed to upgrade equipment to improve production and efficiency and make the industry fully competitive on the world market, he said.

Banks, MD of Union Carbide Zimbabwe Ltd, said about half the needed sum was being made available under a US$150m loan facility recently negotiated with European banks.

A new government scheme allowing exporters to retain 3% of foreign exchange earnings and foreign currency allocations by the government.

“We are undercapitalised by about $150m dollars at a rough estimate,” he said.

Banks said the mining industry was looking for investment of about Z$2bn ($600m) for new projects.

The mining industry is a key sector in Zimbabwe’s new export-driven, five-year economic reform programme, with mining producing nearly 40% of the country’s foreign exchange earnings.

Asked about the prospects for raising investment funds, Banks said: “It’s not going to be plain sailing... but I think the more we show positive performance with industry and government, we’ll raise it.”

Mines Minister Chris Andersen said use of funds now available should generate further production, exports and earnings, raising the needed supplementary finance.
Zimbabwe mines need $300m

NYANGA — Zimbabwe’s mining industry needs investment of about US$300m to bring it into a modern state, new Chamber of Mines president Rodney Banks said on Friday.

This was the amount needed to update equipment, to improve production and efficiency and to make the industry fully competitive on world markets, he told Reuters in an interview.

Banks, Union Carbide Zimbabwe Ltd MD, said part of the required sum was being made available under a US$75m loan facility recently negotiated with European banks, a new government scheme allowing exporters to retain 5% of foreign exchange earnings and foreign currency allocations by the government.

“We are under-capitalised by about $150m at a rough estimate.”

Banks said the mining industry was looking for investment of about US$600m for new projects, including development of platinum-related metals.

The mining industry is a key sector

In Zimbabwe’s new export-driven, five-year, economic reform programme, with mining producing nearly 45% of the country’s foreign exchange earnings.

Asked about the prospects for raising investment funds, Banks said: “It’s not going to be plain sailing ... but I think the more we show positive performance with industry and government, we’ll raise it.”

Minister Chris Andersen echoed Banks’ optimism.

He said the utilisation by the mining industry of funds now available should generate further production, exports and earnings, raising the needed supplementary finance.

Asked about ministry figures which showed production declining for a number of minerals, while profit was rising because of a decline in the value of the Zimbabwe dollar, Andersen told Reuters this was of considerable concern.

“This is why we are trying to stimulate increased production,” he said.

But he was optimistic about the industry’s future. “I would say the feeling is fairly bullish,” he said.

In his speech on Friday to the Chamber of Mines AGM, the minister noted domestic and foreign applications for exclusive property orders (EPOs) for exploration rose to 54 in 1990 from 10 the previous year.

“The increased thrust in mineral exploration should be reflected in the development of new mines in the not too distant future,” he said.

To enhance the monitoring system, a set of new guidelines on EPO reporting would be issued to all EPO holders, he said.

“Current indications are that the mining industry’s output for the past year was again good at US$447m compared with US$396m in 1989,” he said.

He said the increase in gold production last year to 16.5 tons from 16.1 in 1989 was of particular significance.

— Sapa-Reuters.
Third World policies take a knock
Mugabe, Mandela differ over sanctions

By Barney Mthombathi
Star Africa Service

ABUJA (Nigeria) — Serious differences between Nelson Mandela and Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe have arisen here over an ANC document arguing the case for a progressive lifting of sanctions on South Africa.

The five-page document, circulated privately to "sympathetic" delegates at the OAU summit, suggests "sanctions will ... be lifted in step with changes".

Publicly, the ANC is still committed to the maintenance of sanctions, with Mr Mandela chiding those African countries involved "in a headlong rush" to normalise relations with South Africa.

But privately certain senior ANC officials have been arguing for a mechanism to enable them to control or manage the lifting of sanctions.

The document is understood to have been compiled principally by Thabo Mbeki and close advisers.

Mr Mbeki gave the document to some Foreign Ministers in Abuja a week ago. It was discussed at the pre-summit meeting of the Frontline states on Sunday and led to the clash between Mr Mandela and Mr Mugabe, who expressed surprise the ANC was pushing for lifting sanctions.

Stages

Mr Mugabe told the meeting his country was committed to sanctions and that was the line he was going to take at the Commonwealth meeting in Harare in October.

The document recommends a three-stage approach to the lifting of sanctions.

The first stage involves the removal of obstacles to negotiations. These are enunciated as the release of political prisoners and the agreement among all parties, including Government, to end violence.

Once the Government has satisfied these measures, air links and tourism would be allowed, and cultural and sports boycotts would be removed.

The second phase involves the SA Government agreeing to an intermin government.

Once this has been achieved, economic boycotts and sanctions and trade and investments allowed.

The third and last phase, the establishment of a democratic government, would lead to the removal of the arms and oil embargoes and restrictions on computers, technology and scientific exchanges.

The document calls on the OAU to establish a mechanism for the "detailed and continuous monitoring" of the process of change.
Pro-sanctions Harare seeks new SA trade pact

HARARE — There was an embarrassed silence yesterday from Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's government over SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha's claim that it was asking for "most favoured nation" status in a renewed trade pact with Pretoria.

Botha said in a BBC interview monitored here yesterday that on the same day Mugabe put his militantly resolution on sanctions before the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Abuja, Zimbabwe approached Pretoria to renegotiate the 1964 trade agreement "inherited from Ian Smith's Rhodesian government.

Confusing that the approach was made by the Zimbabwean Industry and Commerce Ministry on May 30, business sources in Harare said Zimbabwean industrialists were anxious to see the 1964 agreement "updated.

Some tariffs rebated scales had been rendered unrealistic by inflation, and new commodities needed to be included.

Trade between Zimbabwe and SA last year topped R1bn with SA remaining by far the most profitable market for Zimbabwean exports, although Britain and Germany edged it into third place as a source of imports.

SA's recently streamlined visa procedures for Zimbabwean businessmen in a goodwill gesture towards Zimbabwe's "economic liberalisation" drive. Nevertheless, black-market "shoppers" yesterday maintained the customary 200m queue for visas on the pavement outside the SA trade mission in Harare.

Observers here are dismayed that Mugabe chose to take the lead at Abuja in putting pressure on countries such as Madagascar, Kenya and Zambia, which are on the point of opening SA missions, when Zimbabwe itself has a long established and obviously thriving SA presence.

**Export**

Written requests for comment on Botha's remarks were made to Mugabe's office, to the Zimbabwean Foreign Affairs Ministry, and to the Industry and Commerce Ministry. There was no response.

The 1964 trade agreement, repromulgated for the first time in a Zimbabwean government notice in 1982, specifically uses the term "most favoured nation" in referring to tariff rates the two countries will apply to a schedule of each other's exports.

Zimbabwean textiles are a particularly important export directed at the SA market, but... .

Mugabe's militantly resolution on continued isolation of SA was, in the event, toned down by his Nigerian host.
Zim asks for new trade deal with SA

HARARE. — Zimbabwe has formally requested a revision of the 27-year trade agreement with South Africa, official sources confirmed yesterday.

The request for a change to the agreement was presented by the Zimbabwe Ministry of Industry and Commerce to the South African Trade Mission here on May 29, they said.

The agreement provides for low import tariffs on goods moving between the two countries, conferring "most favoured nation" status on each partner.

The sources were confirming a claim by South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha, broadcast by the BBC on Thursday, that the request coincided with the submission by the Zimbabwe delegation at the Organisation of African Unity summit in Abuja.

Nigeria, of a hardline draft calling for the maintenance of sanctions against South Africa.

The draft also slated unnamed African countries for proposing that sanctions were no longer effective and should be lifted. It was significantly weakened when it was passed in the summit’s plenary session.

The agreement was first implemented between South Africa and the Rhodesian government in 1964, and renegotiated without amendment with the Zimbabwe government in 1982.

Observers here are dismayed that Mr Mugabe chose to take the lead at the OAU summit in putting pressure on countries such as Madagascar, Kenya and Zambia, which are on the point of opening South African missions, when Zimbabwe itself has a long-established and obviously thriving South African presence. — Sapa
Zimbabwe arrests 'SA spies'

From ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE—Zimbabwe says it has arrested South African agents who were caught carrying out espionage and reconnaissance activities early this year.

In its main story today, the Herald quotes the Minister of State for National Security, Dr Sydney Sekeramayi, as saying an undisclosed number of men were being held for questioning.

It did not explain under what law the men were being held as Zimbabwe ended its longstanding state of emergency last year in terms of which people could be held without trial.

The report said Dr Sekeramayi accused South Africa of threatening Zimbabwe and other neighbouring states through its acquisition of sophisticated weaponry.

It said there had been an increase in foreign espionage by Pretoria, which accused Zimbabwe of harbouring ANC and PAC cadres.

The minister maintained there were no bases for the liberation movements in Zimbabwe and South Africa had not been able to identify any.

The report said the "regime was trying to find an excuse to attack "peace-loving" Zimbabweans."

Dr Sekeramayi told the newspaper that although there had been no "real attempt" to spring convicted agents from prison since the abortive attempt in 1990, the government was aware that plans and scenarios were being discussed by the South Africans.

Five convicted agents are serving sentences in the minimum security prison here and have made frequent appeals for their release in terms of the freeing of political prisoners in South Africa.

Observers in Harare believe relations between Harare and Pretoria have soured in recent weeks over Zimbabwe's strong opposition to the lifting of international sanctions on South Africa.

These developments have run contrary to other indications of a significant shift towards improved relations between the two countries.

South Africa is still Zimbabwe's main trading partner and moves are under way to renew the trade agreement between the two.

As a frontline state, Zimbabwe is exempt from applying sanctions despite its call on others to stop trading with South Africa.
SA spies held by Zim — claim

The South African mission in Harare has notified the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria of newspaper reports that a number of South African spies had been arrested in Zimbabwe.

The Herald Tribune quoted the Minister of State for National Security, Sydney Sekeramayi, as saying in an interview that men were arrested early this year.

Deputy director-general of Foreign Affairs in charge of the Africa desk, Rusty Evans, confirmed the Harare mission had informed his department of the reports.

"But the Zimbabwe authorities have not been in touch with us and we have no factual knowledge in this regard," he said.

Sekeramayi said the agents were arrested while on espionage and reconnaissance missions.

"We are continuing to ensure our security forces are fully on the alert to identify people sent on these specific missions," Sekeramayi was quoted as saying. — Sapa-Reuters.
Hunt for Mengistu

THE hunt for Ethiopia's deposed military head of state - Mengistu Haile Mariam - continues almost three weeks after the 54-year-old Marxist dictator unceremoniously fled Addis Ababa.

Behind him he left the burning embers of a vicious civil war and mass starvation. In Zimbabwe right now he has taken up the life of a kind of feudal robber baron, without a country and probably without a future.

Mengistu flew into Harare Airport shortly before midnight on Tuesday May 21. His arrival was wrapped in a cloak of diplomatic secrecy. Journalists covering the event - an unannounced political happening - were locked in the airport terminal at 11.30pm shortly after his plane was spotted coming into the country which is now his new home.

It was clear that Mengistu was coming in for refuge and that his flight to refuge was a fairly well-ordered Zimbabwean contribution to peace in Ethiopia.

Said one high-ranking official with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "Regard his visit as our contribution to peace. Someone had to have him and Mugabe and Mengistu have had very close ties over the years."

Shortly after Midnight, Mengistu left the airport in a diplomatic car accompanied by several other vehicles believed to be carrying staff from the Ethiopian embassy and policemen from Zimbabwe's own Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO).

There have been many reported sightings of Mengistu. But anyone who has lived in the Zimbabwean capital knows that rumours such as the following abound:

- Mengistu sought refuge on a farm owned by ex-Rhodesian leader Ian Smith. There was not a shred of truth in it.
- Mengistu, through the ex-Ethiopian ambassador to Harare (Mengistu's uncle) had bought a large farm just outside Harare from an Italian Ethiopian businessman. Reporters found out the businessman has no intention of moving and is continuing to run a successful salami-producing operation.
- Mengistu had been sighted by a Zimbabwean living in the suburbs of Harare and driving a Rolls Royce which used to be owned by Emperor Haile Selassie. After inquiries, the car involved was found to be a new import from Britain brought in through Durban. It belongs to the proud new owner Sam Levy, a prominent Jewish businessman.
- The Oppenheimer's had sold Mengistu one of the country's most successful dairy farms for only Zimdollars 3.8 million and the Ethiopian had surrounded himself with 20 bodyguards.
- Mengistu had smuggled about 6 billion US dollars from Addis Ababa to a bank in Switzerland and might even go and live in South Africa.

Someone had to take him, says Zim official

It is clear that very few real facts have emerged since Mengistu touched down at Harare Airport and disappeared from sight.

Letters to the editor of the pro-Government Herald Tribune newspaper regularly ask what this Ethiopian dictator, with one of the worst human-rights track records in the world, is doing here, allegedly on a commercial farm with the full protection of the government.

Said 'Amen' from Bulawayo this week: "Surely any African country that offers sanctuary to Mengistu must for generations be haunted by the unnerving spectre of hordes of Ethiopians who met their untimely end during nearly two decades of genocide."

The hunt for Mengistu continues. So does the manufacture of some of the country's most fascinating rumours.
Zimbabwe no to full SA ties

HARARE — Zimbabwe is standing firm against SA’s diplomatic drive into Africa, holding back on formal contact until various anti-apartheid movements give the green light.

Diplomatic sources said Pretoria felt Zimbabwe was perhaps not giving enough credit for moves to dismantle apartheid.

Harare had approved Pretoria to renegotiate a 1964 trade agreement vital for the success of the five-year economic reform programme Zimbabwe embarked on earlier this year.

But at the same time Zimbabwe was making a hard-line call at the OAU summit to maintain sanctions.

SA is Zimbabwe’s biggest trade partner.

President Robert Mugabe has welcomed changes but said they fell short of full eradication of apartheid.— Sapa-Reuters.

---

Former foe gives African readers a survey on SA

A SPECIAL edition survey on SA in the influential African publication Jeune Afrique signals an end to years of open hostility by the magazine.

The 50-page survey in the current affairs journal will bring SA to the attention of Francophone Africa and will also be sold in SA.

The magazine says “a long debate” was necessary before it decided to run the survey. It admits that its readers may be “shocked” to discover advertisements from SA companies.

“One thing is sure: it is not our convictions that have disappeared, but that SA has changed,” says the introductory editorial.

The survey contains interviews with President F W de Klerk, ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and Inkatha president Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

It also lifts the veil on SA’s increasingly fruitful trade contacts with the rest of Africa, speaking of “liaisons” that have become “less and less discrete”.

SA industrial companies like Eskom, AECI, Tiger Oats and research centre CSIR are described as “dynamic” to “high-tech”. Engen, Senbani, Dulux Paint and Consol have advertised in words that leave no doubt they are angling for future African business.

The survey ends with a questionnaire addressed to Jeune Afrique readers asking whether African presidents should meet De Klerk and whether readers would be prepared to visit SA.
American Express Seizes ANC Cash

Harare sources, however, suggested the account with Barclays Bank Zimbabwe was in the name of the Libyan government, not the ANC, thus triggering American Express to act on the requirements of strict US State Department sanctions against Gaddafi's regime. Libya is accused of financing international terrorist organisations, including extreme Palestinian factions.

The Herald suggested the ANC itself might be on a State Department blacklist.

Confidential

The Herald said Barclays Bank Zimbabwe carried out the Libyan request and deducted a $30,000 commission. But a few days later the bank informed the ANC's Harare bureau that the money had been imposed by American Express "without offering any reason".

Barclays Bank Zimbabwe MD Herbert Swanepoel said he could not comment on a confidential matter involving a client.
Zimbabwe Faces Honour and Loss

Andrew Meikle

The economy remains in crisis, with high inflation and a lack of foreign currency.

What will be the next step?
The man whose hour has come

VERNON Mwaanga was Zambia's Minister of Foreign Affairs under President Kenneth Kaunda at the age of 28.

Seventeen years later he is tipped to become Foreign Minister again in October, when the Movement for Multi-party Democracy (MMD) is expected to oust President Kaunda's United National Independence Party (UNIP) in Zambia's first multi-party election.

This week, Mr Mwaanga visited South Africa to brief businessmen on investment opportunities in Zambia under a new government.

The possibility of losing the election does not even cross his mind. "If we win 120 of the 150 seats I will say we have done very badly," he says with conviction.

At the age of 47, Mr Mwaanga is a figurehead of several top Zambian companies and chairman of the Zambia Industrial and Commercial Association, embracing all the chambers of commerce in the country.

When the MMD was formed last year as a pressure group calling for political pluralism, Mr. Mwaanga was there to be a founder member. The MMD was registered as a political party on December 20, days after President Kaunda announced sweeping constitutional changes which included the legalisation of opposition parties in the former one-party state.

Now, as shadow Foreign Minister, the man who is on first-name terms with US President George Bush, seems set to make a political comeback.

He and his party have some definite ideas. If the MMD comes to power — or when, as the man says — nationalisation will be out, we will be a market economy, with accountability and adequate checks and balances.

Political tolerance would be a key factor of the new government, said Mr Mwaanga.

Asked whether President Kaunda, who has become increasingly unpopular in recent years, would be allowed to remain in politics if elected, he said: "We would like him to stay on; he will be a good opposition leader. We don't want him to leave the country, and we certainly will not run him out of town, as the Americans say."

But, smiled Mr Mwaanga, "if the advantage we have is that bicycles and motor vehicles don't vote. They have the money and we have the people. And we have more faith in the people."

"As our motto proclaims, 'the hour has come.'"
Freed rangers tell of jailed SA agents

A pair of young game rangers imprisoned in Harare's Chikurubi maximum security jail were befriended by jailed South African commandos Barry Bawden and Dennis "Sammy" Beahan.

Locked up in a cell with 400 prisoners, although it was built to hold only 120, the rangers, Cassie du Plessis, 25, and Colin Blackburn, 22, found AIDS and homosexuality rife.

"The guards take no action to stop it," said Mr Blackburn, who was freed with Mr Du Plessis on Thursday after they won their appeal against a seven-year sentence for arms smuggling.

"One AIDS sufferer died while we were there and there were a lot of other likely candidates as well."

Help

He said that Bawden, 22 — serving a life sentence for assisting the May 1987 SADF raid on ANC premises in Harare — had "got himself pretty well established" along with Beahan.

Beahan is a former Randburg security guard and Rhodesian Special Air Service paratrooper who was sentenced to 25 years in jail after the abortive June 1988 attempt to spring South African agents from Chikurubi.

The rangers said race relations in jail were good, with black prisoners looking to whites to help them learn to read and write and supply them with pens, books and other comforts.

Rifles

"There were rough types who gave us a bit of trouble but most of them were pretty friendly. Their attitudes towards whites have changed as a result of the (De Klerk) government," said Mr Blackburn.

He was put in solitary confinement for three days for getting a message to the British High Commission that he had been victimised by a warder who made him sleep on bare concrete in winter.

British diplomats managed to get his felt mattress restored and the punishment revoked.

He and Mr Du Plessis resigned from the Namibian Police Department at the beginning of the year and planned to drive to Mr Du Plessis's home at Louis Trichardt, where they both demanded access to lawyers or diplomats.

Mr Blackburn is a British citizen and Mr Du Plessis is South African.

When they were brought to court a week after their arrest they were told they would be deported immediately to South Africa if they pleaded guilty.

Instead they were sentenced to seven years, reduced to an effective six months on appeal this month.

'After sentence they were taken to Khama prison outside Bulawayo where they were kept in solitary confinement for five weeks.'
Zimbabwe’s deficit rises as economic reform

In The Age

TONY HAWKINS

PMW 05/10/22

This page is a continuation of the previous page, discussing the economic situation in Zimbabwe. The text is a natural reading of the page, with proper formatting and layout restored.
Harare's business-suited revolution

A new organisation of Zimbabwe aims to assist black entrepreneurs to succeed in becoming part of the multi-billion-dollar economy of the region. No West, wish to be seen at the opening.

The turning of the economy, reports FROM DREW OF THE STAR Affaire, St. 24, 1981.

With an impressive mixture of grassroots blocks to secure a place in the operation of the multi-billion-dollar economy of Zimbabwe in the multi-billion-dollar economy of the region.

The turning of the economy, reports FROM DREW OF THE STAR Affaire, St. 24, 1981.
Ina Perelman

The South African farmer

Held on a farm near the

The soil and climate

It is a dry, arid land

A rich farming

Kenya and Zimbabwe

Future of black farming

Sowetan Wednesday June 1991
Page 9
By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — New ground was broken in relations between South Africa and Zimbabwe yesterday with the presence of Pretoria's trade representative, Nico Nel, among the diplomatic corps at the opening of the new session of parliament by President Mugabe.

'It is the first time since independence that the head of the South African Trade Mission has been invited to the annual ceremony, a major event on the political calendar.'

Mr. Nel was also invited to the party given by the Speaker to mark the opening of the new session.

Zimbabwe broke diplomatic relations with South Africa in 1986, but both the two countries have kept trade missions going since then. The South Africans have not, up to now, been accorded the recognition given to representatives of other countries.

Mr. Nel was also present last week at a reception given by the British High Commissioner to mark the Queen's Birthday. The function was attended by a number of Cabinet Ministers and senior officials.
Mugabe tones down rhetoric

MICHAEL HARTNAG

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe yesterday opened the latest session of the Zimbabwean parliament with a low-key speech pledging support for peace moves in SA, Angola and Mozambique, and legislation on land nationalisation.

Mugabe, 67, who avowed strong Marxist-Leninist leanings when he came to power in 1980, said that while Zimbabwe “recognised the end of the Cold War … we do not have to change our own principles”.

Omitting for the first time any reference to Zimbabwe’s former prime foreign policy objective of isolating Pretoria, he said he welcomed talks “aiming at the establishment of a truly democratic system in South Africa”.

Tourist industry sources said Mugabe’s announcement that the industry aimed at a 10% annual growth rate was premised on winning back the SA trade lost since independence in 1980.

The changing climate would require a reassessment of the role of the Zimbabwean Defence Force, said Mugabe, a statement seen by observers to refer to the presence of between 5,000 and 13,000 Zimbabwean troops in Mozambique.

On his controversial plan to take over the 6-million-hectare “maine and tobacco belt”, Mugabe said MPs would be presented with a bill “which will define the modalities of acquiring land throughout Zimbabwe”.

...
HARARE - New ground was broken in relations between South Africa and Zimbabwe yesterday when Pretoria's Trade Representative here, Mr Nico Nel, was among the diplomatic corps at the opening of parliament by President Robert Mugabe.

It is the first time since independence that the head of the South African Trade Mission has been invited to the annual ceremony, a major event in the political calendar. - Sowetan Africa News Service
Mugabe calls on his party to drop socialism

HARARE. — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe yesterday urged his ruling party to abandon its socialist ideologies, borrowed from former Marxist states in Eastern Europe.

Instead, he suggested social democracy might be better suited to the former British colony following the collapse of communism in Europe.

Mr Mugabe's statement, to the central committee of the ruling Zanu-PF party, came three days after the government made a sharp U-turn on the diplomatic front.

The head of the South African Trade Mission in Harare, Mr Nico Nel, was formally invited to a state function for the first time since Mr Mugabe led Zimbabwe to independence 11 years ago.

"It would seem there is now a general recognition of my existence," said Mr Nel, who joined other accredited diplomats at the opening of parliament on Tuesday.

Since independence Mr Mugabe has refused to allow diplomatic recognition of the South African government while it retained apartheid — but his government has softened its attitude towards Pretoria since President F W de Klerk's reforms.

In his opening speech Mr Mugabe pointedly refrained from his usual attacks on South Africa.

He declared that if the party wanted a mixed economy, approved last year, "then we cannot talk any more of an unadulterated socialist ideology for we shall have chosen to become social democrats."

— Sapa-AP
Mugabe abandons Marx and Lenin

HARARE — Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe yesterday urged his ruling party to abandon its socialist ideologies, borrowed from former Marxist states in eastern Europe.

Instead, he suggested social democracy might be better suited to the country he heads following the wholesale collapse of communism in Europe.

Mr Mugabe's statement to the central committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front) party came three days after the government had made a sharp U-turn on the diplomatic front.

The head of the South African Trade Mission in Harare, Nico Nel, was formally invited to a state function for the first time since Mr Mugabe led Zimbabwe to independence 11 years ago.

"It would seem to me there is now a general recognition of my existence," said Mr Nel, who joined other accredited diplomats at the opening of parliament on Tuesday.

Since independence Mr Mugabe has refused to allow diplomatic recognition of South Africa's white-led government while it retained its racial policy of apartheid.

But his government has softened its attitude towards Pretoria since President de Klerk has introduced political reforms.

In his opening speech Mr Mugabe pointedly refrained from launching the usual attacks on South Africa.

His new political and diplomatic swings indicate a move away from radical policies.

Mixed

Socialism based on Marxism-Leninism, he told the central committee, was adopted during the seven-year independence war because most support for his guerrillas came from eastern Europe.

"Socialism thus became our ideological weapon against both capitalism and colonialism," the former schoolteacher said.

Mr Mugabe declared that, if the party wanted a mixed economy, adopted last year, "then we cannot talk any more of an unadulterated socialist ideology for we shall have chosen to become social democrats."

"Socialism in 1989 or at any period thereafter became impracticable because of the reality of the prevailing vast capitalist infrastructure," he added.

"Full-scale socialism could only have been possible through a wanton policy of nationalisation completely oblivious of possible ensuing consequences," he added.

Zimbabwe's departure from scientific socialism was reflected in the adoption of a Western-prescribed economic structural adjustment programme and the introduction of trade liberalisation, he said.

Industry and Commerce Minister Kumbirai Kangai announced yesterday that several cumbersome import controls will be lifted as part of the ongoing economic reforms.

Zimbabwe's main exports include tobacco, tea, chrome and coffee. — Sapa-AP.
HARARE. A major split emerged over the weekend within the ranks of Zimbabwe’s main opposition party, the Zimbabwe Unity Movement, with a dissident group announcing it had “expelled” founding leader Mr Edgar Tekere and appointed its own acting president.

The group was led by eight officials, themselves denounced by Mr Tekere early last week.

Mr Tekere accused them of having been planted by “external forces”, which observers understood to mean the ruling Zanu (PF) Party.

He told the state news agency Ziana he was still the leader of Zum: “I am still the leader. If there is another it is a mere fraud.”

The eight dissidents were among 113 Zum officials arrested in the Midlands city of Gweru while holding a meeting of a party sub-committee.

They were detained in the nearby Wha Wha Detention Centre, where they decided to hold a party congress, write a new constitution and elect a national executive, with Mr Tekere as its president.

Mr Tekere was not in jail as he did not attend the meeting.

However, in a statement published yesterday in the Sunday Mail here, a spokesman for the dissidents said the national executive had passed a resolution “on behalf of the party and the people . . . to relieve Tekere of his duties.”

It said Mr Tekere was “tired of politics and has to be retired.” — Sapa
Zimbabwe opposition party fires Tekere

HARARE — Veteran Zimbabwean politician Edgar Tekere has been fired by his colleagues as president of the country's main opposition movement in a wrangle which threatens to split the party.

The national executive council of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM), founded by Mr. Tekere in March 1982, said on Saturday that he had been "retired" from the leadership for suspending some members unconstitutionally and making statements damaging to the party.

"A resolution has been passed by the national council on behalf of the party and the people who elected council members, to relieve Mr. Tekere of his duties and responsibilities as president of ZUM," said a statement issued by ZUM information secretary Warayayi Zembwe.

Mr. Tekere, an articulate opponent of Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, formed ZUM after being expelled from Zanu PF for being too critical and has run it literally as a one-man show since.

But ZUM has suffered factional fights since last week when Mr. Tekere rejected a new constitution and leadership structure adopted by a majority of his colleagues in the national council, which elevated him from the post of chairman to president.

He suspended eight members of the national council and said two of them had been infiltrated into ZUM by Zanu PF.

At its meeting on Saturday, the ZUM national council said Mr. Tekere had failed to respect the party's democratic will and his statements were detrimental to the party.

"The national council has noted that the veteran nationalist (Tekere) has become tired of politics and has to be retired," it said.

Emmanuel Goche was elected acting party president on Saturday, but political sources said the move was likely to split ZUM.

Mr. Tekere, a former secretary-general of the ruling Zanu PF party, was unavailable to comment yesterday.

Party sacks Tekere

HARARE - Veteran Zimbabwean politician Edgar Tekere has been fired by his colleagues as president of the country's main opposition movement in a wrangle which threatens to split the party.

The national executive council of the Zimbabwean Unity Movement (ZUM), founded by Tekere in March 1989, said on Saturday it had been "forced" from the leadership for suspending some members unconstitutionally and making statements damaging to the party.

"A resolution has been passed by the national council, on behalf of the party and the people, who elected council members, to relieve Tekere of his duties and responsibilities as president of ZUM," said a statement issued by ZUM information secretary Wirayayi Zembe.

Tekere, a vocal opponent of Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, formed ZUM after being expelled from ZANU PF for being too critical and has run it literally as a one-man show since.

Sapa-Reuters.
Outspoken Zimbabwe editor fired

HARARE - Campaigning journalist Geoff Nyarota has been fired from his post as editor of Zimbabwe's two independent weekly newspapers.

The owners of The Financial Gazette and The Weekend Gazette gave no reasons for dismissing Nyarota, but colleagues said they believed his outspoken editorial policies had scared away key advertisers.

The Gazette is the leading business weekly in Zimbabwe and competes only with newspapers controlled by the State-owned Mass Media Trust.

Nyarota was appointed executive editor at The Financial Gazette in 1989 after a consortium of black businessmen took over the Modus publishing company from white owners.

Earlier, as editor of the State-controlled Bulawayo Chronicle, Nyarota led an unprecedented crusade against top-level corruption in Zimbabwe.

Nyarota resigned as a result of his disclosures. In Bulawayo, that they made large profits selling cars from a State-owned assembly plant. — Sape-AP.
Small business careers a niche
Northern neighbour runs out of maize

The 18 percent drop in production brought about by poor rains and a price which producers say is too low has forced Zimbabwe to halt exports and to face the likelihood of imports, reports ROBIN DREW of The Star's "Africa" Service in Harare.

The report that Zimbabwe is going to have to import maize this year, though a final decision has not been taken, is a graphic illustration of the rapid way in which stockpiles can disappear.

Maize was last imported in 1985. At the end of March last year, the State marketing depots had 1,554,000 tons in stock, double the strategic reserve which the country tries to maintain.

It was transport problems that reduced exports to 174,000 tons.

In 1986 it was estimated that the stockpile could swell to a massive 2 million tons unless something was done to reduce production.

The result was a price disincentive scheme which drew warnings that surpluses could become shortfalls very quickly.

Commercial growing of maize on a large scale fell abruptly.

This, coupled with a drought, saw purchases from large-scale commercial producers drop from 1 million tons in 1988 to less than 250,000 tons in 1992.

For the year to the end of March last year this had increased to 600,000 tons.

But small-scale producers and peasant growers had by then outstripped the big commercial producers.

Now the stockpile is down to about 200,000 tons.

The 18 percent drop in production this year, brought about by poor rains in many peasant farming areas and a price which producers say is too low in view of rising costs of production, has forced the country to halt exports and to face the likelihood of expensive imports -- an embarrassment for Zimbabwe, which is often hailed as the granary of the region.

This month the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), warned of serious implications for a number of countries which had traditionally depended on Zimbabwe for maize imports.

The FAO said South Africa had also had a poor season and was expected to import substantial quantities of maize for the first time in several years.

The report referred to critical food shortages in Angola and Mozambique and said production was expected to decline in Swaziland, Lesotho and Madagascar.
Zimbabwe inflation soaring

HARARE — Zimbabwe's inflation rate is rising at nearly 23 percent a year, official statistics show.

Economists point out that the prices considered comprise a limited range of domestic expenditures, and do not take into account cost increases in the industrial, agricultural and mining sectors.

They believe the real rate of inflation is likely to be higher.

The sharp increases compare with a rate of inflation last year of about 15 percent and are mainly the result of the decontrol of prices by government in January as part of the economic structural adjustment and trade liberalisation programme.

Sapa.
Harare wants right to seize urban land

HARARE — Harare’s City Council is pushing for legislation to extend the government’s right to seize farm land — without fair compensation — to the council, to enable it to seize urban land, it was reported yesterday.

The Herald, Zimbabwe’s main daily newspaper, quoted Harare Town Clerk Edward Kanengoni as saying the council was urging government to include a provision in the controversial Land Acquisition Amendment Bill to allow the council to “acquire” unused land in the municipal area being held for “speculative purposes”.

In December last year, Zimbabwe’s parliament approved a change to the constitution which gave government the right to seize farm land while barring owners from going to court over compensation.

The law plans to enable the government to implement a promised land redistribution programme, in which it says it will take more than half the 11-million hectares owned by white commercial farmers and turn it over to peasant farmers.

The acquisition is to be implemented by amendments to the Land Acquisition Act which President Robert Mugabe said last week would be brought before this current session of parliament.

The Herald quoted Kanengoni as saying the Harare City Council wanted “a provision in the Land Acquisition Bill that will enable it to acquire idle land for development”.

“We want to ensure that all land in Harare is put to full use for the benefit of all the residents. At the moment, we have a problem to acquire this land.”

The constitutional amendment, which altered a crucial provision in the Bill of Rights, sent shockwaves through not only the farming community, but also human rights groups, who condemned it as a direct attack on citizens’ rights.

Zimbabwe has also been warned by wealthy Western nations and international finance agencies that careless deprivation of property rights could seriously prejudice its chances of gaining finance which the country desperately needs. — Sapa.
Mugabe abandons Marxism

HARARE. — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe urged his ruling party to abandon its socialist ideologies, borrowed from former Marxist states in eastern Europe.

Instead, he suggested social democracy might be better suited to the former British colony following the collapse of communism in Europe.

Mr. Mugabe's statement, to the central committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front) party, came three days after the government made a sharp U-turn on the diplomatic front.

The head of the Southern African Trade Mission in Harare, Mr. Nice Nel, was formally invited to a state function for the first time since Mr. Mugabe led Zimbabwe to independence 11 years ago.

"It would seem to me there is now a general recognition of my existence," said Mr. Nel, who joined other accredited diplomats at the opening of parliament on Tuesday.

Since independence Mr. Mugabe has refused to allow diplomatic recognition of the South African government while it retained apartheid.

But his government has softened its attitude towards Pretoria since President De Klerk introduced political reforms as a prelude to establishing a democratic non-racial state.

In his opening speech Mr. Mugabe pointedly refrained from launching the usual attacks on South Africa.

Mr. Mugabe's new political and diplomatic swings indicate a move away from radical policies.

Socialism based on Marxism-Leninism, Mr. Mugabe told the central committee, was adopted during the seven-year independence war because most support for his guerrillas came from eastern Europe.

"Socialism thus became our ideological weapon against both capitalism and colonialism," the former schoolteacher said.

Mr. Mugabe declared that if the party wanted a mixed economy, adopted last year, "then we cannot talk any more of an unadulterated socialist ideology for we shall have chosen to become social democrats".

"Socialism ... in 1980 or at any period thereafter became impracticable because of the reality of the prevailing vast capitalist infrastructure," he added.

Zimbabwe's departure from scientific socialism was reflected in the adoption of a Western-prescribed economic adjustment programme and the introduction of trade liberalisation, he said.

Mr. Mugabe's industry and commerce minister, Mr. Kuwira Kangai, announced yesterday that cumbersome import controls would be lifted as part of the ongoing economic reforms.
Mugabe’s one-party state unsettled by reforms

The pomp and ceremony surrounding the opening of parliament last week masked the fact that Zimbabwe’s de facto one-party state is endangered by economic liberalisation.

ANDREW MELDRUM

A MID the colonial-era splendour of brass bands, bewigged judges, a vintage Rolls Royce and a 21-gun salute, Zimbabwe’s parliament officially opened last week.

Police on horseback clattered errily down the street and overhead four fighter jets roared by in tight formation as diplomats, dignitaries and Zimbabwe’s 150 MPs took their seats in the House of Assembly.

Three opposition MPs attended the proceedings amid the 147 Zanu-PF MPs, all too aware that their votes on issues will never carry any weight.

President Robert Mugabe outlined his government’s impending legislation and planned projects which include hosting the Commonwealth heads of government summit in October, increasing police patrols, carrying out major economic reforms and presenting a new Bill to allow the government to purchase white-owned land more easily.

Thus Zimbabwe entered its new legislative year with all the trappings of a conventional parliamentary democracy. But the pomp and ceremony and trappings of tradition that convey a reassuring sense of stability masked the fact that Zimbabwe is in a state of flux, a period of significant transition.

Zimbabwe is a multi-party democracy on paper but on the ground it is effectivcly a one-party state, complete with a tightly controlled media, a heavy-handed police force and a party bureaucracy on the public payroll.

The party’s central committee declined in September 1990 not to legislate a one-party state, but the unspoken consensus was to maintain a de facto one-party state. That was highlighted by the creation of a ministry of political affairs, with a budget of $50-million (about $50-million).

The paradox of appearing to be one thing politically while operating as something entirely different is matched in the economic sphere.

The sweeping economic structural adjustment programme has put the Mugabe government in the uncomfortable position of being neither fish nor fowl: it has had to give up its claims of being socialist, yet it cannot bring itself to lustily embrace capitalism.

Zimbabwe’s one-party political status quo is firmly entrenched yet it sits uneasily alongside the government’s own economic structural adjustment programme. The economic reforms call for the government to realise the many controls it holds over the economy even as the Zanu-PF government seeks to maintain its political control over the country.

“Zimbabwe is operating as a one-party state, but it is not a happy one. It is a precarious one,” said University of Zimbabwe political scientist Jonathan Moyo.

“The top leadership are nervous. They don’t understand why history is being so harsh on them and why events are preventing them from enjoying the fruits of independence the way Kaunda and Nyerere were able to for 30 years.”

Moyo’s outspoken opinions about Zimbabwe’s development since independence, particularly his criticism of the Mugabe administration, have made him unpopular in government circles, Yet Moyo maintains that it is not him or other government critics who have made the situation difficult, it is the government’s own economic policy that is breeding trouble.

“No one-party state can live happily with structural adjustment,” said Moyo. “Africa is burdened with regimes that have heaped as a result of such economic reform plans.”

And the structural adjustment programme is just about to really bite into the Zimbabwean state quo.

Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero will present the 1991/92 Budget to parliament on July 25 and, according to the economic reform plan, it will have to cut government expenditure and chop the civil service payroll by 25 percent.

That is going to hurt the ruling party as it has used the civil service as a system of patronage to reward loyal supporters.

The cuts will be painful, but they are necessary. The World Bank and USAID are both watching the budget as a key factor determining whether they will give crucial financial support to Zimbabwe’s plan.

The average Zimbabwean is already beginning to feel the squeeze of the economic reform, as prices for the staple food, sadza (maize meal) have gone up nearly 30 percent.

Zambia, Angola and Mozambique are all entering the new arena of multi-party democracy with hubbub, hoopla and confusion.

Zimbabwe is entering a more subtle, but equally important phase which should determine if its de facto one-party state can thrive or even survive a thorough economic restructuring.
Violenve Regions in Beria Corridor

Mogadishu imposes curfew after fighting

Violence Regions in Beria Corridor

Mogadishu imposes curfew after fighting

AFRICA

Mobutu stays put as his nation's economy topples

AFRICA
2 views on party role

By Robin Drew, Star Africa Service

HARARE — Totally opposing views on the role of the party in government have been expressed by two Zimbabwean Cabinet ministers.

At the weekend Home Affairs minister Moven Mahachi said party leaders should supervise the work of civil servants as the party was supreme.

He maintained that the party politburo supervised the Cabinet and the central committee supervised parliament. The party’s provincial leadership should therefore supervise the civil service.

On Monday, the minister in charge of the public service, Dr Edisson Zvobgo, appeared on TV and flatly denied Mr Mahachi’s claims.

He had been unable to contact Mr Mahachi but wished to reassure civil servants who were in turmoil over the matter.

It was not true, he said, that the party supervised the Cabinet and parliament, and it was certainly not government policy that civil servants should be supervised by the party provincial leadership.

Any civil servant who reported government matters to non-civil servants outside the established public service procedures would be liable to disciplinary action, including dismissal.

Dr Zvobgo warned that the Official Secrets Act carried heavy penalties for any violations by civil servants.
Chalker praises Zimbabwe economics

By ANDREW MELDRAUM Harare
ZIMBABWE’S new market-oriented economic policies won praise this week from visiting British minister for overseas development, Lynda Chalker.

"Zimbabwe now knows what way it is going economically, but it has not yet made up its mind where it is going to go politically," said Chalker, who spent three days in Zimbabwe before going on to Angola.

Chalker met with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero to discuss the economic structural adjustment programme that will see the government significantly reduce its expenditure and cut the size of the civil service by 25 percent in the next two years.

"I came here to encourage the government to keep to these marks to improve economic performance," said Chalker. The British government has pledged £10-million (about R45-million) in grants to support Zimbabwe’s economic reform, provided the necessary reductions in budget spending are achieved.

Chalker judged that the Mugabe government was making good progress in its economic structural adjustment program. She said she hoped Zimbabwe’s economic liberalisation would be matched by political liberalisation. Zimbabwe operates as a de facto one-party state and Mugabe’s ruling party, the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF), actively discourages opposition, according to human rights groups.

"Zimbabwe could soon be the most attractive place to invest in Africa, but I think the economic reforms have to be met by new political freedoms, like what we’re seeing in so many other African countries," said Chalker.

“Economic liberalisation must go hand in hand with political pluralism, increased participation of the people. But it is up to Zimbabweans to sort that out themselves, nobody is out to impose what kind of political system they should have.”

Chalker met with Mugabe shortly before he left on a 10-day tour of Europe. Mugabe intends to impress the Italian government on the urgent need for the Mozambican peace negotiations in Rome to succeed.

Mugabe’s trip will take him on working visits to London, Belgium and Italy. He is to end the trip with a state visit to Tunisia.

“Mr Mugabe said he will discuss with the Italian government his anxiety about the continuing war in Mozambique. He wants to encourage the Italians to put as much pressure as possible on both sides to achieve a ceasefire,” said Chalker.
Brave message from a dead Bhundu Boy

By ANDREW MELDRUM. Harare, 5-11-1
THE death from Aids of one of Zimbabwe’s top pop stars, David Mankaba of The Bhundu Boys, may go a long way towards heightening this country’s awareness of the dangers of the disease.

The cheerful Mankaba, the Bhundu’s bass guitarist, provided much of the upbeat spirit and catchily beat that made the group’s “Jit” music – Zimbabwe’s most popular export to England and the United States.

But in death Mankaba may play an even more important role in educating Zimbabweans against casual, unprotected sex. Mankaba, who died at his Harare home last week, made a deathbed request for his family to announce publicly that he had died from Aids.

Mankaba’s posthumous announcement makes him the first well-known Zimbabwean to admit infection with Aids. Many in this country continue to ignore the threat from Aids; despite Zimbabwe’s nearly 9,000 full-blown cases and estimates that from 500,000 to more than a million of the country’s 10-million people are HIV positive.

Zimbabwean cabinet ministers, army generals, authors, sports stars and top businessmen have died of Aids in recent years, but none have publicly acknowledged their affliction or warned the public to avoid contracting Aids.

Mankaba, composer of the Bhundu’s hit “Bye Bye Stembie” collapsed after the group finished a tour of the United States last year and was diagnosed as suffering from tuberculosis. In January he was found to have Aids.

The Bhundu Boys are widely popular in England enjoying healthy record sales and well-attended, enthusiastic – attended live concerts. Mankaba stayed briefly at the Ambrose-King Aids Hospice in London. While there he was visited by the Duchess of York and Cliff Richard, both of whom urged him to go public with his disease, according to family members.

Mankaba wanted to help break the superstition and the taboo on discussing Aids that is prevalent in Zimbabwe and throughout the rest of the world, said the family member.

It is hoped that Mankaba’s announcement will convince more Zimbabweans to take the threat of Aids seriously. Many ignore education campaigns against multiple sexual partners, and instead demand to see someone who has Aids. A trip to a hospital would worry those sceptics, as Aids is already Zimbabwe’s number one killer of infants, who contract the disease from their HIV positive parents.

The prevalence of Aids in Zimbabwe is symptomatic of the spread of the disease through Africa. The World Health Organisation estimates that 10 million Africans are HIV positive. About 15-million children in sub-Saharan Africa will be orphaned by Aids in the year 2000, according to WHO.

Experience has shown that public awareness campaigns must be backed up by first-hand knowledge of people who have contracted Aids in order to be effective. In Uganda, for instance, leading singer Philly Lutayo publicly announced he was dying from Aids. His hit record and documentary video “Born in Africa” went a long way towards getting Ugandans to change their sexual habits to avoid the disease.

The discussions heard throughout Harare about David Mankaba indicate that his death may well be an effective cautionary tale for Zimbabweans.

A tribute to Mankaba written to the Herald newspaper by a fan perhaps best sums up his contribution:

“Zimbabwe has lost one of its finest cultural ambassadors. David Mankaba touched the world with his driving bass guitar, quiet eloquence and bravery in the face of the deadly Aids virus. Even in death, David has achieved something special. If even one person is saved from Aids by reading about how David died, he will not have died in vain.”

LOOK OUT FOR Professional Network
A NEW MONTHLY RECRUITMENT SUPPLEMENT IN THE WEEKLY MAIL
Starting Soon
Zimbabwe relaxes severe import controls

HARARE — SA’s billion-rand-a-year trade with Zimbabwe is expected to take another surge forward with the announcement by senior Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero that a wide range of import controls is being relaxed.

Private individuals will be allowed to import goods worth up to R13 000 without documentation, although companies will still require licences from Zimbabwe’s Reserve Bank.

Addressing members of the Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries (CZI) at Victoria Falls, Chidzero said yesterday he hoped the latest moves under the R42bn five-year trade liberalisation programme would ease chronic shortages of vehicles and consumer goods.

Business sources see this as a major coup for the informal sector, particularly the estimated 300 000 professional “shoppers” who ply the Harare-Johannesburg route, pooling their R410 holiday travel allocations to obtain goods resold in Zimbabwe for up to 1 000% profit.

Zimbabweans are also likely to blitz SA’s used car lots as a result of Chidzero’s announcement that passenger vehicles less than four years old and worth less than R47 000 may now be imported without documentary proof of how the foreign currency for the purchase was obtained.

Service vehicles up to eight years old may be imported the same way by private individuals.

Once again, commercial companies are excluded from the concession.

Importers of passenger vehicles will still have to pay more than 80% duty, while duty on service vehicles, including bakkies, is about 60%.

Pretoria demands proof that foreign currency is coming into SA to compensate for the value of the vehicle before an import licence is granted.

Because of the acute vehicle shortage, modest cars such as Mazda 323s sell on the black market for more than R140 000. The controlled price is less than R30 000.

Chidzero also announced the ending of the R25-a-day travel allowance limit. Adults may now take their entire annual R410 however short a time they leave the country.

Zimbabwe’s main passport office in Harare has been temporarily closed because of administrative problems, reportedly due to shoppers assuming multiple identities under different names and passports in order to claim several travel allowances.
Zim star's death shatters a taboo

By TREVOR GRUNDY

HE was a star who dared to tell the truth.
He told a society that shied away from hearing it, that he had Aids.

And because of his massive popularity, the Zimbabwean nation listened and responded – mostly positively and sensitively – probably for the first time.

In achieving this, a friend likened 32-year-old guitarist David Mankaba’s last moments to that of a shooting star; he burned ever brighter as his life sped away.

Dozens of relatives, fellow artists, journalists and writers gathered at Warren Hills Cemetery on the edge of the capital and watched his coffin slowly sink into the earth on a cold winter’s afternoon.

Fans wiped tears from their eyes. Others threw soil and flowers on top of the wooden casket and vowed that he would live for ever in Zimbabwean pop memory.

It was as if the world of Zimbabwean music had taken a collective and very sad break to bury one of the country’s best known artists.

Mankaba played with the internationally-known group, the Bhundu Boys.

A Jesuit priest spoke for a generation of young Zimbabweans when he wrote in the press afterwards: “I salute the late David Mankaba for coming out in the open before his death to inform people that he was dying of Aids.”

Churches’ Representative on the National AIDS Council, EM Rogers, wrote: “If many more people with Aids would make this admission, much of the stigma attached to Aids would disappear and it would become just another serious disease.”

Rogers added that in a week when Zimbabweans were warned by the World Health Organisation (WHO) that as many as 15 million children in Sub-Saharan Africa will be orphaned by Aids in the year 2000.

“AS long as HIV and Aids are hidden away, the more it will spread as people will be reinforced in their ignorance that there is no such disease. We need more heroes like David Mankaba, especially those in positions of influence. God will bless him for his concern for others.”

In a pathbreaking editorial, Zimbabwe’s Sunday Mail articulated the feelings of hundreds of thousands of fans in writing: “Now that we have concrete proof of the existence of Aids, we hope that those on the campaign to educate people to fight the spread of the disease will find it easier to propagate their word of caution.”

David was a founder member of the popular Bhundu Boys who, after wowing local fans, moved on to America.

There they were quickly acknowledged as one of Africa’s most promising groups with their highly original ‘hit’ sound. However, it was at the end of the American leg of a world tour last year that David Mankaba knew that something was fearfully wrong with him.

After a farewell gig in the States he collapsed. At first doctors diagnosed tuberculosis. In January an HIV test proved positive.

During a brief stay in London’s Ambrose-King AIDS Hospice, he was visited by the Duchess of York (nicknamed “Fergie”) and famous British star, Cliff Richard.

Both had impressed on him the need to “demystify” the illness.

He returned to Harare and “went public”. He was HIV positive. He was dying of Aids.

Experts say that many Zimbabweans believe that the promotion of condoms to combat Aids is a Western conspiracy to limit the growth of black populations.

It is also known that traditional healers try to convince Aids sufferers that their expensive cures will work.
Top Zimbabwean calls for changes to free up business

GWERU - Zimbabwe's acting president Simon Muzenda called on the government on Sunday to change regulations which hampered the establishment of indigenous business enterprises, the Ziana news agency reports.

Addressing about 200 Gweru businessmen, mostly within the small enterprises sector, at an economic development seminar, Muzenda criticised some government departments which, he said, hindered important development projects.

"I have been surprised to find that simple disagreements between project implementers and government departments have been allowed to force important development projects to collapse."

"In some cases, government regulations are quoted as stumbling blocks to the implementation of community initiated development programmes, as if those regulations cannot be changed," he said.

There were many problems making it difficult for newly established companies, co-operatives, syndicates and other economic ventures to become viable.

"We know that it will take time to change the negative attitudes of some financial institutions towards small-scale enterprises. Some projects formulated at the beginning of this year in Gweru, Central constituency, for example, have not received any positive response from financial institutions and aid agencies."

"Some of the people who formulated these projects have already given up and are saying that it seems it is only those already viable companies and individuals who can procure loans and grants."

Muzenda, who is MP for Gweru Central, said this was made worse by the fact that traditional demands for collateral made it difficult for small-scale enterprises and newly established companies to secure loans.

Multinationals

"There are trading patterns which make it difficult for new enterprises to secure credit facilities for raw materials, equipment and vehicles."

He said that members of the constituency development committee, charged with promoting economic development in Gweru, had a big role to play in promoting the effective participation of the people of Gweru in the national economy.

The Indigenous Business Development Centre called on government to help small enterprises get markets for their products and to limit reliance on multinational companies and big firms.

IBDC secretary-general Strive Masinyuwa, in his address to the seminar, accused the government of granting some contracts, especially in the building sector, to firms based outside Zimbabwe.

"Why should an international contractor from outside Zimbabwe come to Gokwe when we have our own contractors? The next thing is that there will be no builders in Gokwe. We have no confidence in our own people," Masinyuwa said.

There were some contracts in Gokwe which were awarded to foreign firms such as the 131km extension to the Gokwe district hospital, which went to a foreign company named Energoproject.

Masinyuwa called on government to ensure that viable co-operatives in rural areas were given contracts to supply government institutions with goods.

Because of present practices, 2% of Zimbabwe's population ended up getting 75% of the markets. He called for establishment of an office of unfair trade practices which can penalise people who do what they want with our economy."
Zimbabwe maize growers are going out of business

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — The Zimbabwe government, faced with the threat of having to import maize, is being urged by growers to increase the price paid to producers by 50 percent to keep them in business.

Representatives of the 1,600 large-scale producers say if the government acts now, it is possible the country may avoid having to import.

But if forecasts are borne out, stocks will run out completely by next March.

Newsmen were told ahead of tomorrow's Commercial Grain Producers' congress that the situation was precarious.

Deliveries by large scale producers to the state marketing depots have fallen by 90 percent in the past decade while production as a whole by the commercial sector has fallen 65 percent. In the last three to four years, 700 growers have gone out of maize farming and more will do so unless viability is restored.
Zimbabwe 'may ration maize'

HARARE — Zimbabwe's 10-million people could face rationing of their staple diet next year, commercial grain producers warned yesterday.

The 1.260 remaining large-scale commercial growers say state-controlled prices of just under R250 a ton are forcing them to diversify into export-oriented crops such as tobacco or flowers.

The current white maize stockpile of 200 000 tons, plus a projected intake of 506 000 tons, could run out by January, forcing President Robert Mugabe's government to import at least 180 000 tons of American yellow-flint maize which caused riots when it was last put on the Zimbabwean market in 1983.

The flint-maize imports would cost an estimated $44m in hard currency.

Commercial Grain Producers chairman Quentin Haarhoff told a news conference it would be impossible to buy white maize similar to that grown in Zimbabwe because SA, the only other major producer, was expected to be 50 000 tons short on its own needs.

"With the huge farmer uninterest in maize I don't think the situation has ever been so serious," Haarhoff said, appealing for a R380 a ton price to be announced immediately.

Due to falling maize stocks and a logjam on the state-run national railways, Zimbabwe has been unable during the past 18 months to fulfill orders for grain from its famine-stricken neighbours, paid for by international aid agencies with hard currency.

In 1997, Mugabe won an international award for his country's contribution to fighting famine in Africa, but recent analysis shows a temporary boost in peasant grain production was achieved only by the grant of unrealistic subsidies, since withdrawn, and R100m in loans which were never repaid.

Most of Zimbabwe's commercial maize producers are located in the 6-million ha belt stretching north and east of Harare which Mugabe says he wants to nationalise for peasant resettlement.
Zimbabwean finance house to go public

HARARE - UDC, one of Zimbabwe's largest financial institutions, will go public in August. Managing director Peter Grint has predicted the shares will be oversubscribed.

Speaking at a ceremony at which 17 UDC employees were presented with long-service awards last night, Grint said it would be one of the most momentous developments in the company's history.

He said the belief that the share issue would be oversubscribed reflected "the buoyancy of a market which tends to support new issues as a hedge against inflation".

Success

Ziana national news agency reported Grint added that in UDC's case, investor confidence would also signal awareness by the investing public of the company's extraordinary success in recent years.

Grint said UDC's success was linked to that of Zimbabwe.

The economic reform programme outlined by the government in January had opened up a new era which dictated that companies should adapt their plans and strategies to meet the nation's goals, said Grint. — Sapa.
Top Zimbabwe academics resigns
Diplomats may leave Harare for Pretoria

HARARE – The Zimbabwean capital's once exploding diplomatic population is likely to be depleted soon as substantial numbers of east Europeans pack their bags for SA.

Sources confirmed at the weekend that a number of diplomatic missions were considering setting up their main southern African bases in SA.

Soaring accommodation and other costs are making Harare less desirable as a diplomatic base. Houses which at the end of the war in 1989 sold for RH 60,000 now sell for more than RH 1.5m, and similarly inflated rentals are demanded.

SA's growing international acceptability and the fact that it is the regional economic and potentially political power, makes Harare less relevant as a base.

SA also offers readily available spares for embassy vehicles and specialist medical treatment is more readily on hand for diplomats' families.

In addition to the relocation of large numbers of east European diplomats, the changing political climate in SA is likely to see eventual increases in the levels of staff of countries such as Canada, New Zealand and Australia, with compensating reductions in Harare.

During the 1980s South Africans were forced to deal with these states' Harare diplomats over matters such as emigration and visas, issues which now should revert to SA-based staff.

First to leave Harare last year were the east Germans. Of the former communist states of Eastern Europe, only Albania and Yugoslavia have made no moves to establish diplomatic ties with SA.
Zimbabwe's inflation now 26.1%

Own Correspondent

PARARE — Zimbabwe's CSO has released figures reflecting runaway inflation of 26.1%.

The figures follow the lifting of price control under a $4billion economic liberalisation programme.

The Consumer Price Index for lower income urban families rose 5.9 points in May to reach 458.3, reflecting 26.1% inflation in 12 months.

For upper income urban families the index rose 4.6 points to 404.4, a 25.5% overall increase.

Inflation in the previous 12 months was officially only 7%, but businessmen say this ignored soaring prices for imported black market items such as motor spares, not reflected in the government's statistics.
Networking brains to heal the land

Yami Kalyane

The need to involve people environmentally to speak to implementation. Recognized by the law, and the constitution and develop.

South

Environmentalism and law.
Caflca set to break records

ROBERT LAKING

ZIMBABWE-based Central African Cables (Caflca) should break sales and profit records for the fifth successive year if its plant can meet demand, directors said in the latest annual report.

Exports grew 30% to Z$15.5m, accounting for 17% of group sales. CE Rob Galbraith said sales to SA increased and Caflca remained Malawi's major supplier of cable.

Sales value increased 35% to a record Z$58.3m and he said the company's production capacity would be the "critical success factor." Caflca's price/earnings ratio of 0.7 is the lowest on the JSE and it is one of the few companies in the electronics sector whose share price is higher than in 1997.
Zimbabwe's inflation soars

HARARE - Zimbabwe's Central Statistical Office has released figures reflecting runaway inflation here since President Robert Mugabe's government lifted price control under its ambitious economic liberalization programme.

Economists say soaring prices reflect only past black market trends. But the depreciation of the Zimbabwean dollar, now worth only $0.90 at the official rate is, next to unemployment, a bitter source of public discontent.

The consumer price index for lower income urban families (inhabitants of the former "black townships") rose 5.9 points in May to reach 458.3, reflecting 26.1% inflation in 12 months.

Base year for the index was 1990.

For upper income urban families the index rose 4.8 points to 404.4, a 23.3% overall increase since June 1990.

Inflation in the previous 12 months was officially only 7%, but businessmen say this ignores soaring prices for imported black market items, such as motor spares, not reflected in the statisticians' count.

The Central Statistical Office says clothing, transport, fruit, vegetables, uniforms, firewood and detergents were the principal items hit by inflation.
‘Intimidation’ ends bus service from Zimbabwe

HARARE — Three Zimbabwe bus companies taking passengers across the border at Beitbridge to Johannes-
burg have stopped their services, alleging violence and harassment by South African operators.

“It was threats and rough handling,” said John D’Almeida, owner of the Harare-based Kuwirirana bus
company which curtailed services in June.

The other two companies, Shu-Shine bus services and Mach, stopped around the same time.

They ran a booming business, providing transport for women travelling to Johannesburg. Reselling their
purchases in Zimbabwe, they make an enormous profit to supplement meagre local incomes.

But now, said D’Almeida, the big 72-seater Zimbabwe buses would go only as far as Beitbridge. The pas-
engers would catch South African taxis on the other side.

D’Almeida said the Zimbabwean companies had ob-
tained legal road service permits and had held meet-
ings with the South African Drivers’ Association.

“The association accepted we should be allowed to run.

We even agreed to limit ourselves to one trip a week.

“But the problem was the operators who were not repre-
sented by any association.”

Harare operators, however, are taking satisfaction from
talks being finalised now to introduce a direct train
service through Beitbridge to Johannesburg, instead
of the much longer trip through Botswana. — Sapa.
Several hurt in Harare blast

HARARE - A powerful blast, believed to have been from a bomb, shook the Sheraton Hotel here early on Saturday. Several people were injured.

Extensive damage was cause on the ground floor of the 12-storey building, which adjoins the Harare International Conference Centre, venue of the Commonwealth summit to be opened by Queen Elizabeth II in October.

Hotel staff said a dance was in progress on the floor immediately above the blast, but no one there had been hurt.

Late-night drinkers in two bars about 50 metres from the explosion added to the damage by smashing windows with chairs to get outside.

The hotel manager, Mr Robert Barshy, said 215 of the hotel's 312 rooms had been occupied.

The blast is the first such serious incident here since April 28 last year when a parcel bomb maimed Father Michael Lapsey, a pro-African National Congress Anglican priest.

The Kuwaiti Embassy in Harare is situated on the 14th floor of the Sheraton.
Mugabe condemns bomb blast

HARARE. — President Robert Mugabe, condemning a bomb blast which damaged Harare’s top five-star hotel, said yesterday Zimbabwe would tighten security ahead of a Commonwealth summit meeting in October.

“What this means is that we have to maintain a high level of vigilance and security here and at other facilities to be used for the Commonwealth heads-of-government meeting,” he told reporters after visiting the 17-storey Sheraton Hotel.

The hotel is adjacent to the Harare International Conference Centre where Queen Elizabeth II of Britain will officially open the 48-nation summit.

The bomb slightly injured three hotel workers when it went off in the ground-floor lobby shortly after midnight on Saturday, destroying two floors and two restaurants.

Police believe the device, perhaps with a timer, was left in a briefcase behind a settee on the ground floor near a steak house and coffee shop.

Many Commonwealth delegates are scheduled to stay at the 700-bed Sheraton.

Mr Mugabe condemned the bombing of the hotel as highly inhuman, vicious and criminal.

“We will do everything possible to get the culprits,” he said, adding that an investigation was continuing. “As to who has done it, we cannot say at this stage.”

While Mr Mugabe would not speculate on who might have planted the bomb, he told reporters that South Africa had been behind several bombings in Zimbabwe since independence from Britain in 1980.

He said priority would be given to reconstruction of the hotel.

A key issue at the Commonwealth summit is expected to be whether economic sanctions should be sustained or lifted. Zimbabwe favours continued boycotts. — Sapa-Reuter-AP
Mugabe stays hotel blast at summit venue
Anglo chairman talks to Mugabe

HARARE — The chairman of Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, Julian Ogilvie Thompson, yesterday paid a courtesy call on Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe to discuss the company's operations in Zimbabwe.

Mr Ogilvie Thompson said the two had discussed Zimbabwe's economic reform programme. "We were able to discuss the restructuring programme here and developments in the southern African region," — Sapa.
Mugabe to meet Bush

LONDON - Zimbawean President Robert Mugabe arrived in London yesterday on his way to Washington, where he is scheduled to meet President George Bush today.

Mugabe and his delegation, which includes Foreign Affairs Minister Nathan Shamuyarira and Industry and Commerce Minister Kumbirai Kangai, left London for Washington later yesterday.

In Washington, Mugabe is due to spend 75 minutes with Bush at the White House to discuss bilateral and international issues of mutual concern. - Sapa.
Bush doubles aid to Zimbabwe

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (AP) - President Bush yesterday doubled the amount of US aid to Zimbabwe to support the economic reform programme aimed at revamping the economy to create new jobs and stimulate growth.

Zimbabwe has already received $118 million (about R105 million) in US aid this year. No figures, however, were mentioned by Mr. Bush.

After meeting President Mugabe at the White House, Mr. Bush said Zimbabwe's reforms had been strongly supported by the World Bank, IMF, and several US businesses. (Sapa)
Bank on turmoil, not investment

A US forecaster gives South Africa a poor risk rating, writes Hugh Robertson

[Image]
Harare hotel bombing won't affect summit

HARARE — The weekend bombing of the Harare Sheraton Hotel will not affect preparations for the Commonwealth summit in October, Zimbabwe's Secretary for Foreign Affairs Tichaona Jokonya says.

Mr Jokonya, who heads the task force in charge of preparations for the meeting of the heads of Commonwealth countries, said yesterday the bombing was an act of terrorism and a most unfortunate incident. But the safety of delegates would be ensured.

A Yugoslav company which built the R60 million hotel, which was opened in 1985, has been given the job of repairing the extensive damage to the ground and mezzanine floors caused when a bomb exploded on Saturday. Three workers were slightly injured.

The Herald newspaper said yesterday that the number one challenge for the government was to make absolutely certain it remained on top of the security situation.

The paper said the bomb may have been aimed at frightening people away from the summit.

A second British Army team of bomb experts arrived in Zimbabwe at the weekend to assist in security arrangements.
Harare rocked by real-life whodunnit

By ANDREW MELDRUM, Harare

TELEVISION murder mysteries and compulsively readable detective stories have lost their lustre in Harare. The most engrossing whodunnit in Zimbabwe these days is: who planted the bomb that rocked the Sheraton Hotel?

Like all good mysteries, the investigator must take the crime and find a motive, a suspect and then present the incriminating evidence which proves the case.

While nobody in Harare has that hard evidence, everybody has hatched a theory about who carried out the bomb blast and why. Ethiopians, Renamo, Zimbabwe Unity Movement, Irish Republican Army, Palestinian Liberation Organisation, Afrikaner Weerstandsbeveging, Civil Co-operation Bureau, British bomb experts, Zambians, Kenyans, Iraqis, Iranians ... the list of possible suspects goes on and on.

The bomb went off at 12.30am on Saturday, near the entrance to the ground-floor restaurants, causing an estimated R2-million damage. The restaurants were closed and only three hotel employees were injured. The bomb, which was planted behind a couch in the reception area, caused extensive damage to the luxurious lobby. Chandeliers were sprayed all over the place, large plate-glass windows were shattered and "furniture was tossed about.

The hotel has been closed, but officials say the damage will be repaired and the hotel refurbished in time for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Summit in October, which will see Queen Elizabeth II meet with the leaders of the 50 states of the British Commonwealth.

There was no warning given before the blast and no one has claimed responsibility.

In previous years, the Zimbabwean government would have immediately blamed South Africa's apartheid government and then gone about finding the evidence to back up the charge.
Zimbabwe fails to cut deficit
Violence, soaring of buyers

FOCUS HOLDINGS LIMITED

NIW.

— —

AZAPO will attend the 13th National Press Conference

A Zimbabwean anti-government demonstrator sets fire to a police vehicle in Harare on Friday. The demonstrators were protesting against the government's price hike plan and demanding the release of opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai, who was detained on charges of inciting violence and attempting to overthrow the government. The demonstrations turned violent, with police using tear gas and water cannons to disperse the crowd. The government has criticized the opposition's protests, saying they are aimed at destabilizing the country. The opposition has accused the government of using violence and intimidation to suppress dissent. The demonstrations have raised concerns about the country's political stability and economic prospects. The government has said it plans to introduce price hikes for goods and services, including fuel, electricity, and water, in an effort to improve its finances. The opposition has vowed to continue protesting against the price hikes and has called for a national strike. The situation in Zimbabwe remains volatile, with fears of further violence and unrest.

Subsidies

The government of Zimbabwe has announced plans to provide subsidies to farmers to help them cope with the effects of the drought and the rising cost of inputs. The government has said it will provide cash grants and in-kind support to farmers, including seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation equipment. The subsidies are aimed at helping farmers to increase their yields and keep their businesses afloat. The government has also said it will provide technical assistance and training to farmers to help them improve their farming practices. The subsidies are expected to cost the government around $1 billion, which will be funded through a combination of domestic and international sources. The government has said it will work with the private sector and international donors to ensure the successful implementation of the subsidy program. The program is expected to benefit around 1.5 million farmers, covering 1.2 million hectares of land. The government has said it is committed to improving the lives of its citizens and will continue to provide support to farmers in the face of the challenges posed by the drought and the high cost of inputs.
Zimbabweans stop smiling at ‘Comrade FW’

October 362

I got back from Zimbabwe this week having spent nine days speaking to government figures — including Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira — business people, diplomats, academics and journalists. While I was in Harare, I witnessed a disturbing turn-around in attitudes towards South Africa, as a direct result of the revelations about secret police funding for Inkatha.

I arrived before the scandal broke. From my early meetings, I picked up a great deal of interest in political developments in South Africa and a distinct softening of attitudes towards our country. President Robert Mugabe had expressed his admiration for Nelson Mandela, and acknowledged the courage and the decisive role played by President de Klerk.

As a measure of this changing emphasis, I was told that the deprecative terms used on Zimbabwe television reports should not be underestimated.

Newscasters now refer neutrally to the South African Government — they’ve dropped the apartheid regime usage of the past decade — and Mr de Klerk has been introduced on at least one memorable occasion as “Comrade de Klerk”.

It was my impression, after hours and hours of discussions with Zimbabweans — both high-ranking and less elevated — that the Zimbabwe delegation to the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting scheduled for Harare in October might well support a call for the lifting of sanctions.

There was, in these meetings early last week, a desire for closer contact with South Africa, and a determination to be part of any increased trading pattern with this country.

My informants said there were still strong links with South Africa, and expressed an eagerness to share in the regional economic development which will take place once the tensions in the sub-continent have been reduced.

I found that businessmen and Ministers alike did not want to miss out on any opportunities which may present themselves once the “new South Africa” is in place. There was awareness of the need to co-operate in matters of regional nature — for example, transport, communications and electricity generation.

They felt the potential for economic growth and co-operation was good and should be exploited.

I came out of these meetings enthused. It seemed to me that we were close to an historic breakthrough in future relations with Zimbabwe, the most important of our neighbours and our biggest trading partner in Africa.

But then came the so-called “Inkathagate” revelations. I can’t be sure that this was the sole reason, but I suddenly found that a prearranged meeting with the Minister of State Security did not come off. I was given the “Don’t call us, we’ll call you” treatment.

The conciliatory spirit began to give way, before my eyes, to old-style suspicion about Pretoria’s motives.

There was a bomb blast in the Sheraton Hotel on Saturday morning — and, immediately, the old suspicions about South African skulduggery were revived. Even President Mugabe referred to the fact that in the past it would have been “proven” that Pretoria’s agents were responsible.

Suddenly, Zimbabweans were not so sure that the Nats were not still up to their old tricks. The stimulating atmosphere of trust and optimism was not destroyed, but began to be replaced by caution and circumspection.

In my opinion, and I am sure I have to say this, the consequences of the “Inkathagate” revelations will be considerable — and could affect developments in the entire region. All those involved in negotiations with the National Party will be suspicious of their motives.

This is just one reason why it is imperative that the “Government respond to the demands by the various organisations as decisively as possible in order to restore a measure of credibility.”

No one wants to return to the bad old days, but the South African Government is going to have to work harder to prove its bona
Zimbabwe must prove 'irreversible change'

By Hugh Robertson
Star Bureau (362)

WASHINGTON — President Bush differed with his Zimbabwean counterpart Robert Mugabe yesterday over the "irreversibility" of change in South Africa.

But ironically it seems that there may have been some difference between them about the irreversibility of change in Zimbabwe itself.

At the end of their meeting, Mr Bush showed every sign of being pleased with the move away from Marxism in Zimbabwe, but he attached a subtle rider to a promise of "substantial help" from the United States for Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe is seeking about R10 billion in aid over the next five years to help it restructure its economy along capitalist lines, but there continue to be misgivings in Washington about the commitment of the Zimbabwean government to such change.

President Mugabe's failure to convincingly abandon his dream of a one-party state is believed to be one obstacle to the granting of financial assistance.

Some assistance to encourage the changes made in Zimbabwe is expected, but it is unlikely to be anything like the hoped-for R10 billion.
Zimbabwe gives order to shoot

HARARE — Violent crime is on the increase in Zimbabwe and the police have been instructed to shoot armed criminals who try to escape.

Police headquarters has confirmed that orders to this effect have gone out. Recent crimes of violence have included the murder of three people in separate robbery incidents.

In parliament last week, Deputy Home Affairs Minister Doms Dabengwa said unemployment had contributed to the worsening crime rate.

He said no police force, no matter how efficient, could beat the present level of crime.

More weapons are finding their way into Zimbabwe from Mozambique where, according to an army publication, starving people have been swapping weapons for food on the border.

One man arrested by a patrol had a fully loaded semi-automatic rifle and spare ammunition which he had been given in exchange for a meal.

The inflow of weapons has also led to increased poaching.

— Star Africa Service.
COMPANIES
Cafca prospers despite export slump

CENTRAL African Cables (Cafca), the Zimbabwean electrical cable company listed on the JSE's electronics sector, continued its strong growth in the six months to end-June despite a drop in exports.

The company's after-tax profit grew 39% to Z$37.7m compared with Z$27.5m in the last interim period, down from 1999's growth of 56%.

Cafca held its dividend cover at 4.1, paying an interim dividend of 7 Zimbabwean cents on earnings of 28.4c a share. The number of shares in issue was increased to 30.5 million from 5.1 million in March.

After last year's 80% increase in exports, sales to SA and other neighbouring countries dropped 15% to Z$6m.

The drop in exports was offset by a 33% increase in domestic sales, boosting turnover 25% to Z$446m compared with Z$354m in the last interim period.

Directors said plans were in place to improve export sales in the second half. "During the half-year exports were impacted by recession and settlement problems in a major market."

Aluminium cable sales increased substantially while copper cable sales remained steady.

Directors said cable prices, which were reduced in January because of low copper prices, had to be increased in June because of the cost of other materials.

Additional plant scheduled to come on stream later this year would not affect second-half earnings, which should be similar to those in the first half, directors said.

Sun Couriers' troubles will affect results, says Uniserv

MARC HASENFUSS

COURIER, freight and forwarding group United Service Technologies (Uniserv) has warned of a "significant drop" in interim earnings, caused largely by the underperformance of subsidiary Sun Couriers.

Uniserv chairman Tiger Wessels said yesterday that a spate of union troubles had plagued Sun Couriers for almost a year. During the past month the company had been unable to reach an agreement with the Transport and General Workers Union, he said.

"This instability is having a direct bearing on our performance," Wessels said. "This is particularly sensitive in our service industry, where commitment by people determines performance standards."

He said Uniserv's interim results would be published in early October.

Uniserv managed a 2% increase in earnings to R121.2m (R120m) for the year to February 1991 as improved contributions from Sun Couriers and Burlington Air Express were offset by poor performance in the group's export division.

Wessels said the courier sector was sensitive to drops in overall economic activity, and the current recession had also had a negative effect and sharpened competition.

Union demands, labour instability and a sharp drop in productivity during a protracted dispute had compounded the situation, he said.

"We hope the current deadlock will soon be broken, common sense will prevail and Sun Couriers and Uniserv will get back on track."

"We are certainly hoping for an improved level of earnings and overall performance in the second half of the year."

The group recently acquired R&M Global Tours and Overnight Express for undisclosed sums, which is in line with Uniserv's policy of growth by acquisition.

Uniserv's shares have recently seen renewed investor interest. The share was untraded yesterday at 152c, after several large deals pushed the share to its 140c peak earlier this month. The share was at a 107c low in December.
COMPANIES

Cafca prospers despite export slump

CENTRAL African Cables (Cafca), the Zimbabwean electrical cable company listed on the JSE's electronics sector, continued its strong growth in the six months to end-June despite a drop in exports.

The company's after-tax profit grew 30% to $38.7m compared with $29.5m in the last interim period, down from 1993's growth of 56%.

Cafca held its dividend cover at 4.1, paying an interim dividend of 7 Zimbabwean cents or earnings of 84c a share. The number of shares in issue was increased to 30,6-million from 5,1-million in March.

After last year's 80% increase in exports, sales to SA and other neighbouring countries dropped 15% to $248m.

The drop in exports offset by a 33% increase in domestic sales, boosting turnover over 25% to $265m compared with $244m.

in the last interim period. ( )

Directors said plans were in place to improve export sales in the second half.

"During the half-year exports were impacted by recession and settlement problems in a major market."

Aluminium cable sales increased substantially while copper cable sales remained steady.

Directors said cable prices were reduced in January because of low copper prices, had to be increased in June because of the cost of other materials.

Additional plant scheduled to come on stream later this year would not affect second-half earnings, which should be similar to those in the first half, directors said.

Sun Couriers' troubles will affect results, says Uniserv

Courier freight and forwarding group United Service Technologies (Uniserv) has warned of a "significant drop" in interim earnings, caused largely by the underperformance of subsidiary Sun Couriers.

Uniserv chairman Peter Wessels said yesterday that "a spate of union troubles had plagued Sun Couriers for almost a year. During the past month the company had been unable to reach an agreement with the Transport and General Workers Union, he said.

"This instability is having a direct bearing on our performance."

"This is particularly sensitive in our service industry, where commitment by people determines performance standards."

He said Uniserv's interim results would be published in early October.

Uniserv managed a 2% increase in earnings to R122.2m (R120m) for the year to February 1991 as improved contributions from Sun Couriers and Burlington Air Express were offset by poor performance in the group's export division.

Wessels said the courier sector was sensitive to drops in overall economic activity, and the current recession had also had a negative effect and sharpened competition.

Union demands, labour instability and a sharp drop in productivity during a protracted dispute had compounded the situation, he said.

"We hope the current deadlock will soon be broken, common sense will prevail and Sun Couriers and Uniserv will get back on track.

"We are certainly hoping for an improved level of earnings and overall performance in the second half of the year."

The group recently acquired R&M Global Tours and Overnight Express for undisclosed sums, which is in line with Uniserv's policy of growth by acquisition.

Uniserv's shares have recently seen renewed investor interest. The share was untraded yesterday at 135c, after several large deals pushed the share to its 140c peak earlier this month. The share was at a 107c low in December.