ZIMBABWE - GENERAL

1990

JUNE — DEC.

Cut This 11/6/90



Mr Edgar Tekere

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 10 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

22 years in Zim prison for SA spy

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 1989 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-Reuter

Women on the warpath over land policies

By TREVOR GRUNDY 3/6/90 (362)

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 organised by the National Farmers' Association recently, 80 women told government officials that while women are breaking their backs in fields, men are in the pub getting drunk.

"It's 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 now it has a mandate to rule, once again, following the March general election.

One farmer from the tobacco region of Marondera said, "We have given the president the car and the petrol to drive to land reform. If he doesn't get there, there will be trouble."

After 10 years of independence and a war fought around the land issue, 4 500 white commercial farmers own 40 percent of the best arable land. Some 800 000 black peasants seek a living from 30 percent of the land in the worst rainfall areas.

Banana line's on track for maiden profit

ST Times 3/6/90

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 buffs and a R1,8-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 R2,25m, 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 Sats 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."

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 Raven 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.

Mobil in valley oil hunt

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ST Times 3/6/90

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 $31-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 ULG 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 or gas in the Lowveld in the late 60s without promising result.

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 firms 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.

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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 unemployed at up to one million.

The government plans to liberalise imports, free up wage bargaining and partially deregulate banking to help deal with the problem, but some experts fear Zimbabwe might have missed the investment train. — Sapa-Reuter.

Star 7/6/90 (362)

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 here, 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

Own Correspondent

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.

The people foot the bill for Zimbabwe's political patronage

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B/Day 8/6/90

MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

ZIMBABWEAN President Robert Mugabe has promised massive new state investment in industry, mining and rural agriculture in the 1990s, to relieve the unemployment crisis.

But for the moment his drive for "government participation" is taking a breather.

World Bank financial experts have pointed out to him that Zimbabwe's watered-down form of nationalisation has, to date, meant buying out private sector capital in established concerns.

With departing businessmen being paid outside the country in scarce foreign exchange, Mugabe's bid to occupy "the commanding heights of the economy" became, in effect, a disinvestment campaign.

"The taxpayer's money should have been used to set up completely new enterprises," protested one business expert, who did not wish to be named following the Reserve Bank's recent threat to penalise a merchant bank if it did not silence its publicly critical chief economist.

In 10 years of independence the Zimbabwean government and the ruling Zanu (PF) party have built up a multibillion rand empire — state funds being channelled to the party through the Ministry of Political Affairs. This means, in more important political terms, that they control hundreds of thousands of jobs in a land with 1,5-million unemployed out of nearly 10-million people.

Each year-end 300 000 certificated school leavers pour onto a labour market with about 8 000 vacancies.

Appointments in the civil service (doubled in size since 1980), in parastatal bodies and in state-controlled industries, down to middle management level, may only be made on an acting basis until confirmed by Mugabe himself — sometimes after delays longer than three years.

The first thing victorious Zanu supporters did after the March general election was demonstrate for the dismissal of suspected opposition party voters from their jobs in government, in teaching, in municipalities, and in private firms.

Exactly how big a bill the Zimbabwean taxpayer has had to meet for creating this vast political patronage system is unquantifiable, because details of takeovers are usually kept secret.

When Mardon Printers, owning some of the most sophisticated equipment in their industry, came up for sale, the parastatal Zimbabwe Newspapers Company made a successful bid with an offer whispered to be much less than half the R13m tendered by a private consortium. The private consortium was forced to bid in Zimbabwean dollars while Zimbabwe Newspapers, exploiting its "special relationship" with the Ministry of Finance, was able to offer payment in foreign exchange.

In First World countries such deals would cause major political outcries, but in Zimbabwe they are not even seen as unethical.

The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe allows emigrating businessmen to take out their assets in foreign exchange if they sell at a 75% to 90% "discount" to government or other "approved" purchasers.

Thus a labyrinth of state and party business interests has now been created in what Mugabe calls a "mixed economy". They may own 30% of the share capital in an enterprise while other holding companies, in which the state holds controlling blocks, own enough of the remainder to give ultimate boardroom mastery to Mugabe's politburo.

The history of nationalisation in Zimbabwe is a long one, starting when Rhodesia Railways (now the National Railways of Zimbabwe) was bought from the British SA Company when Rhodesia's white minority achieved self-government in 1923. Even the liberal Rhodesian governments of the 1940s and '50s used railway employment policy, quite openly, to "stop a problem of poor whites". Rhodesian governments acquired total or controlling interests in the national airline and the Zisco steelworks.

Today, a list of enterprises in which state or party has an interest would start with the giant Delta Corporation (DC) which owns Zimbabwe's national breweries and the largest supermarket chain, OK Bazaars, extending through the Zimbabwe Banking Corporation (once Nedbank), the Sheraton Hotel (leased back to the American hotel group of that name), mining and engineering companies, textile manufacturers, the urban bus monopolies, stationers, travel agents, furniture factories and the Harare Airport duty-free shop.

The parastatal Industrial Development Corporation and Zimbabwe Development Bank, acting as holding companies, extend secondary tentacles still further into the economy.

Only when the Ministry of Information marched into the central film laboratories company was nationalisation tantamount to compulsory expropriation. All other takeovers were on a willing seller, willing buyer basis, technically.

"But apart from using the carrot of part payment abroad in foreign exchange, the government simply squeezed out private businessmen when it wanted something," said one economist.

Not all takeovers have been as financially disastrous as that of the national news agency, Ziana. DC, once an SA Breweries subsidiary, boasted a 23% growth in turnover in its recent results, although it complained that for the third consecutive year return on assets was less than 8%. The Post Office savings bank pays a taxfree 10%.

Before 1980, the Inter-African News Agency (Iana) was a private co-operative of the Rhodesian news media and the SA Press Association, operating with a staff of 13 and a monthly budget of R11 000. Today, despite government subsidies of R4m paid through the parastatal Mass Media Trust, Ziana's 60-strong staff are on go-slow because management, pleading lack of funds, failed to pay them raises all employers were supposedly compelled, by government decree, to award last July. Ziana has not been prosecuted because of its parastatal status.

This week, strikes and demonstrations provided graphic evidence of civil service discontent.

Fear of official regulations and of punitive taxation have resulted in cars becoming "money". Businessmen sink surplus cash into them rather than in new employment-creating enterprises for the same reason medieval misers hid gold in mattresses. They feel it is safer there.

Financiers are mesmerised by the impact of Zimbabwe's policies on economic life, the 18% a year inflation rate fuelled by high government spending, and the fact that total formal employment has only just passed the 1,1-million figure achieved by the besieged Rhodesian economy in 1974, when there were 3-million fewer people in the country.

They therefore dismiss fears that the elapsing in April of property guarantees in the Lancaster House constitution means more impending nationalisation.

It may be that over the past 40 years Rhodesians and Zimbabweans have heedlessly created a country which can be held together only by a government striving, in principle, to have itself acknowledged as the sole fount of personal wealth.

ZIMBABWE F/M 8/6/90

Half a loaf

(362)

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 $75,2m.

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 478 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. Businessmen are used to being promised the earth and getting only half." ■

Mugabe peace gamble

(362)

ST Times 10/6/90

Sunday Times Reporter
Harare

PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe said yesterday Mozambican rebels and government officials would meet in Malawi soon for preliminary talks on ending 14 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 — Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe said at the weekend 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. (362)

Mugabe, guest of honour at celebrations marking a Zanu (PF) election victory in Mashonaland West, said legal draftsmen were putting 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 the "necessary consultation".

Some commercial farmers had already agreed to give up some of their land. BLOOM 11/6/90

"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 multi-national companies which had large tracts of unused or under-utilised land. — Sapa.

CM Times 11/6/90

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 characterised 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 1/6/90 362

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 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.



COURT VISIT ... Mr Jordan (in raincoat), Mr Tshwete (with pipe) and Mr Stuart (far right) with most of the 28 released Robben Island prisoners on their way to the Supreme Court to visit the trial of Mr Tony Yengeni and five others. Picture: OBED ZILWA

Releases are 'bad news' for Harare 5

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — Five men held in Harare's Chikurubi maximum security prison were yesterday reported to be "extremely anxious" that Pretoria has agreed to the release of 48 ANC prisoners from Robben Island without obtaining their freedom in exchange.

Mr Robin Hartley, a lawyer acting for the five, said he visited them last weekend and found them physically well, but showing signs of strain at what they believed was their forgotten plight.

"They are anxious because they feel these releases were made for political purposes without any corresponding arrangements being made for them," he said.

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 Lumka Yengeni, Mr Michael Lumbambo, Mr Mbutu Nduku and Mr Wellington Nkwandla, to court.

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

The leaders, ANC information and publicity secretary Mr Pallo 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 Selikowitz was on the bench. Mr W S le Roux and Ms J V Knoll were the assessors. Mr Hendrik Klem, SC, with Mr Jannie van Vuuren and Mrs Sandra Swart, appeared for the state.

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Railnet employees joined in shooting of workers — union

B1day 12/6/90

THEO RAWANA

WHITE Railnet employees took part in the shooting of black workers which left 29 people injured at Johannesburg's Kazerne container depot yesterday morning, a SA Railways and Harbours Workers' Union (Sarhwu) spokesman said.

However, a Railnet spokesman said security guards fired rubber bullets after the workers, dissatisfied with admission control at the gates, had thrown stones at them.

Railnet labour relations division chief Jan Bredenkamp told Sapa the security men had been forced to open fire. No-one had been seriously injured, he added.

But Railnet labour relations (Southern Transvaal) manager Annecker Burk said later: "We are still investigating and would not like to lay blame on anyone just yet. The police are also investigating."

She refused to give the name of the security company involved and said Railnet could not give any further details.

Sarhwu general secretary Martin Sebakwane said one white Railnet employee was seen shooting a black at close range.

"Shop stewards have always warned management about white employees carrying guns, to no avail. One Railnet car brought guns and gave these to the security guards and white workers."

Sebakwane said the problem at the gates was a racial one because buses carrying whites were not searched, while blacks were not only searched but had to get off the buses.

"Black workers have to spend time outside the buses at the gates, only to find they have lost about half an hour by the time they get to their clock cards. These minutes accumulate into hours and these are deducted from their pay packets.

"Workers were not objecting to being searched on the way out, but felt the morning search was unnecessary, delaying them at the gates, with the added humiliations of body and bag searches which included security dogs."

Sebakwane denied the black workers had thrown stones. "The whole area is paved and there are no stones."

Harare prisoners hoped for a swap

B1day 12/6/90 362

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Five men held in Harare's Chikurubi maximum security prison were yesterday reported to be "extremely anxious" that the SA government had agreed to release of 48 ANC prisoners from Robben Island without their reciprocal freedom.

Robin Hartley, a lawyer acting for the five, said he visited them at the weekend and found them physically well, but showing signs of strain at what they believed was their forgotten plight. They are:

- Bloemfontein businessman Leslie Johannes Lesia, 53, held under the state of emergency since 1985 on suspicion of giving the ANC a booby-trapped TV set which blew up, killing the wife of an official.
- Death row prisoners Michael Smith, 36, Kevin Woods, 37, and Philip Conjwayo, 56, condemned for the killing of a driver in the bombing of an ANC house in Trenance, Bulawayo, in January 1988.
- Barry Bawden, 32, a former Rhodesian soldier serving a life sentence for assisting an SADF raid on ANC premises in Harare in May 1987.

Red Cross agreement

(362)

Sowetan 12/6/90

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, reports the country's Ziana news agency.

Mugabe's rhetoric harmful, says tobacco farmers' chief

B/Day 22/6/90 (362)

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

MICHAEL HARTNACK

from eastern Europe would help counterbalance 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 momentun 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 killjoy par excellence," said Lepere.

Ravenscroft announced that growers will aim for a 140m 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.

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problems

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 Conjwayo. 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.

Alleged car thief

Price controls cost ZSR R5,3-m

Star 15/6/90

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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.

Demonstration in Harare

Star 15/6/90 (362)

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

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 Ali Halimeh 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 Zimbabwe 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. B Day 18/6/90

"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 Zimbabwean Financial Gazette. (362)

President Robert Mugabe has announced the government plans to buy land from the remaining 4 400 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 Zimbabwean Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) after being seized from Joshua Nkomo in 1982. 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.

Zimbabwe plans to buy out Zisco's minorities

D1Day 19/6/90

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MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 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, Messina 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 subsidies which last year totalled R58,8m.

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

(362)

Star 20/6/90

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 Kumbirayi 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 $500 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 R520 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.

Education bill sparks battles in Zimbabwe

(362)
Sowetan 21/6/90

FOCUS

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 origin 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 over $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.

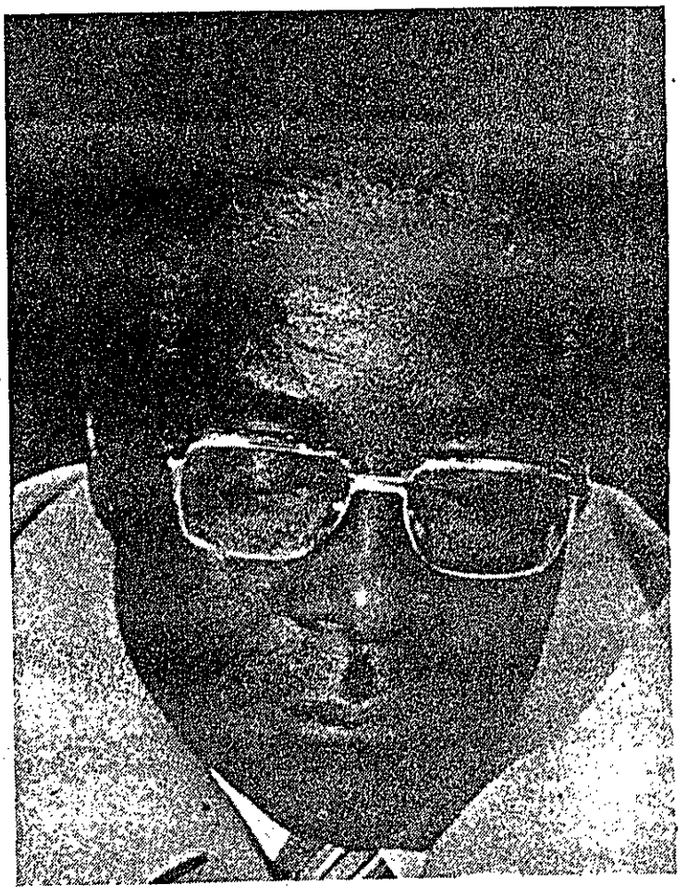
Chung, like Mugabe, is a socialist who wears her beliefs on her sleeve. But the teachers' strike showed popular discontent is mounting over bread-and-butter issues.

Salaries

The government stands accused of failing to create jobs for the hundreds of thousands of new school-leavers, who are boosting the unemployed 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 90000 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.



President Robert Mugabe .... faces an education crisis.

"Lets 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 units for seven years. She became minister in January 1988.

Her grandparents left China and settled in Harare in 1905, 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 votes at party primary elections to pick general election candidates. - Sapa-Reuter.

Insider trading scandal rocks Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

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WM 15/6 - 21/6/90

It may not have the clout or glamour of Wall Street, but the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange has seen some dubious deals, reports

ANDREW MELDRUM

THE sleek stockbroking offices high above Harare were rife 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 Z$5-million (R4-million) to purchase the new KCI shares and then sold them days later at a profit of about Z$ 1-million. The brokers promptly paid off the bank loan 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 millions 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 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 sanctimonious utterances by the bankers against the "unethical dealings".

Star 22/8/90

(362)

Zimbabwe judicial triumph

Ian Smith was an MP when he was found guilty of contempt of Parliament arising from remarks he allegedly made on British TV. As a result his salary and allowances were suspended by Parliament. He appealed.

"We allowed the appeal," Mr Justice Dumbutshena said. "We declared the suspension of Mr Smith's salary and allowances illegal.

"The Speaker of the House of Assembly told the press Parliament was supreme and would not pay a man like Smith. The President and the Cabinet issued a statement to the effect that it was the duty of the judiciary to interpret the laws passed by Parliament.

"The Constitution of Zimbabwe is the supreme law of the land. Any law passed by Parliament which is inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution is, if challenged, struck down by the court."

Mr Dumbutshena, who recently retired as Chief Justice, said he was aware that the South African judiciary once enjoyed, to a lesser extent, the sort of supervisory powers over the legislature which is now part of Zimbabwe's Constitution.

There were three entrenched clauses in the South Africa Act of 1909. Using these powers the Appellate Division struck down the Separate Representation of Voters Act, 1951, and the High Court of Parliament Act, 1952, which were meant to remove coloured voters in the Cape from the common voters roll.





When Ian Smith (above right) was paid out his salary earlier this month, the outcome was of more interest than merely that of a politician in a neighbouring state having a dispute with the Speaker of Parliament. Chief Justice Enoch Dumbutshena (above left) of Zimbabwe used the case to illustrate that a constitution which includes a Bill of Rights provides good legal safeguards. **CATHY STAGG** reports.

"The triumph of the judiciary over the executive and legislature was short-lived.

"Parliament soon passed the Senate Act in 1955 which increased the number of senators. A joint sitting of the House of Assembly and the new Senate validated the Separate Representation of Voters Act," he said, adding that his knowledge of the extent of the power of the judiciary in South Africa did not extend beyond that period.

The separation of powers between the judiciary, executive and legislature was clearly defined in the constitutions of the new Commonwealth countries. The influence of the judiciary was enhanced by an entrenched Bill of Rights, he said.

A colleague of Mr Dumbutshena's, Mr Justice McNally, commented that if a government wanted to subvert the constitution and take away the rights of people, it would find a way to do so.

"The number of ways are so legion that you could never write in every protective mechanism.

"The constitution only reflects the attitudes of people and people cannot be changed by writing something down on paper. However, one can create a human rights culture.

"One can't bind a new government in hoops of steel, but you can bind it in bands of silken thread over the years," Mr McNally said.

Judge Dumbutshena said "bit by bit" the Zimbabwean judiciary had persuaded the government to accept its rulings and the Smith incident had established the supremecy of the judiciary in the public's mind.

Umbrella for Zimbabwe mine co-ops considered

HARARE — Three Zimbabwean 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 Elisha 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$95 000 in 1984 to almost Z$8m last year.

Kahari expected turnover for 1989 to be "almost Z$9m".

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.

day June 27 1990 Star 27/6/90 (362)

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 Zimbabwe government. If he were released, however, he wanted to be returned to South Africa.

● Staff Reporter Craig Kotze reports more spies held by 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.

Zimbabwe gets rolling once more

(362) Star 27/6/90

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 lost R125 million last year.

It had great difficulty moving all the traffic.

The general manager, N N 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 marshalling 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.

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Mining exploration at highest level

EDWIN UNDERWOOD

ZIMBABWE's mining exploration in 1989 reached its highest level since independence, the Zimbabwe Banking Corporation's (Zimbank) April Economic Review says.

Particular interest had been shown in the location of further economic deposits of precious metals, especially gold, said the review.

The value of Zimbabwe's mining production rose to $1 196m in 1989, a 21,4% increase on 1988, due largely to a 21% increase in unit values.

Output volume was only 4,2% higher.

The value of production leapt largely because of a 43% rise, to $284m in nickel income. Gold receipts rose 9% to $414m, asbestos 37% to $134m and tin revenue rose by 41% to $16m.

The report said the outlook for Zimbabwe's gold exports was discouraging as for every $1/oz change in the average gold price in 1990, Zimbabwe expected a change in total gold exports of about Z$1,2m.

In the manufacturing sector the volume of manufacturing production rose 5,5% in 1989 compared with 4,9% the year before. Output of metals and metal products was 5,8% higher and chemical and petroleum products rose 11,6%.

On the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange the industrial share price index breached the 1 000 barrier for the first time in February and by April it had reached 1 178,25.

The mining share price index touched 387,19 in April and mining share prices rose more than 6% in 1989, despite plunging world metal and mineral prices.

On industrial policy, the report said the Zimbabwe government believed the introduction of more external competition would be effected in phases to ensure local industry survived.

(362) Star 28/6/90.

BACKGROUND

Economic crisis is at root of discontent

Kenneth Kaunda (below), one of Africa's political survivors, faces the most severe test of his rule, report **MIKE HALL** and **MICHAEL HOLMAN** from Lusaka.



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 mobs rampaged through the streets of Lusaka this week boting shops and attacking symbols of wealth, President Kenneth Kaunda faced one of the most severe tests of his 26-year rule.

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

With characteristic starched 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 out 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 — are 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 other 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 to 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 fitfully pursued.

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

The question now is whether they can channel popular dissatisfaction into a coherent opposition to Mr Kaunda. — The Financial Times News Service.

Zimbabwe is now free to change its constitution

Star 29/6/20 (352)

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 108 votes to two.

The Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, yesterday described the measure as one which will remove all existing vestiges 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.

FM 29/6/90 (362)

ZIMBABWE FM 29/6/90

On the road (362)

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.



Chidzero

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 108 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.

Toll in Zambian riots now put at 30

LUSAKA — The death toll after three days of food rioting 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 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 meaningless. "He said nothing new but 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 now 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 ransacked a maize meal depot on Wednesday.

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

Lusaka police commanding officer Hobson Simasiku said the situation was calm yesterday, but reports reaching the business 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 overstaying and usurping power through constitutional fraud. — ANO

Contrav
CONCORDE TRAVEL HOLDINGS LIMITED
(Registration number 87/02975/06)

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 to 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

AN ANGRY 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. (362)

Describing pro-Western moderates as Judas Iscariots, Mr Mugabe told a special meeting of his 160-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 enunciate 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 failed to do so and held 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 colonisers and inhuman slave masters".

Whites are being spied on

SUNDAY TIMES FOREIGN DESK

ZIMBABWEAN security police are reportedly watching for any secret celebrations of the centenary of white colonisation on Friday.

The centenary was celebrated in Rhodesia by the Rhodes and Founders weekend.

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 90-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 festival 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 4 400 commercial farmers, mainly whites, about the impending land bill.

B|Day 3|7|90

'Reschedule African debt'

MAASTRICHT — Former World Bank president Robert McNamara has called for rescheduling of African debt to industrialised nations.

"There's very little reason to believe that current development programmes will reverse the trends of exploding population, poverty, and damage to the continent's environment," McNamara told reporters on Sunday on the eve of a 70-nation conference on the African economic crisis.

McNamara and Botswana's President Quett Masire are chairing the three-day meeting, which ends tomorrow.

The total debt of sub-Saharan countries grew to $134bn in 1988 from $6bn in 1970, according to the World Bank.

McNamara said Africa would be hurt by interest rates rising in Europe as a side effect of investment in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. — AP-DJ.

Kaunda plays golf as unrest fades

B|Day 3|7|90

LUSAKA — President Kenneth Kaunda played golf yesterday as Zambia returned uneasily to normal after five days of anti-government riots and an aborted coup by mutinous troops.

Long lines formed before dawn outside state stores, private supermarkets and petrol stations that were closed after student-led rioting over food price hikes erupted last Monday.

Paramilitary police and troops patrolled the streets of Lusaka and other cities and towns but there were no signs of unrest yesterday.

While officials insisted no-one was killed during the coup attempt on Saturday, witnesses and diplomats said three civilians celebrating Kaunda's reported 'demise were shot dead near State House.

The government has retained a dusk-to-dawn curfew.

Kaunda, 67, was in the central Zambian city of Ndola in the early hours of Saturday morning when a signal corps lieutenant announced on state radio the army had seized power.

But the soldier and at least four other officers involved in an alleged plot to oust Kaunda were detained by loyalist troops.

The government has officially acknowledged the arrests of only two people, Lt Mwamba Luchembe and an ex-detainee who staged an anti-government demonstration in Ndola.

The broadcasts prompted thousands of joyful Zambians to take to the streets.

In last week's protests angry Zambians demanded that the price hikes be rescinded, Kaunda resign immediately and Western-style multiparty democracy be restored.

With his impoverished nation's economy in ruins, analysts say Kaunda's only hope is a recovery programme proposed by the IMF, World Bank and western creditors who are jointly owed $7,5bn in debts.

Part of the salvage operation was the lifting of subsidies on mealie meal.

State television on Sunday night also reported that more than 1 000 people had been arrested, mainly for alleged curfew violations, in the week of violence.

But witnesses said many people were arrested in daylight during protests.

On Sunday night Kaunda replaced army commander Lt-Gen Gary Kalenge with deputy commander Maj-Gen Francis Sibamba without explanation. Analysts said it was clearly a result of the aborted coup. — Sapa-AP.

B|Day 3|7|90

Geingob optimistic

WINDHOEK — Namibian Prime Minister Hage Geingob says he is optimistic that the dispute between SA and Namibia over Walvis Bay will be resolved amicably soon.

Geingob said in an interview that Namibia regarded Walvis Bay as part and parcel of Namibia, although it was still officially SA territory.

Geingob said that he envisaged joint economic projects with SA once it had resolved certain political difficulties.

Before then, Namibia would try to loosen its economic dependency on SA.

He also indicated that SA might be one of the countries targeted for the first Namibian diplomatic missions.

Lack of finance prevented Namibia from opening offices elsewhere. As yet, Namibia had no diplomatic representation in other countries. — Sapa.

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

B|Day 3|7|90

362

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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

Confederation of Zimbabwean industries (CZI) president John Deary told a Press conference: "We accept the (ruling) party's views on the desirability of a one-party state, but we certainly do not believe it is necessary to introduce it when government has in effect achieved that."

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

Deary said the CZI supported "some" aspects of a one-party state.

"There will obviously be both a measure of loss of investment potential, and probably it will affect grant aid and loans."

Deary, who said Zimbabwe's estimated 1,2-million to 1,5-million unemployed would be the major concern of this week's annual CZI congress, believed Mugabe would continue to heed the private sector. Mugabe had stressed his desire for "a Zimbabwean type of socialism," which included a place for the private sector.

"We still have to find out exactly what that means in the terms of a structural adjustment," said Deary, referring to government promises of extensive economic liberalisation over the next five years.

Deary noted the challenge a post-apartheid SA would pose Zimbabwe, but said it would offer Zimbabwean businessmen huge potential in its expanded market.

Worrisome numbers of skilled Zimbabweans were being attracted by job offers in SA because Zimbabwe possessed better educational facilities, he said.

"The South Africans have already been doing a great deal to recapture their markets in the region and we will face tough competition," said Deary.

Cape Times 3/7/90 362

Cape

Industry backs socialism



Robert Mugabe

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 Zimbabwean 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.

Zimbabwe may end emergency

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-Reuter and Own Correspondent

not acting as the custodians of morality — that is the role of the church".

film distributors, at the rate of about two per week.

Food manufacturers 'may face huge AIDS claims'

Diouny 5/7/90 (362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

VICTORIA FALLS — The Confederation of Zimbabwean 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 20% of Zimbabwe's 10-million people already infected, 90% of the workforce could be dying of AIDS within 10 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 contamination," 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.

Jeugkrag members detained in Zimbabwe

HARARE — Twelve young men and women from the Afrikaner political movement Jeugkrag 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 booking out of the Monomatapa Hotel in Harare's city centre at 11am to catch a flight to Gaborone when Zimbabwean security police arrived.

MICHAEL HARTNACK

SA Trade Mission acting head in Harare Len Haasbroek said his diplomats obtained the group's release at 3.15 pm.

Sources here said the group, between 18 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'

Cape Times 5/7/90

Staff Reporter

ZIMBABWE Unity Movement and official 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 aide - Page 7

Zimbabwe set to sell maize stockpile to SA for R800m

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 $106 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-ordination Conference (SADCC), Angola, currently heads the list of SADCC countries with a serious maize shortage.

Its 565 000-ton estimated need was 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 1 200 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 R545.

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

W Mail 6/7-8/7/90

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. (362)

●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

(362)

Sowetan 6/7/90

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 Jeugkrag 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 Beukes.

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

"We were not physically mishandled," Beukes said yesterday - *Sowetan - Africa News Service.*

Detained Jeugkrag members released

By KATHY STRACHAN (362)

THE 12 Youth for South Africa (Jeugkrag) students who were detained and interrogated in Harare said yesterday they were safe and ready to continue their tour. W/Mail 6/7/90

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 arrangements for the visit.

Zim sends 2 SA spies to jail for long terms

HARARE. — Two Zimbabwean men, Gift Ncube 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 Ncube 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. — Sapa and Own Correspondent

demned the use of violent means to bring a halt to things cannot be turned back now. Only death is irreversible."

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 675 000 tons of maize, leaving Zimbabwe with a substantial surplus.

The turnabout 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 fertiliser 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

By DON JACOBS
Harare

THE Roman Catholic Church has issued a passionate plea to the increasing number of Zimbabwean women reportedly 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.

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Precious

"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 50 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 Zimbabwean Industries at Victoria Falls at the Zimbabwean Government's continued refusal to allow AIDS screening of workers in the food and catering industries. ST Times 8/7/90

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 90 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 Pateson Mapanda, 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 fatalistically 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!'

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ST Times 8/7/90

SUNDAY TIMES FOREIGN DESK

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.

(362) ST Times 8/7/90

Mealie fiasco

By CHARMAIN 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 mealies and had no need to import them.

Denying reports that the board was on the brink of signing an R800-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 1,06-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 170 000 tons. The railways simply did not have the capacity to carry the maize to Beira.

The costs of keeping such a stockpile — now 29% 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 1,19-million tons of maize in the next few months.

Mr Wayland says: "We are not a charity organisation and cannot simply buy up Zimbabwe's surplus.

"However, we are prepared to help them to export their grain."

The rand's world value

	R1 equals		One foreign unit equals (R)	
	06/07/90	06/07/89	06/07/90	06/07/89
US $	0,3779	0,3721	2,6461	2,6878
UK £	0,2114	0,2293	4,7299	4,3616
Deutschemark	0,6246	0,7021	1,6010	1,4243
Japanese yen	57,01	51,68	0,0175	0,0194
Swiss franc	0,5292	0,6013	1,8897	1,6631
French franc	2,0956	2,3811	0,4772	0,4199
Canadian $	0,4403	0,4429	2,2712	2,2579
Italian lira	457,99	508,44	0,0022	0,0019
Zimbabwean $	0,9245	0,7798	1,0817	1,2824
Australian $	0,4739	0,4833	2,1102	2,0690

Trade weighted value of rand, % change against 1974 base ... 38-71

Domestic interest rates

MONEY MARKET

	Friday 06/07/90 %	Friday 29/06/90 %	Friday 22/06/90 %
SARB accommodation: rediscount rate TBs	18,00	18,00	18,00
Treasury bill tender rate	17,91	17,97	18,00
Basic call of discount houses	18,75	20,50	18,25
Three-month banker acceptances	18,30	18,30	18,30
Three-month NCDs	19,60	19,70	19,70
Three-year RSA stock	15,53	15,58	15,57
Prime overdraft rate	21,00	21,00	21,00
All-in yield of finest acceptance credits	19,39	19,39	19,39

CAPITAL MARKET

SECONDARY MARKET — RATES ON MOST TRADED STOCKS

	Average Previous Month	As on Friday
Long-term RSA stocks	16,64	16,58
Long-term Escom stocks	16,15	16,18

Best sections this week

	Av % Mv	Av D/Y	Av E/Y
Mining Holdg	4,1+	4,4	7,5
Electronics, etc	3,4+	6,8	19,8
Diamonds	2,9+	48,5	68,4
Evander	2,5+	12,2	0,0
Printing & Publishing	2,1+	4,7	18,2

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 armoury 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

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9/7/90

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 ideas to "go to hell".

The Zimbabwe national news agency, Ziana, reporting from Kampala where Mugabe has 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.

"I 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 armoury to hand to the ANC should 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 the one-party state 'cowards'

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WMail 13/7/-16/7/90

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

Floating casino planned for Cape Town waters

BRENT MELVILLE

BOUNTY will soon be within reach of gambling-starved Capetonians with the announcement that a local company is planning to launch a floating casino off Cape Town's Atlantic coast.

Delta Queen Sporting International (DQSI), a privately placed unlisted public company, has placed an order worth R18m with a Cape-based manufacturer for the construction of a 400-ton buoyant casino.

DQSI joint MD Philip Marcus says the casino will offer gambling in the style of Monte Carlo, adopting a "members only" attitude to all but foreign tourists.

He estimates an initial membership of about 10 000 at a cost of R100 per person a year, with an additional ship's fare of R30 a trip.

The Delta Queen will offer blackjack, roulette, punto banco or slots, from well before Christmas next year, he says. It will leave Cape Town twice daily to reach international waters within 40 minutes.

Round trips will take about five hours and full restaurant facilities will be available, with sophisticated revues to be staged in a cabaret bar, says Marcus.

He says advanced design ensures complete safety and remarkable stability and the CSIR has completed tests to ensure the safety of the vessel in rough seas.

The Delta Queen has been insured to the value of R25m with Lloyd's of London.

TODAY'S QUOTE

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

George Bernard Shaw

TODAY'S WEATHER

CREDIT GUARANTEE
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Pretoria, Witwatersrand and the eastern highveld: partly cloudy and mild but cold on 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

Man-made gems open new doors — De Beers

BRENT MELVILLE

DE BEERS Consolidated Mines spokesman Neville Huxham said that last week's announcement by General Electric (GE) of a new synthetic diamond would not close the door to other producers but would open new opportunities instead.

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 at all on natural diamonds.

"If it did have 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, the largest ever, he said.

Steel shipments impounded

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — The parastatal Mines and Minerals Corporation of Zimbabwe (MMCZ) confirmed at the weekend that three ships containing R16,5m worth of Zimbabwean steel had been impounded in the Kenyan harbour of Mombasa and the Italian port of Madeira.

An SA sub-charter firm, known as TCL, had allegedly failed to pay the ship owner his fees, despite being paid US$500 000 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.

Police raze squatter camp in Harare

Argus 17/7/90

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 liaision with other agencies was obliged to remove all squatters.

Zimbabwe lifts emergency after 25 years

HARARE — 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 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 what he called 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.

Star 19/7/90

362

Zim emergency to go after 25 yrs

Gn. Times 19/7/90 (362)

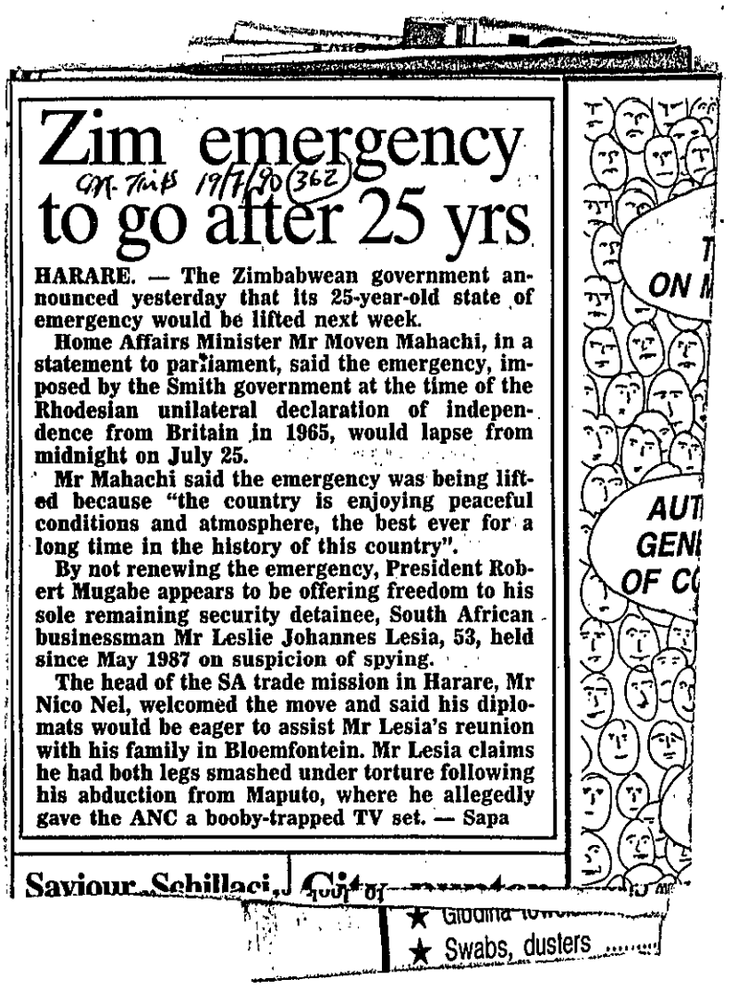
HARARE. — The Zimbabwean government announced yesterday that its 25-year-old state of emergency would be lifted next week.

Home Affairs Minister Mr Moven Mahachi, 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 Mahachi 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

W1 mail 2017-22/7/90

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. (362)

The national news agency, Ziana, reported that Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi said yesterday that Zimbabwe would no longer have any detainees when Leslie Johannes Lesia (52) was released.

"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 emergency 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 tremendous 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 Mahachi, 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 friendshp 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 25, the date on which the state of emergency lapses.

Aids cases

HARARE - The number of Aids cases recorded in Zimbabwe has passed the 3 000 mark. Latest figures from the Aids Programme Control Co-ordinator give a

New hands for injured priest

Cath Times 21/7/90

(382)

HARARE. — 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

SUNDAY TIMES, July 22 1990

ST Times 22/7/90 (362)

Thaw across the Limpopo

YEARS of patient behind-the-scenes work by South African diplomats this week started paying dividends when Zimbabwe declared a new policy of "good neighbourliness".

By DON JACOBS: Harare

Since President Robert Mugabe won power in 1980, he has spurned every offer of co-operation and dialogue.

But on Wednesday, announcing to parliament that the state of emergency was being lifted after 25 years, Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi declared: "The South African Government is now seriously extending the hand of friendship.

"The people of South Africa are now talking of peace and one hopes for a quick solution to the problem," he added.

While Mozambique, Zambia — and even Angola — began talking to Pretoria, Mr Mugabe ploughed a lone furrow, refusing any government-to-government contacts and putting himself in the forefront of the international campaign to isolate SA.

Diplomats do not want to prejudice the thaw by commenting prematurely, but businessmen believe a R800-million maize deal could pave the way for a new era of southern African co-operation.

Zimbabwe is selling the SA Maize Control Board 300 000-tons from its stockpile, possibly enabling South African suppliers to meet Angola's desperate need for 545 000 tons to avert famine.

Due to transport problems, Angola is incapable of importing directly from Zimbabwe, but Transnet's expertise could save the day. Mr Mahachi said Mr Mugabe's government was convinced that SADF cross-border raids in search of ANC bases were a thing of the past.

Meanwhile, the head of the South African Trade Mission in Harare, Nico Nel, has welcomed the prospect of the imminent release of Leslie Johannes Lesia, the 53-year-old Bloemfontein curio dealer who is Zimbabwe's last security detainee.

Mr Lesia — who claims he had both legs broken while being tortured after he was abducted from Maputo — will be reunited with his wife Miriam after three years of imprisonment without trial.

Mr Mahachi repeated claims that Mr Lesia had been a South African agent. "We think he is no longer a security risk. We have kept him long enough and whatever information he has is no longer useful," said the Minister.

The Minister said six other alleged South African agents, convicted by Zimbabwean courts, would "serve their sentences", but hopes are high for the early release, on compassionate grounds, of Odile Harington, 29.

Her 25-year sentence — for trying to infiltrate the ANC while posing as an anti-apartheid activist — was halved when appeal judges noted her ordeal of torture, starvation, solitary confinement and sexual abuse under interrogation.

Mr Mahachi's reference to serving out prison sentences may mean Mr Mugabe has decided to commute the death penalty imposed on three former Rhodesian servicemen — Kevin Woods, Philip Conjwayo and Michael Smith — for bombing an ANC "safe house" in Trenance, Bulawayo, in January 1988.

An associate, Barry Bawden, is serving a life sentence for aiding the May 1986 SADF raid on ANC premises in Harare, while Bulawayo garage owner Rory Maguire is serving seven years for failing to report Woods when he learnt that the former Zimbabwean intelligence officer was working for South Africa as a double agent.

The ANC vainly put diplomatic pressure on Zimbabwe to free the prisoners in June, hoping this would clear the way for the release of convicted ANC saboteurs from South African prisons — a key ANC precondition for full-scale constitutional talks.

B1004 251790

Zimbabwean budget may change course

HARARE — Zimbabwe's government is expected to point the economy firmly towards liberalisation in its budget tomorrow 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 controls over commerce and industry.

"I don't expect more than a broad-brush approach in the speech," says Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) president John Deary. (362)

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

"SA is not just a threat, it is an opportunity," Deary 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. — Reuter.

Last detainee freed under Zim emergency

Own Correspondent

HARARE. — Bloemfontein curio dealer Mr Leslie Johannes Lesia, 53, finally boarded a South African Airways flight to Johannesburg late yesterday without formal documents after making history as Zimbabwe's last state of emergency detainee.

South African diplomats managed to overcome a last-minute hitch when, as he walked out of the gates of Harare's grim Chikurubi maximum security prison, after more than three years, he was redetained 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.



SA businessman Leslie Lesia, accused of sending a booby-trapped television to ANC officials in 1987, arrives at Jan Smuts Airport last night after being deported from Zimbabwe. Lesia spent three years in detention without trial. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Zimbabwe's last emergency detainee jets into SA hours after being set free

B 10 Aug 1990

HARARE — Bloemfontein curio dealer Leslie Johannes Lesia, 53, 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.

(362) Interview

Murder charges were dropped against Lesia in October 1988, but he was immediately rearrested 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"

MICHAEL HARTNACK

who gave the ANC a booby trapped television set.

The set blew up, killing the wife of an official, Tsitsi Chilisa, 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 Askari 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 lawyers 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

ANDREW MELDRUM: Harare

ZIMBABWE's government yesterday bit the economic bullet and moved away from socialism with the announcement that it would open its centrally-controlled economy to market forces.

Fundamental economic restructuring and trade liberalisation measures are to be undertaken soon, according to Senior Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero's 1990-91 budget speech.

Chidzero said this was "the opportune time to do away with most of the economic regulations that have strangled growth for so long". Meaures include privatisation of state entities, an export drive and cutting the civil service.

Business ground to a halt as a nationwide strike of bank employees shut all five commercial banks just before payday. All Air Zimbabwe flights were grounded yesterday as engineers went on strike.

Zimbabwe pushing ahead with freer market

By Robin Drew,
The Star's Africa News Service,
and Financial Times

HARARE — Presenting the 1990-91 budget to Parliament yesterday, Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero said Zimbabwe had reached the high point of decisive change from which there was no going back.

He announced moves to reduce controls, to give market forces more play and to introduce trade liberalisation.

"We have to grow and become competitive," he said, and the next few months would see the implementation of policy reforms aimed at obtaining sustainable growth.

However, Zimbabwe's five-year structural adjustment programme received a setback with Mr Chidzero's admission that he was unable to cut the size of the budget deficit this year as expected.


Mr Chidzero

While it has been the government's stated aim to bring the deficit down to five percent of gross domestic product by 1994, estimated financing needs have grown by 25 percent over last year's estimate, and will remain at nine percent of GDP, due largely to a 25 percent growth in total spending.

He blamed the increase in spending on the need to clear a two-year backlog of subsidies to parastatals of Z$300 million, requiring total expenditure on parastatals this year of Z$650 million, 40 percent of which will go to the National Railways.

Mr Chidzero emphasised, however, that this would be the government's last injection of support to the parastatals on such a scale, saying that those which were unable to operate efficiently without such subventions would, in the future, either be allowed to go out of existence, or be converted into joint ventures.

Mr Chidzero also pointed out that this year's budget had to accommodate a major salary review and restructuring of the civil service promised during the general elections in March.

After a wave of strikes in the public sector last month, civil servants are thought to have been offered an average of a 20 percent pay rise.

In return, Mr Chidzero promised to reduce the size of the country's bureaucracy over the next few years by freezing posts as they fell vacant and by introducing incentives for early retirement.

He also announced the withdrawal of the state's commitment to free primary education for all.

He said the government, beginning in the 1991 school year, would take steps to recover costs through the introduction of manageable school fees, based partly on the ability to pay.

Despite the increase in budgeted expenditures, Mr Chidzero maintained his commitment to supply-side taxation measures.

He will lower the company tax rate from 50 percent to 45 percent, beginning on April 1 1991 and raise the income tax threshold from Z$2 000 to Z$3 600, while top marginal rates will apply to those earning above Z$45 000 — Z$5 000 higher than the present level.

An expected announcement on the price of fuel was not made and the only immediate increase in duty was on beer which will cost another 14c a litre.

Among promised positive moves which will be welcomed by businessmen were:

- The removal of price control on many items, excluding basic foodstuffs.
- Freer collective bargaining over wages.
- The streamlining of hiring and firing regulations.
- A determination to wipe out subsidies for parastatals which currently account for 35 percent of the budget deficit.
- A reduction in the size of the civil service.

Zimbabwe has also unveiled plans to create a new class of wealthy black commercial farmers alongside its powerful white landowners, and to stop all foreigners buying land, Reuter reports from Harare.

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OLYMPUS • BLAUPUNKT • PIONEER • TECHNICS • RICOH

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 PF-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$833,97m (about R900m), of which the biggest share of Zim$614,95m (about R664m) is for salaries, wages and allowances, Ziana reports.

The Air Force gets Zim$178,06m (about R192m), of which Zim$52,8m (about R57m) is marked for wages and Zim$45,3m (about R48,9m) for aircraft procurement, maintenance, modification and running costs. — Sapa

Prisoners freed for Zim celebrations

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 PF-Zapu political fugitives to women convicted of killing their babies.

The amnesty also embraces those who collaborated with dissidents and includes a general remission on prisoners serving determinate sentences, according 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, or those who escaped from prison on or before April 18 this year, and were still at large the next day.

Mugabe said the amnesty was being proclaimed to enhance national reconciliation, to promote the unity of Zimbabweans and to mark the 10th independence celebrations.

F/M 27/7/90 (362)

ZIMBABWE F/M 27/7/90

Plenty in reserve (362)

Though the Zimbabwe government lifted the 25-year-old State of Emergency on Wednesday it will still be able to invoke special powers to crack down on strikes, dissent and alleged subversion.

Under the 1986 Presidential Powers Act Robert Mugabe can use tough measures similar to the emergency laws. Zimbabwe's entrenched Law, Order & Maintenance Act also enables government to restrict suspects or invoke powers previously covered by the emergency.

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 dissenters without trial. It also gave authorities power to fix price controls, freeze 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.

Zimbabwe 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 Zimbabwe 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." ■

Mugabe's land grab folly

(362)

ST Thurs 29/7/90

End of the road for white settlers in Zimbabwe?

A MASSIVE land nationalisation plan unveiled this week could spell the end of the road for most of Zimbabwe's white farmers, if not the entire remaining 80 000 white community.

By DON JACOBS: Harare

The land grab involves the government taking over five million hectares of prime white-owned farmland worth R3,2-billion for a mere R590-million.

An economist warned this week that the scheme would not only shatter the agricultural industry, but destroy all hopes of employment creation through Western investment.

Others rejected the scheme as a Marxist fantasy.

"Quit now while the going is good and get paid something for the farm before the government cannot afford to pay anything," the director of the powerful white group, the Commercial Farmers' Union, Mr David Hasluck, reportedly told a seminar.

Agriculture Minister Dr Witness Mangwende said that in addition to settling 110 000 peasant families on five million hectares in the most productive soil and rainfall area, stretching from Mutare to Karoi, the government wanted to promote "emergent black large-scale commercial farmers" and would vet all future rural land sales.

The region produces Zimbabwe's major foreign currency earner, tobacco, and most of the commercial maize crop which has ensured the country has not suffered the famines experienced in many other parts of Africa.

White commercial farmers appeared likely to be tolerated in future only in the sparsely populated ranching lands of the south and west, and the rugged mountain country of Inyanga.

President Mugabe's Cabinet reportedly adopted the land takeover plan at a marathon session last Tuesday, seeing it as a "quick fix" for the problem of 1,5-million unemployed.

Presenting his annual budget on Thursday, senior Minister of Finance Dr Bernard Chidzero acknowledged: "On the average Zimbabweans in 1989 are worse off than they were in 1982."

As he spoke, striking bank staff gathered in Harare, throwing the country's commercial life into chaos in their bid to get pay rises to offset runaway inflation.

With railwaymen, construction workers and catering industry employers hovering on the brink of similar action, Air Zimbabwe technicians walked out, grounding local and international flights.

The expiry on Wednesday of Zimbabwe's 24-year-old state of emergency means President Mugabe can no longer deploy riot squads against the strikers without first trying to negotiate a return to work.

On the 10th anniversary of independence in April, President Mugabe's hands are free to amend the declaration of rights which safeguards white farms and businesses, along with freedom of association under a multi-party system.

But opposition leader Edgar Tekere has accused ruling party moguls of being "the biggest land grabbers since independence".

Censured

Meanwhile, the government's own Derelict Lands Board has censured the ruling party's chairman Joseph Msika for the neglect of two farms he owns in the prime area of the Mazoe Valley, north of Harare.

Last year, labourers on two of the five farms owned by the family of Energy Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze complained they had not been paid.

Dr Chidzero admitted that part of Zimbabwe's economic problems stem from a bureaucracy which has swollen from 62 000 at independence to 181 000, devouring 41 percent of recurrent government spending in salaries and allowances.

While Dr Chidzero vowed to get rid of the government's "[illegible]al" staff, parliamentarians will not be allowed to debate a 25 percent increase in the R67-million vote for the Central [illegible] on which monitors suspected government opponents and has soaked up ever increasing amounts of money since 1980.



ROBERT MUGABE . . . deluded by Marxist 'fantasies

Zimbabwe amnesty for political prisoners

Argus Africa News Service

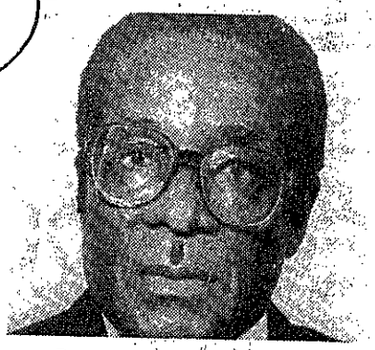
HARARE. — Offenders convicted of crimes of violence during Zimbabwe's general election campaign in March this year have been pardoned under a general amnesty announced by President Mugabe.

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 Zimbabwe 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.



President Robert Mugabe

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 receving 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 5-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 5-million hectares for producing "strategic crops".

This will leave the 4 500 white farmers with about 10-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 commandeered 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 Ano 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 beer," 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 30.

"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.

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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.

W/Mail 3/8-5/8/90

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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



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

"It won't happen. The 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 cling to 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 Scandinavian 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 opposition in the 22-member Politburo and the 160-member Central Committee of President Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF).

"More than half of the Poliburo are against it 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 then there will probably be another study. We think the issue will be allowed to fritter away without notice."

That widely-assumed attitude of "it can't happen here" seems to be a wilful misreading of events that amounts to sticking one's head in the sand, particularly following Mugabe's recent speeches in which he unmistakeably spelled out his determination to establish his Zanu-PF as Zimbabwe's sole legal party.

Why 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 complacent?

The successful imposition of a one-party state is completely against the grain of events in Southern Africa, particularly as one-party Mozambique announced on Tuesday that it will become a multi-party 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 reached 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 many 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 liberalise 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 that the Mugabe government is addressing the central promise of the liberation war that has remained unfulfilled. 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.

By removing the draconian Emergency powers and granting a generous amnesty the Mugabe government has wiped its human rights slate clean. Amnesty International, Africa Watch and Zimbabwe's Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace have very little left to complain about.

With the ambitious trade liberalisation plans and the related moves to reduce the civil service by one-third and cut government expenditure, the government has undertaken policies urged for years by the World Bank and other multi-lateral financial institutions.

These economic measures to open the economy up to the international market should put Zimbabwe in good books with the West. The United States and other countries that wish to sell their goods here will be pleased and so will the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which police the world's economic developments for the West. In addition, the exciting plan should quicken Zimbabwe's economic pace so there are more jobs for Zimbabwe's restless urban unemployed.

And by renewing its promise to carry out thorough land redistribution and intensified rural re-development, the Mugabe government is answering the frustrations of its major constituency, the rural peasants.

So, rather than proving the government is loosening up and becoming more free, these actions on human rights, the economy and land display the Mugabe government ably silencing its critics on many fronts. These moves can be seen as preparation for the final drive for a one-party state.

When Mugabe makes that assault, his human rights record will be impeccable, his economic house will be in order for the West's World Bank and the re-invigorated action on land should satisfy the rural constituency that he counts on to vote for a one-party state in a referendum.

With a tight-lipped smile at a recent press conference, Mugabe spelled out how he intends to get around the objections of those in his party to a one-party state. He said if those opposed, whom he called "political cowards and backtrackers", raise too much trouble in the Central Committee then he will go over their heads by calling a special Zanu-PF congress. The previous convention, in December, saw some 5 000 rural party officials enthusiastically back Mugabe on a one-party state.

"There is no reason to think they would reverse their decision at a new meeting," said Mugabe at the conference."They look askance at multi-party systems."

Once the party itself agrees on single-party rule, then a national referendum would probably be held and most likely the rural vote would carry the day. And then would come the one-party state itself.

"Mugabe and those who support him feel it is a now or never situation," said a Central Committee member. "If he does it, I think it will be by the end of the year."

Mugabe said he intended to include "a number of enhancements" in his one party system so voters would be able to change leadership and even to go back to a multi-party system if they wished. These measures would ensure Zimbabwe's multi-party state would be democratic.

With such one-party plans spelled out, how can anyone doubt that Mugabe may well accomplish his goal of turning Zimbabwe into a one party state?

Smith calm over Mugabe's land plans

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5/7 Times 5/8/90

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 4 800 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 counterbalances farmers' accusations that the CFU keeps quiet while the government rages against whites' land ownership.

"John Brown's body lies a-mould'ring 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 1980 (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 Burl, a tobacco farmer from Wedza, 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.

Businessmen 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 1980s to around 10% of gross domestic product. "If maintained, it would imply that the country was not even replacing its ageing capital stock. On a net basis, new investment was negative."

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 1995.

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$600m. About Z$50m of the total was in foreign cash, he said. — Reuter.



Veteran Zimbabwean politician Joshua Nkomo.

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.

Nkomo, 73, a former senior minister in the President's Office, takes up his new post after an amendment to the Zimbabwe constitution which provides for two vice-presidents. The other vice-president is Simon Muzenda.

Nkomo, affectionately known as Father Zimbabwe — a reference to the part he played in the liberation struggle for almost four decades — is also, with Muzenda, second secretary and vice-president of the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

He was elected to the party post after the merger of his former party, PF-Zapu, and Zanu (PF) in December last year.

The burly Nkomo led Zapu in an alliance with Zanu under the Patriotic Front (PF) banner during the struggle for Zimbabwe's independence.

The alliance collapsed soon after the Lancaster House Agreement in 1979, leaving the two parties to contest the independence elections separately.

In that election Zapu won 20 seats and Zanu 57 in a 100-member House of Assembly in which 80 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 recommendation 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 proposal

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 renew society and to continue acting as the political force that expresses the most im-

Mozambique 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.

DIGOCO MINI
("Digoco")

New post for Nkomo

8/8/90 Sowetan

ZIMBABWE's veteran nationalist leader, Mr Joshua 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, Zapu, which has merged with President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF). (362)

After the April general election this year, the Constitution was amended to allow the appointment of two Vice-Presidents.

5 die of Aids in Zimbabwe

GWERU – 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 *Cheziya Gokwe Post*, which was monitored by the Ziana national news agency.

District medical officer Johnson Dongijena 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 Dongijena.

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 is 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. – *Sapa*

'500 000 Aids victims in SA by next year'

Star 9/8/90

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 45-50 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

Star 9/8/90 (362)

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, confirming the officially recorded cumulative total of 3 034 cases of Aids by the end of June this year, said it was estimated that 466 000 people were HIV positive.

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

This gave a figure of 261 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'

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IRCs 9/8/90

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 4 400 strong Commercial Farmers' Union, Mr Alan Burl, 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 econony, 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 Burl 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 Burl 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.

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Zimbabwe picks a white Chief Justice

(362) Star 10/8/90

ROBIN DREW of The Star's Africa News Service reports on the surprise appointment of Mr Justice Anthony Gubbay (below), as Zimbabwe's top jurist.



HARARE — When Zimbabwe's first Chief Justice, Mr Justice Fieldsend, retired in 1983, he said he knew the government was anxious to appoint a black judge to the post.

So there was no surprise when Mr Justice Telford Georges, a West Indian lawyer with wide experience of Third World countries, was appointed to the top judicial position.

It was not long before he was followed as Chief Justice by Zimbabwe's own first black judge, Mr Justice Dumbutshena, who established an international reputation as a champion of human rights.

He retired at the age of 70 in April this year, leaving many with the belief that another black judge would be the likely successor, and in this case, the Judge President, Mr Justice Sandura, seemed a likely choice.

But reflecting perhaps a new maturity and confidence in Zimbabwe's claim to be non-racial, President Mugabe has chosen an English-born lawyer, Supreme Court judge Mr Justice Anthony Gubbay, to be the new Chief Justice.

Colleagues in the legal profession appear delighted. They spoke of him as a very good lawyer who had become highly respected as a judge since his appointment to the Bench in 1977.

He was made a Judge of Appeal in the Supreme Court in 1983 and acted as Chief Justice on a number of occasions.

Highest standards

Colleagues described him as a quiet, modest man, meticulous in his work. He will insist on the highest standards, said a leading advocate, and he will require questioning research by those who appear before him.

Mr Justice Gubbay was born in Manchester in April 1932. After school in Britain, he studied at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg before going to Cambridge where he obtained a Master's degree in law.

He has lived in Rhodesia and Zimbabwe since 1958.

The Chief Justice told the national news agency after his appointment: "We are going to continue to respect and maintain human rights as best we can."

Mr Justice Gubbay was one of the judges who, at the time of the row over payment of Mr Ian Smith's salary during his suspension from Parliament, issued a statement slamming the Speaker of the House of Assembly for his disregard of the rule of law.

The judges said they were greatly offended by the Speaker's attitude.

"Parliament may not by its actions contravene rights upheld in the Declaration of Rights," they said, adding: "The duty of deciding whether Parliament's actions contravene such rights is not given to Parliament, otherwise they would be judges in their own cause.

"An impartial body is entrusted with the duty.

"We, recognising our own human weaknesses, are the body to whom that duty has been entrusted by the Constitution."

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, 3 034 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 181 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 Swithun 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 Social worker, Father Ted Rogers, 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

Sowetan 13/8/90 (362)

HARARE - President Robert Mugabe on Saturday said solutions to Zimbabwe's economic and social problems depended 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 gaping for satisfaction," he said.

If the current 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 333 people died in 1989, while during the first half of this year 234 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 234 reported to the AIDS Control Programme, since during this period 118 people died of AIDS or HIV-related causes in Bulawayo alone, according to city council director of health services Barnett Nyathi, and 89 people died from AIDS in Manicaland, according to the provincial health officer, Dr Salim Rajab. BIPA 17/8/90

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 234 Aids-related deaths in the first half of this year. (362)

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'

Star 17/8/90 (362) (1) (2)

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — The Black Consciousness Movement of Azania (BCMA) has accused the African National Congress of unleashing its members 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 declaring 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?"

LEARNING NATION



INTERNATIONAL HISTORY

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Transfer of Power 5

Zimbabwe

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In the fifth article in our series, Transfer of Power, we will look at the liberation struggle in Zimbabwe. We will look at the guerilla 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 minority 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 were 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 extremely 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, Britain tried to persuade the white government to share power with the black majority. In 1961 the British government tried to present proposals for a "multiracial" 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 1961. 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 a 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 firmly entrenched 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 nationalist 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 in the leadership, 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 Zanu and Zapu 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 guerilla attacks in Rhodesia in April 1966. But it was only after the independence of Mozambique in 1975 that the guerilla 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. 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 Zanu and Zapu. 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, no significant land reform or desegregation was undertaken. The constitution of Zimbabwe/Rhodesia was similar to that of the tricameral parliament in South Africa. It had a second chamber senate which could block legislation and thus entrench white power indefinitely. As a result the guerilla war continued.

Between 1974 and 1978 the cost of the war had increased by fourfold. In 1978 the war was costing Rhodesia 500 000 pounds a day. In 1978 the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had dropped by 7 percent and had increased unemployment for Africans in the cities and the townships. This bred more urban guerillas. As the war progressed, the RSF increasingly lacked morale, cohesion and effectiveness. Through village meetings in the eastern front, Zanu was also increasing its support and creating a political base.

The Commonwealth Lusaka Conference in 1979

On 1 to 8 August 1979 the Commonwealth meeting was held in Lusaka. The Commonwealth represented one-third of the UN and included 12 African states. Angola and Mozambique which had suffered attacks from Rhodesia because they provided bases for the guerillas were given observer status. The Commonwealth states refused to legitimise UDI and threatened to expel Britain from the Commonwealth if that country recognised the Internal Settlement. So we can see that Britain's plan to recognise the undemocratic government of Muzorewa was destroyed at the Lusaka meeting.

Nyerere who had supported the guerilla struggle, especially Zanu, led the attack on Britain. He proposed a meeting of all to draw up a democratic constitution for Zimbabawe, including the participation of Zanu and Zapu and free elections which were internationally supervised. At this conference, Zanu leader Mugabe demanded the disbandment of the RSF. Zanu argued that this was an important issue as free and fair elections could not take place if the enemy's army remained intact and regulated the negotiation process.

However, the frontline states, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia were tired of war. They had supported the guerilla struggle with tremendous cost to their own economies. South Africa was destabilising the frontline states through military attacks and economic pressure. Machel, from Mozambique, played a key role in pressurising Zanu to accept the conditions for negotiations. The frontline states were also very dependent on international aid for their economies and pressurised Mugabe to agree to the conference.

The Lancaster House agreement

The Lancaster House agreement consisted of two conferences in London between September 10 and December 21. The conferences were chaired by Lord Carrington and they were attended by Commonwealth representatives. The PF between Zanu and Zapu entered Lancaster House prepared to have a consistent position on all the issues. Even though by this time Zapu was not much of a political force, it was important to maintain unity between 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 frontline 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 brough the PF's 35 000-strong guerilla 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 100 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 was able to directly 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 renewed the state of emergency for another six months in January 1980. Mugabe's Zanu PF became the major target for repression in the period between the ceasefire and the elections. It was Zanu PF that found it most difficult to hold meetings because of widespread intimidation by the security forces and private armies.

As the election date neared, it became clear that Muzorewa's support had disappeared. The intimidation of Zanu PF supporters did not prevent Zanu from winning 57 of the 80 black seats. Nkomo's Zapu won 20 seats, while Muzorewa's UANC gained only 3 seats. The Rhodesia Front Party won the 20 seats allocated to whites.

Conclusion

In this article we have seen that Zanu and Zapu were forced into negotiations because of the weakness of the frontline states. The frontline states, battered by the attacks on their countries, urged the 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 frontline 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

By DON JACOBS
Harare

ZIMBABWEANS are agog at President Robert Mugabe's mysterious award of his country's highest decoration for bravery, the Zimbabwean Gold Cross, to a white former Rhodesian.

At a Heroes' Day investiture at State House last Saturday, President Mugabe's "head of internal security", Danny Stannard, 50, emerged from his habitual 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 Organisation, in which he is the only known white officer.

A cryptic citation said that on April 16 1980 — two days before Britain finally handed over the reigns of power to Mr Mugabe — Mr Stannard "foiled an assassination attempt by South African agents" against Mr Mugabe and international 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 Masvinga.

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

Zimbabwe and SA come out of the cold

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S/T mag 19/8/90

By DON JACOBS
Harare

DESPITE a blanket of official silence, South Africa's hush-hush 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 Mahachi, that a policy of "good neighbourliness" was being followed.

At a meeting of the Britain-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 Lonrho executive John Deary, head of the Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries, told the meeting that contacts with South Africa were cautious as Zimbabwe wanted to see "progress towards democracy".

Said Mr Deary: "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

Star 20/8/90 (362)

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 Emeka 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.

Zimbabwe's Mugabe battles winds of change

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Abus 21/8/90

Ian MacKenzie of Sapa-Reuter in Harare reports how, in a changing southern Africa, Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe is going the opposite way.

AFRICA

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 desperate 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-ruled 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-that-never-was in July brought people onto the streets in short-lived celebration.

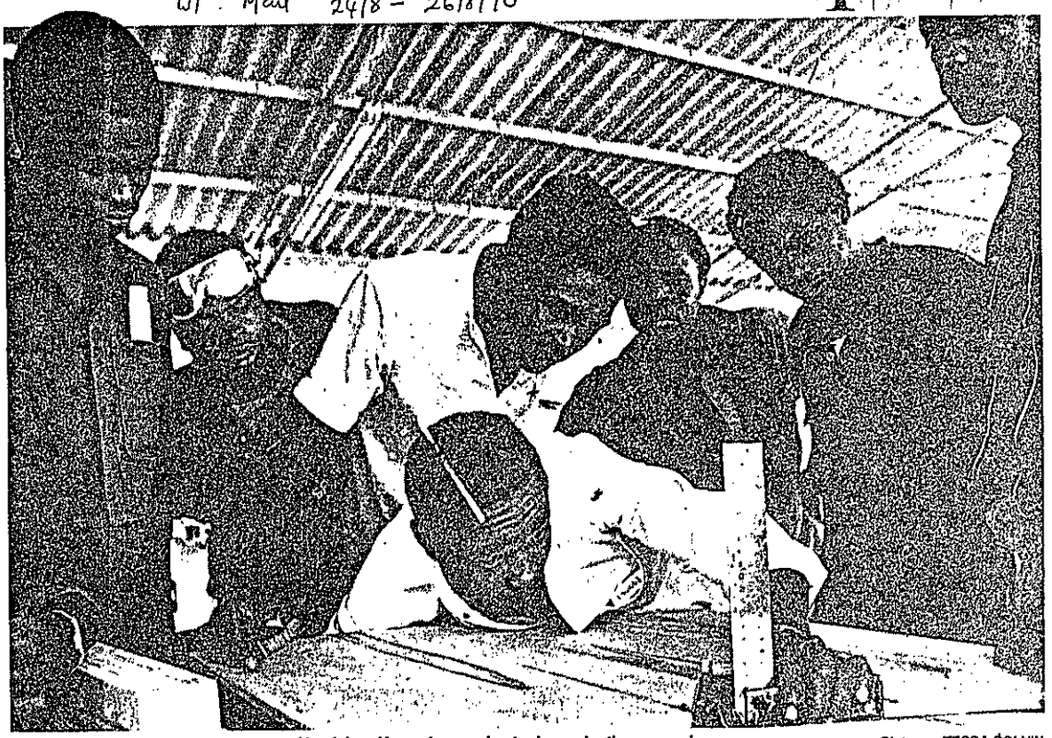
There is some confusion in neighbouring Zimbabwe over its future political course. Local press reports that President Mugabe had been defeated within the ruling ZANU party in his bid to institute a one-party state brought vehement denials from Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira.

"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

(362) W/ Mail 24/8 – 26/8/90

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 returnees to South Africa. **ANDREW MELDRUM** reports



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

Pictures: TESSA COLVIN

JOSEPHAT Zenda does not present the expected image of a guerrilla who fought to liberate his country, yet he was a political commissar in the Zimbabwe African National Liberation 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 fulfilment in his work.

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

Ten years after Zimbabwe's independence, as many as one-third of Zimbabwe's 40 000 nationalist fighters remain unemployed and many more are in low-paying menial jobs.

Zenda (36) takes pride in being part of a project that trains ex-combatants like himself, many of them disabled, with skills valued on Zimbabwe's job market.

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

Like many other Zimbabweans, Zenda, has grown cynical about politics.

"Things started out well at independence, but I guess it's human nature that people lose commitment when things go well for them," observed Zenda. "Ministers drive in Mercedes while we have such unemployment. Politicians play around with words ... ex-combatants were given lots of promises from 1981 to 1982, but then things died down and nothing exciting has happened."

But Zenda has not lost hope. "I have fallen in love with this institution," 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 get off the ground our wheelchair people will really do well and they will get very good jobs."

He tells of other Danhiko success stories. The manager of a Bulawayo bookstore is a Danhiko graduate, five other disabled ex-combatants are clerks with the Ministry of Labour.

"You see our students all over the country. Several are at the National Parks in Chinhoyi, in Kariba and at Mana Pools," said Zenda. "One of our graduates is now a headmaster at Odzi, near Mutare. An amputee is now a secretary at National Breweries and another is at Coca Cola."

Danhiko, which means ladder in Shona, was started specifically to offer education to disabled freedom fighters and war victims.

"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 starting 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 Matapi hostels, an overcrowded workers' dormitory. The cramped, crime-plagued quarters next to a beerhall had become completely inadequate by 1983 when the number of students had grown to nearly 100. New premises were found on the outskirts of Harare and students bunked 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 Danhiko's early years. "But then we began to realise that we would have to find our own jobs and build our own lives."

As the pressing need for jobs became clear, Ladin saw that Danhiko needed to expand its scope to offer training in practical skills that would help graduates find employment. After studying for their O-levels, Danhiko students now go on to carpentry, garment-making and electronics workshops where they get skills certificates. Danhiko's vocational units are hives of activity where students learn skills in functioning workshops.

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



Josephat Zenda, services and boarding master at Danhiko. Zenda was a political commissar in the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (Zanla)

The cabinet-making workshop produced furniture worth Z$223 870 in 1989 with a net profit of Z$29 067 after deducting training and administrative costs. With that money, the unit expanded its workshop area. Danhiko is the only institute in Zimbabwe which offers training for a City and Guilds certificate in cabinet-making. One of the specialities is the wooden tools programme, in which low-cost carpentry hand tools are made entirely from locally-available materials. The tools are suitable for rural and urban carpenters, particularly the self-employed. Previously only imported tools were available and now the Danhiko tool sets sell for one-third the price of the imported sets.

Similar success can be seen at the garment-making unit, which has seen its sales expand from Z$22 000 in 1987 to Z$149 000 in 1989 with a profit of Z$46 000. In the electronics production unit students learn to repair electronic equipment. There is such a severe demand for such skills in Zimbabwe that most students are offered jobs even before their examination results are known.

Danhiko has had many benefactors and, with the help of Scandinavian donors, new dormitories, classrooms, 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 opens their minds to what they can do. It cheers them and makes them ambitious. I have seen so many come here and they are weaklings. 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 percent are from neighbouring countries.

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

Comninos, a South African exile himself, believes that in addition to helping its students, Danhiko Project can make a more general contribution to the region by serving as a prototype for other training facilities.

"Danhiko could be an appropriate model to help re-integrate the war-wounded in Mozambique and Angola. There's also a need for similar projects in South Africa. It's exciting to think that institutions like Danhiko could serve our whole region."

The forgotten heroes

By TREVOR GRUNDY

When Zanla and Zipra freedom fighters in Zimbabwe returned from the bush, they were given a heroes welcome. They had sacrificed years of education to fight for an ideal. Ten years later the "Vakomana" are homeless and battling to stay alive on meagre earnings from menial jobs. Will returning ANC cadres suffer the same fate?

IN 1979 they were called "Vakomana", the boys in the bush. The Western media turned them into heroic fighters for independence and millions of words were written about their heroic challenge to white rule when Zimbabwe was called Rhodesia.

In dug-out canoes, they crossed the mighty Zambesi River at night with weapons of war – the Russian-made semi-automatic AK47 was the favourite. They challenged the skills of Sandhurst-trained officers and what was one of the world's best professional cum-part-time soldier war machine.

Whites on farms, where the reservoir of military strength came from, don't like to admit it but the Rhodesian army was beaten by the forces of Robert Mugabe's Zanla and Joshua Nkomo's Zipra.

Certainly, outside forces (people like South Africa's John Vorster and America's Henry Kissinger) played a powerful role in ending 90 years of white rule in the country. But just before the London talks in December 1979 which changed Rhodesia into Zimbabwe, the "Boys in the Bush" had virtually paralysed the countryside and made the then Salisbury one of the few areas of Rhodesia not under curfew – or "military law".

After independence Vakomana were still the nation's uniformed darlings but the honeymoon didn't last long.

Some 36 000 guerrillas were demobilised. They received small pensions which some pooled and formed co-operatives. Others did what millions of soldiers have done before – they blew their handouts on women and booze.

Today [illegible] 25 000 of them [illegible]

gabe and freshly appointed joint vice-president Dr Joshua Nkomo were remembering the fallen dead, a letter in *The Herald* newspaper from a girl with a necessary nom-de-plume spluttered out these words of regret: "No wonder my parents are always reminding me how far I would have gone education-wise had I not hindered my progress by leaving for the struggle. But I thought it was for a good cause for everyone. How wrong I was."

The writer was one of the thousands of teenagers who quit Rhodesia in the early 1970s for places like Zambia, Botswana and Mozambique to boost the ranks of the freedom fighters.

On the whole, they had little education. They grew up quickly and by anyone's standards were heroic in fighting for their belief that Zimbabwe would emerge a prosperous, non-racial and fair society.

Almost 40 000 black guerrillas died, thousands more have been crippled, and today they are society's forgotten people. Only the odd MP breaks the silence in parliament which now deals with sub-[illegible] listation, Reserve



Freedom fighters now battle to stay alive

of work and homeless. Independence medals can be bought in second-hand shops in Harare and Bulawayo and it would be no exaggeration to say the nation's heroes are today a bitter breed of men and women.

A statement in parliament by one of the few white MPs speaking on the Zanu (PF) ticket, Sean Hundermark, summed it up when he said: "Ex-combatants could not afford the land they fought for; they did not qualify for the schools they fought to improve; the industry they fought to change could not absorb them; they had no capital for self-employment.

"They see themselves as rejects in society . . . used in war as cannon fodder."

His statement was made almost 24 months ago but in August 1990 very little has changed.

Letters appear regularly in the local Press about the plight of the ex-combatants and they reached a crescendo last week which saw the country's leaders laying wreaths at the North Korean-designed Heroes' Acre on the edge of the capital.

The same day President Robert Mugabe said other fighters have become push-cart operators at supermarkets where the clientele is still largely white housewives. "It is a disgraceful situation," he said.

Those who do have jobs often find themselves at a serious disadvantage because those who did not fight are better educated, trained and qualified.

As for their dream of a better life for the younger generation, a hefty 90 percent of the one million people who have gone through school since independence are out of work. To add insult, education minister Fay Chung told a local magazine that the unemployed care next to nothing about the country's history, or the situation before black rule.

Bank-dictated interest rates and spears endless debate on human rights.

"We are most worried about the living heroes," said an executive member of the Zimbabwe National Liberation War Veteran's Association, MP Ticha Dongo.

"A lot has to be done for them. It's a pity the dead heroes are now being used as a political platform by certain individuals who want to further their own political interests."

Dumiso Dabengwa (now a deputy minister but a hero for Zipra who spent years in prison after being accused of plotting to overthrow Mugabe after independence) has said: "Ex-combatants were let loose and out of excitement they squandered their pay cheques and became desperate. Some came back to the government for assistance but doors were closed and, frustrated, they started accusing some leaders of betraying the revolution."

While ministers and civil servants drive to work in imported "Mercs", former bush fighters try and make a living selling vegetables at the local market in Bulawayo. Beit Bridge MP Kombo Mo-

Bitter authors tell their story. Books like *Vicious Circle* by Alexander Kanengoni, *On The Road Again* by Freedom Nyambubaya and *Silent Journey From The East* by Isheneusu Mazorodze tell part of a story of war, blood, hope and betrayal.

Most talented writers fear offending those in power.

Ticha Dongo, however, doesn't seem to fear anyone. "Ten years after, the nation watches with concern, anguish and despair as thousands of ex-combatants, some of them disabled by the war of liberation, live in abject poverty and misery as a result of a lack of education skills and accommodation – as well as neglect or outright discrimination."

She said it was no secret that half of the ex-combatants need to acquire skills in order to be more productive and actively contribute to the national economy.

But it's not all despair. A few dedicated ex-guerrillas believe it's not too late to turn the heads of ministers towards Vakomana.

The War Veterans' Association will be holding a national congress (it has 20 000 members) this October. Hard words will be spoken and hopefully, against the background of "trade liberalisation", there will be more money for pensions.

Not only white housewives appear uncomfortable when they see their groaning food trolleys being pushed outside supermarkets by mean-looking men, still with rippling muscles but holes in their trousers and shirts. Some politicians are also embarrassed.

Does the situation in Zimbabwe provide some lesson for the South Africa yet to be born?

CAFCA EARNS 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. ST Times 26/8/90

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 Z$43,8-million and pre-tax profit 57% to Z$11,9-million.

Even stranger, the share is priced at Z$7,35 in its home country. A Zimbabwean dollar is allegedly worth R1,10. So the price in Zimbabwe is R8,08 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 do all the Southern African Development Co-ordination Committee (SADCC) countries.

Startling

Because of low raw material and labour costs, Zimbabwe is a low-cost producer of cable and export demand is also strong.

Word from the company is that the Zimbabwean authorities are easing the tight regulations that bound companies hand and foot in the past. Industrial relations are in good shape and the company is in good nick.

The only difficulty is ,obtaining imported plant, though even that bottleneck could soon be alleviated as CAFCA proves to the Zimbabwean authorities that it is an important exporter.

By DAVID CARTE

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 remissable.

Cafca is obliged to keep dividend cover at 4,1. It earned 149c last year. If it can keep earnings ahead by 50% for the year, it could achieve earnings of 223,5c.

The year's dividend would be 54c or 44c after NRST 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 remissable 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.

Ex-Zim leader in peace appeal

Cape Times 29/8/90

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Tekere

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.



Banana

AIDS payouts increase 499%

(362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwe's leading life assurance company, the Old Mutual, has drastically revised its rules on new policies after a 499% rise last year in payouts to families of AIDS victims. BT 24 3/8/90

Assistant GM Nalin Kapadia said in a statement released in Harare that the financial viability of Old Mutual was threatened because of the Zimbabwean government 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 R3,9bn 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 55 were now infected with the HIV virus.

'Too few Blacks in top management' (362)

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 Mhlaba, 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. Sowetan 31/8/90

"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. - *Sapa*

Cape Times 3/9/90 362

ANC, SACP will split, says Marxist Zim academic

HARARE. — The future breakup of the ANC-SA Communist Party (SACP) alliance has been predicted by a Zimbabwean Marxist academic, the national news agency Ziana reports.

The point was made by Mr Kempton Makamure, chairman of the the Department of Law at the University of Zimbabwe, in his paper presented at a conference on Zimbabwe's first 10 years of independence and its lessons for South Africa and Namibia.

The conference ended yesterday after South Africans, Namibians and Zimbabweans had exchanged views on their respective countries.

The paper dealt with the future of socialism in South Africa, drawing from the Zimbabwean experience.

Mr Makamure said both the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) would, in a "post-colonial" situation, inevitably become black bourgeois parties. The alliance between the ANC and the SACP was bound to break sooner or later in post-apartheid South Africa, as the SACP would, ideologically, practically be forced to fight for the working class in the face of the inevitable growth of both the ANC and the PAC into African bourgeois parties, said Mr Makamure.

He said the two were nationalist movements "in the exact mould of Zanu-PF" in Zimbabwe. The only significant difference was that the ANC had had an historic alliance with the SACP, which alliance would wither away.

Mr Makamure said South Africa's working class, unlike its counterpart in Zimbabwe and Namibia, had been independently politically organised. He added that the struggle for socialism in a free Sout Africa would not bypass capitalism.

In Namibia, Swapo would continue with its chara ter of a nationalist movement without a commitme to fundamental political change.

"The petty-bourgeois leadership of Swapo will pr side over the continuity of the capitalist economy Namibia more easily and naturally without the di comfort of Zanu-PF leadership, which has had endure a split personally in that it espoused Marxis Leninism but practised capitalism," said Mr Mak mure. — Sapa

Illegal gold a prospect in Zimbabwe

HARARE — A decade of growing unemployment in Zimbabwe has spurred thousands of gold prospectors to try their luck along the river banks that criss-cross the region. BDay 6/9/90

In rugged bush 90km northeast of Harare, hundreds of prospectors carry alluvial sand to the water's edge from shafts burrowed into the bank of the Nyaguwe River.

For their efforts, they might find a few pinhead flecks of pure gold or, sometimes, a nugget the size of a dove's egg. Prospectors work along thousands of kilometers of rivers in the gold belt that runs diagonally across the country.

Zimbabwe ranks as the world's 11th largest gold producer. Annual output of about 18 tons from legal mines earns $300m for the Treasury.

Gold mined or panned illegally is estimated to be worth an additional $20m a year, putting Zimbabwe alongside Brazil and Papua New Guinea in that category.

Estimates

The alluvial gold is so pure it can easily be melted and fashioned into bracelets or other items for smuggling. Panned gold dust can be hidden in places such as pens.

Matthew de Klerk, a prospector who owns a legal gold claim, described the smugglers' methods.

Dealers buy illegal gold from miners in local currency, sell it for hard currency on gold markets in Europe and India, then sell the hard currency in Africa for more than twice the original cost of the gold.

The Zimbabwe Chamber of Mines estimates at least 50 000 people are panning gold illegally, most of them because they cannot find jobs.

Officially, the unemployment runs at 23% in this nation of 9,5-million, representing an increase of 60% since 1985. Private economists put the figure much higher.

Little panning was done in the 1970s because the bush war made it too dangerous.

Today's freelance prospectors ignore laws that restrict the purchase of gold to the state bank and forbid panning for environmental reasons.

Panning has clogged rivers and dams with silt and caused devastating soil erosion, even desertification, along the once-fertile water courses, the Natural Resources Board reported. — AP-DJ.

All quiet on the northern front

ST Times 9/9/90 (362)

By DON JACOBS
Harare

A DEAFENING hush 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, dovetails 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 Odile Harrington, 29.

Three of Zimbabwe's six "South African politicals" — Philip Conjwayo, 57, 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 1988 for killing a Zambian driver in a bomb attack on a house in Trenance, Bulawayo, allegedly occupied by ANC guerrillas.

Although their appeals are still to be heard, they say they are stripped naked at 4pm every day and left with only their blankets until 7am.

Their windowless 1,5m by 4,5m cells are "naturally cold", they said in sworn statements, adding that months of written complaints by lawyers had been ignored.

Conjwayo, 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 gir

Sunday Times Reporter

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

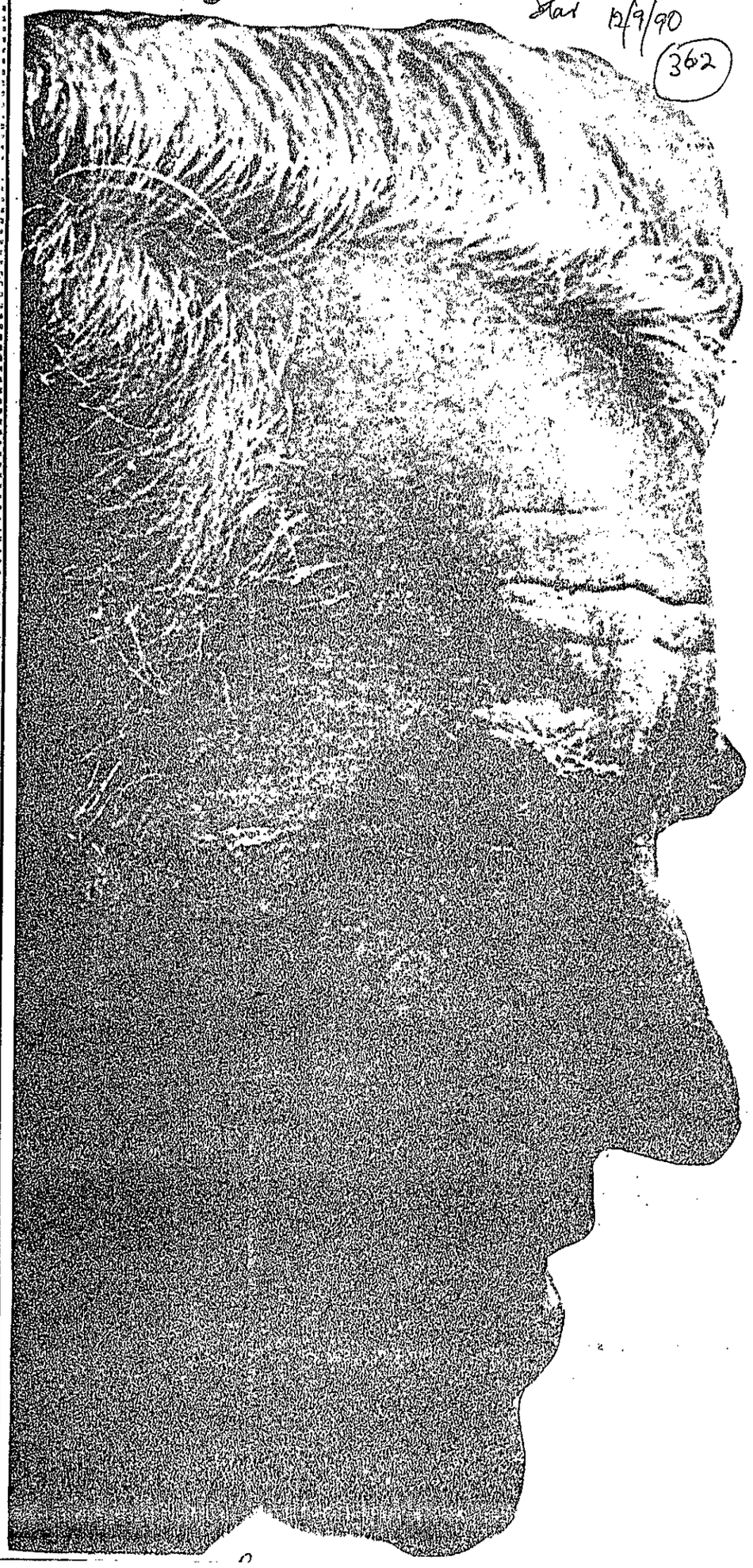
Inder Singh Gohal stood 17-year-old Gurdev on a chair, made a noose from his turban and invited her to put her head in it.

Gurdev told friends she refused — and several months later was found hanged in a flat above her father's shop.

Gurdev's fingers were be-

100 years: Ian Smith loo

Star 12/9/90
362



"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 ex-Rhodesians realise 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 lowveld 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; an 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

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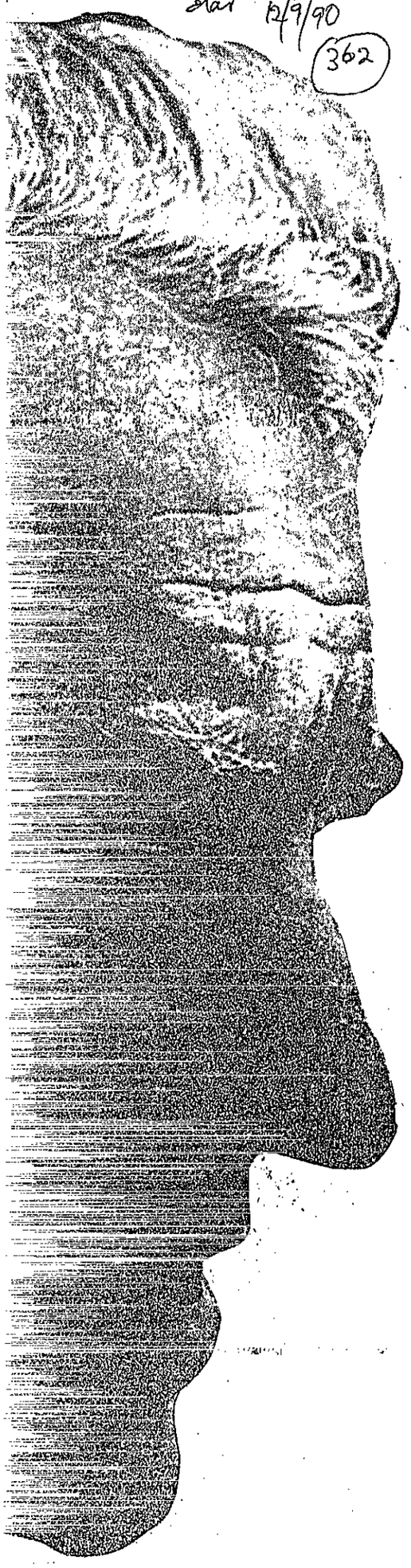
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rs: Ian Smith looks back

Star 12/9/90 (362)



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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 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 concedes, that African areas had been subject to greater erosion. But that, he maintains, was because they 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 at Fort Salisbury, Lieutenant Tyndale-Biscoe ran up the British flag to mark the occupation of Mashonaland 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.

"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 aad 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 professionalism and brains they could bring in and keep in the country."

What about the mistakes? Surely 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 accept that some of the things we did should have been done more quickly. I don't think the principle was wrong. It was the timing."

He had never regarded himself as a racialist. "Honestly, I don't believe I am. 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 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 wonderful bunch of people. As a child he loved talking to the old pioneers 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 (connected) 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 tied to Britain. 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 believe I became, a Rhodesian and not a Britisher."

And on the September 13 centenary 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.

CM Times 13/9/80 (362)

Let Zimbabwe's first decade be a lesson to SA



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.



Regional Notebook by PETER VALE

IT MUST be 39 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 tight but the gardens remain well-tended and neat.

Resplendent in mid-cycle, the Erythrina — as it has done for decades — projects the brightest of crimson flowers against the blue African sky. Not surprisingly, the racially demeaning "kaffir-boom" is now known as the monkey tree.

Everything — and yet nothing — seems to have changed across the Limpopo. While the smells and scenery are untouched 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, no hawkers are to be seen; only heavy pedestrian traffic moving in all directions.

At nightfall scores 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 reckon that the risk of Aids is one worth running.

Are whites also being drawn into the emerging underclass? Perhaps, so. I saw a threadbare youth crossing Samora Machel Avenue late one afternoon. On first glance, surely a drifter or dope-head from Europe or the States. But his dress betrayed him. The velskoens tied in the defiantly Rhodesian fashion: laced to the top, no socks. And the word "Gatooma" woven on the front of 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 burghers, it seems, never get near to travelling in a motor car. Their daily ritual begins long before dawn when ageing buses crank their way from the "high density" suburbs to a giant bus station near the city centre.

Our conference, which met initially in the university's council chamber, deliberated on "Zimbabwe's first decade of independence: lessons for South Africa and Namibia".

If, indeed, there are lessons to be learnt the university seemed a good place to start. The opening speaker was the principal, a gentle UCT and Dundee-educated lawyer. He told us that the university has "very few white students: most chose to complete 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 — no South Africa — close to hand. Surely this means that it will be costly to avoid the impact of the deep-seated changes which will come to the country's higher education?

Our hosts 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: the question, 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, use other mechanisms in an effort to reallocate resources. As a result, income taxes soared and the bureaucracy became enmeshed 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 liberation proposals promise to remove the dull hand of bureaucracy 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 its 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 countrymen would overwhelmingly support the president if he called for a referendum on the issue.

Why is Mugabe so keen to have a one-party system? The most convincing answer came from a diplomatic 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?

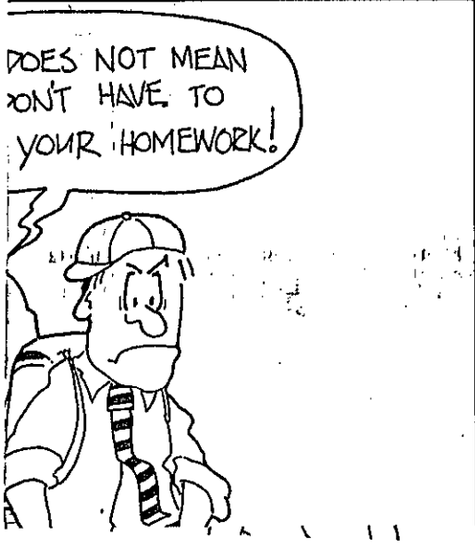
Well, my source intimated, he remained the hero of the revolution.

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 dismissive 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 almost destroyed Zimbabwe's prospects for peace and security in the years immediately after independence.

This may be the most important lesson for South Africa of Zimbabwe's independence. As we daily count the tragic toll in our townships, might we not be witnessing our version of the intense bloodletting which occurred in Matabeleland between 1980 and 1986?

□ *Peter Vale is director of the Centre for Southern African Studies, University of the Western Cape.*



Some warmongering club leaders have done their best to fan the flames and rouse...

Zimbabwe's settlers: A legacy of materialism

362

W|Mail 14/9-20/9/90

What is the legacy of 100 years of whites in Zimbabwe? Some believe it can only be measured in terms of their economic contribution to the country.

By ANDREW MELDRUM

ON September 13 1890, the Union Jack was first raised at Fort Salisbury to mark the British settlement of Mashonaland by Cecil Rhodes' Pioneer Column. The spot where the flag was raised became Cecil Square, the centre of colonial Salisbury.

The square is still the centre — this time of Harare and with the new name of Africa Unity Square.

The square has adapted to the Zimbabwe's new circumstances but 100 years after the first white settlers arrived how have the whites themselves adapted?

The city block is laid out as a Union Jack with its cross and diagonals formed by walkways. The park floats on a cloud of cool purple from the rows jacaranda trees imported by the settlers.

Businessmen with briefcases, shoppers and tourists stride along the sidewalks. Scores of young men read newspapers and discuss matters in the square, evidence of Zimbabwe's alarming unemployment problem. Not surprisingly, pickpockets and beggars also frequent the square. This week a grizzled white man was seen begging money from a well-dressed, high-heeled black woman, who wryly smiled as she dipped into her handbag for a few coins.

The reconciliation begun by President Robert Mugabe in 1980 has never gone very deep, particularly among the whites, who number about 90 000 in a country of nine million. Although the most offensive public dispays of racism have disappeared, the white population has simply retreated to its laager of sports clubs, BMWs and braais.

"In some ways the losers were the winners," said a journalist. "The whites have retained all their economic privilege and lifestyle and 1980 liberated them of any responsibility."

Author Chenjerai Hove says the whites have "marginalised themselves culturally". Like others, Hove refers to most whites as Rhodesians, with only those who have accepted change qualifying to be called Zimbabweans. He said the reason whites have contributed so little to post-independent literature is "most Rhodesians don't have an emotional attachment to this place. They are here physically but not spiritually.

"Just as the Pioneer Column came to prospect for gold, most whites are only to extract something."

That materialism is the whites' bequest to black Zimbabweans, said Hove.

"We aspire to the same things the whites have, and it has made us greedy," he said. "Too many people think independence means chasing money."

Reg Austin, the only white member of the ruling party's 160-person Central Committee, said racial reconciliation has been sucessful on the surface but "the myth of white supremacy hasn't been destroyed".



Robert Mugabe

One of the unfortunate things about reconciliation was it was never really spelt out to whites what their part of the bargain would be, said Austin, a professor of law at the University of Zimbabwe

"The whites should have been told that while the government would ensure peace by meeting the black population's aspirations in education, health and land, it would be the job of the white economy to invest in jobs. There should have been a more specific quid pro quo proclaimed at the time of independence."

Austin feels many Rhodesians do love the country and believes more might have been done since independence to build up that patriotism among whites.

An intriguing possibility, suggested in 1980 but not implemented, was to appoint Sir Robert Burley to design a programme to encourage the white community to embrace reconciliation. Burley had headed the de-Nazification programme in post-war West Germany.

"The need for a comprehensive, long-range programme like that to break down the whites' laager mentality is an important lesson for South Africa," said Austin.

Zimbabwe's whites often brag of the development they brought to the country and Austin agrees they did a good job of transplanting technology to serve what was then five percent of the population.

"It was a very impressive achievement for that limited purpose," he said. "But immediately the infrastructure was expected to serve the whole population, it failed miserably. Only if their development helped to democratise the population could it be meritorious. So their boast of bringing development is a bit hollow."

Ultimately the whites' contribution to the country will be judged on how successfully the economic infrastructure can be adapted to serve the majority, said Austin.

"Probably it will only be possible to judge the effect of 100 years of whites in this country 100 years from now," said Austin. "Essentially if they are able to transfer their technology so the economy serves the majority, then there can be a positive aspect to their legacy."

PAC's 'watershed meeting'

Star 18/9/90 (446) (362)

By Kaizer Nyatsumba, 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.

Mozambique — garden of Africa

But it needs aid to nourish growth

MOZAMBIQUE is a potential "garden of Africa" and its reconstruction would not be expensive.

That is the view of David Screen, national director of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative in SA (Idasa), after an 11-day tour of Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe with alumni of the Wits Business School.

The 11 Wits alumni members, representing companies such as Engen, Rio Tinto-Zinc, PG, Sentrachem, National Airways and Middelburg Steel, were welcomed in all three countries.

Business Times Reporter

Mr Screen says: "The purpose of the trip was to enable the WBS alumni to look at business opportunities and to familiarise themselves with the political situation. It was also an important learning experience for all of us.

"My role, as the Idasa man, was to help on the political side. We arranged meetings at high level with all three governments and with the ANC in Lusaka."

Lily Mitchell, chairman of the WBS Association and co-leader of the trip, says improving communications of all types is a priority in all three countries. Road, rail and telecommunications are mostly in a sorry state. Mozambique, for instance, is connected to the outside world by six telephone lines.

Mrs Mitchell says developing a work ethic will be an important part of reconstruction. Mozambique and Zambia are particularly keen on joint ventures.

The message from Mozambique is: "We need SA capital and expertise. Let's get reconstruction going now."

Zimbabwe's attitude is distinctly cooler, probably because its economic straits are not as desperate as those of Zambia and Mozambique, which rank among the poorest nations in the world.

Mr Screen says: "With good rainfall, fertile soil and a warm climate, Mozambique can produce outstanding cotton, citrus and other crops. Tiny Rowland and John Hulett of Lonrho have been there for six years. "Land costs virtually nothing and labour is cheap. The infrastructure is badly run down, but the buildings and facilities can be renovated cheaply."

Jorge Martins, of transmission line company Feralin, grew up in Mozambique and left virtually as a refugee at 17. He says: "Chances for business are good. I would like to bring my family here."

Mr Screen says Mozambique, and possibly Zambia, are moving to multi-party democracies. Frelimo and Renamo are talking.

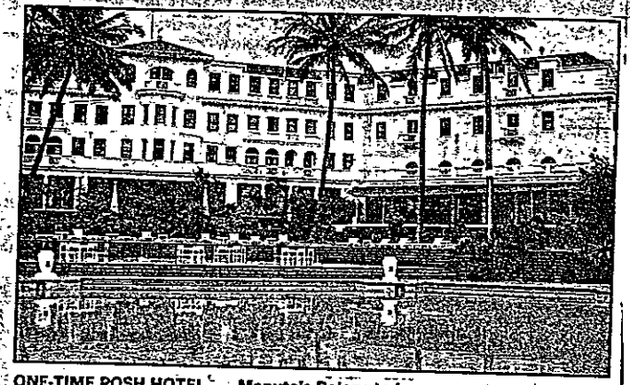
Jobless

Some members of the party were present at the opening of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) council in Harare. The PTA is an economic co-operation agreement among 19 African states. They heard prolonged applause when it was put to the conference that a post-apartheid SA should be allowed to join.

Members of the Zambian Association of Manufacturers (ZAM) will visit SA early next year as a result of the WBS visit.

Unemployment is rife in all three countries, but in stark contrast to Zimbabwe and Mozambique, Zambia has a thriving informal economy.

Mr Screen says Zimbabwe's conciliation policy of the past 10 years is showing signs of strain. There is growing resentment at white affluence in the midst of black poverty.



ONE-TIME POSH HOTEL . . . Maputo's Polana to become a showpiece again

SA Foundation director Gavin Lewis says: "The doors stand open. The desire among our neighbours for co-operation is strong and the potential is apparent. All now depends on the policies we adopt."

Mr Screen says Idasa's role in a changed SA is to be "an ally of the transition process". Idasa is trying to promote communication and understanding between such divided factions as the AWB and the PAC and the ANC and Inkatha.

"We try to be more than mediators and facilitators. We are also involved in development studies, education and health.

"Aids is the major health concern of the sub-continent. We found it interesting that Aids is hardly talked about in Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The Zambians have an anti-Aids programme."

Horizons

Idasa, comprising 50 members, is funded by "European foundations and governments". Its head, Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, is on the Wits Business School faculty.

Mrs Mitchell says the WBS is broadening its horizons. A tour to West Africa is planned.

All neighbouring territories lack management talent. Wits believes it can become the Oxford or Harvard of the sub-continent.

The WBS has granted 1 166 MBAs in the past 20 years. Activity has increased sharply in recent years and 1 800 students do MBAs, executive development programmes and other shorter courses every year.

The WBS-inspired junior achievement programme involves thousands of high-school children in real-life business education all over the country. In addition, WBS trains hundreds to run small businesses. Its community-based development programme teaches management to people involved in community affairs.

The WBS will hold a seminar on business possibilities in neighbouring states on November 2.

Raid on liberal group

ST Times 23/9/96

362

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 Ngcobo, 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 the current violence.

Mr Ngcobo said that, in a month of operation, the foundation's Harare office had received numerous communications from SA's black homelands.

Civil action against death row prisoners

Cape Times 26/9/90

Own Correspondent

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 R450 000 suit had been served against Kevin Woods and Michael Smith in the Chikurubi 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 Conjwayo, 56, 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, Conjwayo, Bawden and two other convicted people, Odile Harington, 29, and Denis "Sammy" Beahan, 42.

SA agents to appeal for amnesty

Star 27/9/90 362

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 Harington, 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 Conjwayo (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 Conjwayo 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 on during 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 Conjwayo 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 fans change course

B Story 28/9/90

(362)

HARARE — Southern Africa's two champions of one-party rule — the presidents of Zimbabwe and Zambia — this week reluctantly changed direction and stepped towards political pluralism.

For years, both President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda have said the only way to protect their people from tribal conflict and bloodshed was through the one-party state.

But now the two men, both ex-schoolmasters and both veterans of the struggles that freed their countries from colonial rule, have committed themselves to tread the path taken by younger or more flexible leaders in the region.

"They've had to recognise the writing on the wall at last, and what it says is 'multi-party'," one diplomat said.

He added that widespread dissatisfaction with one-party rule and harsh economic reality had forced both presidents to change course.

Voters in both countries, where SA consumer goods and other rare imported articles are highly prized, are keen to move towards a market economy which they hope will bring them a greater measure of prosperity.

They have also drawn inspiration from transitions to multi-party rule now taking place in neighbouring Mozambique and Angola, as well as from the overthrow at the end of last year of Eastern Europe's monolithic governments.



Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe signs a guest book, while Ontario premier-elect Bob Rae looks on. Mugabe has been on a three-day visit to Canada. Picture: REUTER

The change-course decisions in Zimbabwe and Zambia came within days of each other.

Kaunda recommended to his party's top policy-making body on Monday that it cancel a planned referendum on ending 17 years of one-party rule and substitute reforms leading to multi-party elections within a year.

Yesterday, his recommendation was endorsed.

In Zimbabwe, the central committee of the ruling Zanu-PF party, which met last weekend, discarded Mugabe's long-cherished dream of bringing in a one-party state to replace the pluralistic system in force since independence a decade ago.

Mugabe said earlier this year that other developing nations had abandoned their commitment to one-party rule only to wheedle aid money from Western donors.

But as Zimbabwe starts an economic adjustment programme to face future competition from wealthy SA, it too needs foreign investment and aid of about US $2,7bn.

"Investors want to see stability. They won't put their money into a country taking the one-party road," one Zimbabwean economist said.

In neighbouring Zambia, once a wealthy copper producer, living standards have nose-dived as Kaunda enforces austerity measures to reduce a $7,2bn debt mountain.

The promise of a referendum on whether to end one-party rule, extracted from Kaunda after food riots in Lusaka killed 26 people in June, sent Zambia into turmoil.

Tens of thousands of people thronged, cheering, to multi-party rallies but ignored meetings called by the ruling party.

Diplomats said both Kaunda's and Mugabe's about-turns, although reluctant, had been made with panache.

"Kaunda has upstaged the opposition," one diplomat said.

"It was a very astute move."

In Harare, a source close to the central committee said Mugabe had unexpectedly encouraged the meeting to be completely frank and listened carefully to over three hours of speeches against one-party rule.

Then he agreed to abandon his plan. — Sapa-Reuter.

Activist bomb victim sues 'SA agents'

By DON JACOBS
Harare

ONE of the most spectacular 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 Zapu party, is claiming R450 000 in damages from Woods, Smith and Barry Bawden, who is serving a life sentence for assisting the May 1987 SADF raid on ANC premises in Harare.

Woods, 37, and Smith, 36, were sentenced to hang for killing a Zambian driver in a January 1988 attack on an ANC "safe house" in Trenance, Bulawayo.

Evidence

But Brickhill claims in papers 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.

Zimbabwean security police have 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 in 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 Conjwayo, 56, who since 1988 have been stripped naked from 4pm to 7am and locked in their windowless 1,5m by 4,5m cells for over 23 hours a day.

They are now allowed to wear clothes and spend two hours in the sun each day.

Their lawyer Robin Hartley has asked for an audience with President Robert Mugabe to appeal for an amnesty for them.

SA delegates invited to Zimbabwe trade talks

(362)
BIDAM 11/10/90

MICHAEL HATTINGH

HARARE — President 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 approbation of the government," Deary said.

Beira

SA observers had been welcomed by Zimbabwean government representatives to 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.

Pluralism has a way to go

B10an 3/10/90

MICHAEL HARTNACK
in Harare

IN ZAMBIA and Zimbabwe there is a great deal of chortling at the moment over the hasty deduction that the proponents of a one-party state have suffered conclusive defeats.

Pluralism has not yet won the day, for reasons deeply rooted in our social patterns.

In Lusaka, President Kenneth Kaunda has cancelled next August's scheduled referendum on the fate of the United National Independence Party's (UNIP's) 18-year constitutional status as the sole legitimate political organisation. Kaunda told UNIP's 600-member national council he was ready to lead his supporters "in an election against any party or parties".

His chief election organiser, Joseph Mutale, was unequivocal in his interpretation of the president's pledge to appoint a commission "to determine necessary amendments to our constitution".

"He is saying the constitution will be amended to allow formation of other parties," Mutale said.

The Zambian Movement for Multi-Party Democracy, known as the MMD, must now hastily reorganise itself from being a nebulous pressure group into a party offering a credible alternative government.

Kaunda has stolen a march, and might well be able to defeat the MMD (or whatever fragmented cluster of personality cult parties it becomes) in a general election. In the ultra-conservative rural areas, the former schoolteacher is seen as a symbol of stability in a perilous world.

It would be a supreme irony if, come next August, Kaunda is boasting he has "seen off" the MMD. There is no tradition of organised political lobbies, no electoral mechanism (as in the US "primary" system) for charismatic personalities to emerge capable of challenging Kaunda. The de facto one-party state is therefore far from dead.

In Zimbabwe, likewise, the euphoria following the September 22 meeting of the ruling Zanu (PF) central committee seems premature. The many opponents of a one-party state within President Robert Mugabe's hierarchy claim, privately, that they have finally persuaded him to drop his cherished plan for constitutional amendments to remove the right of unrestricted political association.

The moderates believe "the masses" are solidly against a one-party state and blame what they see as a high-handed bureaucracy for ills such as 1,5-million unemployed, 20% annual inflation, and unpunished corruption.

But if Mugabe — reputed to be the party's sole remaining Marxist doctrinaire — suffered a defeat, he certainly does not talk like it. Neither does his close confidant and spokesman, Foreign Affairs Minister Nathan Shamuyarira.

Speaking in his capacity as Politburo Secretary for Information, Shamuyarira said the meeting had "agreed establishment of a one-party state should remain the central objective of the party". With only two of the 150 parliamentary seats in opposition hands, Zimbabwe was already a "de facto one-party state", so legislation was not necessary. Zanu (PF) would "continue to organise and mobilise the population" behind the one-party state concept.

When one sets Shamuyarira's remarks alongside those that came out of the fateful Politburo meeting in July, that the government would "deal with" any (tribalist) challenge as it came up, one must conclude the one-party state drive would be "on" again if any serious opposition threat presented itself.

It is common knowledge that Mugabe wants the constitution amended not to deal with the present minimal threat from Edgar Tekere's Zimbabwe Unity Movement, defeated in the March general elections, but to deter further splits he fears might occur within Zanu (PF).

Mugabe's nightmare is that former Zapu supporters from Matabeleland might abrogate Joshua Nkomo's 1987 unity pact with Zanu (PF) and form an alliance with Tekere and disgruntled members of the Karanga section of the Shona people.

Mugabe believes a legislated one-party state would convince potential opponents such a coalition would be doomed from the start.

And behind everything looms Mugabe's towering conviction — founded in fact, many observers here would protest — that he alone stands between Zimbabwe and a renewed civil war on ethnic lines. Mugabe is utterly convinced that the Marxist logic of "class struggle" can be applied wholesale to his ambitions for the black people of Zimbabwe and southern Africa. Hence his description of the reform process in Eastern Europe as "this evil campaign".

Zimbabwe was "still groaning under the weight of capitalism" 10 years after power had been "transferred to the people", Mugabe told his central committee.

Ultimately, the problem in Zambia and Zimbabwe is not one of permitting a multiplicity of parties because, as Mugabe said in Switzerland this year, people tend to support their own ethnic representatives regardless of the candidates' ability to contribute to the national good, given a free vote.

Nkomo and Ian Smith might, arguably, have been the greatest disasters since the Great Rinderpest of 1896, but who denies the people of Matabeleland and the remaining 80 000 Rhodesians here would vote for them overwhelmingly in any genuine test of opinion?

The demolition by Zanu (PF) of other Rhodesian monuments has only served to sanctify Smith and his undoubtedly courageous dedication to "his people", however misguided he might seem to the objective analyst.

The problem is one of public accountability in what the sociologist Ferdinand Tonnies termed "gemeinschaft" communities, where faith and personal loyalties predominate over cold rationality.

Urbanised Zimbabweans and Zambians are alienated because the authorities seem remote, uncaring, impersonal, and they blame this "aloofness" for their economic ills, but there is no incisive intellectual criticism of the policies of Mugabe and Kaunda.

Multi-party elections, in the old style, will only produce a new set of aspiring bureaucrats and "place men", chosen initially for their ethnic connections but doomed to become as alien and selfish as their predecessors.

We must strive to evolve a system which satisfies our predilection for personalities, but ensures they change routinely before they seal themselves away from us entirely behind their imported South African razor wire. Our American friends have given us a few excellent guidelines.

LETTERS

Easing up

HARARE - In another significant shift away from socialist policies, the Zimbabwe 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 pricing formulas approved by the Cabinet or the responsible Minister. They will now move on to a variable mark-up system based on ... or loaded costs.

Sowetan Africa News Service

Nations. - *Sapa-Reuter*

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.- *Sowetan Foreign Service*

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.

ZIMBABWE FIM 5/10/90 (362

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 loosen the reins.

Ministerial speeches are larded with promises to "control" economic reform. Just how much control became apparent when Chidzero announced that just three categories of imports — clinker for cement manufacture, textile dyes for the clothing industry and tinplate and plastic granules for packaging — are to be available on open licence.

Only registered importers will have access to the open licence system and Harare's idea of liberalising involves establishing a parallel licensing system at the Central Bank charged with monitoring open licence imports. Pre-shipment inspection of imports is also to be introduced. So liberalisation will mean more, rather than less, bureaucracy.

Government is not alone in its commitment to "controlled" liberalisation. Manufacturers, many of whom grew up under monopolistic or quasi-monopolistic conditions and argue that extensive protection will be needed while industry re-equips itself to compete in world markets, are equally wary.

Efforts to develop an export culture by linking import licences to foreign sales have had some success. Last month, Chidzero announced an export earnings retention scheme of 5% for agricultural and mining sales and 7,5% for manufactures.

But it will take a long time to overcome technological backwardness, obsolete capital equipment, a shortage of skills and, above all, the complacency and inefficiency bred by a quarter-century of blanket protection.

FIM 5/10/90 (362

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 new projects, but at least two listed companies — Falcon Mines and Central African Cables — complain that a 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 $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$1,4bn — roughly 10% of GDP. In the past, the minister has blamed military spending in Mozambique. This year he's shifted focus, blaming parastatal subsidies, which he says account for 4% of GDP.

Realism is in short supply, say economists. Chidzero promises to tackle the parastatal deficit by privatising — a new word in Zimbabwe's dictionary — or simply letting them go to the wall. But the big subsidies go to the railways, the state-owned steel plant (to which government has committed massive investment in an effort to turn it around) and agricultural marketing boards. Privatisation is a non-starter for most of these, nor can they be allowed to go under. ■

Coetzee gives evidence at UK hearing

LONDON — A detailed description of the office and home of SAP forensics chief Lt Gen Lothar 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 was giving evidence at the start of Neethling's R1,5m defamation and damages suit against the editors and publishers of Vrye Weekblad and the Weekly Mail.

Defending

The newspapers are defending their publication of allegations by the former security force police captain that he obtained "knock-out" drops and poison from Neethling.

Coetzee said it was intended to kill activists and ANC members in 1981, when he was in charge of the alleged Vlakplaas 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, Sanab.

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 57 Transvaal townships are refusing to pay rent and services charges. Of these, 26 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 had 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 East Rand townships of Daveyton and KwaThema.

"However that is no indication that the boycott has been broken as yet, as only two regions (eastern Transvaal and far northern Transvaal) had payments of over 50%."

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.

See Page 9

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 fatal bomb attack on January 11 1988, at a house in Trenance 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.

CNT Times 9/10/90

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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

Cape Times
17/10/90

SA MPs to visit Zim this weekend

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

A MULTI-PARTY group of South African MPs is to make a breakthrough visit to Zimbabwe this weekend.

The delegation, which includes two National Party MPs, one Conservative Party MP, one Democratic Party MP and two Labour Party MPs, has left South Africa for a two-week visit to five countries in Southern Africa.

They are visiting Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Swaziland.

Until now the Zimbabwe government has refused to allow official South African delegations into the country, and its decision to admit this delegation could well mean a changing approach to links with South Africa.

The delegation is to make a second trip to Africa at the end of the month.

The delegation consists of Mr Piet Coetzer (NP Springs), Dr Andreas Oosthuizen (NP Alberton), Mr Schalk Pienaar (CP Potgietersrus), Mr Jannie Momberg (DP Simon's Town), Mr Tommy Abrahams (LP Wentworth) and Mr Trevor George (LP Bosmont).

Past

CAPE PENINSULA
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mild. Wind strong so
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maximum temperat
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YESTERDAY'S READ

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5.15: Larry Kin

World Bank team in Harare

HARARE — A World Bank team is in Harare to discuss Zimbabwe's economic restructuring plan with government officials, Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero said yesterday.

"We are currently working together with the World Bank on details of the programme and its financial requirements and are moving towards a (donor) consultative group meeting," Chidzero told a seminar organised by the Zimbabwe Confederation of Industries (CZI).

The programme, announced by Chidzero in his July budget, marks a dramatic switch from central control to a market-based economy and trade liberalisation aimed at achieving an annual sustainable growth rate of 5% in real terms.

"The economy has been overly protected for 25 years and has become highly characterised by inefficiency and even misallocations of scarce resources as a result of lack of effective competition, monopolistic tendencies and increased government controls and regulations," the minister said.

He acknowledged the government was taking a gradual approach, noting the economy had been hit by the Gulf crisis which had raised fuel and transport costs and worsened the balance of payments position.

There was also the possibility of an international recession which would affect exports of raw materials.

"Given this situation and the fact that government is still in the process of discussing with international donors the availability of financing for the Trade Liberalisation Programme, the programme has had to start on a modest scale," Chidzero said.

The programme depends initially on export earnings and foreign financing to restructure the economy.

The African Development Bank has provided a $300m loan for industrial rehabilitation and capital goods for the export industry. The World Bank's international finance corporation has also provided a facility of more than $300m to be operated through banks.

Chidzero estimated the foreign exchange cost of the programme at $2bn, although economists have put the figure at between $5bn and $7bn.

By the end of the five-year plan, the government plans to cut the budget deficit of the GDP by half. — Reuter.

HYPERETTE

HYPERETTE STORES LIMITED

("Hyperette")
(Registration number 86/02517/06)
Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

Results for the twelve months ended 31 July 1990

Consolidated income statement

	Audited 12 months ended 31 July 1990	Audited 13 months ended 31 July 1989

Consolidated balance sheet

	Audited at 31 July 1990	Audited at 31 July 1989

Shift in control of Zimbabwean textile firm

BDay 19/10/90

MARIETTE DU PLESSIS

ZIMBABWEAN-based Textile Mills' controlling shareholder Security Mills has acquired all Textile's 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 that Z$4 for each share, payable in December.

Dividends of non-residents 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 R43m. This will be paid for by means of a rights issue and R7m in cash. (362)

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 20c a share.

Skills shortage hits Zimbabwe economy

By TREVOR GRUNDY C/Times 21/10/90 (362)

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 2 500 Zimdollars 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 practioners 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 infatuated with 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.

But he told newsmen after the two-hour meeting that it would be premature to speculate on a rapprochement at government level between Harare and Pretoria.

Nel 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. Sowetan 24/10/90

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. - *Sowetan Correspondent.*

Police fire teargas at Harare students

(362)

B1 Beeld 26/10/90

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 overturned garbage bins. — Sapa.

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. (362)

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. Sowetan 26/10/90

At a gathering in Harare last night, Mr Romero Daniels, 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

8 Times 28/10/90

362

By DON JACOBS
Bulawayo

DETAILS emerged this week of a spying incident in southern Matabeleland which has deeply embarrassing implications for both the Zimbabwe and South African governments.

Lovejoy 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 Botswanana, Zimbabwe and the Transvaal meet.

Bulawayo magistrate Mr Wilbert Mapombere heard evidence that Ndou made repeated illicit trips across the Limpopo and was paid a total of R105 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.

Ndou was one of over 14 000 people who have been caught "border jumping" from Matabeleland. Many are hoping to find work in SA.

Mr Mapombere rejected Ndou's appeal to be allowed to turn state evidence and identify other Zimbabweans working for the SADF.

Zimbabwe university keeps up anti-Bill protest

M6a 362
30/10/90

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Tearsmoke 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.

Zimbabwe's housing crisis getting worse

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 eve-of-poll announcement that he planned to "revise" segregation imposed under the Land Apportionment Act. White 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 enlistment 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 UFP 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 200 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 townships), 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 the deterioration white right-wingers claimed would result from desegregation: lawns were planted with starveling mealies, 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 with squatter shanties, as is Lusaka, nor have former beachfront palaces become rookeries of refugee rural tribespeople, as in Beira.

Although half a million people are now housed in the new satellite city of Chitungwiza, the capital is still 100 000 houses short. "Lodgers" may pay up to R200 for a single room in the servants' quarter 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.

Zimbabwe — glimpse of post-apartheid South Africa?

South 25/10 - 31/10/90

For some analysts, black-ruled Zimbabwe has become the model nation for a post-apartheid South Africa. Much has improved since the colonial days. But for many ordinary Zimbabweans, the standard of living remains unchanged after 10 years of independence. NINA SHAPIRO reports:

HARARE. — A few kilometres south of the gleaming office buildings and luxurious homes of this nonracial city lies a ghetto of wooden shacks.

It is more than 10 years since blacks were forced to live in the township of Mbare — like Soweto in South Africa, a residential area created for labourers in the capital city who were legally forbidden from entering designated white areas.

But the shanty town still thrives in today's black-ruled country.

Elegant

If downtown Harare — with its western-style boutiques, elegant parks and fast-food hamburger joints — sometimes seems like it belongs to the First World, Mbare remains firmly in the Third World.

Many here live in one-room homes, often without windows or indoor plumbing.

As South Africa likely sees its final days of white minority rule, many eyes have turned to Zimbabwe — once colonised by "pioneers" from its southern neighbour — as an example of what a post-apartheid society might look like.

Zimbabwe's policy of racial reconciliation and its maintenance of the highest gross domestic product in the region, outside South Africa, have made some political analysts hail this as a model nation.

Yet many ordinary Zimbabweans, asked about the prospects of their South African counterparts under a black government, are pessimistic: they point to their own experience.

Despite access to education and health care unknown in colonial days, many here feel let down by the fruits of independence.

The standard of living for many remains essentially unchanged; townships like Mbare still exist.

At the same time, a significant black middle class has emerged, created by increased business opportunity and a growing social service bureaucracy.

"We're talking about people who own their own car, who send their kids to private school, who can afford a two-star hotel every now and then, who have parties," says William Bango, a senior journalist for Ziana, the local news service.

But this new affluent class represents a minority, probably less than 10 percent of the population, experts say.

And the richness of the few has generated a growing bitterness in the general population.

Expectations

Like elsewhere in Africa, this second youngest of the continent's nations is beset by the overwhelming task of living up to the enormous expectations generated by independence.

The task is particularly daunting here, where independence ushered in a Marxist-Leninist government that promised redistribution of the country's considerable wealth.

But while the official ideology has people calling one another "comrade", the colonial infrastructure has in many ways remained unchanged.

In this country of 9,7m people, the economy is still dominated by the approximately 100 000-member white community.

"We are tired of waiting," says a striking tax assessor. "We have been waiting for 10 years."

A wave of civil service strikes, led by teachers, swept the nation earlier this year.

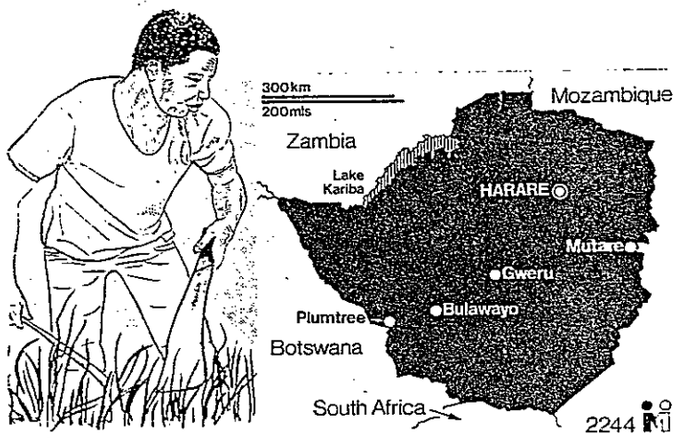
Unemployment is estimated as high as 30 percent. Prices have risen 200 percent since independence.

A severe urban housing shortage has created a new homeless population that can be seen squatting on empty grasslands or in vacant lots.

"Young people are venting their frustration in drinking and smoking drugs," says Simba Handisani, who sells thistle brooms and baobob fruits at an outdoor market in Highfield, another Harare township.

He sees apathy among his peers who "are taking the attitude of sitting back and seeing where life is leading them".

It is a bitter irony that one of the major advances of the post-independence government-improved access to education has boosted the unemployment rate by producing more job-seekers than the market can support.



WHAT CHANGE? Rural workers in Zimbabwe have enjoyed little material gain from independence

Like other young people in the post-independence era, Handisani, 25, expected to find work after high school.

"First I looked for an apprenticeship as an artisan. I found nothing." Eight years later, he is still dependent on his mother, who owns the stand where he works.

Old by African standards, Handisani says he cannot think about starting a family.

"Maybe it was a warped concept of independence," He muses, "but life was supposed to improve drastically."

Salvation

Nonetheless, people continué to look to education as their salvation. Handisani spends his spare time pouring over lecture notes of a friend's college-preparatory sociology class.

He hopes to pass the sociology "A-level" exam for high school graduates modeled on the British system, and eventually to take up English literature at the University of Zimbabwe.

It is perhaps the ambition of the youth, despite gloomy employment prospects, that reveals one of the greatest achievements of independence.

The breaking down of racial restrictions has freed the imaginations of people.

Says Mahmud Burney, the World Bank representative in Harare:

"People dreamt in the past of being servants or farm workers, if they dreamt of anything at all. They never dreamt of being a general supervisor."

Now they do. — *PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE*

Star 31/10/90 (362)

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, Nolan 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.

Argus 31/10/90

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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.

The Argus, Thursday November 1 1990

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University of Zimbabwe opposed to State control

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

EDUCATION

IN Rhodesian days it used to be called the Kremlin and it was regarded as a hotbed of Leftist loonies by the lunatic fringe on the Right.

The foundation stone for this "institution of subversion" was laid in 1953 by the Queen Mother who gave the University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland a royal sendoff.

Despite all the changes the institution has gone through — its transition to a full university, first of Rhodesia and later of Zimbabwe — nothing, it seems, has changed, at least as far as relations are concerned with those in authority.

The demonstration this week by staff members who quietly but effectively showed their passionate opposition to the proposal to give the government greater control was an unusual event.

Harare residents are more used to seeing bands of students engaged in running skirmishes with the police.

But those with longer memories recall lecturer Dr Terence Ranger in the forefront of those breaking the colour bar which existed 30 years ago in public siwmming baths and the like.

For the first half a dozen years of the Mugabe era, peace reigned between officialdom and the university.

Everyone was too busy, it seems, with the explosion of learning energy which gripped the University of Zimbabwe where enrolment in the first decade of independence has increased fivefold to 10 000 students.

Four years ago, however, there was a change. University students took to the streets in fury after the death of President Samora Machel.

Cars were stoned, buildings set on fire in the town and onlookers beaten up. The police were heavily criticised for their failure to act and the government was gravely embarrased.

Since then the relationship has been hostile between students and the police acting on 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 or 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 power, and to reduce the protection granted to both staff and students facing disciplinary action.

President Mugabe has been presented with a petition outlining objections to the Bill.

But perhaps it should be recalled that as far back as 1982 when the University of Zimbabwe Act replaced the Royal Charter, Robert Mugabe said: "One of the major features of the new relationship between the State and the university is the increase in the level of government involvement in the affairs of the university."

Higher education, he said then, was too important a business to be left entirely to deans, professors, lecturers and administrators to the exclusion of the State.

These criminals are so organised they've even got their own union

w/Mail 2/11/ - 8/11/90

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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 leagues 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 smoothly whisks 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 the way Zato slickly choreographs 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 glamourous safaris and the shaggy, back-packing travellers. Foreign currency goes on to the thriving black market, travellers cheques are kited to bank connections and it is rumoured that passports are sold to an international 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 Mutambirwa (23) first pleaded guilty to 23 counts and then, apparently on his lawyer's advice, switched to a 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

WMD 24-8-11-90

(362)

NEW government legislation 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.

In from the cold

FW welcomes home SA spy; thaw in SA-Zimbabwe relations

PRETORIA. — South African spy Miss Odile Harington was welcomed home yesterday by President F W de Klerk and the Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha.

Her release represents a significant thawing of relations between Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and the South African government.

Unidentified diplomatic sources told SABC-TV yesterday that the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress had also had a hand in negotiating her release.

Described as "naïve" and "untrained" by counsel in her November 1987 trial for spying on the ANC and breaking Zimbabwe's Official Secrets Act, Miss Harington, 30, was sentenced to 25 years, which was reduced to 12 years on appeal.

She was suddenly released into the custody of National Intelligence Service agents on Thursday after serving less than three years.

Harare South African Trade Mission representative Mr Nico Nel said Miss Harington was released just after noon and flown to South Africa on a special flight that afternoon.

A special aircraft had to be supplied from South Africa as regular commercial flights were full.

In a statement the office of the president yesterday said both President De Klerk and Mr Botha welcomed Miss Harington back into South Africa in the president's office.

Pardoned

"The government is grateful that Miss Harington has been released and expresses its appreciation to the government of Zimbabwe," the statement said.

President De Klerk yesterday sent a personal message of thanks to President Mugabe for authorising Miss Harington's release.

Ziana news agency confirmed that Miss Harington had been pardoned by Mr Mugabe.

"The president's decision was prompted by the general improvement in the political climate in Southern Africa, including the cessation of hostile acts against Zimbabwe by the South African government," said the statement, signed by the Minister of Justice, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa.

Two unofficial sources said Miss Harington had been admitted to No 1 Military Hospital, Pretoria, for a physical examination late yesterday. Hospital sources declined to comment and routed queries to the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Miss Harington is the daughter of Dr Jack Harington of the Mount Sinai Medical Centre in New York and Ms Eone de Wet, a well-known South African artist. The couple divorced in 1968.

Ms De Wet said last night she was "delighted" that Odile was now free. She had not yet been in contact with her daughter and had been unaware of her impending release.

Miss Harington, who was arrested in January 1987, is a former Pretoria University and Wits student. She was described by a family member as a "highly talented, sensitive and attractive woman — but very eccentric".

She was granted refugee status in Zimbabwe in 1986. While occupying a Harare "safe" house with ANC refugees, she asked a policeman to post letters for her to South Africa. One of the envelopes, which was unsealed, contained photographs.

During her trial she broke down and wept. She told the court she was spying on the ANC and not the Zimbabwean government.

'On her own'

She said she was doing it for "Jeff", who represented the South Africa government, which she supported. She did not expect to be paid for her services and had not been trained, she said.

● After Miss Harington was sentenced, the then South African Police Commissioner, General Hennie de Witt, said she was not a police spy.

"What she did, she did on her own," he said. — Sapa UPI and Staff Reporter

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 disciplinary 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

Star 2/11/90 (362)

Odile's release part of SA-Harare thaw



Spy Odile Harington ... released from prison.

Staff Reporters and Star Africa Service

South African Odile Harington, convicted of spying against the ANC in Zimbabwe, has been released from prison as part of a major plan to improve Zimbabwe-South African relations.

She was handed to South African officials in Harare yesterday, sources there confirmed, and flown home within hours.

Miss Harington's release has raised hopes for the freeing of others serving jail terms in Zimbabwe for allegedly spying for South Africa. Zimbabwe still holds seven South Africans and former Rhodesians on allegations of having been involved in espionage.

They are Guy Thomas Bawden, Barry Desmond Bawden, Kevin John Woods, Michael Anthony Smith, Philip Msiza, Con Jwayo, and Rory Bourt Maguire.

Miss Harington (29), a University of Witwatersrand BA graduate, spent about three years in jail for passing on intelligence about the African National Congress. She was jailed by the High Court in Harare for 25 years and the sentence was later reduced to 12 years on appeal.

Her release is expected to be followed by a major improvement in relations between the two countries.

Delicate

The next move is likely to be the lifting of the Zimbabwe government's ban on contact with South Africa at ministerial level.

The first contact at this level could take place at a prayer breakfast being held in Lusaka this month by President Kaunda, at which Foreign Minister Pik Botha is expected to be present and meet a senior Zimbabwean government representative.

Miss Harington's release followed months of delicate negotiations at high level.

It is seen in informed circles as an acknowledgement by Harare of President de Klerk's reforms.

Additional positive moves were the silencing of Radio Truth, the secret radio station that broadcast info Zimbabwe from a mobile transmitter roaming the northern Transvaal, and evidence that South Africa is no longer supplying the Renamo rebels in Mozambique.

When Miss Harington was sentenced, Mr Justice Wilson Sandura said he believed a more appropriate sentence would have been execution by firing squad.



PRAYERS ANSWERED: Odile Harington's mother, Mrs Eone de Wet, was yesterday awaiting the arrival of her daughter. ● Photograph: David Sandison.

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 Harington, 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 greater 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".

PETER FABRICIUS and JOVIAL RANTAO

Officials said that Ms Harington had not spied for NIS 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 Harington 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.

Star 3/11/90 Odile

● FROM PAGE 1.

Her two interlocutors apparently found her in remarkably good physical and mental condition. Officials believe her release should be seen against the background of the improved political situation in SA.

Ms Harington's parents are separated and she is close to her father, Dr Jack Harington, who is a biochemist at the famous Mount Sinai Medical Centre, New York. He is planning to return to SA to see her, perhaps before the end of the year.

Mrs Eone de Wet, Odile's mother, said that ever since her daughter was sentenced she had refused to accept that Odile would spend 25 years in a Zimbwabwean prison.

In an interview with Saturday Star at her Parktown North home, Mrs de Wet (62) said: "When she was sentenced to 25 years, which was later reduced to 12, I knew that, one way or the other, she would come home before the completion of her sentence. I don't know why I felt that way, but I just did."

The family did not know where Odile was. They had not received official word, but had heard that she was somewhere in Pretoria.

● See PAGE 4.

Frail frightened spy, searching for a cause to serve

Star 362
3/11/90

Personality

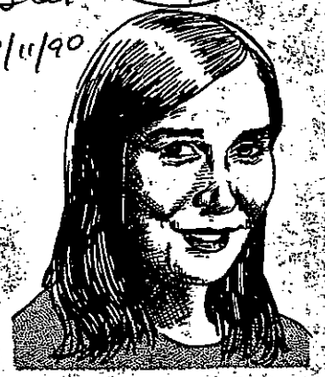
ODILE HARINGTON

Written by: CHRIS MOERDYK

ODILE Eone Harington was not a Mata Hari or some sort of super-spy. She was generally regarded as "pathetically naive" — a frail girl who her brother described as "eccentric as Salvador Dali".

But three years ago the Zimbabwe government took her very seriously indeed.

When she was tried for attempting to infiltrate the African National Congress, Zimbabwe's Judge-President, Mr Justice Wilson Sundura, handed down a maximum 25-year sentence but commented that a more appropriate sentence would have been execution by firing squad.



ODILE HARINGTON: Eccentric and secretive.

Odile Harington was arrested in Harare in January 1987 at a house provided for ANC refugees. She attempted to persuade a police guard to post a letter to South Africa. The letter was later found to contain a photograph and description of a man Harington believed to be a senior ANC official. She was tried under the Official Secrets Act.

When she appealed against the sentence in 1988 it was commuted to 12 years by Chief Justice Enoch Dumbutshena who described her treatment in the original trial as "vicious".

At the time, the court was told that Odile Harington had attempted suicide on a number of occasions after being sexually assaulted, repeatedly flogged with pipes and wire flex, starved, subjected to water torture and kept in solitary confinement during her 10-month detention before trial.

Secretive

Now, after having served three years of her 12-year sentence, she is free and back in South Africa. Her freedom, it is believed, has been largely orchestrated by the ANC as a result of the freeing of ANC detainees by Pretoria.

The petite and attractive Odile Harington, fluent in English, Afrikaans, German and French, is the daughter of prominent Johannesburg artist Eone de Wet whose copper-relief works can be seen hanging at Jan Smuts Airport. Mrs de Wet has used her maiden name since her divorce from Odile's father, Dr J C Harington, a professor of virology, 25 years ago.

Odile was, according to her family, an eccentric and secretive girl. And when she decided to act as an agent for the South African security forces her family "knew nothing about it at all".

Soon after her arrest her younger brother Lucian said: "I can't feel sorry for her. I think it was her highly contemptuous attitude towards people that got her into trouble."

He added that a family feud had raged for years and that "none of us had seen her since three months before she went to Zimbabwe".

Odile, who turned 30 this year attended Helpmekaar Girls High School in Johannesburg where she was described as "a good pupil". She was also a good actress and excelled in history and had a particular interest in Hitler's life.

After studying for a BA degree at Pretoria University she left without graduating after two years.

In 1979 she got a job at the Wits University bookshop and started studying a course in Afrikaans-Nederlands. Her Wits colleagues described Odile as "imaginative but rather confused in her beliefs".

Ironically, many of her colleagues thought her to be anti-Afrikaans and anti-Government. She took a delight in shocking her friends with radical leftwing political comments.

Odile graduated in 1985 majoring in Afrikaans and German.

She created bizarre scrap-books which she presented to colleagues and lecturers. One, called "Shredded Butterflies", consisted of butterflies that were torn to piece and then pasted together. She als indulged in cryptic poetry:

As rough as a caterpillar.
As black as a cauliflower.
As yellow as a leaf.
As tired as a dog.
I don't know where the fea begins and the sorrows end.

From letters to friends befor her arrest it was evident tha Odile Harington was not a crusad er for white supremacy.

Obsessed

She admitted to questioning th apartheid system and other Gov ernment policies. But, she wa clearly obsessed with the ANC an the dangers she perceived the or ganisation held for South Afric To Odile the ANC was South Afr ca's public enemy No 1.

But, possibly the most apt de scription of Odile Harington cam from a journalist who attende her trial: "Lonely, frightened, u trained and inept — a girl searc ing for a cause to serve."

'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

B1Pay 6/11/90

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 Koshita Shengamo and his deputy Francis Kunda to return to work.

Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM) public relations manager Dunstan Cyhapema 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 man 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 Zimbabwean 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. B1Pay 6/11/90

Bicycle makers hope thousands of people will boost an industry hard hit by falling sales in the past decade. Sales dropped from over 60 000 in 1979 to around 30 000 in 1989. (362)

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 a bicycle would provide freedom and independence, an industry official said. — Reuter.

How independence moved Zimbabwe's property market

B1Day 7/11/90 362

MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

ON THE eve of Rhodesia's 1962 general election, Sir Edgar Whitehead announced that his governing United Federal Party would revise residential segregation imposed under the country's Land Apportionment Act.

The newly formed right-wing Rhodesian Front triumphed, setting a course for Ian Smith's November 1965 unilateral declaration of independence and the disastrous 1972-80 bush war.

Under the 1930 Land Apportionment Act (succeeded by the 1970 Land Tenure Act) roughly half of Rhodesia was set aside for Africans and half for "Europeans". A European was defined as "any person not an African".

When the English husband of Zimbabwe's present deputy transport minister, Amina Hughes, moved down from Zambia in 1967, he had no initial difficulty in 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 Amina Hughes' personal achievements.

The petition fell flat, because it had no basis in Rhodesian law, but her embittered husband seemed prescient of her enlistment 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.

Nearly 30 years after the UFP lost that fateful election over the housing desegregation issue, homes in the Harare suburb of Mabelreign, which then sold for £2 000 (R4 000 at contemporary exchange rates), change hands for at least R170 000, although the suburb is now predominantly black.

The Hughes' old home in Highlands, which would have had a R7 000 price tag in 1967, would cost at least R400 000.

Even allowing for currency depreciation and inflation, houses have remained superlatively good investments. Part of the reason 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.

Another reason is the soaring cost of house building, fuelled by the departure of the white artisans once the backbone of the construction industry and the desperate shortage of foreign currency for such essential inputs as cement-making plant, window frames and plumbing.

President Robert Mugabe's very success in re-creating political stability has attracted up to 20 000 expatriates — and the agencies or companies that employ them think the equivalent of £100 000 an excellent price for a home with a pool and a tennis court in which to base their local representative.

But most important of all, there were barely 4-million people in Rhodesia in 1962, while in Zimbabwe today there are 10-million. There is inexorable pressure from the overcrowded rural "communal areas" into the "high density suburbs" (the former black townships), from the former townships into the former lower income white suburbs, such as Mabelreign, and from Mabelreign into Highlands.

Between 1974 and 1984 two-thirds of Rhodesia's 287 000 whites emigrated, turning the "low density" housing market into a temporary bargain basement for the newly Africanised civil service and arriving foreign embassies. The 40 000 white civil servants were replaced by more than 80 000 black civil servants with access to subsidised loans, while the private sector also recruited thousands of blacks with promises of special bond facilities.

The early and mid-1980s were a testing time for Zimbabwe's three building societies as many new bond holders, besieged by indigent relatives with pleas for help with cash problems such as school fees, failed to keep up regular payments.

Towards the end of the decade some houses in the former "European" suburbs began showing the deterioration white right-wingers claimed would result from desegregation: lawns were planted with starveling mealies, paint peeled, three-bedroomed houses and their servants' quarters seemed to accommodate entire villages.

Then, with the surge in house prices after recovery from the 1982-84 drought, the developers moved in. Owners of such run-down houses were usually delighted to accept handsome cash offers, with which they could buy several properties in the former townships. 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".

This object lesson in Thatcherite monetarism caused some Zimbabweans to wonder whether the answer to rural land degradation lay in allowing market forces similar free play.

But granting unrestricted private title in the tribal "communal areas" is unthinkable for Mugabe's government, which dreams of Soviet-style collectivisation.

Soaring municipal rates (five times their level 10 years ago) also serve to deter poorer black families from staying in the low-density suburbs, but zoning for better government schools is a powerful incentive to remain.

The urban property developers have not been deterred by the 30% capital gains tax imposed since 1980, which allows a modest 5% a year be offset against inflation, in reali topping 20% last year. Sellers do n pay the tax if they buy a new hon within a year, and widows do not p death duties on the family home.

Harare is not yet surrounded squatter shanties, as is Lusaka, n have former palaces become roo eries of refugee rural tribesmen, in Beira. But derelict wrecks of ca on waste ground soon attra wretched temporary residents.

After independence the gover ment gave outright title to 60 0 tenants of the former townships, c claring their years of renting we payment enough. While some n owners have been encouraged by t to improve their homes, poor fa ilies facing the worst of Zimbabw inflation and unemployment cri have too often been forced to sell c to raise ready money.

Left-wingers claim "a new class profiteers" has been created, forci up the price of urban accommo tion by trying to acquire as ma houses as possible.

Mugabe has not yet heeded calls forbid ownership of more than o home, or impose a "wealth tax" real estate holdings, but in Aug mortgage rates on houses not own occupied were raised to 18,75%, a a 40% down payment was requir Owner-occupiers require only a 1 down payment and their mortga rate is 13,75%.

Although half-a-million peo are now housed in the new satell city of Chitungwiza, the capital still 100 000 houses short. "Lodge may pay up to R200 for a single ro in the servants' quarter of a form white home.

The government has alloca thousands of "Zvizvobgo", nam after the minister, Eddison Zvob who introduced the idea of sta with just a toilet and kitchen which the buyer builds the rest.

Amid rural land degradation a urban poverty, such schemes of scope for an explosion of Dickens slum landlords that could incre the tensions arising from Z babwe's dangerous, ever-widen gap between rich and poor.

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 dethrone King Moshoeshoe. President Buyoya of Burundi has also withdrawn.

President Quett Masire has sent his Foreign Minister, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, in his place. Others due to take part were Transkei's military leader, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, Swazi premier Sotsha 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.

NEWS IN BRIEF

B. Daily 9/11/70 362

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 Ziana 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

B1 Day 9/11/90 362

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 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

B1 Day 9/11/90

MAPUTO — For the second time in two months, the Mozambican authorities have announced large rises in the price of fuels. The price of a litre of petrol in Maputo rises by 42,5%, from 0,95c/*l* to $1,35/*l*. Diesel suffers the same percentage increase, rising from 0,33c/*l* to 0,47c/*l*.

R10m deal for Botswana bank

B1 Day 9/11/90

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. B1 Day 9/11/90

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.

B1 Day 9/11/90

REPORTS: Sapa, ANO.

Defiant Smith flouts Mugabe ban

ST Time 4/11/90 (362)

By DON JACOBS
Harare

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 revenge. 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 iniquitious," 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 devious role" because he worked tirelessly from Government House to avert military confrontation.

Sources said Sir Humphrey, the first Rhodesian governor of Rhodesia, stymied 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 1928, 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".



NOW . . . Odile looking thin and tired



BEFORE . . . Odile just before jail

Odile's jail horror is over, but the scars still remain

S Times 11/11/90

By STEPHANIE HULL

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 Zimbabwe 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 1987 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 Eone 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.

SOWETAN Tuesday November 13 1990

Abortions rocket

362

Stefan 13/11/90

HARARE — Approximately 60 000 Zimbabwean 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 maternity 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 Manana," he said.

The education of women was important in combating the problem.

Educated women should make proper use of available health institutions, Stamps said. — *Sapa*

CAPE TIMES 13/11/90

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 co-operation 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

CHOMA, 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 immmediate 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 280km from Lusaka.

Magistrate Mr Sylvester Simachela adjourned the trial of labour leader Mr Frederick Chiluba and eight colleagues of the Movement for Multiparty 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 now 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 Zipra 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.

Support grows for lines of power

HARARE - Support is growing for the concept of a Southern African Power Authority to handle huge generating projects and a transmission grid which would criss-cross the region from Zaire to Zululand, from Maputo to Malmesbury.

Eskom's Chief Executive, Dr Ian McRae, speaking in an interview in Harare where he is attending a meeting of the World Energy Council, said he realised the practical difficulties in getting the approval of governments for such an authority. But he hoped they would see the benefits too, particularly in the raising of private sector finance.

McRae is more optimistic now that his vision of a giant power grid will come to fruition. Political constrains are falling away, he says.



A vital component is the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric project in Mozambique for which finance is currently being raised to re-construct the 1 400 transmission towers sabotaged in the last 10 years of guerilla war.

All of us are much more confident, now that peace initiatives are under way, and the security problem is definitely diminishing," said McRae who heads the Permanent Joint Committee of Portugal, Mozambique and South Africa which is in charge of the restoration of Cahora Bassa. He confirmed that the Renamo leader, Afonso Dhlakama, had given some undertaking not to interfere with the reconstruction of the power line to South Africa.

Meanwhile final touches are being put to an agreement under which Zimbabwe will import power from Cahora Bassa, possibly within the next two to three years. This would be for only a limited period but, said McRae, "we are looking at the possibility of installing additional generating capacity at Cahora Bassa to enable Zimbabwe to continue to import power for many years."

This study is about to commence and will include looking at other projects on the Zambezi.

Another exciting possibility is to link the Zimbabwe power system directly to South Africa to enable excess power to be fed into the South African system.

Sowetan Correspondent

Female control over contraception sought

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Sowetan 22/11/90

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.

FHI 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 commonly available, which will take many years, the long-term goal for many Aids educators and women's advocates is to get men as well as women invested in preventing HIV transmission and in family planning in general," the publication said.

It said the World Health Organisation estimated that about one million babies would have been born with the Aids virus by the end of 1992, a situation which needed serious attention.

The quarterly quoted a Who official as saying HIV had been detected in 24 percent of pregnant women tested at one site in the Ugandan capital Kampala, in 55 percent of infants under 18 months tested in orphanages in Port-au-Prince, in Haiti, and in 4,3 percent of pregnant women tested at a site in Newark, New Jersey, in the United States. - *Sapa*

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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 20 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 1870s, 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.

"At '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 166 000 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 formerly 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.

Star 27/11/90 362

PAC man accused of drug smuggling

HARARE — A senior official of the PAC is in custody accused of complicity in a huge drug smuggling operation involving Mandrax valued at R40 million.

The deputy chief representative in Zimbabwe of the PAC, Ramudi 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 963 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

Sowetan 28/11/90 (362)

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 continued 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 donations 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 years 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 per cent 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 R15 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-Reuter*

Inyangas to help in battle against Aids

Sowetan 29/11/90 (362)

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 is 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 surrounding established practices. 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 danger 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 Stamps, earlier this year saw the 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. 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 programmes, interviews with sufferers and currently an Aids Awareness Week is under way with rallies and processions. President 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. - *Sowetan Correspondent*

Still searching for loved ones

South 29/11 – 5/12/90

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 Zimbabwe African National-ist 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. Zanu 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 guerillas 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.

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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

STS 29/11/90 (362)

Nyangas 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 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.

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forms. \3 Agencies

Harare, new centre of drug trade

w/May 30/11 – 6/12/90 (362)

By ANDREW MELDRUM: Harare

THE recent arrest of a Pan Africanist Congress official in Zimbabwe's biggest-ever drug bust has highlighted the threat that international drug traffickers intend to establish Harare as a regional distribution centre.

Zimbabwean authorities announced this week they would be setting up new checkpoints at airports and border posts to clamp down on the burgeoning international traffic in hard drugs through Zimbabwe.

The PAC's deputy representative in Harare, Ramudi Michael Maphai, was arrested with three others for allegedly importing more than a ton of Mandrax, estimated to have a street value of more than $40-million Zim (about R39,2-million).

Maphai (32) was arrested last week when he tried to import 963kg of Mandrax. Also in court with Maphai on Monday were Dawood Mohammed Syad (30) of India and Ali Shaukat (36) of Pakistan. The three were arrested when they attempted to take possession of the shipment of Mandrax which had been sent from Bombay, according to the public prosecutor. They did not plead to the charges and are to appear again on January 29. They were refused bail on the grounds that they are charged with being part of an international drug smuggling ring.

A fourth person was arrested as he arrived in Harare last week from India. The large Mandrax haul was clearly not just a one-off venture. Police sources said another big shipment was expected shortly.

The PAC's chief representative, Thobile Gola, said on Tuesday that the movement "was not in any way involved" in the Maphai case or any other form of "Mandrax racketeering". Gola stated that the PAC would "take action in terms of its own tribunal of justice contained in our disciplinary code".

This is not the first time the PAC has been mentioned in connection with Mandrax trafficking in Harare. Two years ago a letter circulated in Harare, purportedly from the PAC's internal wing, which alleged that external PAC officials were dealing in Mandrax. It is understood that the Mugabe government looked into the matter and warned the PAC, although no arrests were made.

"This is a real mess," said a PAC member here. "When the PAC is working to be forward-looking and drawing up solutions for the situation in our country, it is terrible that we must deal with this personal scandal. It is a real blow to our image."

Mandrax is not popular in Zimbabwe and it is presumed the drug was destined for South Africa. Hard drugs like heroin, cocaine and morphine are also moving through Zimbabwe in increasing quantities, according to police superintendent Charles Chikwaka. He warned authorities that Harare could become as notorious as Lusaka as a conduit for international drug movements.

The drugs are sent from the Far East to Lusaka or Harare and from there into the more lucrative South African market or northwards into Europe, according to the sources.

Zambia, with direct flights to India, has already become so infected by the drug trade that cabinet members and other top officials of the Kaunda government are directly involved, according to diplomatic sources. One of President Kenneth Kaunda's granddaughters is facing charges of involvement in a drug ring.

In Harare, a number of Nigerians have recently been arrested for drug smuggling. Earlier this month a Nigerian flying from Lagos to Harare via Nairobi died when four cocaine-filled condoms he had swallowed burst in his stomach. Police found evidence that he had been involved in smuggling ventures in and out of Harare.

Zim rights plan 'retrogressive'

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Cape Times 5/12/00

BULAWAYO — Zimbabwe's former Chief Justice, Mr Enock 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 protest against the bill, Mr Dumbutshena, 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. White commercial farmers see it as a preparation for taking over their land to resettle black peasants. — Sapa

Ex-chief justice joins critics of Zimbabwe Bill

(362)

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. B 10 Aug 5/12/90

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.

A truce will have to be followed by changes allowing Unita a stake in Angola's future.

This week's congress is scheduled to discuss reforms to the Angolan constitution aimed at removing the party's position as the guiding

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Ex-chief justice joins critics of Zimbabwe Bill

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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 Mozambioque 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

(362)
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1/2/90

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. - *Sapa*

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.

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Star 5/12/90

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SA-Zimbabwe trade set to soar, says envoy

Star 5/12/90

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

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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

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Leaders of Zimbabwe's 4 500 white commercial farmers held a crisis meeting yesterday as Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa introduced legislation paving the way for the nationalisation of 5-million hectares.

Mnangagwa attacked the white "landed gentry", urging them to "resist their unbridled lust for wealth" and to give their farms to government for black resettlement in return for the gains they had harvested "at the expense of the masses since the days of Cecil John Rhodes".

Backbenchers 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 Enoch Dumbutshena 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. We cannot with decent consciences allow the small but powerful section to hold to

□ To Page 2

Concerts and condoms against Aids

Wmcnl 7/12 - 13/12/90 (362)

Zimbabwe marked World Aids Day last weekend with bagpipes, banners and reggae, reports

ANDREW MELDRUM

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.

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 wilfully 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 Mutukudzi, 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 Mazere (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 Dalasile (29). "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 snickered at 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

From Page 1

ransom the impoverished peasantry with the principle of adequate compensation.

"We simply cannot afford the luxury of paying adequate, prudent and remittable compensation for the compulsory acquisition of private land," he said, predicting "class wars" if the needs of landless peasants were not met.

Under Zimbabwe's 1980 Lancaster House constituion, government was required to offer prompt market value payment for any expropriated property.

After the guarantees lapsed in April Mugabe announced plans to take over most of Zimbabwe's 6-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

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Sowetan 7/12/90

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 front-line 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.*

Fears for human rights growing in Harare

Sowetan 7/12/90

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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.

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.

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."

Inhuman

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.

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 a resettlement programme, may be paid in government bonds rather than in cash.

This was revealed yesterday by Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Emmerson 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 ex-Chief Justice Enoch Dumbutshena, 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 sector, would be left with 5 million ha from 11 million ha.

The Bill would also change the name of Zimbabwe to the "Republic of Zimbabwe".

Farmers despair at Mugabe's land grab

(362)

S/Times 9/12/90.

You won't receive market price for land, they're told

By DON JACOBS: Harare

MORALE among Zimbabwe's 4 500 white farmers — whose crops have kept President Robert Mugabe solvent and his 10-million people fed — hit rock bottom this weekend as the ruling Zanu (PF) Party prepared to steamroller a land grab through parliament.

In an explosion of anti-white rhetoric, Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa attacked the "landed gentry's unbridled lust for wealth" and demanded they "give our landless peasantry gratuitous offers of land in return for all the manifold gains they have harvested at the expense of the masses since the days of Cecil Rhodes".

To the dismay of the business community, he said Zimbabwe could not afford to pay farmers the market price for land.

Sources here say President Mugabe has set aside R540-million under the proposed land nationalisation programme to expropriate the prime 6-million hectare "maize and tobacco belt", currently worth R3-billion.

The area, stretching from the Mozambican border city of Mutare to the northern town of Karoi, produces all of Zimbabwe's top earning export — tobacco — and its staple food crop, maize.

Solid

Alan Burl, president of the white-dominated Commercial Farmers' Union, has tried to defuse the crisis by preparing a report suggesting how six million overcrowded peasant farmers can be resettled without disrupting agricultural production.

He said a CFU working group was trying to indicate "sensitive areas" where confidence had to be maintained "to ensure the economic base of the country remains solid".

Former Chief Justice Enoch Dumbutshena, 71, was more outspoken when he warned that attempts to strip farmers of their right of appeal to the courts would wreck hopes of foreign investment.

The planned nationalisation violated "all accepted norms of modern society and the rule of law," said the London-trained advocate, who was forced to retire in February after a crisis over government inteference with the courts.

On Tuesday, parliament will resume a debate on Mr Mnangagwa's controversial Constitutional Amendment Bill, introduced following the lapse of the 10-year guarantees under the 1980 Lancaster House Agreement, which ended the Rhodesian bush war.

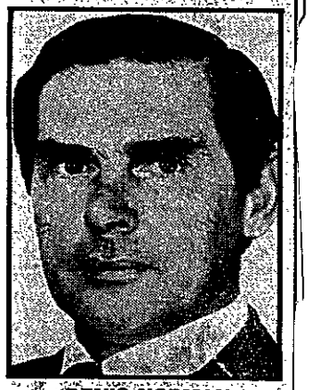
Mr Mnangagwa said the drive to nationalise land was dictated by "an unjust international economic order in which the world's rich developed nations get richer by the minute, at the flip of their fingers, while the poor developing nations get poorer by the second".

War

He predicted a "class war" if land redistribution failed to solve Zimbabwe's massive unemployment problem.

President Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) party holds 147 of the 150 seats, so is certain of the necessary 100 votes to get the Bill through.

Meanwhile, Transport Minister Denis Norman, a former president of the CFU, told farmers "not to panic" as he hoped the Bill would be modified.

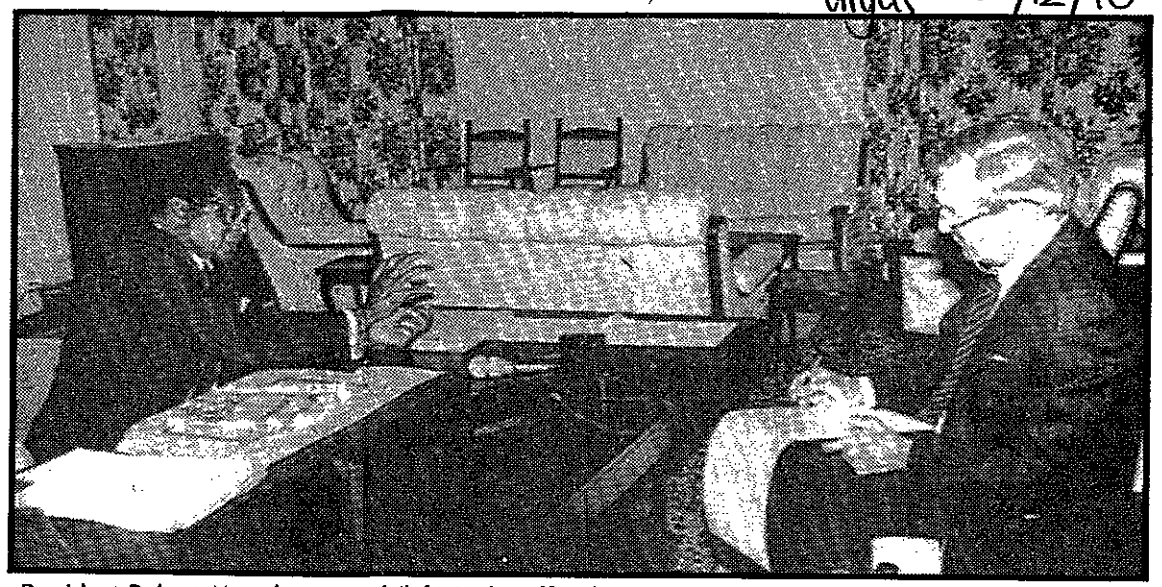


DENIS NORMAN
'Farmers must not panic'

Mugabe: 'I admire FW, but ...'

Argus 10/12/90

In an exclusive interview with the President of Zimbabwe Mr Robert Mugabe in Harare — believed to be the first of this kind he has given in 10 years — GERALD L'ANGE, Editor Star's Africa Service discovered an indication of his desire to communicate his views across the Limpopo.



President Robert Mugabe, seated (left) in the office he maintains in State House, the sprawling, Dutch-gabled former residence of the governors-general of Rhodesia, being question by Gerald L'Ange.

PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe says although he admires President De Klerk and encourages his reforms he will refuse to meet him until he is satisfied the abolition of apartheid is irreversible.

In an interview at State House in Harare, Mr Mugabe said he had deliberately avoided meeting President De Klerk because he did not want to be seen to be bestowing acceptance on him until the main issue of removing apartheid had been resolved in South Africa.

Mr Mugabe described his attitude to the South African leader as "warding 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".

He said the Zimbabwean government was still uncertain what sort of system Mr De Klerk envisaged in the new South Africa and wanted him to be more explicit about what he had in mind.

'Openness'

While emphasising that it was up to South Africans to decide what sort of political dispensation they wanted, the Zimbabwean leader strongly supported the concept of a unitary rather than a federal state for the country. South Africans must preserve their "oneness", he said, otherwise it would lead to "an eruption" in the future.

He said he did not believe white South Africans had anything to fear from accepting majority rule in a unitary state and did not believe black South Africans wanted an all-black parliament — "it would be a disgrace if that happened".

He expressed himself strongly against the concept of group rights that is being promoted by Mr De Klerk.

Mr Mugabe's refusal to meet Mr De Klerk is being maintained despite the growing move among black African states to deal openly with South Africa and despite the fact that several African heads of state and government have had meetings with 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.

Deliberate

As leader of the second most powerful country in the region and as former head of the Non-Aligned Nations, President Mugabe is regarded as one of the most influential figures in Africa and the dominant one in the Frontline group.

The interview was held in the office President Mugabe maintains in State House, the sprawling, Dutch-gabled former residence of the governors-general of Rhodesia, which is largely unchanged from those days except that a pair of stuffed lions now stand guard on the verandah at the main entrance and the Zimbabwean flags (national and presidential) hang above the fireplace in the main reception room.

When asked whether he was prepared to follow the example of other African leaders and meet President 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 in South Afrca.

"Why should attempts to resolve that main issue involve Robert Mugabe here, Quett Masire in Botswana - unless our advice was sought."

While Mr De Klerk was trying to resolve the apartheid issue he was also trying to attain other goals: acceptance of South Africa by the international community and especially in Southern Africa, Mr Mugabe said.

Zimbabwe believed that acceptance should come only after the main issue of apartheid had been resolved in South Africa.

Acceptance

"In other words, if there is today a democratic system in South Africa President De Klerk needn't go out of the way to woo poor Robert Mugabe to accept him.

"That alone will bring acceptance by the whole community, and so we would want him to resolve that issue.

"We do not want to be seen to be party to a leadership which has not resolved the main question in South Africa. And so we will not meet him until we are satisfied that the process he is engaged in is irreversible and that we can look forward to a democratic South Africa."

Until then it was a matter of "warding off" Mr De Klerk and not being seen to accept him. "But we will continue to encourage him. We won't denounce him. We haven't said a singe word denouncing him at all; if anything we have encouraged him to go on."

Asked for his views on Mr De Klerk's reforms, the Zimbabwean president said: "We admire President 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 in South Africa. It's a revolution; the Afrikaner people should regard it as a real, progressive revolution, and we would want to encourage him."

Mr Mugabe said, however, that what mattered was not the removal of discriminatory practices. As the ANC had said, the blacks were not fighting to go to the same toilets as the whites but for the right to be involved on an equal basis with everybody else in the process of shaping their own destiny.

"There has to be one man, one voteand (this) needn't frighten the whites at all."

Asked what further actions his government would expect from Pretoria before it would abandon its refusal to deal with the South African government at ministerial level and upgrade its diplomatic representation from trade commission level, President Mugabe said the fundamental issue was whether political power had been given to the people. Other reforms, such as those concerning land, would follow.

Asked whether from Zimbabwe's own experience he could give white South Africans any reassurance they would benefit from accepting majority rule 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 effect the new philosphy 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."

It was put to the president that many South Africans were looking at Zimbabwe as an example of what might South Africa might be like under black majority ruleand that some believed Zimbabwe's whites had ended up without political influence and therefore dependent on people of a differrent cultural background to look after their interests.

He replied that whites in Zimbabwe still had a tremendous amount of influence. There were three white ministers in the cabinet.

He questioned why whites should be regarded as having a different culture only b cause of the colour of the skins. Among whites were be found people of vario cultures — Germans, Afrik ners, Britons, Jews, Port guese. If they were each to put into little categories t society would end up divide rather than united.

Mr Mugabe conceded th in the beginning whites South Africa might feel an ious about their own positic under black majority rul But he did not believe t ANC or the PAC would wa to see an all-black parliame or an all-black governmen These organisations had ha their own experience and ha seen what had happened i Zimbabwe and elsewhere an he did not think they woul want to apply apartheid i reverse.

Marxism

Mr Mugabe said there wa no doubt that whites could b accepted by blacks as Afr cans and still retain and prac tise the culture they inherite from their Europea ancestors.

Asked about his goverr ment's economic and ideolo ical policies, the presider said it did not intend to forc socialism on the country.

"We have never regarde ourselves as outright Marx ists at all because we hav seen the application of Marx ism in many Eastern coun tries. There are aspects w admired, general principls w admired, but it is the modal ities that we condemn, tha we never agreed with: th regimentation of the people Socialism must be by persua sion and this is what we hav tried to do."

Mr Mugabe said his gov ernment likewise would no impose a one-party state o Zimbabwe. It would attain i my mobilising the people an not by legislating for it Groups other than the ruling party would continue to have the right to organise themselves, he said.

Mugabe talks bluntly about De Klerk

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Star 10/12/90

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 the abolition of 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 "warding 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

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Mugabe speaks bluntly

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● 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 philosphy 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' — Page 13.

President Mugabe of Zimbabwe this weekend gave to GERALD L'ANGE, Editor of The Star's Africa News Service, what is believed to be his first interview in 10 years with a South African journalist. This is an edited version.

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Historic interview . . . President Mugabe with Gerald L'Ange, Editor of The Star's Africa News Service. Mr Mugabe expressed his admiration for President de Klerk but said he would not yet meet him.

A 'view from a distance'

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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 majority rule, as in Zimbabwe. What reasons for accepting majority rule in a unitary state would you give to South Africans looking for guidance?

LET ME BEGIN by clarifying our position on South Africa *vis a 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 the South Africans to determine that system. But certainly the issue of the nature of the political system is one the South Africans themselves must seek to negotiate.

I would 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.

COULD you give white South Africans any reassurance, from Zimbabwe's experience and from its influential position in Africa, that they would benefit from accepting a dispensation similar to Zimbabwe's?

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

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.

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

about his philosophy but we are not quite certain here what, in concrete terms, his thinking amounts to. Whether he is for one-man one-vote in an unrestricted way, or whether he would want to see it applied in a context in which society is di-

nomic and social, than others.

I think that kind of dispensation or solution would have embedded in it certain contradictions which will yield an erup tion in the future.

And then of course it will be left to the various parties as to

dent de Klerk needn't go out of the way to woo poor Robert Mugabe to accept him.

That alone will bring acceptance by the whole community, the entire community, and so we would want him to resolve that issue.

cialist policies for the new dispensation to come and your government pursues socialist ideals. Yet socialism — certainly the more extreme forms implicit in Marxism-Leninism — is being abandoned rather than promoted by governments that

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.



Historic interview . . . President Mugabe with Gerald L'Ange, Editor of The Star's Africa News Service. Mr Mugabe expressed his admiration for President de Klerk but said he would not yet meet him.

A 'view from a distance'

Star 10/12/90 (362)

COULD you give white South Africans any reassurance, from Zimbabwe's experience and from its influential position in Africa, that they would benefit from accepting a dispensation similar to Zimbabwe's?

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.

MANY white South Africans are looking at Zimbabe 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?

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, than 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 of one culture merely because of the colour of their skin? You have Germans, you have British and Afrikaners, 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, 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.

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 would want to believe that the ANC, PAC, the non-white 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.

EVEN the present South African Government appears to have accepted that whites have no future in Africa except as Africans. But can whites, in your view, be accepted by blacks as Africans and still retain and practise the culture they inherited from their European ancestors?

OH YES, that need not be asked. And if you take our example, I think that the greatest aspect of culture is that which has to do with education. Our education here is given through the medium of English.

Language — well, it's English and I would hope that in South Africa it would continue to be English, Afrikaans, Sotho, Xhosa, Zulu, Venda — that all these languages would be taught. Here we teach all our languages to university level. Shona and Ndebele are official languages alongside English.

I don't see any reason why the South Africans couldn't move forward that way but for any government to try and compel the view that the one language is more important than another is wrong. I don't see any future black-dominated government wanting to compel that Zulu or Xhosa should be made the official language of South Africa. At the end of the day one hopes that all these cultures, by a kind of levelling process, will produce a typical South African culture.

WHAT are your views on the reforms introduced in South Africa by President de Klerk?

WE ADMIRE President 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 philosphy of apartheid, and to try and redirect the thinking of his party and his people.

We are happy that this event has occured in South Africa. It's a revolution; the Afrikaner people should regard it as a real, progressive revolution. And we would want to encourage him.

There have been some reforms but one would want to see much more happen. Basically it's not the removal of those social discriminatory practices which matter.

The blacks are not fighting to be able to go to the same toilet as the whites.

This is what the ANC are saying and we agree with them. They are fighting for the right to be involved on an equal basis with everybody else, in the process of shaping their own destiny and this means naturally that they must have full political, civil and other rights.

There has to be one-man one-vote and (this) needn't frighten the whites at all. It just means that we recognise each human being as equal unto another. And it means also that we expect the person with the one vote to use it not in a discriminatory manner but to use it in a manner which recognises that it must maintain the oneness of the people of South Africa, the necessary harmony between them, that it must reject racialism and apartheid, tribalism, regionalism and other isms, and that its exercise should lead to the people of South Africa forging a common destiny.

And we would want to see President de Klerk now enunciate himself much more explicitly on the issue of the political system South Africa should have. Something has been said about his philosophy but we are not quite certain here what, in concrete terms, his thinking amounts to. Whether he is for one-man one-vote in an unrestricted way, or whether he would want to see it applied in a context in which society is divided into two with certain rights allocated to one community as against another.

Or does he want one-man one-vote in a political environment where oneness obtains, in other words, where you have a unitary system?

It is possible that his reference to group interests might mean the restriction of the application of the philosophy of one-man one-vote; he might be thinking of the whites being given preferential treatment or there being treated separately in certain spheres.

We would want to see what he means by group interests.

To talk of groups of interests at the same time as you're talking of democracy is a contradiction in terms.

If you are going to have group interests will the group interests of the one community not be more dominant and perhaps prevail over the group interests of another community?

And you are back to the issue of apartheid, to square one again. But I can very well see his problem and we sympathise.

He has difficulty in abandoning apartheid completely, at one stroke of the pen as it were. And probably he would want to see a gradual process being pursued so as to allay some fears in the initial period.

Whatever they do or agree to do or agree should be the system during the transition period, is a matter for them to negotiate. But we ourselves here in Zimbabwe and I'm sure, in the whole of our Frontline states area, are opposed to a political system ultimately being one in which people are divided again, where some have more political rights than others, where some will emerge as having more opportunities, economic and social, than others.

I think that kind of dispensation or solution would have embedded in it certain contradictions which will yield an eruption in the future.

And then of course it will be left to the various parties as to which ideology they should pursue. Whether they want capitalism or socialism or a mixed economy is a matter now for the parties and that's what they should put to the electorate and vie with each other for the vote.

The winners, of course, will apply whichever philosophy the people will have chosen.

PRESIDENT de Klerk has met various African leaders but there has not yet been a meeting between you and him. Would you be prepared to meet him?

DELIBERATELY we have avoided him and we shall continue to avoid meeting 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; the main theme is internal, the resolution of this whole apartheid issue and the creation of a democratic state in South Africa.

As President de Klerk is attempting to resolve this whole political issue in Soth Africa he is also wanting to attain other goals: the goal of acceptance of South Africa by the international community and that means, of course, first and foremost, by people and countries in the region of Southern Africa.

If there is today a democratic system in South Africa, President de Klerk needn't go out of the way to woo poor Robert Mugabe to accept him.

That alone will bring acceptance by the whole community, the entire community, and so we would want him to resolve that issue.

We do not want to be seen to be a party to a leaderhip which has not resolved the main question in South Africa. And so we will not meet him until we are satisfied that the process he is engaged in is irreversible and that we can look forward to a democratic South Africa.

So it's really warding 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.

But we will continue to encourage him. We won't denounce him; we haven't said a single word denouncing him at all, if anything, we have encouraged him to go on.

YOUR government has not yet accepted that President de Klerk's reforms are sufficient to justify a change in its policy of barring contact with the South African Government at Ministerial level and establishing diplomatic links at consular or higher level. What further reforms would you expect in South Africa before you would feel able to change this policy?

I THINK the one fundamental issue is the resolution of the political question: the power that the people want to see in their hands. Has that power been given them?

Other reforms, the land question and so on, those will follow.

SOME political groups in South Africa are advocating socialist policies for the new dispensation to come and your government pursues socialist ideals. Yet socialism — certainly the more extreme forms implicit in Marxism-Leninism — is being abandoned rather than promoted by governments that have tried it in Eastern Europe and Africa. What are your views today on the desirability of socialism as a system for Africa in general, for Zimbabwe in particular and perhaps even for South Africa?

FOR a developing country like our own, and a country which has suffered under the yoke of imperialism and capitalism, to talk of a full-blooded capitalist system means retaining the status quo — in regard to land, in regard to the economic rights of the people — and that cannot be allowed.

Our view in the party is that we follow sources and we have enunciated (a policy of) socialism guided by Marxism and Leninism. Right from the start, as far bask as 1980, we have stated that we shall be guided by these principles but the principles will have to take into account our own history, our own culture and the objective realities of our own environment.

And this is why we are being very pragmatic in our application of socialist principles.

We have never regarded ourselves as outright Marxists at all because we have seen the application of Marxism in many Eastern countries.

There are aspects we admired, general principles we admired but it is the modalities that we condemn, that we never agreed with; the regimentation of the people. Socialism must be by persuasion.

I think in South Africa you will get that pragmatism applying and I think it does create confidence on the part of all comunities especially on the part of entrepreneurs. □

Mugabe's hopes for South Africa

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Sowetan 11/12/90

PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe at the weekend gave an interview to a South African journalist. This is an edited version of his talk with GERALD L'ANGE, Editor of *The Sowetan Africa News Service.*



ROBERT MUGABE

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 majority 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-a-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 would 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 nonracial 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 of one culture merely because of the colour of their skin? You have Germans, you have British and Afrikaners, you have Jews, you have Portuguese and should all those now be subdivided 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

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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. Star 11/12/90.

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

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 6-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 R540m compensation for farms (worth R3bn 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

TANIA LEVY

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.

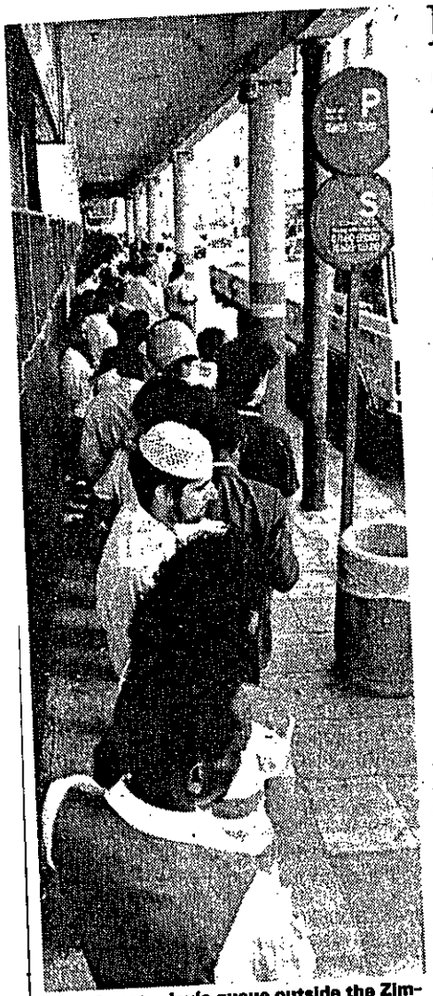
"It has never been this bad, even in November, says one woman who waited a month instead of seven days for her visa. She says the mission is understaffed.

"The Zimbabwe 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.



Part of yesterday's queue outside the Zimbabwe trade mission in Johannesburg.
Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Inquiry finds no corruption in cycad exports

had acted in good faith ning. Provincial Affairs

Bill made law to boos and cheers

MICHAEL HARTNACK 362

HARARE — Zimbabwe's parliament erupted into tumultuous tribal dancing and singing yesterday as President Robert Mugabe's government steamrollered through a momentous constitutional amendment 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 1980 Lancaster House independence constitution, were taken at a single sitting.

The three opposition MPs in the 150-member legislature rose to a prolonged chorus of boos as they recorded "no" votes against 113 for the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

"Where land was taken freely, we are paying for it," said Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa, referring to Mugabe's reported plans to offer R540m in compensation to the 4 500 white commercial farmers who own the 6-million hectare "maize and tobacco belt", until recently worth R3m on the open market.

"When the land was taken away (by 19th-century white settlers) there was no compensation court to which our forefathers could appeal," he said. BIDay 13/12/90

The prime farming belt grows Zimbabwe's R868m-a-year major export earner, tobacco, and most of the maize crop.

Opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement leader Edgar Tekere yesterday accused cabinet ministers who already owned large numbers of commercial farms of

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□ From Page 1

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 Zanu, whose leader, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, is in exile in the US.

Mnangagwa lashed out at government backbenchers who expressed muted disquiet over the government's removal of the jurisdiction of the courts over expropriations, which Matabeleland rancher Max Rosenfels warned could be extended to commandeer other forms of property.

But Rosenfels, a former member of the Rhodesian Front who later joined Mugabe's party, voted for the Bill, together with Transport Minister Denis Norman, an ex-president of Zimbabwe's Commercial Farmers Union, and Peter Hewlett, another Zanu (PF) white farmer.

Mnangagwa accused Zimbabwe's Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Commission 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 destroy investor confidence.

Of 3-million 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

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Star 13/12/90

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 Ndabaningi 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 Rosenfels.

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 former white-owned land. It says it will target under-utilised land, though the law will allow any land to be acquired compulsorily.

Nationalisation row in Zimbabwe

CPT Tim 14/12/90 362

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — All 4 800 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 CFU is calling its members together to discuss letters many have received from the government urging them to offer their farms for sale at prices well below market value to fulfil the land hunger of Zimbabwe's six million overcrowded peasants.

The area grows Zimbabwe's major export, tobacco, which earned R868 million in foreign currency last season, and most of its staple food.

SA changes 'irreversible' — Mugabe

CAA Times 14/12/90

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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 beefing 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 also 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

W/Mail 14/12 - 19/12/90 (362)

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

THE trendiest spot in Harare these days is the Italian Bakery. It has always served the best coffee in town and now what used to be a little hideaway in the Avondale Shopping Centre has been renovated and transformed with terrazo flooring, blonde wood panelling and marble countertops.

Dapper diplomats, rumpled academics and Ethiopian exiles jostle with Scandinavian aid workers for tables at the new outside terrace. A queue of domestic servants often waits for the bakery's fresh bread.

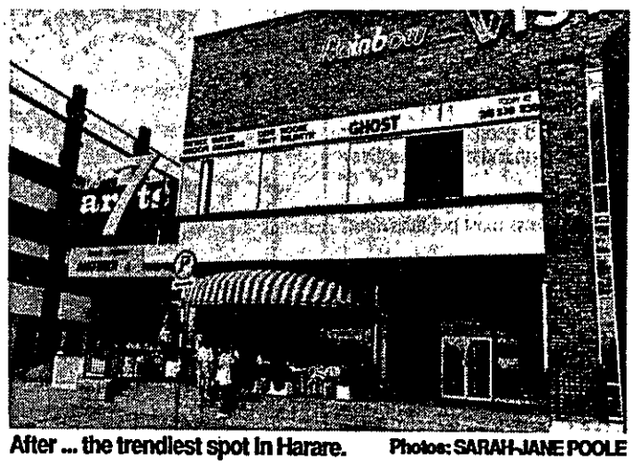
Espresso and cappucino are served with pizzas, pastries and buns. Some patrons read magazines, others hold intense conversations. It is *the* place to see and be seen. Finally, Harare has a cafe to suit its sunny, invigorating climate.

The bustling business proves the bakery's proprietor, Vittorio Prandini, was astute in going up-market. A fresh optimism pervades in other corners of the shopping centre. Facades are newly painted after years of neglect and shrubs have been planted in the parking lot. Shopkeepers display newly available imported goods and enthusiastically await more as Zimbabwe's trade liberalisation comes into effect.

The Italian Bakery has not always been this way. Just three years ago, in October 1987, the bakery was a bombed-out cavern as a result of the car bomb aimed at anti-apartheid activist Jeremy Brickhill. He used to go to the bakery every morning and saboteurs blew him up as he returned to his car. The Italian Bakery's shiny new facade makes it hard to remember the parking lot crater caused by the huge explosion. Other places that had been mangled by South African bombs have also been rebuilt. The downtown office building that was wrecked by the SADF in its May 1986 raid on Harare was left with its gaping holes intact as a testimony to South Africa's destabilisation campaign. But Harare's soaring real estate prices prevailed and the building has been repaired and rented out to new clients.



Before ... the bomb-blasted Avondale centre in 1987



After ... the trendiest spot in Harare. Photos: SARAH-JANE POOLE

Similarly, a block of flats was left for more than two years with crumbled walls and its roof blown out, a result of the May 1987 blast when a booby-trapped television set exploded, killing the Zimbabwean wife of an African National Congress member. Insurance companies refused to repair the building, saying acts of sabotage were not covered. The Heal the Wounds campaign was established expressly to give assistance to those injured by South Africa's regional destabilisation and its first project was to rebuild the apartment building.

The office building, the flats and the Italian Bakery have all successfully covered over the scars left by South African sabotage and now Harare is anticipating the peace and prosperity that the "new South Africa" will bring to the region.

Visiting Harare last week, Brickhill once again enjoyed an early morning coffee at the Italian Bakery and admired its elegant, new look.

"It looks great, in fact Harare looks great and feels more relaxed and optimistic than it has for a long time," said Brickhill. But he warned that faith in a new South African policy towards Zimbabwe may be misplaced. "I believe the network of death squads in Zimbabwe that nearly killed me are still in place today. We might be going through a peaceful period, but at a moment's notice South Africa could bring its deadly regional arsenal out of the closet again."

Brickhill (35) was not in Harare just to visit old haunts, he came here to file civil claims suits against the South African government and its agents for the serious injuries he suffered in the 1987 blast.

He is bringing civil proceedings in the South African Supreme Court against Defence Minister Magnus Malan, Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok, the government of South Africa and the two Zimbabweans alleged to have carried out the car bomb explosion. He is claiming damages of R1,2-million.

"When we get to court we will prove that the South African government sanctioned and carried out the attack against me as part of its war against the peoples of southern Africa," said Brickhill. He had first tried to press his suit in a British court, as he is currently living in Britain where he is receiving medical treatment, but South Africa refused to accept the jurisdiction of a British court.

Brickhill must go to South Africa to present his case to the Supreme Court but he charges that the Pretoria government will not issue him with a visa.

"The failure of the South African government to issue me with a visa amounts to interference and sabotage of the process of law in its own courts," charged Brickhill. "The South African government has proclaimed its new policy of reform and respect for the rule of law, but here is another example of its continuing intransigence and dishonesty."

Brickhill's Johannesburg lawyers are presently trying to get the courts to order the South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs to issue him with a visa.

"I am only one of the many thousands upon thousands of victims of South African government aggression and destabilisation throughout southern Africa," claimed Brickhill.

He is also filing a lawsuit in Zimbabwe against three men convicted of murder after a car bomb blast which killed a Zimbabwean in Bulawayo in January 1988. Brickhill charges the three — Michael Smith, Barry Bawden and Phillip Conjwayo — also bombed his car while they were undercover agents for South Africa.

Farmers call meeting on Mugabe's land plan

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B1 Day 14/12/90

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 exproriated 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 R540m for the 6-million hectare belt, which is worth R3bn on the open market. The area grows Zimbabwe's major export, tobacco, which earned R868m 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 "ayes" 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-ack 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?' "

● Comment: Page 8

ZIMBABWE F/M 14/12/90

FAIR'S FAIR? (362)

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 5,5m ha of the 11,4m ha owned by

F/M 14/12/90 **ECONOMY & FINANCE**

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. (362)

It is estimated that, in 1990, agricultural earnings will reach Z$2,5bn, compared with Z$539m in 1980. On the domestic market, farms supply 82% of all goods sold. Between 1980-1989, the value of exports increased sixfold from Z$269m to Z$1,7bn a year. These represent 41% of export earnings.

The CFU says the targeted 5,5m ha land is worth about Z$3bn. The July budget set aside only Z$10m for land acquisition. Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero has pointed out he has another Z$160m 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. Sowetan 14/12/90 (362)

Annexing white farms justified

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Star 15/12/90

'If we fail the people now, woe unto us'

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 apathy 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 kingmakers", he said. "We must remain absolutely firm on this matter. If we fail the people now then woe 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 some promises".

That, he said, had created the false impression among the people that either the government is lying to them, or is failing".

SAPA and ROBIN DREW

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 Constitution Amendment Bill, which clears the way for new legislation aimed at reducing by more than half the land currently owned by 4 400 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 debars 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 lobbied 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 Witness Mangwende told farmers: "Take heart and get on with the business of farming. There is no intention whatsover 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 Constitution 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.

The counter-argument is that it is morally wrong for only 4 400 farmers to hold 11 million ha when there is great pressure on land in peasant farming areas.

The government, too, can argue that since independence, peasant farmers have scored notable successes thanks to loans and technical advice. So much so that they today produce 60 percent of maize and half the cotton crop.

New fears of white Zimbabwe farmers

S/Times 16/12/90 (362)

By MICHAEL HARTNACK: Harare

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.

Farming sources here predicted Zimbabwe's millions of peasants in the 17-million hectare "communal areas" may flood into the 6-million hectare "maize and tobacco belt", expecting the government to legalise their action by expropriating land from the 4 500 commerical farmers, mostly whites.

There will also be an overwhelming temptation for multi-national companies and wealthier farmers to bribe officials of President Mugabe's Zanu (PF) Party to keep squatters at bay, said sources yesterday.

Farmers unable to prove their "goodwill to the masses" by subtle gifts of cars or cash are likely to 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 peasants on the extensive private farms covertly acquired by members of his cabinet since independence in 1980.

"I want to see what they are going to do to their comrades who own more land than I do," he said.

"There are people who not only can't keep their hands out of the till but who also insist on taking away what other people have paid for."

Zimbabwe reportedly plans to offer R540-million for land worth R3 000-million.



IAN SMITH

Bitter

Mr Smith said Western governments which had imposed the 1980 Lancaster House settlement on Rhodesia following the seven-year bush war had a moral duty to oppose President Mugabe's "Marxist-Leninist one-party state philosophy".

Mr Smith said white farmers were still living in hope" but were beginning to ask "what is the good of going on?"

He was supported by one of his bitterest critics, former government-nominated independent MP Henry Elsworth, now farming 9 000ha in the patchy rainfall area of the Zimbabwe Midlands after the ranch his family built up over three generations was bought (with British aid money) in 1987.

He said: "I have tried to work with this government and be reasonable, but I now feel unsettled and bitter."

His family's former ranch, near Kwekwe, has been turned into an ecological disaster area since being handed over to the para-statal Agricultural and Rural Development Authority, which was unable to prevent neighbouring peasants cutting fences and timber, snaring game and establishing illegal gardens.

Zimbabwe's Midlands is in the grip of a devastating drought "and we have got to invest and produce for the long term", he said.

Savages

"We are also going to condemn hundreds of thousands of unemployed young school-leavers to the streets because who is going to bring any investment to this country after this," he asked.

"This constitutional amendment does not just cover nationalisation of land, but all property."

Mr Elsworth attacked Zanu (PF) politicians who had given bland assurance to commercial farmers in private and then "gone into parliament and danced like savages" when the declaration of rights was whittled away.

Ministers and backbenchers sang and danced when the third reading was passed on Wednesday by 113 votes to three.

Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa justified the move to strip farmers of their right of appeal to the courts, saying "when the land was taken away there was no compensation court to which our forefathers could appeal".

The source of Zimbabwe's conflict over land lies in the shifting "slash and burn" agricultural system practised before white settlers arrived in 1890, and the 20-fold increase in population since.

Zimbabwe returns to its people

By TREVOR GRUNDY (302)

c/pmed 16/12/1990

WHITE farmers in Zimbabwe face an uncertain future following approval by parliament this week of a bill that allows the government to nationalise land for the resettlement of 110 000 peasants from overcrowded communal areas.

The legislation allows the government to confiscate land – 40 percent of which is white-owned – at a price it chooses and bars the landowner from appealing to the courts over the price.

The highly controversial Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No. 11) Bill sailed through parliament on Wednesday – 113 votes for and three against – with opposition coming from Edgar Tekere's tiny Zimbabwe Unity Movement (Zum) and the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole's even smaller Zanu (Ndonga).

MPs from the ruling Zanu (PF) party danced and sang nationalist Shona songs in parliament after the bill was passed.

But the 4 500 white commercial farmers who hold 11 million hectares of land are horrified by the prospect of the nationalisation of six million hectares – mainly in the prime maize and tobacco belt.

The area, stretching from Mutare on the Mozambican border to Karoi in the north, produces all Zimbabwe's top earning export – tobacco – and its staple food maize.

The Bill was introduced by Justice Minister Emmerson Munangagwa following the lapse in April of the 10-year minority rights guarantees under the 1980 Lancaster House Agreement.

Shepherding the Bill through parliament, Munangagwa said: "We simply cannot afford the luxury of paying adequate, prompt and remittable compensation for the compulsory acquisition of private land for public purposes as provided by the existing section in the constitution.

"In our bitter struggle for emanicipation, we reach out our desperate hand of need to our rich landowners to display exemplary patriotism by making meaningful sacrifies to our just cause.

"For these are very difficult times in which no materialistic self-seeking landowner can expect to satisfy his insatiable desire for gain at the expense of our landless peasantry."

"Indeed, these are critical times in which every patriotic Zimbabwean legitimately expects our rich landowners having vast tracts of fertile agricultural lands lying fallow to resist their unbridled lust for wealth."

President Robert Mugabe said this week that landlessness was creating apathy among the "masses" of his party, compounded by dissatisfaction over transport shortages, high prices, poor roads, and housing and food shortages.

The people are "our kingmakers" he said.

"We must remain absolutely firm on this matter. If we fail the people now, then woe unto us."

Commented MP for Mutare South, Lazarus Nzarayebani, this week: "If you had not brought this amendment, I can tell you that you (the government) were not going to win the next general election."

Mugabe's sister, MP (Zvimba) Sebina Mugabe, told reporters that whites did not even buy the land they occupy today.

She said some whites who fought in World War II were rewarded by the colonial regime with land, while black soldiers were given bicycles.

"Must we stay as squatters in the land of our birth? Give them bikes and let us take our land," she added.

White farmers have not yet commented on the passing of the Bill, but the white-dominated Commercial Farmers Union is meeting early in the new year.

Union president Alan Burl has also been working on a report suggesting how peasant farmers can be resettled without disrupting agricultural production.

An outspoken critic, however, was former chief justice Enoch Dumbetshana who warned that stripping farmers of their right to appeal would ruin chances of foreign investment.

Excluding courts from examining what parliament had decided was "flying in the face of all accepted norms of modern society and the rules of law".

Statements were also issued by the Law Society of Zimbabwe and the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission.

Some economists claim any move that would threaten production or stability would end Zimbabwe's dream of being an economic force in the subcontinent.

White-owned farms produce most of Zimbabwe's food.

No one is really expecting a rapid or a major land grab, but for white farmers in Zimbabwe, the writing is on the wall.



Former Chief Justice Enoch Dumbetshana ... outspokenly critical of amended constitution.



Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe ... landlessness is creating apathy.

In Zimbabwe, all things have come to those who waited

Star 17/12/90 (362)



Robert Mugabe . . . aiming to improve living conditions.

The passing of a Bill in Harare last week to facilitate the appropriation of white-owned farms has satisfied one outstanding grievance held by Zimbabwe's ruling party since independence was granted ten years ago, reports ROBIN DREW.

PATIENCE has paid off for Robert Mugabe. Ten years ago he had to settle for a good deal less than his party wanted at the British-run Lancaster House conference in London which ushered in Zimbabwe's independence. Indeed, it was only the last-minute intervention of the late President Samora Machel of Mozambique that persuaded Mr Mugabe to sign the agreement.

Now, a decade after the event, nearly all that Mr Mugabe and his colleagues sought but were denied has come to them.

The jubiliation in parliament in Harare last week when the House passed the Bill to amend the constitution, aimed at allowing the compulsory acquisition of land at less than the market value, was a high point in the process of undoing provisions of the Lancaster House agreement.

As the years have gone by, so the safeguards have fallen away in a lesson which no doubt will draw the attention of South Africa in its state of transition.

From a two-chamber parliament with a constitutional head of state and a prime minister, special seats for whites and guarantees of protection for property owners, Zimbabwe has moved to a single-chamber House with the white seats abolished, under an executive president who can hold office for as many terms as he chooses to stand, and now a weakened declaration of rights.

Three years ago there were unprecedented scenes when MPs danced and sang in the chamber in celebration of the removal of white seats.

The scene was repeated last week when the way was cleared for an amended Land Acquisition Act which will help implement a policy which will see the extent of land held by white farmers reduced by more than half.

The debate brought into the open the bitterness felt by many backbenchers: Why pay any compensation at all? It was our forefathers' land and the whites stole it. Look, said one excited MP, almost all Europeans are millionaires in this country, and they made the money from our land and labour.

The new law will debar the courts from inquiring into the fairness of the compensation for land and improvements, and it is this aspect which led to criticism from the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace.

No one has questioned the need for a more equitable distribution of land. A crude breakdown shows the remaining 4 400 white farmers still holding about one-third of the agricultural land, while much of the communal land is in low-rainfall regions and is badly overcrowded. But it is the whites who produce 85 percent of marketed agricultural products.

And the pressure on land will remain — even if the planned resettlement of 100 000 more families goes ahead.

Meanwhile, the damage has been done in the erosion of confidence and the doubts and uncertainty now prevailing in the farming community and the business world.

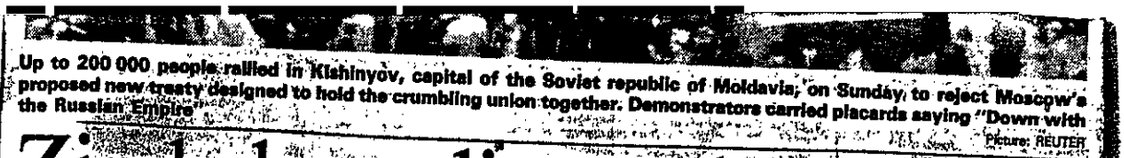
Almost as an afterthought, Justice Minister Emerson Mnangagwa, who piloted the Bill through parliament, said he had the highest respect for the union representing white farmers. He even implied there was an understanding with them.

There was no immediate reaction from the union. Presumably farmers are hoping to influence the final form of the Act and do not wish to antagonise the government.

Improving living conditions for the people is the government's overriding aim, according to Mr Mugabe.

But this is one objective that he has not been able to achieve, and in his state of the nation address last week, he admitted that living standards were falling.

That aim and his own wish for a one-party State remain out of reach. But with the political unity agreement which saw a comfortable majority able to amend entrenched provisions of the constitution, the need for a one-party system becomes of less importance. — Star Africa Service. □



Up to 200 000 people rallied in Kishinyov, capital of the Soviet republic of Moldavia, on Sunday, to reject Moscow's proposed new treaty designed to hold the crumbling union together. Demonstrators carried placards saying "Down with the Russian Empire"

Picture: REUTER

Zimbabwe discreetly edging closer to SA, say diplomats

B10 Day 15/12/90

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 frontline 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 an easing 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 minimises the changes taking place."

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Links

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 a 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 unhorsed 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-Reuter.

Zimbabwe and SA on a better footing

Sowetan 13/2/90 (362)

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.

FOCUS

"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 guerilla groups which now rule Zimbabwe.

They also point to fears that South Africa will swamp 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 minimises 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.

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Analysts say Zimbabwean worries that a lifting of trade sanctions against Pretoria would damage their own economy may be exaggerated.



PRESIDENT ROBERT MUGABE

"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.

"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 is 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 he accepts their good faith," one diplomat said.

"But they may think back to (former Rhodesian prime ministers) Edgar Whitehead and Garfield Todd, progressive liberals who were unhorsed 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-Reuter.*

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$50m. BD 19/2/90

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 (362)

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 them confiscated by government in terms of the controversial new land programme, senior sources in the ruling Zanu (PF) Party said yesterday.

SA's Anglo American Corp, the London-based Lonrho company, the US-based Union Carbide and the British-Dutch Unilever are estimated to own at least 5% of national farmland, in operations that cover highly developed irrigation estates, forestry plantations and extensive cattle and game ranches, Sapa reports.

The sources said Agriculture Minister Witness Mangwende told a meeting of the Zanu (PF) central committee at the weekend that legislation was being drafted aimed at taking the multinationals' land.

The sources said the development was part of government's policy that foreigners should not be allowed to own land.

Last week parliament approved an amendment to the constitution adding to the government's powers of confiscation by allowing it to choose its own price for compensation, and barring affected landowners from contesting the figure in court.

The land policy, announced in July, states that foreigners would be "encouraged" to sell their land, which in turn would be leased back to them over a long period, but observers were surprised that Mangwende referred specifically to the multinational companies, and at his firmness that they would lose their land.

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.



No longer a stowaway . . . Eastern Province cricketer Li
Permlazer Junior Cricket Week, which ended in Johan

Zimbabwe planning to 'confiscate land'

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Star 19/12/90

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 laywer, 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 W Mail 20/12/90-10/1/91

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 through its sinister Civil Cooperation 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

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W|Mail 20|12|90 – 10|1|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 hanging.

"We are going to get our land back now," exclaimed one member of parliament as the Bill passed. The parliamentary members broke out into Chimurenga (revolutionary) songs in Shona, including one which said "We are starving for Zimbabwe's land".

"The white colonialists took our land without paying for it. Why should we pay them exorbitant prices to get it back?" said Sabina 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) bikes 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 them white, are distraught over the Bill as 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 an 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

CAM - Trips 22/12/90

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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 Nkobi.

No one was injured in any of the blasts.

The blast at 117 Ullswater 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 9am 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 shaken 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

'Bombs go off at six ANC houses'

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.

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"Had the explosions taken place 15 minutes later than they did, many people would have been killed or maimed," 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.

2/12/90 Sun 362

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 indepedent 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.

'No land grab in Zimbabwe'

Star 22/12/90 (362)

Business leader seeks to counter community fears

HARARE — The government did not intend to grab productive farming land, factories or any other property in Zimbabwe, the leader of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, John Deary, said yesterday.

ROBIN DREW
AFRICA
NEWS SERVICE

Convinced

In a statement aimed at countering the alarm and despondency over the recent amendments to the constitution to make it easier for the government to acquire land for resettlement, Mr Deary said he was convinced the government's intentions had been misunderstood and misinterpreted.

He issued the statement after consultations with Ministers and senior government officials.

While recognising that a practicable resettlement programme was needed, Mr Deary said it was inconceivable that the government would jeopardise its economic adjustment programme aimed at boosting the economy and relieving unemployment by now going ahead with irresponsible compulsory land or property acquisition.

Extreme intepretations of the constitutional amendment bill had been given publicity outside the country to the extent that a visit by an American investment team had been endangered.

Rumours rife

But the visit would now take place following assurances.

Mr Deary said rumourmongering was rife though he conceded there were clauses in the legislation which gave rise to concern.

He hoped the government would soon issue its own statement of reassurance to investors and developers that there was no danger of expropriation of property.

Businessmen given reassurances after Zimbabwe passes land Bill

BDay 24/12/90

ADRIAN OOSTHUIZEN

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 Deary said at the weekend.

The land announcement had also had a negative impact on Zimbabwean stocks quoted in London. (362)

However, Deary reassured businessmen that the government would not "grab property" indiscriminately in terms of the controversial Bill.

He said there had been alarm and despondency 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 1991 regarding the Zimbabwean economy.

The CZI seemed more reassuring about the impact of the Bill than other private sector organisations who "differed 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 over 100 000 families to solve one of its biggest headaches since independence in 1980.

Zimbabwe army fears fresh Renamo offensive

BBai 28/12/90 (362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwean 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 Zimbabwean 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 Jaoquim 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 Gorongoza 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.

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 Gorongoza.

Capt Bernard Kapamutenga 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 50 000 inhabitants of the Gorongoza 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.

Star 28/12/90

SA ports in line for boost

By Robin Drew
Africa News Service

HARARE — Zimbabwean importers may make greater use of South African ports if the Mozambican authorities persist with a new system of pre-payment in hard currency for goods railed from their ports to destinations in neighbouring countries.

The new system is due to come into effect on Tuesday despite strenuous objections from users of the port of Beira.

The Zimbabwean government has been kept informed by the Beira Corridor Group, whose managing director, David Zausmer, said it would be a very sad day if use of the ports of Beira, Maputo and Nacala diminished

Mr Zausmer said the Harare government was exasperated by the short notice and by the fact that the decision had been taken without consultation.

He was still trying to ascertain whether the decision was a rigid one and what exactly was meant by "pre-payment".

It seemed that the Mozambican railways, which already owed the National Railways of Zimbabwe a substantial amount, not only wanted payment of hard currency for railage on their system but also for railage inside Zimbabwe.

He thought that shippers of containers would be more likely to use South African ports if the new system came into operation, as it would be easier to administer the transport of containers through Durban.

On other cargoes where the costing was more marginal, they would probably continue to use Mozambican ports.

Of concern is the future of fertiliser shipments due in Beira soon

Mr Zausmer said: "We must assume the fertiliser will wend its way along the railways. We must wait and see."

Beira port-users are also known to be concerned at delays at the port, at the loss of efficiency along the railway at the port, and at the loss of efficiency along the railway system in Mozambique where there have been numerous derailments since October.

ZIMBABWE — 1991

JANUARY — JULY

Opinion

Zimbabwe withdrawal might lead to fresh attacks by Renamo

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwean army commanders in Harare fear the rebel Mozambique Resistance Movement (Renamo) is planning a major rainy-season offensive following the withdrawal of President Mugabe's troops to the Beira and Limpopo corridors.

The estimated 9 000 Zimbabwean soldiers in Mozambique began pulling out recently to areas demarcated under the ceasefire agreement reached in Rome in December between Renamo and President Chissano'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 Gorongoza 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 Paiva de Andrade, Machesee, Fabrica and Cavalho "forward bases" were taken by the Zimbabweans in a series of bloody battles in 1986-1988 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 Gorongoza.

Captain Bernard Kapamutenga 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 Mozambican government forces on their own might not be able to ensure safe distribution of food, causing a renewed threat of famine among the 50 000 inhabitants of the Gorongoza 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 covoys before Christmas. As a result of diplomatic pressure from President Banda'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 15 000 tons of maize made available to the district for December could not be delivered.

"The only two trucks that we used are off the 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 utilise their meagre financial resources by hiring private contractors to distribute relief food.

A total of 278 819 tons of relief food had been distributed in the district since January 1990.

On the issue of land reorganisation in the district, in terms of which more than 70 000 people still had to be resettled, Mr Muzawazi said there were snags as a result of administrative changes.

These changes entailed provincial officers being transferred last November to the Ministry of Political Affairs. — Sapa.

Zim/Beira rail line cut on eve of 'truce'

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.

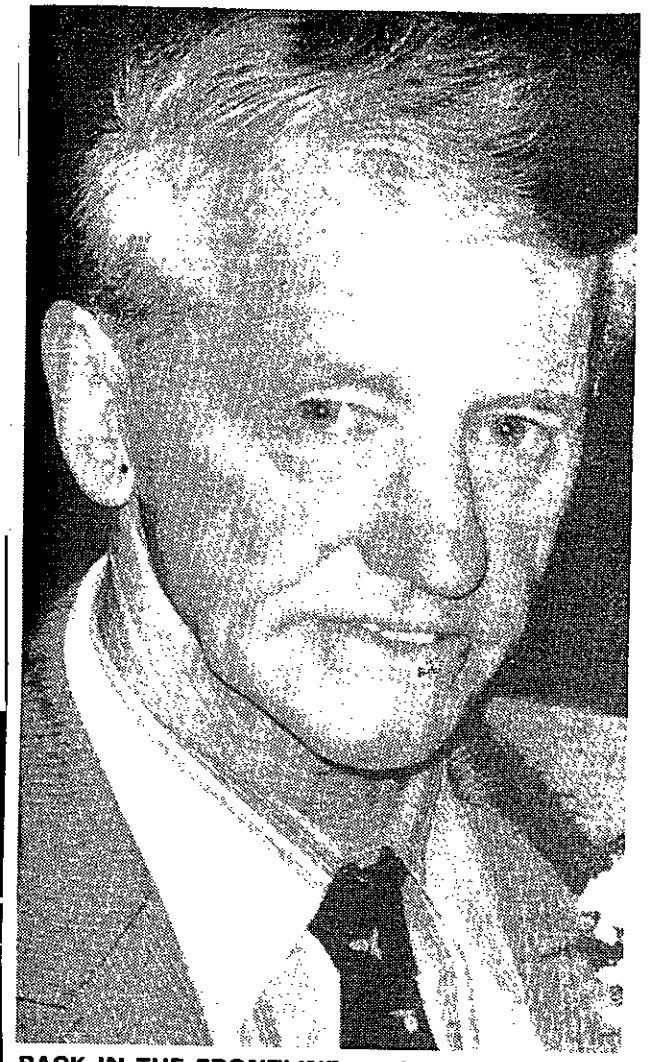
The Zimbabwean army also stopped escorting truck convoys from Zimbabwe to Malawi across Tete province on December 21, although this route was not covered by the partial ceasefire.

Driver killed

BCG officials said one truck driver was killed in an attack on December 20 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-Reuter.



BACK IN THE FRONTLINE . . . former Rhodesian premier Ian Smith has made a comeback at 71

Smithy: Time to stop the rot

S/Times 6/1/91 (362)

Ex-premier calls on the West to challenge Mugabe on human rights

IAN SMITH has come out of political retirement to demand that the Western powers which imposed the 1980 Lancaster House peace agreement honour their obligations to defend human rights here.

Sunday Times Special Correspondent: Harare

Although the constitution gave President Robert Mugabe the power to amend the entrenched declaration of rights after 10 years, there was no time-limit for the concept of freedom and justice enshrined in the agreement, brokered by former British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, said Mr Smith.

"The most important thing we have got to do is go to the British Government and the other governments they implicated when they sold us the Lancaster House agreement — when I was told personally by Lord Carrington that this agreement would have the backing of the governments of the United States, France and Germany, all of whom had pledged their support to Britain.

"We were assured that the new Zimbabwean Government had to abide by the generally accepted principles of freedom and justice enshrined in our declaration of rights," said the former Rhodesian premier.

In an interview at his central Harare home, next door to the Cuban Embassy, Mr Smith said he felt a personal responsibility to speak out because Mr Mugabe's government had replaced the physical intimidation of his security forces — which was seen in the early years of independence — with "economic intimidation", in order to create a false impression that "all the people are happy".

Monstrous

He said: "When you have to get into line for foreign exchange and imported equipment then you have got to stay on the right side of the government."

Referring to the recent controversial constitutional amendment which permits nationalisation of property without right of appeal to the courts, Mr Smith warned: "If we allow them to get away with this it will be the worst thing."

Mr Smith was prematurely expelled from his seat in the Zimbabwean parliament in 1987, ahead of the abolition of white representation, when he condemned Mr Mugabe's campaign for sanctions against South Africa.

Mr Smith said that, in view of his age — 71 — he was not frightened for himself but would keep confidential the names of those now working with him to oppose Mr Mugabe's policies.

"There is tremendous discontent throughout the country. I notice it wherever I go," he said.

Mr Smith said prominent black Zimbabweans had told him not to be deterred by the "bogeyman" image thrust upon him by Zimbabwe's government-controlled news media.

"Almost without exception, they laugh at that one and say the black people of this country are now saying more and more: 'It used to be better before and perhaps we had better be thinking of working with the old people.'," said Mr Smith.

"I am not really wishing to make a comeback, but I must stand up for the rights which are inherent in our constitution.

"All I want is to see what I can do to stop the rot of the last 10 years, which has come to a peak with this new legislation.

"It is a monstrous iniquity.

"What the government is doing has put it in a situation where it can indulge in daylight robbery," he said.

"Farmers no longer have title to their land.

Dishonest

"The new legislation is cutting from under our feet one of the most basic things of the free enterprise system — security of tenure. That is a lesson the communist countries are now learning, but our country is one of the few exceptions — we are the only ones in step, apparently."

Mr Smith predicted that "tremendous benefits" might flow from the formation of a coalition government in Mozambique, embracing President Jaoquim Chissano's Frelimo Party and the rebel Renamo movement

But he cautioned: "I don't think it is as simple as it appears."

Mr Smith said that, like Unita in Angola, Renamo would want to be allowed to campaign freely for elections for the first time in 15 years — "otherwise they would simply be handing over to people who came into power wrongly, through the barrel of a gun, and under the auspices of Marxist-Leninist dictators".

Recalling his own protracted constitutional negotiations when he tried to steer a course between African nationalist parties and the white right-wing, Mr Smith said President F W de Klerk was attempting to find a solution to "a most complicated political problem" which no statesman had ever previously solved, namely, getting peoples of opposing racial and religious groups to co-exist peacefully.

"South Africa is trying to solve this peacefully, in a civilised way, and I think the present government is making great strides. Whether you agree with the South African Government or not, I think it has shown great courage. I am not saying the end result is going to be right, but at least they are trying and facing up to the problem."

But Mr Smith tempered his praise by saying the moves could have be made sooner — a statement whi ironically echoed Mr De Klerk remark that opportunities for a se tlement in Rhodesia were lost b cause Mr Smith's government d layed.

Mr Smith also added that Mr D Klerk was dealing with blac leaders who were being "inconsi tent and in some instances disho est".

He said the conciliatory stat ments made by ANC deputy pres dent Nelson Mandela when he w first released from prison ha changed when he "came under th influence of the wild boys in h organisation".

Worried

"That kind of double-talk is n helping," he added.

Mr Smith said he believed Mr D Klerk's problem with the whi right-wing stemmed from his inabi ity to "let the white people of Sout Africa know what is happening".

"He cannot disclose his hand whe his opponents are not disclosin theirs," he said.

"I am not being critical of Mr D Klerk and what he is doing, I am ju saying to him and his governmen that this is one of the complaints hear from white South Africans - they they are in the dark and tha they are worried."

Zimbabwe central bank swindled

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 Z$3,9m reported to have gone missing in an offshore transaction.

Appeals have been issued regarding the whereabouts of Titus Pasipanoday, who is thought to have travelled to the UK.

Zimbabwe's extradition treaty with SA lapsed in 1985, 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 $1,3m into a London commercial bank account, thinking the funds were going to the Reserve Bank.

The funds were withdrawn between November 29 and December 5 by "persons of African descent", according to the Financial Gazette.

ANC pays tribute

BULAWAYO — The ANC yesterday paid tribute to the Zimbabwean Government and the ruling Zanu PF for continued and sustained solidarity with those still under the yoke of apartheid, reports Zimbabwe's Ziana national news agency.

The organisation's chief representative in Zimbabwe, Mr Max Mlonyeni, was speaking in Bulawayo at the commemoration of the 79th anniversary of the formation of the movement when he thanked Zimbabweans for the "massive support and solidarity with our struggle".

Mlonyeni spoke of developments in the struggle. — *Sapa*

Rebel leader orders attack

BEIRA - Alphonso Dhlakama, 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, Col Clever Chiramba, said radio intercepts within the operational area revealed that Dhlakama ordered his troops to attack Zimbabwean aircraft.

"These attacks were done deliberately to violate the Rome accord. According to our radio intercepts, Dhlakama 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 Mafambise, near Beira. - *Sapa.*

Mugabe abandons one-party idea

Cape Times 10/1/91 362

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

362

Star 16/11/91

LAGOS — Zimbabwe is buying about R38 million worth of crude oil from Nigeria, which has 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'

Own Correspondent

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.

"Those will not be provided by destroying the main prop of the economy."

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 holding 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 4 500 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

(362)

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 Burl, 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

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 Marxist-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.

Burl 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 landed 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, acclaimed throughout the Commonwealth, will not let its independence be trampled.

Mr Gubbay attacked the compensation provisions in the amendment and clauses that reintroduce the legality of juvenile flogging, and which establish hanging as a legal punishment.

Another obstacle

It is another obstacle for Mr Mugabe, who saw 1990 as the year in which the "colonial constraints" of the Lancaster House constitution reached the end of their 10-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".

in the coming months.

Zimbabwe judge in threat to land law

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Chief Justice has publicly criticised new legislation aimed at removing safeguards against the nationalisation of land, and threatened that the courts might declare the law invalid.

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".

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 4 500 white farmers.

The farms were worth R3bn at market prices, but only R540m has reportedly been set aside for compensation.

If Mugabe signs the Bill into law, as expected, a constitutional crisis appears inevitable, as judges cannot be sacked.

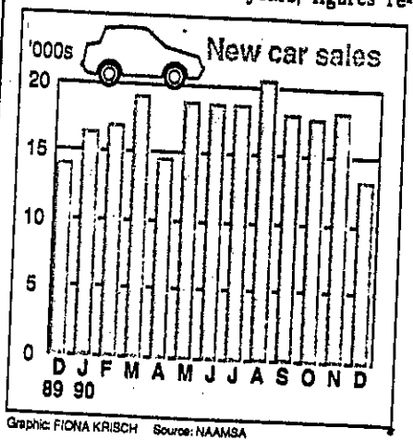
Chief Justice Gubbay said he had to allay citizens' fears "that the judiciary's power to enforce the basic rights and freedoms of the individual is now in jeopardy".

The judge also condemned a constitutional attempt to reinstate whipping as a legal punishment.

1990 car sales down by 5%

MOTOR manufacturers ended a dismal 1990 with new passenger vehicle sales for December plummeting to the lowest monthly level in four years, figures released yesterday by the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA (Naamsa) showed.

MARC HASENFUSS



Graphic: FIONA KRISCH Source: NAAMSA

Confirming the downturn in the economy, December car sales decreased 5% to 13 198 units compared with 13 875 in the corresponding month last year.

The monthly and yearly sales figures were adversely affected by the serious industrial unrest and work stoppages at Volkswagen and Mercedes Benz during the second half of the year and the fewer trading days in December.

Total passenger vehicle sales for last year showed a drop of 5% to 209 603 units against the 221 342 units recorded in 1989, according to Naamsa figures.

Only medium commercial vehicles (MCV) managed a marginal improvement

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GFSA interim profits slide nearly 30%

REDUCED income from its major gold mines saw Gold Fields of SA's interim attributable profits for the half-year ending December slide 29,5% to R134m (R190m).

ROBERT GENTLE

This translated into an equivalent fall in interim earnings a share to 140c (198c), though the interim dividend was maintained at 70c. Dividend cover accordingly dropped from 2,8 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 (R159m).

GFSA corporate finance executive director Alan Wright attributed this largely to reduced gold earnings — illustrated recently by reduced interim dividends from Kloof and Deelkraal, two major producers.

Overall revenue was further reduced by an absence of profit on realisation 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.

LESLEY LAMBERT

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 Dawid Kruiper 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 du 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."

Kruiper described the long journey from their previous home in Vanzylsrus, 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, Kruiper said.

Chief Justice of Zimbabwe slates Land Act

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Star 16/11/91.

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, 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 Justice Gubbay made it clear that any law which attacks "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 trampled over by the government.

Mr Justice Gubbay attacked not only the compensation provisions in the amendment, but also clauses simultaneously passed that reintroduce the legality of juvenile flogging, and which establish hanging as a legal punishment.

It is yet another serious obstacle in the path of President Robert Mugabe, who saw 1990 as the year in which the "colonial constraints" of the British-drafted Lancaster House constitution reached the end of their 10-year life, to be replaced by a framework seen as "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 ha 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, declared 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.

He angrily condemned the provisions relating to compensation, which he said showed "a lack of confidence" in the judges and "at the very least, a desire not to brook any possible interference by the judiciary".

Attorney-general joins row over 'land grab'

BIDaily 17/11/91 (362)

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 constitutional pledges of fair compensation for expropriated 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 10-year life, replaced by a framework seen "more fitted to Zimbabwe".

Mugabe calls on his chief justice to resign

Cape Times 18/1/91

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 brain 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 lapse of the 10-year guarantees 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 attempt 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.

was slightly injured, but all planes and ... declared under the acc...

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Hedged gold sales bolster Anglo results

Bday 18/1/91

MATTHEW CURTIN

ANGLO American bolstered the December quarterly results of its gold and uranium division by hedging gold sales, division chairman Clem Sunter said yesterday.

Anglo posted improved after-tax profits at Vaal Reefs, Western Deep Levels, Elandsrand and SA Lands (Sallies).

Attributable earnings rose 17,6% to R165m for the group as a whole.

Sunter said Anglo had taken advantage of the improved gold price in the two weeks before the outbreak of war in the Gulf. Most gold sold forward came from the Freegold operation.

Anglo's hedging policy did not represent speculation but was rather an attempt to find a good gold price to cover working costs and capex programmes.

Gold mining experts said Anglo's decision to hedge on gold prices represented a major strategy shift. Frankel Max Pollak Vinderine analyst Rob Gillan said yesterday that, until the September quarter last year, Anglo had never hedged on gold.

In the third quarter, it had begun to do so "aggressively". He estimated 20%-22% of Freegold's production, about 6 000kg, was sold forward, with smaller amounts sold from Elandsrand and Sallies.

Anglo had judged the impact of the outbreak of war correctly, banking on the gold price increasing to around $400 before falling away once the conflict had started, said Gillan.

● See Page 13

30% bid surprises Saambou

Bday 18/1/91

SEAN VAN ZYL

SAAMBOU Holdings's board of directors was taken by surprise yesterday when a bid, rumoured to be backed by the Bankorp group, for 30% of the building society's share capital was announced.

Market rumours suggest that everyone from Nedbank to Mannie Simchowitz is behind the Trafalgar 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."

Despite the rumours, Trafalgar MD Pieter Hougaard says the offer is being financed solely by his company.

"The bid is not an attempt to gain control, but to build up a strategic stake in Saambou," he says.

Saambou's share price is trading at a discount of about 59% to its net asset value of approximately 220c, Hougaard says.

"The difference in net asset value and the share price of 130c made Saambou a good buy."

Volumes traded in Saambou climbed to 136c yesterday from the 130c close in response to Trafalgar Portfolio Manager's

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Mugabe calls on Chief Justice to quit

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MICHAEL HARTNACK

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.

Bday 18/1/91.

"If certain laws are repulsive to the conscience of a judge then that person should not sit as a judge, pure and simple."

Mugabe challenged the judge's statement that legislation which undermined the principles of the constitution could be invalidated by the courts, despite the lapse of the 10-year guarantees in Zimbabwe's 1980 constitution and Mugabe's parliamentary majority of more than two thirds.

"If we decide that a certain law is necessary and the law is duly passed by parliament, the role of the judges is to interpret the law and not seek to reverse it," he said.

ANC set to buy R20m Jo'burg building

PATRICK BULGER

THE ANC is set to buy the 22-storey Shell House in central Johannesburg.

A property broker put the value of the 16 000m² building at about R20m.

Negotiations for the purchase are at an advanced stage, although neither the ANC nor 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

362

Star 18/11/91

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe has plunged Zimbabwe deeper into a constitutional crisis by launching a stinging attack on the judiciary.

"If certain laws are revulsive to a judge's conscience then that person should not sit as a judge," he said at a press conference.

Mr Mugabe was responding to criticism on Monday by Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay against amendments to the constitution's bill of rights passed in December which block the courts' right to intervene in cases of unfair compensation for 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 com pensation, 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 surpise 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 to the Transkei.

Mr Mugabe 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

Star 23/11/91.

362

By Derek Tommey

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, Kimberlitic Searches 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 (MMCZ) 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 inforrmed 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 reopen discussions should the government review its position.

Zimbabwe, De Beers in war of diamonds

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Sowetan 25/1/91

Sowetan Africa News Service

ZIMBABWE'S ministry of mines began official action to strip the De Beers mining company of a diamond mining claim in the country.

Sources in the ministry of mines confirmed that minister of mines Mr Chris Andersen had written to the company through its wholly-owned subsidiary here, Kimberlitic Searches Limited, and advised it that it had 30 days in which to persuade the minister that its mining rights to a small diamond claim in Beitbridge in southern Zimbabwe should not be forfeited.

The ministry of mines claimed that De Beers, through its international subsidiary, the Central Selling Organisation which markets nearly all of global diamond production, wanted total control of the sale of diamonds produced on the claim, which is situated on a claim known as River Ranch near the border with South Africa.

De Beers had rejected a proposal that the Minerals Marketing Corporation, the Zimbabwean parastatal handling nearly all of the country's mining output, "retain or repurchase" a percentage of the mine's production for development of the local diamond cutting industry, and had refused to develop the claims until the government agreed to its demands.

The De Beers statement, however, claimed that the Zimbabwe government "insisted that its Minerals Marketing Corporation act as an agent for the marketing of any diamond production and that the MMC take a percentage of the River Ranch production for domestic processing".

The ability of the minister of mines to cancel a claim if the company holding it failed to develop it, was a provision inserted into the mines and minerals act which governs the mining industry, only last year.

Zimbabwe talks on South African exiles

(362)

Sowetan 25/1/91

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

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwe and Mozambique have agreed to a two-month delay in implementing a new hard currency payment system for transport fees, which threatened a wholesale rerouting of Zimbabwean imports to SA's ports.

Sources in Harare confirm that Zimbabwe Transport Minister Denis Norman and his Mozambican counterpart, Gen Armando Gwebuza, have met to seek a compromise payments formula to ease the critical cashflow situation for Mozambique's state-owned railways, CFM.

Six years of efforts to divert Zimbabwean traffic away from SA ports were jeopardised in December when Mozambique demanded that Zimbabwean shipments be paid for in advance in US dollars. Previously, Zimbabwean importers paid in arrear in local currency.

Noman and Gwebuza have agreed to delay introduction of any new payments system until April 1, pending negotiations, say transport industry sources. About R350m has been spent since 1984 on rehabilitating Zimbabwe's direct access to the Indian Ocean via Mozambique, with the result that trade sent through the SA transport system has declined from 95% to less than 70%.

CFM's cashflow crisis has been aggravated 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. Routine traffic was halted by Renamo sabotage in August 1984.

All traffic in the Tete corridor linking Zimbabwe and Malawi halted following a series of rebel ambushes earlier this month.

Zimbabwe strengthens border

30/4/93 MICHAEL HARTNACK 362

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 Jaoquim Chissano's government, says Zimbabwe's Home Affairs Minister Moven 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.

Corporal punishment to become law

South 31/1 - 6/2/91 (362)

From Tafadzwa Matimba
Harare

A CONTROVERSIAL law condoning corporal punishment is set to come into force here amid a storm of protests.

The legitimation is contained in clauses of legislation whose main focus is the confirmation of new land appropriation powers on the state.

The Constitution of Zimbabwe Bill (No 11) was passed by Parliament on December 12 by 113 votes to three and is expected to be gazetted into law this year.

Concerned individuals and organisations hope President Robert Mugabe will review the bill before signing it into law.

According to the critics, the bill was hurriedly passed without sufficient debate.

The corporal punishment clause will allow "moderate corporal punishment" of minors by their parents or guardians. The courts are given permission to order the infliction of corporal punishment on males under 18 years of age.

"This matter was not given enough time for debate and I feel Zimbabwe would not like to be the only country legalising corporal punishment," says the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) area representative, Baboucar N'Jie.

"I hope this bill will be looked at again so that Zimbabwe will not be chastised for legalising corporal punishment".

According to N'Jie, the bill will only result in the formation of another hard-core group of youth who might in the end prefer to be in gaol than in school.

"The attitude of UNICEF is that corporal punishment is degrading to human beings. If corporal punishment is degrading to adults as child protectors, it should also be degrading to children," N'Jie emphasises.

Corporal punishment has existed for many years in Zimbabwe's homes — as in homes all over the world — where the close and extended family members punish the young as a form of discipline.

But legalising it will have serious physical and psychological repercussions for the child, says University of Zimbabwe psychologist Sally Nyandia-Bundy.

"It is possible to clout a child but he or she may end up deaf or severely injured. Various brain centres can be damaged, especially at the back of the head, and then the child may be damaged permanently," she says.

Zimbabwe has more than 4504 primary schools with a 1989 enrolment of 2,5m pupils. Under the new law, these children and those in secondary schools will feel the effects of corporal punishment.

MP Sydney Malunga says corporal punishment would be useful in the schools where some school children have become uncontrollable.

The Law Society of Zimbabwe feels differently. In a statement, the society says the Amendment Bill only seeks to damage the country's international image in human rights and the rule of law. — *AIA*

Over the border, petrol costs R2,50 a litre

Star 1/2/91.

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ROBIN DREW of The Star's Africa News Service reports from Harare on Zimbabwe's hard-hit fuel prices.

PETROL at the equivalent of R2,50 a litre is the painful price the motorist in Zimbabwe has to pay, largely as a result of the crisis in the Gulf.

Zimbabwe, it seems, has been unable to take advantage of the drop inworld oil prices which enabled south africa to ease the burden.

According to Zimbabwe's Fuel Minister, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, who this week announced crippling price increases, the fuel bill incurred by the national oil company responsibke for all imports has resulted in losses equivalent to more than R300 million.

The petrol price went up by 53 percent yesterday following the 45 percent jump in September.

Dr Ushewokunze said the Gulf crisis was the main reason for increases but other factors, such as the declining value of the Zimbabwe dollar and increased freight rates, have also contributed.

And the situation has been exacerbated by poor rains, which have led to a fall in sugar production and a consequent drop in the percentage of ethanol in the blended petrol.

Industrialists have been shocked by the size of the increases, which included 47 percent more for diesel fuel.

The blow has come at a time when Zimbabwe is battling to introduce a freer economy, an adjustment which will require substantial international assistance.

The only good news in the fuel price announcement was the comment by Dr Ushewokunze that arrangements had been made to ensure uninterrupted supplies of petrol for a minimum of six months.

But he said the country would have to conserve supplies. Officials are hoping the cost of fuel is now at a level where it will have this effect. □

Zimbabwe set for runaway inflation as fuel prices soar

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Bloom 11/2/91

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 south-eastern 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 Deary described the latest increases as "a tragedy".

The hikes risked causing a serious recession at a time when the country was desperately seeking to redress 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 rises, 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

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Sowetan 1/2/91

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 (362)

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-ravaged 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 "solve" 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, 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, six 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 serious 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 Matabeleland 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 ninepence 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 but a trickle. 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 Rockerfellers 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 Durbs".

Fewer than 4 000 whites own some 35 to 40 percent of the best land.

They produce most of the cash crops which make Zimbabwe one of the few self-sufficient food producers on the continent. They also grow a flue-cured tobacco crop worth, this year, close on one billion dollars.

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". Citizen 3/2/91.

"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 embarrassing 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 533 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).

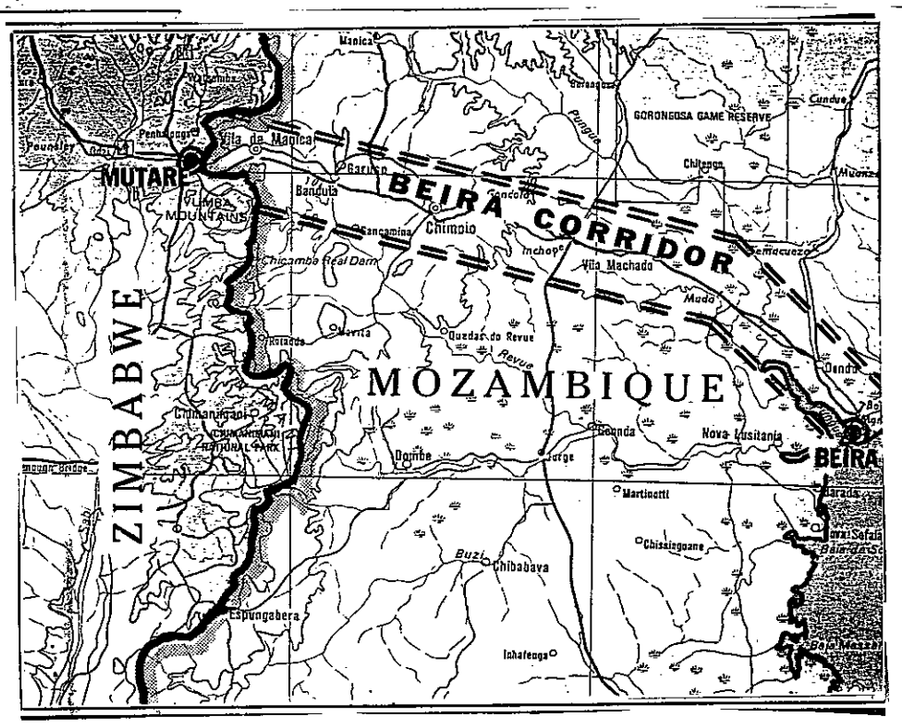
Parade lists many others who own commercial farms but who have, at one point or other, been in debt to banks or the AFC.

They include several ministers, one of the best known being flamboyant Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, today's Minister of Energy and the man who has put the price of petrol up by 120 percent since September because of the "Gulf crisis".

Ushewokunze has been having a running battle with a black "neighbour" who has "squatted" on a farm said to be owned by Ushewokunze.

A British Broadcasting Corporation radio programme said this week that Ushewokunze donned battle fatigues 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

Star 5/2/91.

GEORGE NICHOLAS, The Star's Agricultural Correspondent, reports on the huge gap between Zimbabwean and South African farming production.

JUST about everyone is aware of the fact. No-one except some die-hard farmers will deny it.

Yet to mention it is by no means superfluous at a time when the country is once again facing crop shortages that can be alleviated only at immense cost.

The truth is that the production capabilities of South African crop farmers are quite shocking by Western standards in general, and even more so when compared with those of their compatriots north of the Limpopo.

There is very little difference between the physical and climatic conditions found both in South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Yet on average the crop yields obtained by our northern neighbours are reaching heights as much as nearly treble those achieved by our own farmers.

Take dryland maize for example: 30 years ago the average yield recorded by our commercial growers, concentrated mainly in the north-western Free State, the western Transvaal and the Transvaal highveld, just about topped 1,5 tons a hectare. Today they battle to maintain an average of 2 tons.

In the same period the average yield obtained by Zimbabwe commercial growers, practically all of them white, shot up from 2 tons/ha to nearly 6 tons, with some of the members of the renowned Ten Ton Club producing up to 13 tons.

The production of other important dryland crops shows a similar pattern.

The average yields, in rounded figures and in tons per hectare, harvested today by Zimbabwe's white farmers, with the South African averages in brackets, are:

- Wheat 5,5 tons per hectare (RSA 1,4 tons);
- cotton 1,85 (0,9);
- groundnuts 4 (0,76);
- soyabeans 2,4 (1,2);
- sorghum 2 (1,5);
- sunflowerseed 2,2 (1);
- and virginia tobacco 2,5 (1,2).

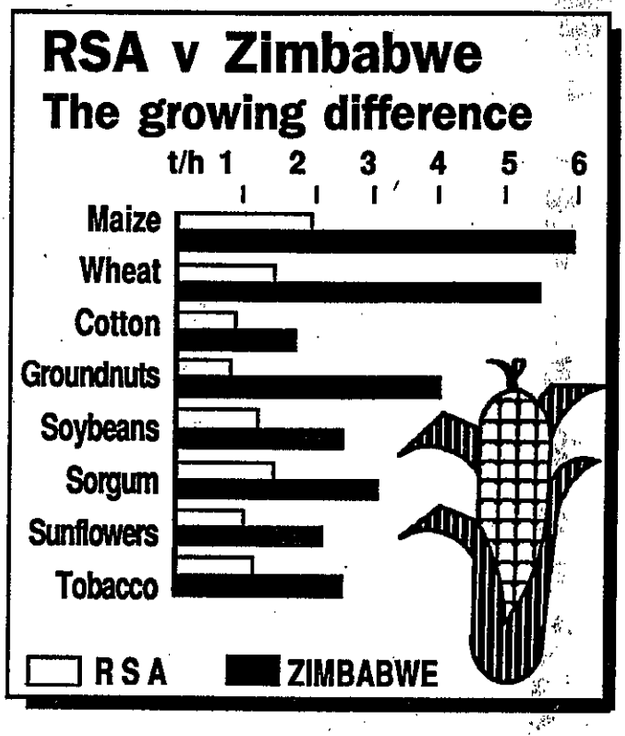
South Africa's national cattle herd numbers about nine million head and its annual beef output is not enough to meet the needs of the country's population of about 28,5 million, so meat has to be imported.

Zimbabwe's national herd numbers 1,5 million head which, in spite of periodic temporary shortages, not only supplies the meat needs of its 8,5-million population but also produces about 10 million tons of beef a year for export (mainly to Europe, where it earns on average R75 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 growers, 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 year after year, seemingly incapable of changing to other lines of limited but certain profitability.

Their management, especially of their financial affairs, is generally far below the level that other sectors of the economy will regard as acceptable.

No wonder they have to run to the State so often to ask for more.

There are about 4 000 white farmers in Zimbabwe (compared with about 60 000 in South Africa).

This relatively small number of Zimbabwe farmers, a great many of whom boast agricultural diplomas or university degrees, produce some 80 percent of the country's total marketed agricultural output.

Their exports, in particular tobacco, maize, cotton, beef, tea, coffee and fruit, earn on average more than a billion rands a year in foreign exchange — an indication of the high international recognition accorded to the quality of their products.

With more than 75 percent of the country subject to conditions that make dryland cropping a risky undertaking, one cannot but marvel at their outstanding achievements.

There is no reason why South African farmers should not strive to reach the same heights.

Not only experience, but particularly knowledge and an ability to make the right decisions, are needed to overcome the major challenge of stepped-up production that face the industry.

This means operational flexibility and self-discipline, and the production of only those lines which hold a clear prospect of profit. □

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No one after Mugabe's life

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Sowetan 5/2/91.

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.

- *Argus Africa News Service.*

Mugabe stands firm

Star 7/2/91

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No court action ... insists Robert Mugabe.

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 farms thrive in Zimbabwe

w/mail 8/2-14/2/91.

Zimbabwe may be forced to employ more pragmatism in its land policy, writes **ANDREW MELDRUM**

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SMILING proudly, Maxwell Jarijari leads a visitor to see King Solomon, the prize pig of Musengezi Resettlement Scheme, Village Two.

A sign over the massive, mean-looking pig states "King Solomon, six years, wife delivered six times, next delivery February 12".

"King Solomon got us started and has produced many pigs," said Jarijari, chairman of the piggery project. "But he is getting old so we'll have to eliminate him. We need younger sires to keep up our productivity."

The piggery is an income-generating venture for the 20 families of the resettlement village. In addition to farming their individual plots, the village members take turns feeding and caring for the pigs. Last year the group earned Z$3 600 from the piggery and the money was put to use to help pay for a Z$10 000 grinding mill. The mill also pays for itself as it earns Z$200 per month from fees paid by families to grind their maize into meal.

Such enterprising farming is exactly what Robert Mugabe's government hoped to encourage when it resettled 500 black peasant families on 13 large farms previously owned by whites in central Zimbabwe. The Musengezi scheme was started in 1985 with farmers chosen from the nearby Communal Areas, reserves where blacks were confined during the Rhodesian era and remain today the areas where the most rural peasants live.

"The soil here is much better and we get much better yields," said Jarijari (47). "I got less than 50 bags (weighing nearly 1 100kg each) of maize on the old land, now I get more than 100 bags, plus 50 bales of cotton."

Across the road is another cotton field, but there is a dramatic difference. The plants are only about ankle high and are struggling against a sea of weeds. The miserable field is one of the government's collective co-operatives and Jarijari shook his head at the evidence of such poor farming. Resettlement officials admit the co-operatives have been a dismal failure with many deserting, despite good soil and rainfall. The government started 81 co-operatives in the resettlement areas and 99 schemes with plots farmed by individual families.

"The co-operatives just don't produce," said one official. "We can't afford to use good-land on such unproductive political experiments."

As the Mugabe government embarks on its revitalised land redistribution, it is carrying out a thorough review of its efforts since 1980, in which 416 000 people have been resettled on three million hectares of formerly white-owned land.

Not only have planners recommended scrapping the co-operatives, they have suggested that resettled farmers be allowed to purchase their plots. Currently the resettled farmers are granted 10-year permits to stay on the land, with the government's promise that they will be able to stay as long as they productively farm the land.

If the government were to permit the resettlement farmers to purchase their five hectare plots over a period of 20 years, it would re-coup some of the funds spent to purchase the whites' land as well as give the peasant farmers incentive to develop their own.

Robert Mugabe's government may have to abandon some of its socialist principles in favour of redistribution policies that offer more individual incentive. As long as such pragmatism encourages farmers like Maxwell Jarijari and the others in Musengezi Village Two, then all of Zimbabwe will be the winner.

FW's aims criticised in Zimbabwe

Star 7/2/91

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — President de Klerk had disappointed observers by failing to get to grips with the question of the return 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 satisify 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 of 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 rights watchdog.

Mrs Suzman said she also hoped the European Community would soon implement its announced intention to ease sanctions after President de Klerk's promise on Friday to dismantle apartheid laws. — Reuter.

More shortages in Zimbabwe

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Gowetan 12/2/91

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.

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CHANGING HANDS: (left) The Zimbabwean government insists that commercial farmers must give up their land to resettle peasant farmers PIC: UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

From Deborah Carter
Harare

Zanu state at odds over Land Act amendments

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 herded on to "reserves", called Tribal Trust Lands, during colonialism.

The reserves were renamed 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 2,8m of the 3,3m hectares, falling short of its target of 162000 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 Burl has assured the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement Dr Witness Mangwende that his union's concern "isn't 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 or 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 latter by black farmers means the racial 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," Mangwende told commercial farmers at a recent meeting. — *AIA*

Zimbabwe seeks aid to go free market

(362)
Star 18/2/91.

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe is to seek massive international aid of about R40 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 26 to 28 when the Zimbabwe government will be asking for US $3,4 billion (about R9 billion) to set the programme in motion.

The programme has been dawn 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 Zim $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.

Mugabe blames slow pace of resettlement

Land grab could spark nightmare

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Sowetan 18/2/91.

TABUDIRIRA - Zimbabwe's black majority is set to wrest back land held by white farmers since colonial days - but critics of the move warn it could trigger an economic nightmare.

Leaders of the mostly white 4 000 commercial farmers, together with investors, aid donors and some officials, say any quick large-scale redistribution of land could spell the end of Zimbabwe's position as the breadbasket of black southern Africa.

"The government thinks it will work, we know it won't," said Alan Burl, chairman of the Commercial Farmers' Union.

"If it went wrong we'd see massive disinvestment, starting in agriculture and going through all the other sectors of the economy as well."

Commercial farmers own 11 million hectares of prime land and produce 42 percent of the country's foreign exchange and 59 percent of its industrial raw materials.

A World Bank report quoted by Agriculture Minister Witness Mangwende says Zimbabwe's commercial farmland is inefficiently used and the same crop could be harvested on half the land.

Union

But Burl said production would drop "quite significantly" if his members were left with only five million hectares although he accepted the need for some resettlement. His union is producing its own reform ideas.

Burl raised a point which is worrying Western diplomats - the impact of the expropriation move on reforms in neighbouring South Africa.

"This country has been a model for Africa, one of the few countries in Africa which is going ahead. It is being followed closely by other countries, particularly South Africa," Burl said.

During the 1980s good relations were forged between Mugabe and the farmers who used to buttress the white minority Rhodesian government of Ian Smith.

This gave hope to South African white farmers apprehensive about a post-apartheid future.

But if Zimbabwe's government and its white farmers are at loggerheads, South African farmers are likely to dig in against the reformist policies of President FW de Klerk.

Reforms

Aid donors and Zimbabwe's Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay have complained the reforms are undermining constitutional freedoms Zimbabweans enjoyed during the 1980s.

Diplomats say this will make aid donors reluctant to grant money to Zimbabwe.

Mugabe is being forced into an aggressive land policy by failures of the past, they say.

"The government hasn't delivered on many of its independence promises. It's done very little to raise the living standards of black Zimbabweans," one Western diplomat said.

Mugabe is uncomfortably aware that he hasn't done much for about 800 000 subsistence farmers eking out an existence on poor soil.

Despite a 1982 promise to resettle 162,000 people in three years, only a third of them have been placed.

"There's tremendous discontent in the country, even in the rural areas, and what was apathy is fast turning into hostility. The only thing the government still has at its disposal is the promise of land," the diplomat said.

Zimbabwe's resettlement track record does not inspire confidence. Underfunded schemes have suffered from lack of infrastructure, and subsistence crops do not produce the steady flow of foreign currency the country needs.

Position

"We aren't in a position to embark on a new wave of resettlement yet," said Darlin on Mhlanga, Senior Resettlement Officer for Mashonaland East province.

Godfrey Mutasa, a successful peasant farmer in the neighbouring Nyadiri resettlement area, was sceptical about the government's system of handing land out on permanent loan.

"We want individual title deeds to the land. We want to own it," said Mutasa, who made nearly R10 000 last year with his cotton and maize crops.

Sapa-Reuter

Powers

President Robert Mugabe, armed with legislative powers to expropriate land at officially fixed prices and to stop farmers appealing in court, plans to turn over half the country's best farms to 110 000 landless peasant families.

Most of the farms have been owned by whites since 1890 when Britain carved the colony of Rhodesia out of highly fertile tracts of Central Africa that are now Zimbabwe.

"Zimbabwe belongs to our ancestors," ministers chanted in parliament in December when they amended the country's constitution to allow compulsory land purchases.

"What we are doing is to bring about justice for our people," Mugabe said recently.

"We have said we will acquire land. We will ask the owners of the land to sell it, but if we need it we will not take no for an answer."

Mugabe has been under pressure from blacks since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980 to expropriate large white-owned farms and redistribute the land to peasants.

He blamed the slow pace of peasant resettlement to date, only 52 000 families, on the British-brokered Lancaster House independence agreement which until it expired last year barred the expropriation of commercial farmland.

Farmers threaten new protest today

Star 19/2/91

By Norman Chandler
Pretoria Bureau

The South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) and the organisers of a major farming conference in Pretoria have been warned of a possible disruption by farmers.

In telephone calls to The Star, people identifying themselves as farmers warned that the second stage of their protest against Government agricultural policies would be launched at the one-day Agrocon '91 conference today.

The SAAU said yesterday it was aware of the threat. It is understood that special security arrangements have been made at the CSIR conference venue.

The first stage of the protest by farmers took the form of a blockade of central Pretoria last month. After the blockade, farmers warned that further action would be taken.

Minister of Agriculture Jacob de Villiers is scheduled to open today's conference, which will be attended by about 250 delegates from agricultural control boards, co-operatives, financial institutions and the private sector. It is held annually to review the industry's production capability.

Mugabe adamant on annexure of farms

Star 19/2/91

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

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HARARE — Disregarding warnings from the Chief Justice and widespread concern in the business community and diplomatic circles, the Zimbabwean government is pressing ahead with its proposals to acquire land from white farmers for resettlement, with the courts barred from inquiring into the amount of compensation to be paid.

The amendments to the constitution barring the courts from adjudicating on compensation have been given President Mugabe's assent and the Act was published in the last Government Gazette.

The way is now cleared for the introduction in parliament, which begins a new sitting next week, of a Bill aimed at enabling the government to pursue a revolutionary new land policy under which half the land currently owned by whites will be taken for resettlement or for allocation to black farmers.

President Mugabe accused some white farmers of trying to impede resettlement and said: "The government's commitment to the land question is unwavering and it expects full cooperation from all concerned."

Argued

The opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement leader, Edgar Tekere, has accused the government of racism and said that what had happened 100 years ago when the first white settlers arrived was irrelevant as everybody was now a Zimbabwean citizen.

He said those who argued that the whites had come into the country and taken the land should apply the same argument to the Ndebele, the Ndaus and other tribes.

He also pointed out that some farms which had been bought with British aid money for resettlement were now occupied by senior ruling-party officials.

The Commercial Farmers Union, which organised a mass meeting of white farmers in Harare last month, says it understands and accepts the need for land reform but it maintains that a great deal could be achieved by improving facilities and services in communal areas and by acquiring derelict and under-utilised land before considering the question of taking productive land for resettlement.

When the Chief Justice, Mr Justice Gubbay, commented on the change to the constitution, he said legislation which damaged the structural pillars on which a constitution was built would be pronounced invalid by the Supreme Court.

President Mugabe said later it was not the job of the judges to make laws and if they did not like them, they should quit.

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Failed Zim co-ops undermine Mugabe

HARARE. — Only days after a fierce defence 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 22 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 800ha 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

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Star 26/2/91

On the eve of another planned huge Zimbabwe land resettlement scheme, results show that previous schemes have turned into dismal failures. ROBIN DREW reports from Harare.

OF 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 Chegutu 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, Cosmas 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 21 715 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 plans overhaul of economy

W(Mail 22/2 - 28/2/91 (362)

Zimbabwe unveiled a major five-year plan for economic reform this week. The government hopes to cut its spending and open up the economy, reports **ANDREW RUSINGA**

ZIMBABWE will meet Western donors in Paris next month to try to raise about Z$9-billion for economic reforms.

A finance ministry statement this week said the government would seek financial aid at the March 26-28 conference to support market reforms, including trade liberalisation, in the transition to a more open economy.

"Zimbabwe needs at this time a major increase in both grants and a blend of concessional and other long-term lending," said an economic reform plan released by the ministry.

The 1991-95 plan was drawn up with the help of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and has been circulated among potential donors ahead of the Paris conference.

Some Z$42-billion in foreign and local funding is needed over five years.

The programme aims to cut the civil service by a quarter, trim a huge budget deficit, introduce monetary, fiscal and exchange rate reforms and scrap a plethora of government regulations stifling growth.

"The government is committed to a programme of economic policy reform aimed at sustaining higher medium and long-term growth and reducing poverty," the plan says.

Last October, Zimbabwe started to move away from a system of licensing imports to an open one. Trade liberalisation is expected to be completed by 1995 when business will have free access to foreign exchange for all imports.

The civil service of 189 000 workers will be cut by 25 percent through retrenchments and a freeze on non-essential recruitment.

The government plans to reduce the budget deficit to five percent of gross domestic product (GDP) by 1994-95, from 10,4 percent of GDP in the financial year 1990-1991.

"This target will be achieved mainly through a containment of recurrent expenditure," the plan says.

Monetary changes will include opening up the banking sector to more competition and introducing inflation-control measures.

Maximum lending rates will be abandoned and deposit rates will be allowed to rise in response to market conditions.

The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe also boosted interest rates to encourage domestic savings, rein in the money supply and curb inflation.

State companies will be revamped to make them more competitive and price and labour controls will be lifted as part of the reforms which have been on the drawing board since the mid-1980s.

Zimbabwe's economy has grown unevenly since independence in 1980 following a rapid expansion in public spending to redress pre-independence imbalances.

Average growth in GDP of 2,7 percent between 1980-89 lagged behind an annual rise in population of more than three percent, the plan notes.

Severe import restrictions applied in the mid-1980s to conserve foreign currency starved industry of essential inputs and put off potential investors.

Following the import clamp and a current account surplus in 1988, the current account deficit had widened from Z$89-million in 1989 to an estimated Z$177-million in 1990 as the debt service ratio dropped and imports rose.

"This increase in 1990 is largely accounted for by the increase in petroleum products prices resulting from the Gulf crisis," the plan says.

"Unless these prices fall, the effect will be even larger in 1991," it adds.

In another move towards economic reform the Zimbabwe government expects to stop subsidising public-sector enterprises (other than those with a social dimension) by the end of 1995 to relieve itself of the excessive burden the sector has placed on its budget.

It will stop financial transfers and indirect subsidies to public enterprises by the end of 1995.

Direct subsidies and transfers to the sectors stood at around Z$629-million for 1990/91 and are expected to be reduced to a maximum of Z$40-million by 1994/95.

The government also recognises the critical importance of the large-scale commercial farming sector in economic growth and will ensure that, in redistributing land, there will be no decline in productivity, the plan says

It plans to resettle 110 000 families, after acquiring five million hectares from the large-scale commercial farming sector.

The acquisition of such land would be made possible when parliament amended the Land Acquisition Act. In the last decade, government managed to resettle only 52 000 families because of constitutional constraints.

"The actual pace of land purchase and resettlement will be determined by financial availability as prescribed by fiscal targets as well as the pace at which properly trained small-scale farmers can be identified," the document said.

However, central to this programme is how to find a satisfactory mechanism for transferring land from the large-scale commercial sector.

To bring more land from this sector nto the market, either for resettlement or other purposes, government had introduced a land tax which would make it costly for farmers to hold on to under-utilised land.

Zimbabwean industrialists have welcomed the policy document as a positive step in the country's economic structural adjustment programme.

In a statement a Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries representative said the government's clear commitment to the implementation of reforms over a five-year period had provided industry with an opportunity to re-equip where necessary. —Sapa-Reuter

Bulawayo hit by lack of beef, water supplies

By CHARLES RUKUN: Harare 362

WHILE the rest of the world and the top people in Zimbabwe 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. WMail 22/2-28/2/91

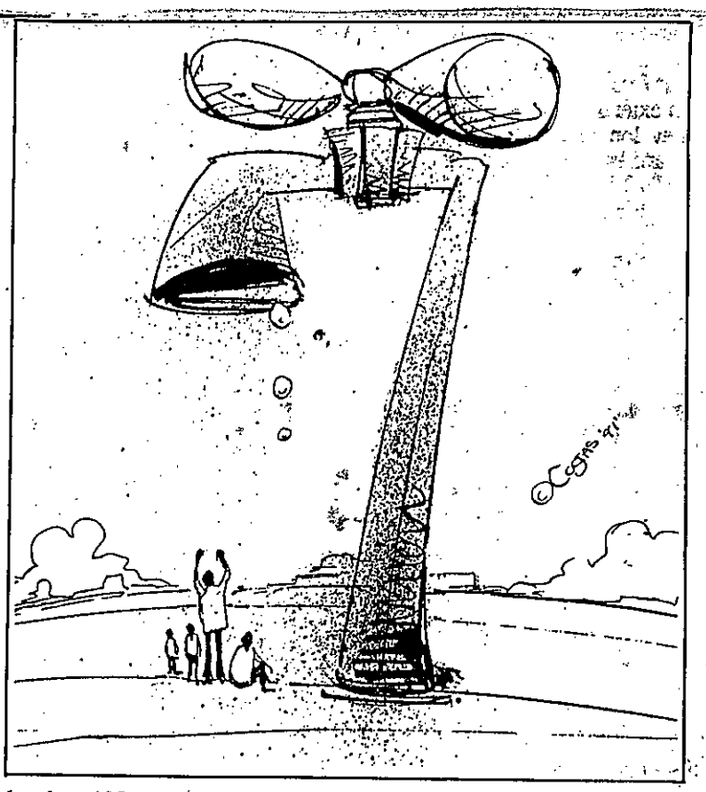
Water rationing was introduced on January 15, limiting families to 600 litres a day. Six days later there was no beef. The sole supplier in urban areas, the Cold Storage Commission (CSC), cut allocations to 40 percent, had no beef for several days, and then resumed 40 percent supplies on January 28.

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 preserved 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 R2,38bn 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.

MICHAEL HARTNACK

"The land reform can be the best or the worst thing, according to the way in which it is implemented," said Camdessus. "The confidence element is central."

Camdessus glossed over problems that wrecked the IMF's last assistance programme for Zimbabwe in the early years of independence. In 1984, after granting Mugabe special drawing rights of about US$300m, the final $125m was cancelled because of IMF discontent at soaring spending on social services and defence.

362 Reduction

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 4 500 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 Ngugama 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

CPress 24/2/91 (362)

By TREVOR GRUNDY

THE Zimbabwean government is going to Paris next month to try and raise a massive $3,6-billion (about R9-billion) in "seed finance" for a complete economic overhaul.

Senior Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero will lead a team to a special donors' conference in France between March 26 and 28 to convince delegates of Zimbabwe's "good intentions" in starting again.

Chidzero's leading edge in his fight for funds will be the country's recently released *Framework for Economic Reform (1991-1995)*, which moots a five-year plan in which civil service overheads will be cut by 25 percent, health and education programmes reduced, trade liberalisation introduced and massive subsidies for inefficient parastatals slashed. This year subsidies totalled R629-million. The aim is to cut them to R40-million by 1995.

Chidzero will be asking the West for the equivalent of a whopping R9-billion to help initiate the programme which, married to trade liberalisation policies which are starting to take effect, could transform Zimbabwe into a market-force powerhouse which, in some respects, might rival the economic clout of a post-apartheid South Africa.

During the programme food prices will rise because the government plans to remove all subsidies from the grain market board (GMB), which regulates the maize price.

The GMB's annual subsidy is now R150-million. After five years the figure will be zero although the poorest of Zimbabweans – domestic workers and agricultural labourers – will be the first to suffer.

The government will ask Western donors to provide a special fund to help the poor while the plan takes effect. During this period, seed finance will provide the right kind of capital equipment to create wealth, earn foreign exchange and soak up the unemployed.

To say socialism in Zimbabwe has failed isn't completely correct. The government takes full credit for its vastly improved education and health departments and the poor have also received some attention.

Primary school education boomed with 2,2 million pupils in 1989 compared with 1,2 million in 1980. Secondary school figures are even more impressive – 73 000 pupils in 1980 compared with 671 000 two years ago.

However, because the government has failed to attract meaningful investment and because "old friends" – the communist countries – have problems of their own, Zimbabwe's economic machine is tired, even worn out. Capital equipment – for the most part – is out of date.

The IMF sent its managing director to Lusaka recently. This week, before leaving Zimbabwe, he said: "Socialism has failed in Africa but this doesn't mean we have to go to a system where government has no role to play in the economy."

He fully backs the Zimbabwean plan. After all, the IMF and World Bank have been helping draw it up since 1988. "We (the IMF) believe in this programme and believe it deserves international support."

Zimbabwe's economy is hamstrung by a series of extremely tight protective controls inherited from "Rhodesian" days and there are too many people chasing too few jobs.

The IMF managing director told journalists at an American-style "brainstorm" meeting at Harare's international conference centre that a financial crisis had made Zimbabwe rethink its policies.

There are about 200 000 school-leavers coming on to the job market every year with only 20 000 to 30 000 additional jobs being created annually in the formal employment sector.

Economists – who have kept remarkably quiet about the new reform programme – say unemployment figures stand at about 1,5-million, more than the number of people with jobs. The total population is 9,5 million.

One economist said: "There is a time-bomb ticking in Zimbabwean living rooms. The youngsters are educated and have very high aspirations."

While massive sums were spent on education and health, the economy suffered with wealth creation coming second to the ideals of politicians.

The government has stated that the inflation rate is 16 percent, although many insist it is higher.

A decade ago businessmen begged to be set free from the country's war-time economic controls, but inflation has soared, employment has plunged and bureaucracy has flourished. At the time of independence there were 60 000 civil servants – today there are 199 000.

The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, the failure of economies in Latin America and stagnation in Africa has put rich nations in an even more powerful position. Their message could be seen as: play ball according to our rules, or starve.

During his southern African trip, the IMF managing director heard tales of economic woe in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia. He will visit Botswana next week and will no doubt be given a briefing on the South African situation and what's on the cards after apartheid.

He appeared delighted that Zimbabwe had brought its population growth rate down to just under three percent and he felt optimistic at leadership's commitment to realistic change.

But he is unhappy about Western concern that Zimbabwe may not be a safe investment bet.

Next week, Parliament is expected to start amending the Land Acquisition Act to provide government with the teeth to implement a land reform programme. Forty percent of the land is currently owned by about 3 800 white commercial farmers.

Zimbabwe's British-tailored constitution fell away almost a year ago and the government plans to expropriate between five million and 11 million hectares from these farmers.

They will be paid "fair" prices in local dollars only, but if they don't like the compensation cheques, farmers will have no recourse in the country's courts.

Journalists asked the IMF boss how Zimbabwe could plead for more investment when it was striking at the heart of private ownership.

He said: "If this land reform does not entail any kind of change in business confidence; if it doesn't entail any risk to the overall productivity of agriculture in the country; if it doesn't entail dangers to the environment; and if it is done in t context of good, open dialogue with the farmers, one can conceive that the refor could be a success."



Ringing the changes . . . Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, who is about t request R9-billion from Western nations for a complete economic overhaul.

Harare stops Marxism in some schools

By Robin Drew (362)
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 Fay Chung said the government would not be stopped from presenting polical 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. Star 26/2/91

Zimbabwe is switching to a free market economy, but 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 150 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 force suspected suffered from Aids-related illnesses to have HIV blood tests, they cannot be certain they are carrying the virus.

Robin Drew reports on a media conference in Harare

Zimbabwe's press feels the heat

Star 27/2/91 (362)

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.

Henry Muradzikwa ran foul of President Mugabe when the Sunday newspaper he was editing carried a story about Zimbabwean students being deported from Cuba. Unfortunately the story appeared prominently on the very day a senior Cuban Minister arrived on a visit to Zimbabwe. Tbe upshot was that the editor was hastily removed by Zimbawe Newspapers to do research and languished there for several years before getting the Ziana appointment.

When newsmen gathered last week to review media developments in Zimbabwe, Muradzikwa told the seminar: "You can take it from me the kitchen can be hot."

Young journalists were taught to be honest, fair, truthful and to report without fear or favour.

But when they entered the newsroom, "they have to learn to fear, to be partisan in their reports and, above all, to learn to leave the truth alone. Journalism is under assault and a whole culture of fear has emerged". Editors had become "de-educators" for their survival and that of their newspapers.

Another critic of government interference was an analyst at the Zimbabwe Institute of Development Studies, Bonwell Chakaodza, who said the Mass Media Trust, which was established to be a buffer between the press and the government when state money was used to buy a controlling interest in the main newspaper group, had failed to protect editors from direct pressure from the government.

"Over the years it has become painfully obvious that the idea of setting up the trust has not worked, " he said. The trustees had become obsessed with financial matters instead of assessing media policy and direction."

Mr 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.

Of the independently owned publications which have been critical of government policies, he said they were guilty of over-emphasising the negative aspects of society.

Judge of appeal, Mr Justice Manyarara, 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, which would protect media owners and journalists against intimidation. It would require an Act of Parliament to give it the necessary status.

Information Minister Victoria Chitepo said she viewed press freedom in the context of the media espousing causes that promoted national unity.

Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa said there was a tendency to use official secrets legislation to cover up the blunders and corrupt practices of government officials.

But he said the government needed the restrictions to keep state secrets safe and to prevent them from falling into enemy hands.

Zimbabwe recognised the need for free expression by enshrining it in the Declaration of Rights, but such freedom had to be within the limits of morality and public order and the general welfare of society, he said.

Delegates agreed to form a committee to work out specific recommendations to be presented to another meeting later in the year. — Star Africa Service. □

Chidzero fights to give away power for Zimbabwe's good

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Bday 27/2/91.

MICHAEL HARTNACK
in Harare

BERNARD Chidzero, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, is the most endearing figure in Zimbabwean public life. He has the rarely combined gifts of a commanding presence, a genial, approachable manner, and stunning articulateness with figures.

Everyone who meets him, no matter how prejudiced beforehand against African revolutionary governments, comes away with exclamations of praise: "pragmatic", "highly reassuring", and "if only they were all like that".

Born in 1927, he set out on a brilliant academic career and was snapped up by UN development agencies, through whose ranks he rose swiftly, before becoming Robert Mugabe's chief economic adviser in 1980. Harare buzzes with recurrent rumours that Africa wants Chidzero to return to the UN to succeed Javier Perez de Cuellar as secretary-general.

After the masterly aplomb with which Chidzero last week handled visiting IMF director Michel Camdessus, hopes revived for the scheduled donors' conference in Paris at the end of March, at which Chidzero will ask for a vital R2,38bn "seed finance" to initiate his R42bn economic restructuring plan.

Looming international recession, high interest rates, the Gulf war, the diversion of Western resources toward Eastern Europe and, above all, misgivings aroused by the revision of Zimbabwe's constitutional declaration of rights, made the plan seem unrealistic. But that was before Chidzero turned on his charm.

Hence Camdessus glibly swept aside memories of Zimbabwe's last, far more modest, IMF aid programme which was cancelled in 1984 because of soaring state spending, and gave his wholehearted support to Chidzero's detailed five-year blueprint for progressive trade liberalisation and deregulation. Without pledging any IMF money, the French banking mogul promised to commend the programme unreservedly to international donors.

"A significant part (of the target) will have to be placed by private investors," said Camdessus. Finding most of the R42bn is predicated on trade liberalisation generating its own momentum, says Chidzero.

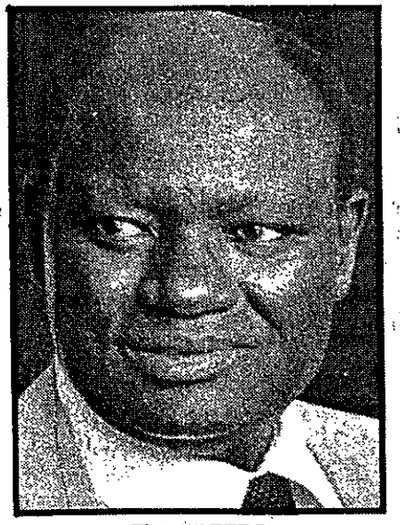
"The doubtful element is export earnings, your capacity to export, because of the current world economic situation," said Camdessus. He applauded Chidzero's resolve to go to Paris to defend Zimbabwe's 6-million hectare commercial land redistribution plan. Chidzero will assure investors "it is not to dispossess people, it is to utilise our resources in this country as fully as possible".

Camdessus said he was impressed by Chidzero's protestations that business and farming sector confidence would be maintained throughout the land exercise. Camdessus was equally delighted, he said, with the "courage" displayed in plans outlined in the blueprint, such as cutting the bureaucracy by 30%. This is Camdessus's way of sugaring a dire warning that if Zimbabwe frightened the financial world with land nationalisations, or lost the political nerve to carry through its intentions, the entire exercise was doomed.

Chidzero's 100-page detailed restructuring timetable aims to end import controls, price controls, investment controls, labour controls, wage controls, transport controls, export controls and all the other controls which have progressively ensnared the practice of entrepreneurship here since 1965.

Introduced as a "war expedient" during Rhodesia's sanctions years, the controls were strengthened and extended by Mugabe on the pretext of assisting the economy on the "road to socialism". In practice, they afforded a raison d'être for half a hundred ministers and deputy ministers, and a civil service triple its former size.

Chidzero's plan foresees a return first to unrestricted import of industrial inputs, and then of other standard trade items. There should be wage bargaining free of government interference and a recognition of employers' right to hire and fire.



☐ CHIDZERO

Chidzero has built in measures to protect the poor from envisaged short-term side effects of liberalisation. "Measures will be taken to ensure that poor and vulnerable groups have access to basic foodstuffs at affordable prices, and that they do not suffer from increased cost recovery for social services. Provision has also been made to assist workers that lose their jobs in government, public enterprises and public companies," says Chidzero's blueprint.

Some observers from both the radical left and the commercial right here see the plan — woefully or gleefully — as a final "road closed" sign across Mugabe's 1980 socialist path. But Zimbabwean socialism has never meant "cradle to grave" care for workers, egalitarianism, or scientific central planning in any sense greater than state command of ever-widening economic patronage, dispensed on political lines.

Time and again since 1980, Chidzero has brought forward plans for economic reform, to have them stymied in the Zanu (PF) politburo — a council to which he was admitted only last year.

Can Chidzero now persuade Zanu (PF) to ditch the patronage system, which it seemed to believe was both the stay and purpose of its power? Faced with 1,5-million unemployed, has the politburo finally grasped that successful economic management is not a facile exercise which can be done by any bookkeeper?

Successful management means freedom to accept full responsibility and to enjoy fully the honest rewards or suffer the consequences of taking intelligent risks.

It is still not certain whether, right at the very top, the politburo has given Chidzero that kind of freedom — power to give away power — or whether the political place holders will once more derail his plans for their own selfish ends.

Sexual diseases 'notifiable'

362

28/2/91.

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 that 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.

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Journalism under fire in Zimbabwe

Sowetan 28/2/91

362

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 Zimbabawe 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 the 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 Manyarara 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%

Star 1/3/91

362

Preliminary indications of Zimbabwe's trade figures show a significant worsening, with the balance of payments deficit widening last year by nearly 140 percent, according to the latest report by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.

The report, published this week, said the deficit rose from R99 million in 1989 to R239 million last year.

Projections for this year are that the balance of payments will continue under severe strain because of the higher oil price, the international recession and the need to boost spending on imports for the productive sectors.

The current account deficit widened 16 percent to R153 million at the end of the year, mostly because of a worsening in the invisible account by R265 million, which was offset, however, by an improvement in the trade balance.

The deterioration in the invisibles account was caused by higher payments for interest, dividends and shipments, while the trade balance's improvement was the result of an increase of 21 percent in merchandise exports, chiefly tobacco and gold.

The Reserve Bank also said that inflation for the last year was 15,6 percent, compared with 11,6 percent the year before, because of the increase in fuel costs — 111 percent since the beginning of the Gulf Crisis — as well as the partial decontrol of prices, wage settlements and the expansion in money supply. — Sapa.

Mugabe asks Nkomo to stand in as president

Own Correspondent

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 Muzenda, 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. (362)

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 Organisation, and none by the Minerals Marketing Corporation of Zimbabwe. Block 8/3/91.

In a statement yesterday the ministry said the mining commissioner in Masvingo 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

Star 11/3/91 362

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 organisation 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.

Robin Drew in Harare on Zimbabwe's land redistribution debate

362

Land-hunger bites into reconciliation

Star 12/2/91.

WHAT price reconciliation now? That is the question being posed in Zimbabwe as the clamour grows for black control of all aspects of the economy.

In a letter in the Catholic publication Moto, "Disillusioned" of Marondera says the idea of reconciliation is receding as the prospect of forced land redistribution undermines the security of all landowners, whites in particular.

The writer says for 10 years whites had been constantly reminded how their "terrible treatment" of blacks had been repaid with forgiveness. Reconciliation implied the war was over and any changes for a more equitable society would be in accordance with civilised standards of behaviour.

But by sidestepping the judicial arbitration of conflict, Mr Mugabe had placed a dangerous sense of absolute authority in the hands of prejudiced administrators.

During the course of the public debate on the land issue, white farmers have been accused of "stealing" the land from its rightful black owners and there have been demands from people as diverse as peasant farmers and the dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Zimbabwe that the government should refuse to pay compensation for land acquired compulsorily for resettlement.

The Sunday Mail, a newspaper in the stable of Zimbabwe Newspapers whose majority shareholder is the government, says commercial farmers are doing all they can to hold back the process of a just land distribution policy. It argues political instability will result if the current imbalance in land holdings continues.

It is not only the white farming sector that has come under attack. Veteran nationalist Joshua Nkomo made an impassioned plea for blacks to take control of the economy to justify the sacrifices made in the liberation struggle.

There is much less talk now of the need for Zimbabwean citizens to be in control. The emphasis now is on black Zimbabweans.

The president of the Olympic Committee and chief editor of Zimbabwe Newspapers, Tommy Sithole, put it bluntly when he said that 11 years after independence it was not proper for any sporting side representing Zimbabwe to have a majority of whites.

The verbal bashing of whites is not a new phenomenon. Whites have been accused of plotting to seize power, of fomenting disturbances at the university, and of sticking to what was termed "the culture of racism".

Whites have been accused of exploiting reconciliation to enrich themselves and refusing to identify with the new order.

In a paper presented to a seminar last year, a Zimbabwean academic, John Makumbe, said without the redistribution of wealth, reconciliation was empty and sterile. The lesson for South Africa was to understand that the successful implementation of policies of reconciliation would be determined by the extent to which inherited colonial socio-economic structures were adapted, modified or overhauled. — Star Africa Service. □

Zimpapers – a press under pressure

(362)

By Robin Drew Star 15/3/91
Star Africa Service

HARARE — Zimbabwe's main newspaper group is now, in effect, under the Ministry of Information and there is no need to go on pretending the government does not own the press, says the former group managing director of Zimbabwe Newspapers, Elias Rusike.

Mr Rusike, now co-owner of the rival, independent Financial Gazette, reveals the extent of government interference in the running of Zimbabwe Newspapers and exposes the bitter infighting at the company headquarters in a new book, "The Politics of the Mass Media, A Personal Experience".

Revealing the circumstances surrounding the appointment and dismissal of editors, he says: "I was the hatchet man of the Ministry of Information. As a team player, I carried these instructions out to the letter until I decided enough was enough after the Willowvale scandal and the subsequent dismissal of (Geoff) Nyarota as editor of The Chronicle."

Mr Rusike, who resigned from Zimbabwe Newspapers in September 1989, says he was subjected to harassment, abuse and threats from members of the central committee of the ruling party and Cabinet members for allowing The Chronicle to carry stories of corruption involving Ministers in the purchase and disposal of new cars from the Willowvale assembly plant.

Mr Rusike said that while he had been told he would report to the chairman of the Board of Zimbabwe Newspapers, in practice he found himself summoned to the Ministry of Information to explain why a story was published or why the President's story did not go on the front page.

"So really, the trustee ownership of the press in Zimbabwe has failed. Zimpapers is now effectively under the daily control of the Ministry of Information. The recent appointment of Mrs Sarah Kachingwe, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Information, to the board of Zimpapers is ample evidence that the original concept — to insulate the newspapers from government — has been reversed," said Mr Rusike.

Revolt on Death Row

Sl Times 17/3/91 (362)

Minister must be jailed for harsh treatment of SA men, lawyers say

LAWYERS acting for three condemned South Africans are demanding that Zimbabwe's Justice Minister be jailed for continuing to defy a Supreme Court ruling on death row conditions.

By DON JACOBS: Harare

In one of the most bizarre draft orders ever put before judges, the lawyers are seeking to have Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa, prisons director Langton Chigwida and two top warders committed indefinitely to police cells.

Armed

They claim the men are in contempt of Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay's February 21 ban on Philip Conjwayo, Kevin Woods and Michael Smith being kept in solitary confinement for up to 23½ hours a day.

The three former Rhodesian servicemen were sentenced to hang in 1988 for bombing an African National Congress "safe house" in Trenance, Bulawayo. A Zambian driver was killed in the attack. The case threatens to plunge Zimbabwe into a fresh constitutional crisis over the authority of the Supreme Court.

The court sheriff, who would be called upon to try to enforce the arrest of Mr Mnangagwa and his officials, has no armed units under his direct command, while the former guerrilla supremo has a permanent entourage of bodyguards.

Mr Mnangagwa has given no reason for ignoring the unanimous ruling by the five Zimbabwean appeal judges after an on-the-spot inspection of death row in Chikurubi Prison.

Conjwayo, 56, a Transkei-born retired Rhodesian police warrant officer, Woods, 39, a retired senior agent in the Rhodesian and Zimbabwean Central Intelligence Organisation, and Smith, 38, a former Rhodesian army engineer, are kept in 5m by 1,5m cells without any natural light.

Resign

The Supreme Court ordered that they should immediately receive at least two hours of exercise every weekday, plus washing time, with at least an hour at weekends.

The renewed challenge to the courts comes two years after former parliamentary speaker Didymus Mutasa tried to defy an award of damages to Ian Smith.

Another judicial crisis looms over President Robert Mugabe's attempt to remove 4 500 white farmers' right of appeal against plans to nationalise the six-million-hectare maize and tobacco belt.

President Mugabe called on Chief Justice Gubbay to resign if he found the amendment of the constitutional declaration of rights objectionable to his conscience.

The furore about the courts and the rule of law comes at a damaging time for Zimbabwe. Senior Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero is about to fly to Paris to seek R2 300-million "seed finance" from international donors for a massive R4 200-million economic liberalisation programme.

Structural readjustment is considered vital in creating jobs for an estimated 1,5-million unemployed school leavers.

Meanwhile, there was confusion this week about who was running Zimbabwe.

President Mugabe is still on leave, apparently because of his wife, Sally's, kidney illness.

The state-run ZBC radio reported that Joshua Nkomo was acting president.

But semi-official news agency Ziana said Vice-President Simon Muzenda had taken over.

Diplomatic sources here confirmed President Mugabe was still in the country, but there has been no formal announcement about his whereabouts since a February 27 statement that he was taking leave until March 10 — last Sunday.

Nkomo calls for more urban land

Star 19/3/91 (362)

HARARE — Zimbabwean Vice-President Joshua Nkomo has said there is a "dangerous feeling of frustration" among black 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 so blacks who wanted to acquire property could be helped to do so. — Star Africa Service.

AFRICA

Oil exploration in Zambezi valley

B/Day 22/3/91

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 3,8-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.

Mobil planned to undertake 890 line kilometres of seismic grid survey in Zimbabwe and about 550 line kilometres in Zambia this year.

"It is hoped this will provide a complete coverage of the concession area on the Zimbabwean side."

He said that by 1993, or possibly late 1992, Mobil would be in a position to decide whether to start drilling.

"It's too early now in the stage of operations to start making any predictions because we are still gathering and collating data. We're just about getting to the interpretation stage.

"We are seeing some encouraging geological structures, but you need some other equally important data to make a meaningful evaluation for hydro-carbon potential," Opara said.

"This other data are the things we are going to be seriously working on this year and hopefully early next year," he added.

The Mobil exploration caused consternation among environmentalists fearful of its impact on the beautiful and game-rich Zambezi Valley.

Opara said Mobil was well aware of these concerns.

"It's one of the major aspects of our agreement with the government to ensure we operate in the most environmentally acceptable way ... so far our operations have been acclaimed as a success," he said.

— Reuter.

Steep hike in paper prices

B|Day 22|3|91 (362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — A massive increase is expected in the price of Zimbabwe's national newspapers, which are being forced to import newsprint at R2 200 a ton compared with R1 400 a ton from their traditional supplier in Mutare.

Zimbabwe Newspapers, which is controlled by the parastatal Mass Media Trust, said last week it was down to a mere week's supply of newsprint.

The Herald costs Z$0,25. The country's only independent newspaper, the Financial Gazette, costs R2, but has to limit its print order because of shortage of paper.

The lady 'bankers' of Shashe...

Sowetan 25/3/91 362

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 fist 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 35 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 - so 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 Zimbabwe dollars and pulas 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. Batswana - people who come from Botswana - call them MaZezuru, 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 plushest 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-Reuter.*

Star Beat

ARIES: March 21 - April 21
The beneficent influence of yesterday's marvellous aspect between the sun in your sign and Jupiter in Leo should still be filtering through. Add today's helpful Saturn to sun link-up and your all-round prospects are pretty good.

TAURUS: April 21 - May 21
You will continue to bask for a while longer in the glow of the fortunate sun/Jupiter aspect which focuses on your personality and brings happiness to health and home. Saturn and the sun combine to boost your career prospects.

GEMINI: May 21 - June 22
Mars rejuvenates you physically. Jupiter uplifts you mentally. The latter's union with the sun in your frame of friendship bodes well for gains through good connections. The sun/Saturn angle is fortuitous for forward planning.

CANCER: June 22 - July 23
You can still reap recognition and reward from the excellent sun to Saturn angle which encompasses your career and money zones. Moreover, the sun and Saturn in mutually-rallying aspect put you in line for special favours.

LEO: July 23 - August 24
The time has seldom been more opportune for extending your hopes and plans, thanks to Jupiter, infusing you with extra confidence and blending with the sun in your house of fortune. You will also get good support from companions.

VIRGO: August 24 - September 23

Zimbabwe is seeking support for an economic turnabout it hopes will rank it alongside SA, reports **David Br**

Partners in a new prosperity

Star 26/3/91

362

ZIMBABWE'S ambitious plan to switch from a socialist to a free enterprise economic system will place the country in a favourable position to form a partnership of prosperity with South Africa and the rest of the region.

That was the message delivered by the Zimbabwe Minister of Finance, Dr Bernard Chidzero, when he unveiled details of the plan at a meeting of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, in Washington.

Dr Chidzero and his delegation are in Washington on an international tour in which he is trying to raise world interest and investment in the restructured Zimbabwe economy.

Harare has calculated that it needs about US $15,5 billion (about R41 billion) over the next five years for the execution of the plan, of which it believes it can generate about $12,5 billion (R33 billion) from its own resources. It hopes to raise the balance, in amounts of about $500 million (R1,35 billion) a year, from international loans, investment and other facilities.

Dr Chidzero said that since independence in 1980, Zimbabwe had, for pressing political reasons, spent a lot of its resources on education, housing and health. However, in the process, the economic growth of the country had barely kept pace with the growth of the population, and real per capita incomes had stagnated.

The civil service had become hugely overstaffed, climbing from 60 000 people in 1980 to 180 000 last year, while parastatals had become loss-making and inefficient because of a lack of concern about wasting the government's money.

The Zimbabwe government had inherited a severely regulated command-control economy, created by the then Rhodesia largely because of sanctions. It had made the economy even more regulated and controlled for political and ideological reasons.

All this was to be changed, marking the end of what had been known as Marxist-Leninist socialism.

"You only have to read Gorbachev's 'Perestroika' to know what I am talking about," he said.

In terms of the new plan to liberalise the economy, a real growth rate of five percent a year was the target. This would be done by encouraging export development and mobilising domestic and foreign investment.

The civil service was to be cut by a quarter, but in such a way that people losing their jobs would be given new opportunities in other sectors.

Dr Chidzero said there were no plans to turn Zimbabwe into a whole lot of little "shambas", as Kenyans might put it, by seizing farms for the peasants. The redistribution of land would be done in a proper manner, compensating farmers who were bought out, and by giving the land to trained and supported farmers.

He said that the government had once toyed with the idea of creating a one-party state, but this plan had now been shelved. Zimbabwe was, and would remain, a multiparty state where people would be free to express their political views and associate as they wanted to.

Dr Chidzero said that after South Africa, Zimbabwe was the most industrialised country in sub-Saharan Africa. The government wanted to build on this and create a modern, streamlined market-oriented economy.

Eventually, it wanted to play the David to the Goliath which was South Africa's economy. By this he did not mean David would use his sling, but that the two countries could work together as brothers for the good of the region.

Robin Drew reports from Harare that Zimbabwe is seeking a crucial vote of confidence for the plan at a meeting in Paris this week.

Meanwhile, Zimbabwe's largest registered financial institution, UDC Limited, canvassed opinion among leading economists and its own top executives and concluded that all sectors should support a new economic order, which must succeed if Zimbabwe was to avoid becoming "an under-developed nation".

The financial institution's review said the government was facing numerous internal problems, including the re-allocation of land, high unemployment, an enlarged civil service and the large budget deficit.

The government document, "A Framework for Economic Development", which was reviewed, warned there would be hardships and some casualties in the restructuring.

The UDC review says these measures go a long way towards providing a favourable investment climate, and that in addition Zimbabwe has proved to be politically stable, often a vital factor in taking investment decisons in Africa.

The review states: "It is therefore important that the government is seen to be supportive of the productive sectors that presently exist, and also that land redistribution is not going to result in lower agricultural output for both local consumption and ex-

port. Unilateral expropriations of property are not likely to win many positive votes at the conference."

It says that it is in the political sector that most pressures will be felt as unpopular moves are made.

"It would be most encouraging to see direct presidential support for the programme. If the public sector and the politicians can maintain a firm stand on the policy which they have endorsed, then it will have the greatest chance to succeed.

"The framework for economic reform is based on efficiency in the private and the public sector so that at all levels of trade we can be competitive.

"All sectors of the country must give the programme time to develop and reach its full potential which, when reached, will have transformed our stagnant economy into a vehicle to provide for the reasonable aspirations of the Zimbabwean population," the review concludes. — Washington Bureau and Star Africa Service. □

Behaviour of Zim leaders 'bad example'

362

Star 26/3/91

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

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 Ushewokunze 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 positions?" asked the commission.

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 has also taken to task the failure of the authorities to take action against those responsible for the wounding of a prominent opposition leader, Patrick Kombayi, during last year's elections and for the delay in investigating the murder of an army captain who had made several allegations of corruption.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

A SMILE AT LAST

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 representatative, Riaan 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."

Continued

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 ...
expressed joy

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."

Eddie Botha

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 freer play. Sowetan 3/4/91.

It said the confidence shown by major donors was at least as important as the actual money. (362)

Free market plan lures foreign money

(362)

Citizen 7/4/91

MONEY TALK

A BREAKTHROUGH has apparently been achieved by Zimbabwe as a result of a policy decision by government last year to open up its economy to free market forces.

To stimulate a declining economy the government has designed an ambitious five-year economic adjustment programme. Indications are that the plan is well on its way to successful implementation after a meeting of donor countries in Paris last week.

It is now expected that the R1 890-million required from foreign donors to finance the plan in 1991 will be forthcoming.

But a statement issued by the World Bank in Paris after the two-day meeting makes it clear there are strings attached.

It said donors supported Zimbabwe's move to cut government controls of the economy, stimulate growth and anchor the economy on market principles.

Zimbabwe finance minister Bernard Chidzero calculates that the five-year programme will cost about R43-billion, of which Zimbabwe will be able to provide R34-billion, mainly through its exports.

The plan has the backing of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank primarily because it will restructure the economy in such a way that State controls will be reduced considerably.

Zambian industry has been operating for years behind a wall of protection against foreign imports, resulting in high prices and low productivity. Most of its plants are using old equipment and in terms of the five-year plan they will be allowed sufficient foreign exchange to import new machinery and equipment to modernise their production processes.

To observers in Harare the donor pledges represent a breakthrough as R1 890-million is exactly what the plan requires.

But the strings attached signal the new Western approach to aid in Africa in that free market principles will have to be introduced and adhered to.

Neighbouring Zambia has been refusing to follow the guidelines laid down by the IMF and World Bank resulting in these two institutions temporarily turning their backs on Lusaka. This has had a disastrous effect on its economy.

Zimbabwe has obviously decided to follow a very different path.

Zimbabwean 'bungles' defeat investor

B1 Day 9/4/91 (362)

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."

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 very much an uphill task unless they put considerably more emphasis on the private sector which, generally speaking, seems capable and motivated".

Belt-tightening in Zimbabwe

wlmail 12/4 – 18/4/91. (362)

By ANDREW MELDRUM: 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

(362)

'Patriotic front' to be discussed in historic talks

Star 13/4/91

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 forseeable 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 Ebrahim, 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 ploy 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

ISMAIL LAGARDIEN

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 **Thabo Leshilo.**

For the first time since Robert Sobukwe and others broke away from the ANC to form the PAC in 1959, the full national executive committees 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 Mlambo.

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

BIDay 16/4/91. (362) (MM)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 Makwetu 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," Makwetu said at an emotional opening session.

Observers were also intrigued by Makwetu's remarks on the possibility of joining talks with President F W de Klerk, previously denounced by the PAC as a "be-

☐ To Page 2

Unity

BIDay 16/4/91. (362) (MM)

☐ From Page 1

trayal of the struggle".

"The PAC formally rejects the regime's strategy of wanting to engage us in bilateral talks," said Makwetu, 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

of the
ity in our
, of course,

possibly lead to repression and dictatorship, to which we are firmly opposed."

had so far been spent on postage for letters in attempts to recover the debt.

Reports by Sapa, AP

Keep back door open (362) Mugabe

C/Pnews 21/4/91.

CP Correspondent

BEAMING 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 Zimbawean President Robert Mugabe viewed the constituent assembly idea as 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 Moseneke, 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 communique 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 those 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 communique 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 Stals adviser talks to Mugabe

6 Jan 1991 - 23/4/91

HARARE — Desmond Krogh, a senior adviser to the SA Reserve Bank Governor, held a meeting with Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe yesterday.

Krogh is in Harare to attend an Institute of Directors meeting which began yesterday. (362)

The Zimbabwean news agency Ziana said before Krogh met Mugabe he told a news conference that SA was working on future co-operation with other African countries.

He said the implementation of trade liberalisation and structural adjustment in Zimbabwe had impressed South African businessmen.

"Structural adjustment and trade liberalisation will open up trade co-operation between Zimbabwe and post-apartheid SA," he said.

There were also prospects for co-operation between the SA Reserve Bank and the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, he said. — Sapa.

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 Krogh, a senior adviser to the Governor of the South African Reserve Bank.

Dr Krogh, 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 Krogh 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 Krogh 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 Krogh 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. (362)

Mealie meal, the staple diet, goes up by 30 percent and will now cost the consumer the equivalent of nearly R28 for 50 kg instead of R21.

Producers have been given a 20 percent increase in an attempt to boost production.

Consumers will pay 99c for a loaf of bread. Star 25/4/91

The inflation rate has been estimated at nearly 30 percent. — Africa News Service.

Support for trading bloc

(362)

SAN 23/4/91

HARARE — Backing for a regional trading bloc in southern Africa came today from Zimbabwe's main newspaper, The Herald, which endorsed the support given by top businessmen at the Institute of Directors convention here this week on the post-apartheid era.

The paper said such a bloc, based on mutual trust, would create a powerful economic unit. — Africa News Service.

Paper backs trade idea

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Sowetan 26/4/91

HARARE - Backing for a regional trading bloc in Southern Africa came today from Zimbabwe's main newspaper, *The Herald*.

Sowetan Africa News Service

It endorsed the support given by top businessmen who attended the Institute of Directors convention here this week on the challenges facing Southern Africa in the post-apartheid era.

The paper said such a bloc, soundly based on mutual trust, would create a powerful economic unit which the rest of the world, normally dismissive of the Third World, would have to notice.

It said South Africa was of extreme importance to the region but with the world in upheaval, the climate for investment, which now looked promising as South Africa moves towards change, could very quickly change for the worse.

The *Herald* said it was not certain that a democratic South Africa would in the end see any advantage in a regional grouping.

Zimbabwe was in a position to contribute and benefit from any trading pact embracing South Africa.

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, seen in Beijing yesterday, quoted a police official as saying. - *Sapa-Reuter.*

SA critic urges IMF squeeze

Sowetan 26/4/91.

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.

Sowetan Foreign Service

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?"

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."

Socialism can't work, Zimbabweans told

Argus 29/4/91

362

By ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — It's official: Zimbabwe has opted for capitalism and has declared that socialism cannot work here, at least at this stage.

The seal on the ideological switch was put by the Senior Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero, the architect of the country's economic reform programme embodying trade liberalisation and the economic structural adjustment programme.

Dr Chidzero told trade unionists at the weekend that the programme was the only way to save the economy and needed the support of all. He acknowledged it would bring hardships and suffering at first, with an increase in unemployment.

In conflict

Dr Chidzero's comments, under the headline "Socialism not for now", are given prominence in the Sunday Mail, the newspaper which has taken the strongest ideological stand in support of socialism.

The Minister's remarks appear to be in conflict with President Mugabe's recent pronouncements when he said the ruling party had not abandoned socialism but should define the brand that suited Zimbabwe.

Minister says reform 'only way'

The party's official newspaper has taken the line that it would be necessary for a party congress to approve any move to abandon socialism.

Dr Chidzero is quoted as having told the trade union officials, "We have taken Marxism into account and decided to be pragmatic, so this dogma will solve itself in the process." The new capitalist order was a reality and Zimbabweans should accept this.

The Sunday Mail said in an editorial that no working class victories could be achieved in isolation.

"In the end, the workers, the peasants and the indigenous business people will have to fight together for a share of the economic cake.

Out of work

"The government on its part will also have at times to face up to big business and other monopolies in defence of the interests of the majority."

There have been official forecasts that as many as two million people could be out of work within five or six years, as 200 000 school-leavers a year join the ranks of those looking for jobs.

● Although Mozambique's Frelimo government has officially embraced free enterprise, its chief propagandist has insisted that the party's ideology remains socialist, The Argus African News Service reports from Maputo.

The assertion by Jorge Rebelo, head of Frelimo's propaganda department, appears to reflect the dilemma faced by African governments which have been forced to abandon socialism because it did not work but which have difficulty in getting their people to accept this.

Build socialism

In an interview in the Sunday newspaper, Domingo, Mr Rebelo made it clear that he did not believe Frelimo's abandonment of Marxism-Leninism in 1989 had compromised the party's socialist beliefs.

"We must build socialism, but we must do so looking at the specific reality of our country," he said.

The official news agency, Aim, said Mr Rebelo defended Frelimo's decision to abandon the one-party state in favour of a pluralist system and said that in one-party states there was a trend towards the abuse of power.

Judge warns of 'moral anarchy'

HARARE — A Zimbabwe High Court judge has warned that if no cure is found, Zimbabwe could degenerate into a state of moral anarchy.

Mr Justice Greenland told a seminar that independence had brought with it a groundswell of expectation right across the social spectrum, from peasant right up to Ministers of state.

"Human nature being what it is," he said, "this expectation was, in high proportion, acquisitive and mercenary."

Mr Justice Greenland said the moral fibre of Zimbabweans, severely stressed in a new social climate, often failed because of what he termed social-norm confusion.

"Our perfectly natural instinct to be acquisitive and mercenary, now uninhibited in anomic conditions, degrades to an inclination for avarice and deviant materialism," he said.

"If a cure is not found we will be well on the road to a state of moral anarchy. I am sure you can all think of countries possessed of such a climate. We do not regard them as developed but as corrupt, oppressive, decadent — completely inimical to true human development.

"History has taught us that such demoralised systems must fail."

He said that since the crisis had much to do with avarice and self-interest, the antidote must be selflessness and love.

He said that as a criminologist, he believed man would only learn from good example. — Sapa.

'Youth sees violence as a right'

Star 6/5/91

(362)

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 1 500, 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 200 000 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

(362) Star 10/5/91

Star Africa Service

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 Peirson, a former water engineer for the city, is gaining 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 Phillip Conjwayo, all sentenced to death for the murder of a man in a car-bomb explosion in 1988; 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

Feb 14/5/91

362

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 Karimanzira, urged individual students who wanted to continue with their studies to break the boycott.

The UN Security Council is procrastinating on a successor to Javier Perez de Cuellar, writes **Michael Littlejohn**

Zimbabwe pushes for its man to head world body

ZIMBABWE is mounting a determined effort on behalf of its Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, an economist with an international reputation, to succeed Javier Perez de Cuellar as secretary-general of the United Nations.

However, it is not likely to happen, according to knowledgeable Western diplomats.

They say any African candidate's prospects are poor, even if Mr Chidzero may have a better chance than most.

Britain, which has the power of veto — along with the United States, the Soviet Union, France and China — is being urged to back Mr Chidzero and the Zimbabwe government plans to make an appeal on his behalf at the highest level through a mission to London.

Mr Chidzero, who is married to a French-Canadian and served for some years in Geneva as a UN official, is said to have a good command of French, a language requirement insisted upon by France and the other Francophone members of the UN as a condition for their support for any candidate.

A number of other African contenders, including Major-General Joseph Garba, the Nigerian former president of the UN General Assembly, are given no chance be cause their French is limited or non-existent.

Along with English, French is a principal "working language" at the UN.

All the signs in the world body's New York headquarters are in both English and French. (Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish are the other languages in regular use at UN meetings and efforts have been made, without success, to introduce German.)

Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet Foreign Minister, who speaks neither working language, therefore has virtually no chance of becoming secretary-general, although his name has been mentioned among the hopefuls.

Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's background is in science rather than linguistics and her lack of proficiency in French is considered also to be a fatal flaw.

Mrs Thatcher, too, has been mentioned in speculation about the succession, but so far mainly in the more sensational London newspapers.

The theory is that the end of the Cold War invalidated a tacit bar against nationals of the major powers who are permanent members of the Security Council from holding the post of secretary-general.

Some Western members had hoped, but in vain, that a serious effort to agree on a nominee for secretary-general would have been well under way by the end of April and that a recommendation to the General Assembly might be made in early October.

It now appears that the Security Council, in line with its customary procrastination, will leave attempts to reach a decision on Dr Perez de Cuellar's successor until the bitter end.

An impasse then could result in an appeal to Dr Perez de Cuellar to continue in office for at least another year or two — not a bad result for South Africa, which has maintained good relations with him and would probably be able to agree on reasonable terms for the Republic's eventual return to full participation in the United Nations.

France would also like to keep Dr Perez de Cuellar. But this would also postpone reforms in the free-spending UN secretariat which the United States, the Soviet Union and Britain say are long overdue.

The incumbent chief is given fair to moderate marks as a diplomat and politician but rated a poor performer in bottom-line management.

The French, strangely, do not seem to place the same high premium on good UN administrative practice as do the Americans, Soviets and British.

French officials say that postponing reforms for a year or two would not be too high a price to pay to keep Dr Perez de Cuellar at the helm.

They also say the idea favoured by the US and Britain that the designated new UN chief should have a month or two to feel his way into the job and consult frequently with Dr Perez de Cuellar before settling in on January 1 is an extension of the American presidential transition system that the world body has no need to adopt.

In short, who will be the next UN secretary-general remains an open question, but don't rule out the incumbent, who would them become the first person in the post to have served more than 10 years.

South Africa's arch-enemy Kurt Waldheim, who tried in vain to break the mould in 1971, would be chagrined. □

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, Zimbawe's main daily newspaper, on Wednesday quoted a statement by the Minister of Higher Eduction saying students had until yesterday to return to class, "failing which the University of Zimbabwe will have to close".

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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 insitution.

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.*

Peaceful student protest incurs Mugabe's wrath

By ANDREW MELDRUM: Harare

A STANDOFF between protesting students of the University of Zimbabwe and President Robert Mugabe's government may lead to the university's closure.

Angered by the students' three-week boycott of classes, the government threatened to shut down the university unless the 8 000 students returned to classes by Thursday. The student body adamantly continued the boycott, in protest against new legislation which will increase government control over the university.

One of the university's professors commented: "In principle, I support the students' protest because I am against the new legislation, but I don't believe they ever stood a chance of reversing the government's position."

The legislation in dispute, the University of Zimbabwe Amendment Act and the National Council of Higher Education Act, was passed by parliament last December and awaits Mugabe's signature to become law. The government-appointed vice-chancellor will be granted the power to suspend and expel students and lecturers, without any right of appeal. In addition, the new governing body, the National Council of Higher Education, will be controlled by government appointees.

"This is just a way for the ruling Zanu-PF party to extend its control over the university," said an angry engineering student. "Mugabe still thinks Zimbabwe is a one-party state and he wants to close us down because we are causing too many problems."

When students rioted against the legislation last year, they were subjected to a violent crackdown by police. This year the SRC has been careful to keep the boycott peaceful, in an attempt to prevent police intervention.

But the students are adamant that the boycott will not be called off until the minister of higher education, David Karimanzira, holds discussions with student representatives.

The government ultimatum, issued on Tuesday night, stated that the boycott had already wasted Z$5,7 million of taxpayers' money and that if the students did not return to classes by Thursday, there would be no choice but to close the university.

Many faculty members are encouraging the students, but the boycott is receiving little support elsewhere. During last year's riots the students were actively supported by the trade-union movement, but this year the unions appear to be preoccupied with their own battles over Zimbabwe's economic restructuring.

The legislation has been the subject of widespread criticism from the start. Church groups, opposition parliamentarians and international human-rights groups have objected to the undermining of academic freedom inherent in the Acts. Yet the government has remained inflexible. Mugabe personally supports the legislation, stating that it is needed to bring about more discipline.

"There's not much hope that the government will alter the legislation, but we've got to try," said a lecturer. "This is a test of how open our society will be in the future."

The irony is that while the university stayed open throughout the country's liberation war, despite the animosity of Ian Smith's regime, and has survived a series of violent riots in recent years, it appears that its ultimate demise will be caused by a peaceful boycott.

Harare students call off boycott

(362)

20/5/91

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 then 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 nominatd 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.

(362)

Zimbabwe halts issuing of passports

Star 20/5/91

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 Tobaiwa Mudede 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

362 Star 20/8/91

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

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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 attended 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 0,3307 against the US dollar and at 0,9131 against the South African rand, has been generally weaker against the US currency but firmer against the rand in the last six months. — Sapa-Reuter.

SA eases curbs on Zimbabwe business visits

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE — Zimbabwean businessmen will welcome the easing of visa restrictions for visits to South Africa announced by the South African Trade Mission. (362) AEG 21/3/91

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.

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

Star 22/5/91

By Robin Drew
Star Foreign Service 362

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.



Colonel Mengistu ... forced out of power.

The Ethiopian ambassador to Zimbabwe, Asrat 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 Halimeh, 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.



Ethiopia's President Mengistu Haile Mariam. Picture: AP

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-Reuter.

Mengistu is in Harare - claim

Sowetan 23/5/91

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 Ethipian 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, Asrit 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 Emmerson 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-Reuter*

CT 23/5/91 (562)

Peace, tranquillity in new Zimbabwe

By DAVID WILLERS
Editor of the
Natal Witness

THE flamboyant trees still give the streets of Harare a touch of the exotic. So do the taxis, 15 years old in most cases, held together largely by wire and the fervent prayers of driver and passenger alike.

Drivers park their cars on an incline so that they can start them by rolling downhill, brushes for starter motors being unobtainable unless you possess that magic ingredient currently obsessing every Zimbabwean — Forex, of which, to put it mildly, there is a shortage.

In Zimbabwe's capital to attend a convention of the Institute of Directors and the Bulawayo Trade Fair, the visitor is soon impressed by this pre-occupation with foreign money when checking into his hotel. Foreigners visiting the country are not allowed to pay in the local currency for accommodation but must settle their accounts in US dollars; where the price for a local might be, say, 100 Zimbabwe dollars, the tourist pays the foreign equivalent, usually without benefit of conversion.

Without subtlety

This is the so-called two-tier system, the despair of tour operators, and a legacy of 10 years of price controls and socialist intervention in the Zimbabwean economy by the increasingly beleaguered President Robert Mugabe.

All that is now coming to an end. Zimbabweans have been told by Cabinet ministers that socialism was a luxury the country could do without and that they must learn to love capitalism. This message, delivered straight from the shoulder, without subtlety, by the government, was supported by IOD guest speaker Dr David Owen, former British Social Democratic Party leader.

The good doctor, once thoroughly despised by his largely white business audience, was cheered to the rafters after vigorously endorsing capitalism and what he called "the social market". And every evening on TV, confident ministers explained to the nation why the ideas of Marx had failed.

Throughout Zimbabwe, the shift in national mood is perceptible, almost spectacularly so, as though the country has been given a vitamin shot. Suddenly everyone tells you that there was only ever one man who believed in socialism and that was President Mugabe.

Liberal policies

While he was chumming up to pals like Nicolae Ceausescu, last seen being propelled before a firing squad in Romania, his ministers were making hay. Some of the corruption was uncovered, much not. Now there is a huge sigh of relief that everybody can get down to making money honestly.

Even the talk of land expropriation has suddenly abated and the farmers, who have just been awarded record producer prices, are looking distinctly chirpy.

The adoption of liberal market policies will mean a tough transition though. As announcement followed announcement of the lifting of price controls to restore market value to goods and services, Zimbabweans, black and white, began to absorb the implications. One example of cost increases: tomatoes up by 200& while other basic commodities saw price incrases of between 30 and 50%.

Cool and colonial

Housing is already very expensive because of rent controls which skewed the laws of supply and demand. But those white Zimbabweans who stayed on now have cause to be grateful. They have seen the value of their own homes soar to unimaginable heights. Three or four-bedroomed houses in places such as Emerald Hill, Vainona, Marlborough, Highlands and Borrowdale routinely go for anything between R300 000 and R700 000. Rents for houses are R2 500 to R4 000. In Bulawayo, where decent suburban homes could be acquired at independence for R20 000, townhouses are now being sold off plan for more than R1 m.

What is it like to live in this country, 10 years after Mugabe took over? The overwhelming impression is of tranquillity and peace. The Bulawayo Club is as it ever was: cool, colonial and the hub of a commercial revival in the south. One rarely meets people wanting to leave.

The introduction of minimum wages in Zimbabwe has not noticeably benefited domestic workers, who still only get an average of R150 a month. But it is better to have a job than not to have one, particularly since 10 000 civil servants are likely to be laid off as a result of the transition to a capitalist economy.

Personal safety

The crime rate is high and full-time guards, as everywhere in Africa, are a common sight. Cars parked in a street have the life expectancy of an officer on the Western Front — about 72 hours. Nothing deters the car thieves, who attack a vehicle with the dexterity of warriors dismantling and reassembling AK-47's in the dark. But because there are very few weapons, actual crimes of violence à la South Africa — a country with a dubious future according to Zimbabweans — are rare.

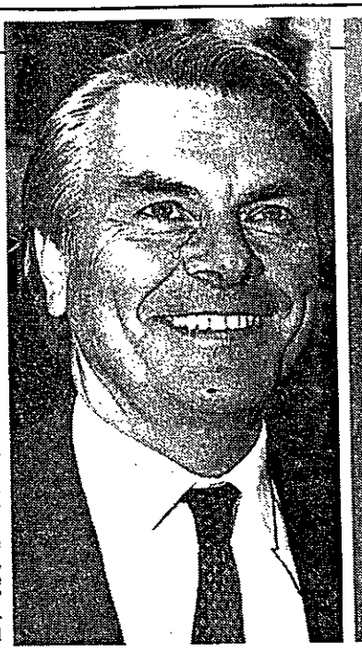
Mugabe is thought to be less than enthusiastic about his Cabinet's sudden policy swerve and is also increasingly paranoid about his personal safety, travelling to work in an armoured car, perhaps fearing the same fate as his Romanian chum who only recently was given the freedom of Harare, a slur on the name of that good city if ever there was one. How long a socialist leader can survive in a capitalist Zimbabwe is another question...

Despite fears, the schools are tolerable. Some state schools are, in fact, very good and the private schools are excellent, offering 'O' and 'A'-levels up to British standards and staffed with imported English teachers. Generally, their fees are lower than the South African equivalent.

DIY backwater

The general infrastructure is, however, crumbling. The phone system in a critical state, postal services are wonky and only the wealthy are able to afford rates and taxes allowing them to live in the golden surburbs. Not all make it; white derelicts sleeping in the streets are a not uncommon sight. Race relations in Zimbabwe have always been easy and remain so, the Africans treating the settlers with mild contempt while most whites, for their part, believe they have successfully reinvented neo-colonialism.

White Zimbabweans, in their DIY backwater, live a laid-back Shangri-La existence in an increasingly open society where the Press is vigorous and well, albeit still respectful of authority. But don't imagine that you can join this exclusive club easily. The obstacles placed in the way of would-be immigrants, including former residents who lose their right of return if they have been abroad for longer than seven years, are formidable. It is clear that Zimbabwe feels it already has enough whites living there.



Dr David Owen



Mr Robert Mugabe

Other qualities in this new society include the readiness of the civil aviation authorities to hand over the controls of sophisticated jet aircraft to their own citizens, instead of recruiting foreigners as is often the case in Africa. The shortage of pilots is a problem in Zimbabwe with many qualified people leaving for greener pastures abroad and the domestic training programme has accordingly been speeded up.

To the heavens

Women have stepped into the breach, something the macho Zimbabweans still have difficulty adjusting to.

Travelling to Bulawayo last week, grizzled veterans of both sides in the bush war seemed to blanche and clutch at one another for support as they walked to their Boeing 737. For there, high in the cockpit, cool as a cucumber, nimble fingers flicking across the banks of switches, was lovely Emily Njovani, co-pilot to Captain Muzenga. She it was who would take the controls.

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The Zimbabwe experience serves to highlight the distance yet to be travelled by South African Airways. How many black pilots has SAA trained? For that matter, how many women pilots are there, and black women at that? None, I'll bet, and this on the very eve of a non-racial democracy. Makes you think: Zimbabwe may be ramshackle but in some ways it's way ahead of its giant neighbour.

CT 23/5/91 (362)

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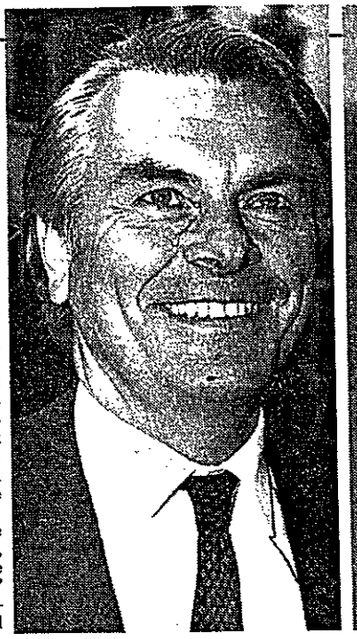
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Mengistu seeks asylum

Star 23/5/91 (47) (362)

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 to stay," an official in Harare said. "He has been preparing to come for some time now."

Mr Mengistu, in a military uniform, arrived at Harare airport aboard a jet shortly before midnight on Tuesday, an hour after his close friend, Zimbabwe's 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 close to tears, said another.

One official said Mr Mugabe had met Ethiopia's ambassador in Harare, Asrit Wolde — 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, official and diplomatic sources said.

"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 two semi-official daily newspapers prominently covered his departure from office 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 50 km north-west of Harare.

Ethiopian exile sources said Mr Mengistu, who rose to power after the 1974 overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie and ruled with an iron fist, owned the farm in Norton district.

Mr Mengistu's wife Web Anchi arrived in Harare earlier on Tuesday on a scheduled Ethiopian Airways flight with Mr Wolde.

A report from Addis Ababa said 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-Reuter.

● **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.

It is not proving easy for the ideologues of Zimbabwe's Zanu (PF) to stop preaching socialism, reports **Robin Drew**

Ruling party reminds government of its supremacy

Star 23/5/91 (362)

ZIMBABWE'S ruling party, conscious of the loss of support for the government because of rising prices, has restated its position that the party should tell the government what to do, not the other way round.

The reminder of the supremacy of the party over the government was issued at a weekend meeting of the party attended by delegates from all over the country.

The Zanu (PF) seminar on mobilising the people came at a time of increasing difficulty for the government over the implementation of its economic reform programme, which has as an essential element the removal of price controls and other official constraints on the practice of the free market system.

Before the party dealt with the issue, the government had come in for a hammering from businessmen for not getting on fast enough with economic structural adjustment.

The criticism from leading entrepreneurs, both black and white, came at the annual meeting of the country's national chamber of commerce.

Party delegates, on the other hand, took the government to task for lifting price controls without consulting the people.

The seminar deplored this and said the party leadership should be informed in advance of price changes in order to educate the masses.

The party also called for subsidies on basic commodities, including food items, to cushion the impact of economic reform on the poorer sections of the community.

The planned reform includes a reduction in the size of the public service and will lead to increased unemployment.

A new dimension was added to this aspect of reform with a call by the party for action against those public servants who did not "co-operate" with the party.

The seminar said they should be identified and "dealt with", and referred specifically to employees in the Ministries of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development and Home Affairs.

President Robert Mugabe has already said the Ministry of Political Affairs must be staffed by party supporters as the function of this Ministry was to service the party.

Meanwhile the debate on party ideology continues, following the virtual abandonment of socialist policies in favour of the free market principles embodied in structural adjustment.

The Finance Minister, Dr Bernard Chidzero, declared last month that socialism could not work in Zimbabwe, at least not at this stage, and said bluntly that the country was now on the capitalist road.

However, it is not proving easy for the party ideologues to shrug off years of preaching socialism (even if not practising it), and the party's official line is that it is in the process of reviewing its principles and policies.

The secretary for the commissariat in the politburo, Moven Mahachi, told delegates that when the issue of the party ideology had finally been resolved by the central committeee and the politburo, all the provinces would be notified.

The leadership code which supposed to limit the business a tivities of party leaders at a levels, and which has never bee implemented, has now been froze until the question of ideology ha been resolved.

Mr Mahachi told the seminar however, that Zimbabwe's pros perity as a nation was going to b determined by the leaders' leve of disipline.

There was no room for lazy, mediocre, corrupt, dishonest, deceitful and undisciplined cadres within the party, he said.

The hammer would fall on those who went in for empire building, tribal politics and other evils. — Star Africa Service. □

Graham Linscott looks at the flight south of Ethiopia's former strongman

Why did he head for Zimbabwe?

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87cm 24/5/91

WHAT could more effectively capture the demise of the meddlesome Brezhnev doctrine in Africa than Ethiopia's Marxist-Leninist strongman scurrying to shelter in Zimbabwe?

Mengistu Haile Marriam is an especially interesting case among the handful of African leaders who have embraced communism, with universally catastrophic results.

This is partly because the revolution which brought him to power was not initially inspired by the Soviets and partly because it was nevertheless in many ways a carbon copy of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917.

Mengistu, enthusiastically proclaiming Marxism-Leninism, proceeded to drench his country in blood, in the unfortunate way Bolshevik revolutions seem to have, however high-minded the motives.

And blood was about the only moisture the soil of Ethiopia was getting in those days, especially as the uncertainty spurred on secessionists in the provinces of Eritrea and Tigre. There was also a disastrous war with Somalia. Phases of natural drought became famine and people died in their hundreds of thousands.

A high price for ideology, one might think. And now Mengistu arrives furtively in Zimbabwe, close to tears according to reports. Remorse at the blood on his hands? Chagrin at being failed by the infallible laws of scientific socialism?

Pity Ethiopia. By all accounts the two secessionist movements closing in on Addis Ababa are quaintly old-fashioned. Both are inspired by Marxism-Leninism.

But why would Mengistu head for Zimbabwe? Does he really own a farm there, or is it the only place in Africa where you can still sit and talk to the head of state about the inevitable triumph of communism?

On the other hand, there could be precedents. Smuts is reputed to have given Haile Selassie secret digs in Durban while he was waiting for his country to be liberated from the Italian Fascists. One of the great photographs of history shows Selassie marching into Addis Ababa at the head of a column of South African troops.

Somehow one doubts though that Mugabe will do the same for Mengistu. □

Mengistu can stay – Mugabe

By Robin Drew
Star Africa Service

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 acknowlegment 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 MELDRUM: Harare (362) Wmail 24/5-29/5/91

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, brusquely herded the 15 or so journalists 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 ambassador'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.

"It's him, it's Mengistu," an airport official whispered. Mengistu was wearing green fatigues and looked "close to tears", he said.

Mystery and subterfuge marked 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-wracked, 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, 'Web-anchi Beshaw, has been in Zimbabwe for two months, according to members of Zimbabwe's Ethiopian community.

Socialism bows out in Zimbabwe

Cpress 26/5/91

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By LUCAS DE LANGE

WHEN the Zimbabwean government announced last year that a thorough overhaul of its socialist economic policies was being contemplated, the statement was greeted inside and outside Zimbabwe as rhetoric.

Yet government ministers under the guiding hand of the Senior Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero, have been quietly making things happen behind the scenes.

Recent pronouncements reflect a dramatic turnaround. Summarising all the changes, the South African Institute of International Affairs concludes that "Zimbabwe stands on the threshold of a new era in its economic life".

Indications that capitalist free market principles will be playing a key role in its economic future came recently when initial aid of almost R2-billion by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and Western donors was promised.

Western donor states such as Britain and the US made it clear that aid in future will be tied to the application of competitive market principles.

This means that the post-colonial period in Africa, when governments tried to run a centrally-planned economy through overstaffed, loss-making parastatals, will have to be abandoned.

In theory, these parastatals appeared an attractive option to create jobs (though often for political pals) by pumping capital into the economy through them.

However, few of them have been successful, for a variety of reasons – the most important being that they enjoy unjustified government protection which has led to inefficiency.

In Zimbabwe the massive economic restructuring plan beginning to take shape calls for a reduction and eventual total elimination of state subsidies for parastatals. They will have to fight for their survival on the open market.

The "bible" for Zimbabwe's economic future is a document called *Zimbabwe – A Framework for Economic Reform – 1991 to 1995*.

It outlines actions the government plans over the next five years along IMF and World Bank lines. In terms of the restructuring programme, most of the R133-billion needed to revitalise its stagnant industries will come from exports.

Implementation of the programme will require a lot of political courage.

Unemployment figures, already high, are expected to rocket as inefficient industries crumble when faced with stiff competition.

To reduce the impact on the population the government is putting aside R20-million and has asked donors for contributions to a special social fund.

For South African businessmen the restructuring programme, which is specifically aimed at reducing poverty and encouraging private investment, can create tremendous opportunities.

One of the key elements of the plan is to expand imports substantially.

An interesting aspect is that the World Bank and IMF insist that development projects be tackled on a regional basis to ensure they are viable. This will benefit Zimbabwe's neighbours and will include upgrading of transportation system.

Some tough decisions lie ahead for Zimbabwe. However, Chidzero has made it clear there is no other option but a free market system.

Zimbabwe upbeat on mining

B10ay 28/5/91 (362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 Ngugama said yesterday.

Before the chamber's annual meeting, Ngugama 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, R50m would suffice for a venture in Zimbabwe.

Ngugama 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, Ngugama said the mining industry was already feeling the benefits of increased forex for inputs.

Ngugama 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 56 000 workforce from the 1,5-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 40 000 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."

Ngugama 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, Ngugama 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 Chicualacuala 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 Elizaberth, 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.

Ngugama said Zimbabwe also relied on SA sources for most of its 40% foreign-sourced mining inputs.

Prisoners take hostages

ELMIRA - State police fired 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-Reuter.*

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. (362)

It had worked successfully in some areas but run into difficulties elsewhere. Sowetan 30/5/91

But the government felt it was worth continuing with the programme because it was a sound development concept. - *Sowetan Correspondent*

Ruling will hit trade

Star 30/8/91 (362)

Star Africa Service

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.

ROBIN DREW

Globe 1/6/91

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Mining industry seeks $300m boost

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 update equipment to improve production and efficiency and make the industry fully competitive on the world markets, he said.

Banks, MD of Union Carbide Zimbabwe Ltd, said about half the needed 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 undercapitalised by about $150m dollars at a rough estimate," he said.

Banks said the mining industry was looking for investment of about Z$2bn ($660m) 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 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."

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

BI Day 3/6/91

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$660m 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."

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Concern

Mines 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$440m compared with US$395m in 1989," he said.

He said the increase in gold production last year to 16,9 tons from 16t in 1989 was of particular significance. — Sapa-Reuter.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Third World's policies take a knock

Star 4/6/91.

THE scathing attack on the political policies of Third World countries, including Zimbabwe, had the audience of senior civil servants transfixed.

Everything derogatory that could be applied to them, was. Huge inefficient bureaucracies, tyrannical one-party cliques, adherence to nonsensical and bankrupt ideologies, suffocating regulations, corrupt State-run enterprises, an inability to confess past errors — these and more characterised the countries of the Second and Third World, said the speaker.

The astonishment arose from the fact that the man delivering the blistering criticism was Dr Eddison Zvobgo, a member of President Mugabe's Cabinet and former spokesman for the ruling party which for a decade preached socialism as the answer for the world's ills.

Dr Zvobgo said: "Nine years from the advent of the 21st century, certain truths which have hitherto been self-evident to all reasonable men and women have compelled recognition in various dramatic ways.

"In the process, half truths and downright lies have been cast aside or trampled underfoot by angry millions around the world. Everywhere in the

ROBIN DREW of The Star Africa Service reports from Harare

Second and Third Worlds, leaders are talking about reform or adjustment in a bid to stem the tide."

He was addressing the very subject of Zimbabwe's own economic structural adjustment programme. Economic adjustment had to be viewed as a matter of life and death. There must be no doubt as to the only ideology that worked. Everyone had to embrace pragmatism. What did not work must be discarded.

Dr Zvobgo, who is in charge of the Public Service Ministry, is still a heavyweight in the Zimbabwean political ring though he fell from favour several years ago when he criticised the leadership and became involved in a tribal wrangle.

He said that for economic reform to succeed, all aspects of human endeavour had to be reformed or readjusted. Human rights had to be held sacrosant. Governments must be freely elected.

Dr Zvobgo warned of the sense of insecurity which would affect Ministers when the time came for the government to be made smaller and more affordable, while bureaucrats would have to learn to govern with a minimum of regulations.

"The elected government must be prepared to dismount from the backs of the people. We must let the people go," he declared.

The independent weekly newspaper, The Financial Gazette, which splashed a report of the speech while the government-owned dailies ignored it, said Dr Zvobgo had taken a risk and had possibly invited the wrath of his colleagues.

But, it said, his pronouncements had come as a breath of fresh air to many who would give him a standing ovation. □

Mugabe, Mandela differ over sanctions

Star 6/6/91

By Barney Mthombothi
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 interim government. Once this has been achieved, economic boycotts would go 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 embargos 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

BIDY 7/6/91

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MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — There was an embarrassed silence yesterday from Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's government over SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha's claim that it is 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 militant 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.

Confirming 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 tariff 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 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 word for word 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.

Mugabe's militant resolution on continued isolation of SA was, in the event, toned down by his Nigerian hosts.

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'

ARGUS 7/6/91

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 long-standing 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 acts of 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 1988, the government was aware that plans and scenarios were being discussed by the South Africans.

Five convicted agents are serving sentences in the maximum 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 Africans.

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 the 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-Reuter.

Hunt for Mengistu

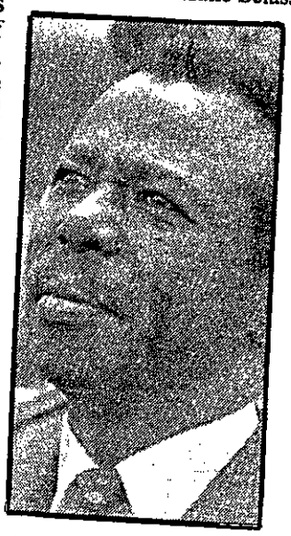
By TREVOR GRUNDY

362 Citizen 9/6/91

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 11.30 pm shortly after his plane was spotted coming into the country which is now his new home.



Mengistu: fascinating tales are being told.

Only one hour before Mengistu flew in, Zimbabwean head of state Robert Mugabe flew off to London with a political entourage for talks with Britain's youthful new leader, John Major.

It is certain Mugabe knew well in advance 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."

Someone had to take him, says Zim official

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 policeman 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 know 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 proud new owner Sam Levy, a prominent Jewish businessman.

■ The Oppenheimers 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.

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 succour 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 approached Pretoria to renegotiate a 1964 trade agreement vital for the success of the five-year ecomomic 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-Reuter.

Former foe gives African readers a survey on SA

ROBERT GENTLE

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, Senbank, 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

B Day 13/6/97

HARARE The Zimbabwean Foreign Ministry was reported yesterday to be trying to reverse the seizure by the American Express Company of a US$1m donation to the ANC by Col Muammar Gaddafi's Libyan government.

The Herald, which is close to President Robert Mugabe's government, said ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela had been "infuriated by the actions of the American company". The two-month delay already caused had resulted in serious financial difficulties for the ANC, said the newspaper.

MICHAEL HARTNACK

ANC chief representative in Harare MX Mlonyeni, it said, was instructed to transfer the money, sent from Tripoli to Harare "through normal banking channels", to an ANC account with the National Westminster Bank (Natwest) in London.

The Herald said "the transaction should never have been known to anyone else in the first place (as) the ANC only supplied an account number with Natwest, to which the money was supposed to be transferred".

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 funding 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 Z$30 000 commission. But a few days later the bank informed the ANC's Harare bureau that the money had been impounded by American Express "without offering any reasons".

Barclays Bank Zimbabwe MD Herbert Swanepoel said he could not comment on a confidential matter involving a client.

Both the ANC and the Libyan People's Bureau in Harare said they had approached Zimbabwean Minister of Foreign Affairs Nathan Shamuyarira and his deputy Stephen Nkomo in the hope Zimbabwe could rectify the matter.

Mlonyeni said he had spoken to the US embassy in Harare and had been promised the matter would be "dealt with expeditiously".

The Herald said Mandela had only been dissuaded by his juniors from taking the matter up directly with the US department because they thought the American embassy in Harare could sort the matter out.

The Herald claimed the Americans had infringed Geneva diplomatic conventions on diplomatic funds by intercepting the Libya-ANC funds.

However, it said financial sources in Harare believed Barclays was bound by banking rules to refund the money to the ANC, as it bore responsibility for the money until it was deposited with Natwest in London.

Zimbabwe faces honour and loss

(362)

W/Mail 14/6 - 20/6/91

A Zimbabwean cabinet minister has been tipped as the next UN secretary-general — and if he is appointed this will bring great honour and great loss to that country.

ANDREW MELDRUM reports

WHAT may well be a great honour for Zimbabwe and Africa as a whole is, on the other hand, worrying Harare economists.

Bernard Chidzero, Zimbabwe's senior minister of finance, economic planning and development, is on the shortlist to become the next secretary general of the United Nations when Javier Perez de Cuellar's term expires at the end of this year. To see a homegrown son of Zimbabwe leading the world body would make all of Africa proud but, according to many fretful businessmen, it would also leave Zimbabwe without an able economic helmsman just when his skills are needed most.

"It would be great for Zimbabwe's international image to have Chidzero as UN secretary general," said one businessman. "But I would be sorry to see the loss of the government's most effective and least corrupt cabinet minister. My worry is that that Chidzero's successor in government would only begin skimming off the financial cream."

The canny Chidzero designed Zimbabwe's economic structural adjustment programme, widely hailed by the World Bank and Western experts as a sophisticated and masterful plan to steer Zimbabwe to a market oriented economy. Even leftist critics grudgingly admire Chidzero's plan.

And it is Chidzero who is seen as the only Zimbabwean who can carry out the many challenges needed to make the economic gamble succee. The plan calls for drastic cuts in government expenditure, a reduction of the civil service by 20 percent and, the most difficult task, getting the government to let the private sector direct the economy.

Chidzero (64) has been rumoured for more than a year as a favoured candidate for the top UN spot, but the reports have gathered steam in recent weeks. African members have been pressing for years to get a representative of the continent to be secretary general.

In 1981 African members put forward Tanzania's Salim Ahmed Salim for secretary general but he was vetoed by the United States as "too radical". This time Perez de Cuellar has endorsed the idea of an African leader, saying that Africa was the only continent that had not provided a secretary general to the UN and that now it was Africa's turn.



Who's next ? ... Javier Perez de Cuellar

In order to avoid the 1981 debacle of the veto of Salim, the Organisation of African Unity summit in Abuja, Nigeria, last week endorsed four African candidates for the UN post which should be acceptable to the US and others. Those candidates are: Chidzero; former Nigerian military head of state General Olusegun Obasanjo; Ghanaian Kenneth Dadzie the current secretary general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; and James Jonah of Sierra Leone, a current UN under secretary general.

Chidzero is tipped by many as the favourite over the other strong challenger, General Obasanjo, whose background as a military ruler might work against him. Chidzero is perceived as a flexible free market economist whose views "coincide perfectly" with current UN opinion on restructuring the world economic order.

Chidzero was well-liked in New York when he was the deputy secretary general of Unctad before Zimbabwe's independence in 1980. More recently he served as chairman of the World Bank/IMF's development committee.

Chidzero was born in Zimbabwe of Malawian parents in 1927. He excelled at the Roman Catholic Kutama Mission school, where Robert Mugabe was a schoolmate. He went on to study in Canada where he met his cultured and charming French-Canadian wife, Micheline. Chidzero won Masters and PhD degrees from McGill Univeristy in Montreal and also studied at Oxford.

The urbane Chidzero is fluent in French as well as English and he can seamlessly discuss, in either language, music, cuisine and Zimbabwe's economic position, and that of the Third World in general.

Back in Zimbabwe in 1980, Chidzero impressed as a no-nonsense technocrat who ably directed the country's economy, but who did not enter Zimbabwe's back-biting political fray. He is a close confidante of President Robert Mugabe and is one of the few cabinet ministers who has never embarrassed the president through scandal or indiscretion.

Ironically, Chidzero this week pointed out the downside to the possibility that he might be awarded the job as the world's top civil servant when he lamented there is a "dearth, even near a complete absence" of qualified African policy analysts and development managers. He urged increased training of future managers.

Whatever African leads the United Nations, he will take over at a time when the world body has renewed prestige and vigour, having been instrumental in achieving Namibia's independence. As the United States sought, and won, the UN's endorsement for its military action against Iraq, the UN is once again seen as a major player in international affairs.

The new secretary general, whether from Africa or elsewhere, will have to wrestle with the UN's own strangling bureaucracy to ensure that it enters the next century as a effective power for world peace and stability.

The man whose hour has come

Star 15/6/91 (362)

THE man tipped as Zambia's next Foreign Minister visited South Africa this week to pave the way for South African investment in his country after the October elections. Political Reporter ESMARE VAN DER MERWE interviewed him.

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.

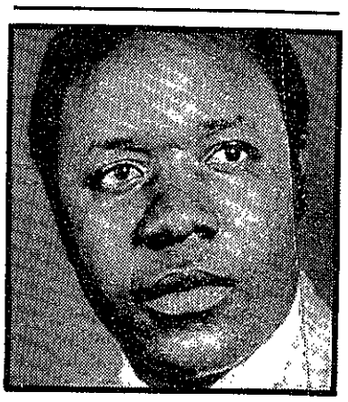
This week, Mr Mwaanga visited South Africa to brief businessmen on investment opportunities in Zambia under a new government.

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 has achieved more than most public figures achieve in a lifetime. No wonder that, at the age of 36, he published his autobiography "An Extraordinary Life".

He was Zambia's ambassador to the USSR at 21 and ambassador to the United Nations in New York two years later. At 27 he edited the Times of Zambia and the Sunday Times of Zambia, was appointed Foreign Minister a year later and became a UNIP central committee member in 1975.

After resigning from the central committee, he became involved in business and served as chairman of several top Zambian companies and chairman of the Zambia Industrial and Commercial Association, embracing all the chambers of commerce in the country.



EXTRAORDINARY MAN: Vernon Mwaanga is hitting the comeback trail.

When the MMD was formed last year as a pressure group calling for political pluralism, Mr Mwaanga was there to become 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. In 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."

He conceded that President Kaunda was not taking the election lying down. His government had voted 3,2 million kwatcha for UNIP's campaign and had bought 1 200 motor vehicles and 5 000 bicycles for its campaign organisers.

But, smiled Mr Mwaanga, "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

ST Times 16/6/91

Sunday Times Reporter
Harare

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 420 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, 32 — 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 Parks Department at the beginning of the year and planned to drive to Mr Du Plessis's home at Louis Trichardt, where they both had job offers from a game park. They had picked up FN rifles while working in the Caprivi Strip and hoped to smuggle them through Zimbabwe to get the weapons licensed in South Africa.

Zimbabwean officials searched their car at Victoria Falls and found the rifles.

"They become very hostile," said Mr Blackburn. The young men were threatened with assault during prolonged interrogation. Security police prevaricated every time they 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 Khami prison outside Bulawayo where they were kept in solitary confinement for five weeks.

Zimbabwe's deficit threatens economic reform

B Day 18/6/91 (362)

TONY HAWKINS
in Harare

FEW OF the 30-odd sub-Saharan African countries that have embarked on a World Bank structural adjustment programme have done so with a better chance of success than Zimbabwe, the latest government in the region to start taking the World Bank medicine.

Zimbabwe has many of the qualities for policy reform to work; its infrastructure has not been run down as in Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania or Zambia. After SA and Nigeria it has the strongest private sector in the region and a relatively sophisticated industrial base.

It is not a mono-economy dependent on a single crop or metal, nor is its debt burden overwhelming, while its skills base is stronger than almost anywhere on the continent. Above all, it has not yet succumbed to the aid addiction that is undermining private initiative in so many African states.

Whether these strengths will be enough for Zimbabwe to succeed remains to be seen. After the go-it-alone reform plan of Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero was aborted late last year, the programme was relaunched with strong World Bank backing in March. At a meeting in Paris, donors pledged $700m, for the first year of the five-year programme, which envisages trade liberalisation, an end to price controls, deregulating the financial system, and reducing the budget deficit.

But that money has not yet started to flow while exports — other than tobacco — are underperforming. Depressed metal prices and a serious drought are threatening the projected 8% growth in exports (in US dollars). Export hopes this year are almost totally dependent on tobacco; so far this season, leaf prices in US dollars, are 50% above last year's levels, but some merchants doubt whether this can be sustained, warning that when the US auctions open early next month Harare prices could fall.

To close a widening foreign exchange gap, bridging loans are being arranged with Barclays and Standard Chartered banks. But even with this costly commercial funding in place, the target of liberalising trade to the point where 30% of imports are on open licence by the end of 1991 is looking increasing out of reach.

Missing this target would be disappointing but far less serious than a failure to get to grips with both inflation and the budget deficit. At the Paris consultative group meeting, it was evident that several donors were sceptical of Zimbabwe's commitment to reform. Tightening the monetary and fiscal stance would reassure doubtful donors and help curb an inflation rate which is already above 20% on offical figures and closer to 30% on unoffical estimates.

The danger is that when interest rates are raised they will not go high enough, because the government is wary of the political consequences — especially among thousands of homeowners with large mortgages. Meanwhile, consumer demand is buoyant, house and stock prices have soared and there are all the signs of a consumer-led boom, which is just what the country does not need.

Donors will be watching the July budget even more closely than interest rates to see how far and fast Chidzero is moving to trim the budget deficit and retrench civil servants. He is committed to halving the budget deficit to 5% of GDP and to shedding 26 000 public service jobs (a quarter of the total) by 1994-95.

With the programme calling for lower tax rates, the burden of deficit reduction will fall on spending cuts, supported by higher revenues from customs duties as tariffs replace import controls. Cutting public spending will be a formidable task against a background of rapid inflation, escalating unemployment — rising from around 250 000 at independence little more than 10 years ago to an estimated 1,25-million — and the need to provide drought relief, set against mounting political dissatisfaction.

Confidence in the programme is not being helped by persistent rumours that Chidzero, architect of reform, may not see the process through. Even if he fails in his bid for the post of secretary-general of the UN, due to be decided later this year, he is believed to be anxious to leave his post.

With no elections due until 1995, there is much to be said for vigorous early action, in the hope that the worst will be past by then.

Above all, there is SA. It is clear that future economic decisions about investments and markets in southern Africa will be made regionally; SA holds most of the aces — the larger market, the benefits of scale economics, more advanced technology, deeper and broader industrial clusters, and a superior infrastructure.

The longer Zimbabwe prevaricates, the greater the probability that its efforts to diversify and expand exports of manufacturers will be frustrated by aggressive SA competition.

Since the growth of non-traditional exports is crucial to the success of reform in Zimbabwe, Harare must steal a march on Pretoria while the South Africans are preoccupied with internal politics. — Financial Times.

LETTERS

Harare's business-suit revolution

Star 18/6/91 (362)

A new organisation in Zimbabwe aims to assist blacks in securing a place in the running of the economy, reports ROBIN DREW of The Star Africa Service.

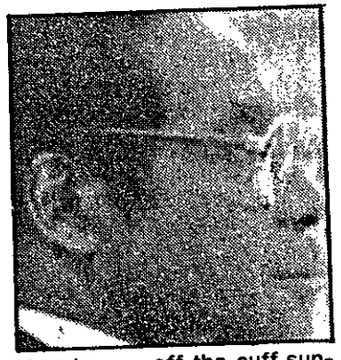
THE BUSINESS suit has replaced the denim and camouflage of an earlier revolutionary era in Zimbabwe.

The past weekend saw the formal emergence of an organisation which aims at the creation of black power in the economic sphere to parallel the political power seized a decade ago.

There was a traffic jam at the entrance to the International Conference Centre in Harare when thousands of soberly suited black businessmen arrived for the inaugural national congress of the Indigenous Business Development Centre (IBDC), which came into being only six months ago under the patronage of President Robert Mugabe.

Mr Mugabe was guest of honour and was cheered heartily when he put aside the text of his speech, which contained predictable references to the need for a dynamic integrated economy, and spoke rather of his full support for preferential treatment for African businessmen who, he said, still suffered from the neglect and discrimination of the past.

It was a noble cause, he said, to promote black "advancement", just as had been done in the public service, which now consisted overwhelmingly of blacks.



Mugabe . . . off-the-cuff support for black businessmen.

In his prepared speech, Mr Mugabe spoke of the change in government policies brought about by prohibitive expenditure on social services.

The time had come to produce more wealth, and the change was imperative and urgent. What was needed now was an "enterprise culture" among blacks.

It is all a far cry from the heady days of socialist slogans but it is an approach which has a much better chance of succeeding among Zimbabweans, many of whom have shown a remarkable talent for making money.

A highly successful businessman, John Mapondera, the national president of the new organisation, said indigenous businesspeople held the view that there was room for all in the economy if only they could be given an opportunity to make a real contribution.

The fear was that the economic reforms now getting under way might put a disproportionate level of vital resources into the more established but very narrow base, at the expense of the need for growth through the expansion of that base and the consequent creation of more jobs.

"This we fear could result in the creation of a highly visible small group of conspicuous consumers of the national wealth in a land of growing numbers of unemployed and disadvantaged, with the social consequences too frightful to contemplate," he said.

There was a need for radical change on the part of officials and the financial sector.

"The IBDC is a champion of competition," he said, "but it must be competition where there is equal opportunity."



Nkomo . . . warned of danger of second revolution.

The government should give specific and targeted assistance to indigenous businessmen. There were many laws and regulations which the IBDC would seek to have removed, and certain unfair trade practices by white businessmen would have to be eradicated.

Mr Mapondera added: "We are not advocating the nationalisation or acquisition of existing companies, nor are we seeking to prevent the multinational corporations from playing an active part.

"No. We wish to give them the basis for long-term social and economic stability through the involvement of the black majority in our national economy."

A National Economic Reconstruction Fund has been started with a donation of about R28 million from the World Council of Churches Development Fund to support viable projects put forward by members of the IBDC.

In addition the centre plans to start an indigenous bank. A working party was examining the formation of the bank and how the IBDC could take part in it.

The congress was closed by vice-president Joshua Nkomo who warned, as he has done previously, of the danger of a second revolution if blacks did not obtain a substantial place in the running of the economy.

The young people would want to know why blacks were not running businesses in Harare and other centres.

"They will believe it is the white people who are making it difficult for their parents to own things in Harare. What do you think will happen after that?" asked Mr Nkomo. □

Future of black farming

Kenya and Zimbabwe point way to success

IF black farmers were given half the assistance given their white counterparts in South Africa, they would repeat the achievements of black agriculturists in Zimbabwe, according to Operation Hunger.

Chief executive of the organisation Mrs Ina Perlman, recalling the threat which black farmers had posed to whites in the Cape and Natal in the 19th Century, said it was ironic that black success led to the enactment of the 1913 Land Act which restricted black access to land.

The state of the country's agriculture has changed dramatically from the days when white farms enjoyed top-dog status both politically and financially.

That was when the black farm labourer "knew his place" and unquestioningly performed his role as a hewer of wood and tiller of soil.

Now subsidised to the tune of R17 billion, white farmers have dwindled in number from 120 000 in 1950 to about 50 000 today.

Says Professor Eckard Kassier of Stellenbosch University: "We could quite easily lose a third of those remaining without any production problems."

Queue

Former Minister of Agriculture Mr Jacob de Villiers told farmers this year that in the future they would have to join the queue for State aid.

Decades of bad agricultural policies were at the root of current farming blues, said Barlow Rand economist Mr Piet Haasbroek.

Sowetan Correspondent

He said massive Government subsidies did little for those they were intended to help - small farmers.

White commercial farmers were also in for a hard time with the recent scrapping of the 1913 and 1936 Land Acts.

In the Transvaal alone, 95 percent of farmers voted to retain the legislation. When nobody listened, many of them took to their tractors and trucks to join countrywide protests.



INA PERLMAN

Last week, as the Acts were abolished, the Transvaal Agricultural Union labelled the repeal "a declaration of war".

Alarm

The South African Agricultural Union has also voiced alarm over the Government's appointment of an advisory committee on land allocation.

And if the writing was not clearly on the wall, Minister of Agriculture Mr Kraai van Niekerk returned last week from Kenya reporting that more than 50 percent of that country's agricultural produce was supplied by small farmers.

He said South Africa could learn a lot from Kenya's example.

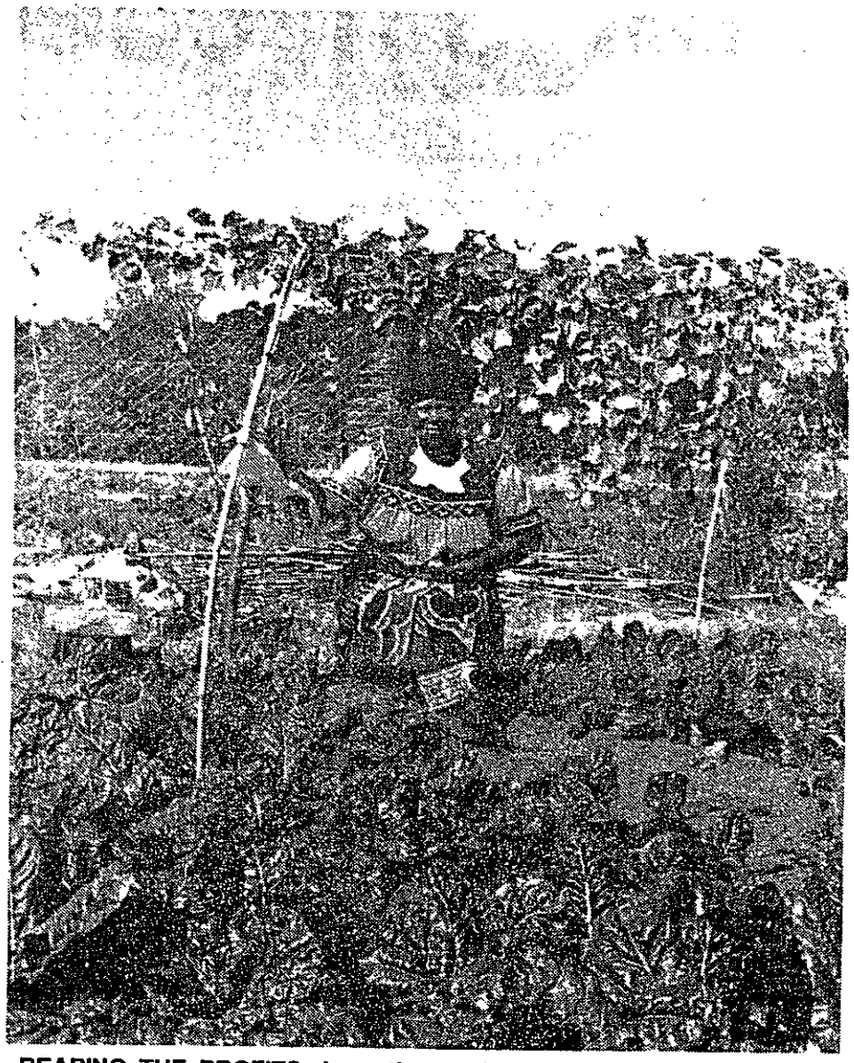
Now hundreds of thousands of South African blacks are awaiting to see whether the Government will make it possible for them to return to the land they were forced off.

Perlman has urged the authorities to move fast to allocate about 3 million hectares of available land immediately to blacks.

"My fear is that time will be wasted while people posture politically.

"Some 58 percent of blacks are still in the rural areas and our unemployment figure stands at 6 million.

"The urgent need is for funds to be made available for land development. This will be part of the answer to poverty and also the squatting problem near major cities. These people could easily be made self-supporting on their own land."



REAPING THE PROFITS: Less than a decade ago Selina Moshala of Lebowa was destitute and queueing for food.

Harare breaks the ice

(362)

Star 19/6/91

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 in 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 1980, but 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

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MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 "maize and tobacco belt", Mugabe said MPs would be presented with a bill "which will define the modalities of acquiring land throughout Zimbabwe".

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SA, Zimbabwe break the ice

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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*

Cape Times, Saturday, June 22 1991 3

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 unadultered socialist ideology for we shall have chosen to become social democrats".

— Sapa-AP

(362) CT 22/6/91

Mugabe abandons Marx and Lenin

Star 22/6/91

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 leads 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.

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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.

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Mixed

Socialism based on Marxism-Leninism, he told the central committee, was adopted during the seven-year independence war because most support for his guerillas 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 unadultered 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.

"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.

Opposition leader in Zimbabwe 'expelled'

(362) (ST 24/6/91)

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 national 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

Star 24/6/91 (362)

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 1989, 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 Wurayayi Zembe.

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.

ZUM won two seats in Zimbabwe's 150-member Parliament in the last general elections in 1985. Zanu PF holds 147 seats. — Sapa-Reuter.

Party sacks Tekere

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-Sapa-Reuter.

Outspoken Zimbabwe editor fired

(362)
Star 26/6/91

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.

Nyarato 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.

Five Cabinet Ministers resigned as a result of his disclosures in Bulawayo that they made large profits selling cars from a State-owned assembly plant. — Sapa-AP

Small business carves a niche

(362) B Day 26/6/91

HARARE — Zimbabwe's small businessmen, officially ignored since independence 11 years ago, are taking advantage of the government's economic reform programme to win a place in the country's commercial life.

"We are the key to the success of this programme," said Chemist Siziba, spokesman for the Indigenous Business Development Centre of Zimbabwe (IBDC), a group of established and emerging small and medium-sized businesses.

The launch by Zimbabwe last month of an internationally backed capital venture company to assist small businessmen was a big reward for a sector which has received little assistance from commercial banks and government in the past 10 years.

Traditionally, Zimbabwe's commercial community during Rhodesian days until independence in 1980 was controlled by whites and Asians.

But a black-dominated and socialist-oriented government did not mean automatic prosperity for aspiring black entrepreneurs.

Only in the past few months has the government thrown a lifeline to the black small-scale business community.

The Venture Capital Company of Zimbabwe (VCCZ), in which the World Bank's International Finance Corporation, Britain's Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC), Zimbabwe's central bank and nine commercial banks are the major shareholders, set out with an initial capital of Z$60m. It opens its doors for business on July 1.

At the company's launch this month, Reserve Bank Governor Kombo Moyana said the Venture Capital Company would give loans mainly to under-capitalised entrepreneurs.

"We are convinced that if these projects are nurtured, funded and well-managed, they will contribute immensely to overall economic development and employment creation," he said.

Economists said reluctance by commercial banks to lend money to the small businessmen with little or no collateral security to back their borrowings had stunted the sector's growth over the years.

A parastatal, the Small Enterprises Development Corporation, established in 1984 to fill in the gap, had been too poorly funded to be of any signifacant help, they said.

But the situation had started to change since the introduction in January of the economic reform plan, Siziba said.

The export-driven, five-year economic reform plan calls for the development of all sectors of the economy, to boost exports and create employment — officially estimated at more than one-million people with more than 300 000 school-leavers joining the market annually.

Small ventures, IBDC officials say, are better placed to solve the unemployment problem than big business.

They require only Z$16 000 to create a job compared with Z$85 000 needed by a big business enterprise for the same purpose. — Reuter.

Northern neighbour runs out of maize

Star 27/6/91

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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 1 154 000 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 1986 to less than 250 000 tons in 1988.

For the year to the end of March last year this had increased to 500 000 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 the critical food shortages in Angola and Mozambique and said production was expected to decline in Zambia, Lesotho and Madagascar. □

Zimbabwe inflation soaring

HARARE — Zimbabwe's inflation rate is rising at nearly 25 percent a year, official statistics show.

Economists point out that the prices considered comprise a limited range of domestic expenditure, 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.

AFRICA

Harare wants right to seize urban land

Blay 28/6/91 (362)

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

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ARGUS 24/6/91

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 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 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 unadultered 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 capitalis 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 Kumbirai 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

w/mail 28/6 - 4/7/91 362

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 reports from Harare

AMID 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 smartly 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 proceeding 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 trimmings 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 effectively 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 decided 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 Z$50-million (about R50-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 release the many controls it holds over the economy even as the Zanu-PF government seeks to maintain its political control over the country.



Robert Mugabe ... his government is in the position of being neither fish nor fowl

"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 Jonathon 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 criticisms 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 brewing trouble.

"No one-party state can live happily with structural adjustment," said Moyo. "Africa is littered with regimes that have toppled as a result of such economic reform plans."

And the structural adjustment programme is just about to really bite into the Zimbabwean status 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.

Belt tightening across the board, from the government elite to the *povo* (common people) is required if the economic gamble has a chance of succeeding in creating badly needed new jobs and spurring economic growth.

Zimbabwe's economic liberalisation is putting pressure on the government to carry out a parallel programme of political liberalisation.

Currently the Mugabe government has been carrying out a policy of "political protectionism" in which measures have been taken against likely sources of opposition, such as the opposition parties and the university.

New legislation has extended direct government control over the university, prompting a futile student boycott. Opposition parties face continued harassment.

Last month a private, and entirely legal, meeting of 130 members of the oppostion ZUM party was broken up by police who arrested all those attending.

After being held for two days, the ZUM members were released and later officials admitted there were no grounds for the police action.

Bulawayo lawyer David Coltart, who has been active in human rights cases, alleges the Mugabe government has also undermined the courts because they have overruled questionable official policies and actions.

"Government cannot afford to have students who can motivate and articulate concerns. Government cannot afford to have a powerful court that will expose and punish corruption at every turn," said Coltart to a recent meeting of businessmen.

"Economic liberalisation will not work in Zimbabwe unless government abandons its policy of political protectionism. ... The history of Africa and other developing countries shows that undemocratic governments are inevitably followed by increased corruption, increased inflation and eventual economic decline."

Coltart urged the business community to make "a bold and public stand that if trade liberalisation and structural adjustment are not accompanied by political reform the economy is doomed.

"Government needs to be told in no uncertain terms that its actions in undermining the universities, the courts and opposition parties will not be tolerated."

So even as the Zimbabwe parliament sits with all the outward appearances of a traditional parliamentary democracy, Robert Mugabe's government has entered new, uncharted waters where its political status quo is pitted against its economic policies. No wonder Mugabe and his cabinet ministers appear somewhat unsettled.

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.

Mobutu stays put as his nation's economy topples

BDay 3/7/91.

KINSHASA — Mobutu Sese Seko, last of the cold warriors installed to block communism, has managed so far to thwart the demands for democracy that have brought down one African dictator after another.

The economic collapse after 26 years of Mobutu's rule is so complete that his political foes have trouble even organising opposition.

Communications and transport, once among the best in Africa, have collapsed.

Many government agencies are shut down or on strike.

"There is no government for anyone to oppose," said Buane Kabwe of the Zaire Human Rights League.

In May and June, opposition leaders hoped to organise huge protests at Mobutu's failure to schedule elections as he had promised 14 months ago.

Most public attention, however, was focused on get-rich-quick schemes being promoted on state radio and television.

Riots broke out when the schemes failed, which US and Belgian diplomats said could "set off the fire that brings the regime down". But the violence affected only Kinshasa. Police rarely intervened unless they were attacked.

Mobutu seldom visits the capital. He spends most of his time on his riverboat or in residences more than 1 600km from the city, in a region with virtually no roads.

Travel is difficult even in Kinshasa.

Streets are washed away by rain or overrun by bush. The only improvement visitors notice in the communication system is that cellular phones have replaced radios for the few businessmen connected to the private system.

Collapse

The best way to make an overseas call is to cross the Congo River to Brazzaville, the Congolese capital.

Zaire's gross national product is 30% of what it was in 1960, when the country became independent of Belgium.

The collapse of the infrastructure is so complete the US State Department's Human Rights report includes mention of it.

In April, the government-controlled copper company, which provides 90% of the Central African nation's foreign exchange earnings, announced it was cutting exports by 45% because of strikes, bad weather and maintenance problems.

Aid has been cut off by the IMF, World Bank, Belgium and the US.

Journalists, opposition leaders and students interviewed said Zaire's 36-million people spent so much time just surviving they have little time for political revolts.

Critics say Mobutu's personal fortune is more than $4bn, but the system of patronage that has kept him in power requires him to share his wealth with supporters.

On April 24, 1990, Mobutu announced he would legalise opposition parties.

Now there are more than 100, and opposition leaders claim he finances many of them to dilute the strength of his political rivals. The promised elections have not been scheduled.

The newly freed Press describes the situation as "multi-Mobutism," or a choice between the many faces of the president.

"It is not clear that the political system will be liberalised sufficiently to permit citizens to change their government through democratic means," said the US State Department's human rights report. — Sapa-AP.

Madagascar imposes curfew after rioting

ANTANANARIVO — A curfew has been imposed in Madagascar's main port city after rioting in which stores were looted, cars set afire and at least five people injured, officials said yesterday

The rioting on Monday in Toamasina, on the east coast of the island nation, followed three weeks of almost daily mass protests in Antananarivo, the capital, against the government of President Didier Ratsiraka.

Few details about the riots were immediately available, but authorities said an 8pm to 6am curfew had been imposed on Toamasina.

The coalition of opposition parties organising the protests in Antananarivo is demanding replacement of the socialist constitution, free elections and an end to Ratsiraka's 16-year rule.

Security forces have not interfered with the protests and there have been no reports of serious violence linked to them. — Sapa-AP.

Violence reigns in Beira Corridor

HARARE — A sudden upsurge of violent incidents, apparently sparked by hunger, has broken out on Mozambique's Beira Corridor, Zimbabwe's closest link to the sea, posing new dangers for travellers on the 315km link.

The BCG Bulletin, published monthly by the Beira Corridor Group, the private company monitoring business interests on the route, says in its latest edition there were five attacks in May and early June in which one person was killed and another was injured.

"None of the attacks appear to have been politically motivated," says the Bulletin. Instead, they were carried out by men in a desperate attempt to find food or money.

Sapa's correspondent in Harare reports food production has fallen by 45% in the central Mozambican provinces of Manica and Sofala through which the corridor runs. It is heavily guarded by Zimbabwean troops to protect the road, railway line and fuel pipeline link from the port city of Beira to the eastern Zimbabwean border city of Mutare.

Reports say the number of refugees on the corridor, fleeing hunger and attacks by Renamo, have swelled dramatically in recent months.

The Bulletin says all the attacks, between May 16 and June 7, occurred during daylight, and were mostly shots fired at passing vehicles.

The incidents occurred after a long lull in the violence on the corridor which has earned the reputation for being one of the few safe roads in Mozambique.

The Bulletin says the attacks "seem to have been carried out under the assumption that vehicles travelling from Zimbabwe will contain food, and travellers coming from Beira will have money" for shopping in Zimbabwe.

The Bulletin says the Zimbabwe National Army has arrested some of the gunmen but adds: "The easy availability of weapons may result in further attacks of this nature." — Sapa.

AT 286-27

2 views on party role

(362)

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 Eddison Zvobgo, appeared on TV and flatly denied Mr Mahachi's claims.

Stewart 3/7/91

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 diciplinary action, including dismissal.

Dr Zvobgo warned that the Official Secrets Act carried heavy penalties for any violations by civil servants.

Chalker praises Zimbabwe economics

Binnaw 5/7-11/7/91. 362

By ANDREW MELDRUM: 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 R48-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 17-11-1991

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 catchy 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-received 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."

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Zimbabwe relaxes severe import controls

MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 600 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 200 000 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

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Zimbabwe

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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 in 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 export 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 R92-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

C/Press 9/7/91 (362)

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 Zimbabwe 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 2 000.

"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 group with their highly original 'Jit' 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

B/Day - 9/7/91 (362)

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, mainly 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 implementors 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 Masiyiwa, 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," Masiyiwa said.

There were some contracts in Gokwe which were awarded to foreign firms such as the Z$10m extension to the Gokwe district hospital, which went to a Yugoslav company Energoprojekt.

Masiyiwa 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 practice "which can punish people who think they can do what they want with our economy". — Sapa.

Zimbabwe maize growers are going out of business

Argus Africa News Service AFRG 10/7/91

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.

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Zimbabwe 'may ration maize'

BDay 10/7/91 (362)

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwe's 10-million people could face rationing of their staple diet next year, commercial grain producers warned yesterday.

The 1 600 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 595 000 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 1963.

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 fulfil orders for grain from its famine-stricken neighbours, paid for by international aid agencies with hard currency.

In 1987, 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".

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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 academic resigns

(362)
CT 15/7/91

HARARE. — The first black vice-chancellor of the University of Zimbabwe, Professor Walter Kamba, 60, has announced his early retirement, citing interference from "non-professionals" in the university's running.

Prof Kamba made his announcement during his formal speech after the graduation of 2 181 students in the campus's Great Hall on Saturday night.

His action is seen as a rare publicly delivered slap in the face to President Robert Mugabe, who was watching from his seat of honour as university chancellor.

It brought to a new head the controversy over legislation, signed into law by Mr Mugabe earlier this year which brings the university firmly under the control of the government.

This has outraged the academic community which accuses the president of trampling on their rights to academic freedom and university autonomy.

"There are too many fingers in the affairs of the university" — non-professional fingers with a wide variety of agendas," Prof Kamba said, to roars of approval.

Prof Kamba has been widely criticised by his staff for siding with the state, refusing to stand up for the university and allegedly taking direct instructions from Mr Mugabe.

Diplomats may leave Harare for Pretoria

B Day 15/7/91

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MICHAEL HARTNACK

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 1980 sold for R40 000 now sell for more than R1,5m, 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%

(362)

Own Correspondent

HARARE — Zimbabwe's CSO has released figures reflecting runaway inflation of 26,1%.

The figures follows the lifting of price control under a R42bn economic liberalisation programme.

The Consumer Price Index for lower income urban families rose 5,9 points in May to reach 456,3, reflecting 26,1% inflation in 12 months.

For upper-income urban families the index rose 4,6 points to 404,4, a 25,3% 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 statisticians' count.

'Networking brains' to heal the land

South 18/7 – 24/7/91

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The need to involve people at grassroots level in conservation and development decisions must be recognised. **DAVE LEWIS** spoke to Zimbabwean environmentalists Yemi Katarere and Sam Moya:



Yemi Katarere PIC: SHAMIEL MANIE

YEMI KATARERE AND SAM MOYA founded the Zimbabwe Environmental Organisation (Zero) five years ago in response to dissatisfaction with the lack of participation by local people in decisions governing rural development in Zimbabwe.

"We were concerned about the constant marginalisation of indigenous people and the domination of Northern scientists," says Katarere.

"Although we were only junior partners in development programmes we felt that we knew as much if not more than those people, and we were concerned about the level of recognition given them by our government.

"Zero was formed to voice our concerns. We are a research and advisory group and work with other organisations and the Zimbabwe government to influence national policy."

Zero is to publish a book on Zimbabwe's environmental experience.

"We looked at symptomatic things such as the extinction of animals, soil erosion, deforestation, the siltation of rivers and dams, the overgrazing of the veld, and the overpopulation problem, and try to explain how they arose," says Katarere.

"Since independence there have been attempts by the government to change development policies but these attempts have been piecemeal.

"We are critical of the shortcomings in the government's environmental policies. What we are proposing is a reorganisation using new concepts and giving grassroots organisations a greater role in decision-making."

According to Katarere, Zero is taking advantage of the current economic restructuring in Zimbabwe.

"The government is responsive but the Greenpeace approach to environmental problems only antagonises them, so we take a more strategic line.

"Zimbabwe's National Consultative Programme of 1983 had a policy statement on the environment but not an action programme. This year we were asked to draw up an action programme. We are taking ideas and turning them into practices."

Issues covered by Zero have included the use of wood as fuel, electricity supply in rural areas, energy conservation and self-sufficiency.

A pressing environmental problem in Zimbabwe is the cutting down of forests and vegetation to supply a growing demand for firewood in the absence of electricity.

"About 20 percent of wood fuel is burnt in Zimbabwe's townships, so if we could address this problem we thought we would be able to make a large dent by getting people to use fuel-efficient stoves," says Moya.

"We have a stove called a tsotso, which produces the same amount of heat as an ordinary stove, using just twigs", he says.

"We realised that the state was hesitant to do anything about the problem so we aproached the private sector."

Zero relies on education campaigns to provoke people to change their lifestyles to incorporate more environmentally sustainable habits.

"We see ourselves as a process — networking brains — rather than being a think-tank," says Moya.

Asked about their views on South Africa, Moya says: "It's a question of providing housing and services. A new South African government will have to move quickly on the land issue."

Katarere says: "The problem is the way the economy is organised. It's dominated by capital, so you have to convince people that they can make a great deal more money providing services which protect the environment."

"At what cost will land become available here?" Moya asks. "It will depend on who is in charge and at the moment privatisation is taking control out of the hands of government. This will have a significant impact on the environment.

"The problem is that a new government will be tempted to take the cheapest solution. They will then be faced with a dilemma because such an approach will not be politically sustainable. After 10 years they will be faced with an enormous problem. The experience of Zimbabwe is similar.

"You must transfer from a purely money-making economy to a service-orientated economy."

Moya foresees a lot of potential for South Africa in the region. "South Africa can supply goods to other countries in Africa. There is a demand for more efficient and environmentally friendly technology."

Cafca set to break records

ROBERT LAING

(352)

ZIMBABWE-based Central African Cables (Cafca) should break sales and profit records for the fifth successive year if its plant can meet demand, directors said in the latest annual report. Blood 18/7/91

Exports grew 80% to Z$15.4m, accounting for 17% of group sales. CE Rob Galbraith said sales to SA increased and Cafca remained Malawi's major supplier of cable.

Sales value increased 35% to a record Z$98m and he said the company's production capacity would be the "critical success factor".

Cafca's price/earnings ratio of 0.7 is the lowest on the JSE and it is one of the few companies on the electronics sector whose share price is higher than in 1987.

Zimbabwe's inflation soars

B10 aj 18/7/91

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Central Statistical Office has released figures reflecting runaway inflation here since President Robert Mugabe's government lifted price control under its R42bn economic liberalisation programme.

Economists say soaring prices reflect only past black market trends. But the depreciation of the Zimbabwean dollar, now worth only R0,90 at the offical 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 456,3, reflecting

MICHAEL HARTNACK

26,1% inflation in 12 months.

Base year for the index was 1980.

For upper income urban families the index rose 4,6 points to 404,4, a 25,3% overall increase since June 1990.

(367)

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 statisticians' count.

The Central Statistical Office says clothing, transport, fruit, vegetables, uniforms, firewood and detergent were the principal items hit by inflation.

A bombshell drops at the University of Zimbabwe

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By ANDREW MELDRUM: Harare

PROUD parents, grandparents and siblings, many of them from the rural areas, gathered at the University of Zimbabwe's graduation ceremony last weekend. President Robert Mugabe, as chancellor of the university, capped many of the 2 181 graduates.

It was a sedate occasion lightened by emotion and joy as ululations and applause filtered through the Great Hall when favoured sons and daughters received their degrees.

But murmurs of surprise, disapproval, even shock, swept through the hall when Vice-Chancellor Walter Kamba announced his resignation from the university. Kamba saved his bombshell for the end of his short, otherwise quite predictable speech. But then, with Mugabe seated next to the podium, Kamba began implicitly to criticise the government.

"There are too many fingers in the affairs of the university, non-professional fingers with a wide range of agenda," said Kamba. "I am a professional at heart, I am a professional by experience, dedication and commitment. I have never and will never play games."

Cheers broke out amongst many students, who caught Kamba's veiled attack on the government's recent legislation to extend direct control over the university. Then Kamba simply stated he would be submitting his notice to retire, to the visible and audible surprise of those present.

Those attending the graduation ceremony may not have expected Kamba's announcement, but university insiders had anticipated Kamba's departure, if not the dramatic flair of his announcement.

"I wasn't surprised," said a senior faculty member. "Kamba had been pushed and shoved in too many directions, by the government, by the faculty and by the students. In the end he came down against government control of the university, but by then he had alienated many teachers and students. It's unfortunate to see him go this way but it's really very bad for the university."

The departure of Kamba, UZ's first black vice-chancellor, signifies the end of the university's academic independence. The Mugabe government has already extended its control over the governing body, the University Council, and has given the vice-chancellor the authority to hire and fire faculty and to expel students without any process of appeal.

Kamba's stand on this legislation was at first ambiguous, as he tried to straddle both the government and university positions. But by the time of the student boycott to protest the new laws two months ago, Kamba publicly announced his opposition to the government's powers. That infuriated the government.

"Kamba wanted to maintain his credibility in international academic circles and I expect that copies of his 'my conscience is my master' speech will be circulating along with his CV for new academic posts abroad," commented a cynical faculty member. Kamba does have a good international reputation, having served as dean of the Faculty of Law at Scotland's University of Dundee after earning law degrees at the University of Cape Town and Yale University in the United States.

Kamba may come out of this all right, but his resignation is seen as a "disaster" for the university. "Kamba did try to resist the government's draconian new measures," said a professor. "Whoever the next vice-chancellor is, he will surely have to be firmly in favour of the government's control. The university will not be seen as an independent academic institution, but as a kind of polytech, an educational nursery school for those who won't ask any challenging questions. A lot of people will leave to avoid teaching in such a restrictive environment."

Already three faculty members have resigned in protest and more are expected to leave, for the new government university in Bulawayo, to the new Methodist university in the eastern city of Mutare, to South African universities or for private practice. That is a sad fate for the university which started in 1952 and maintained a posture very critical of the Smith regime.

"This is a litmus test of the government's commitment to political liberalisation," said a former academic. "It displays the fundamental contradiction between the trade liberalisation that is opening up the economy and the government's maintainence of rigid political control. With moves like this, Mugabe is getting his one party state through the back door."

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Competing systems developed by Conlog and Angcom Technologies use magnetic-stripe cards, while rightful owner. Development took three years.

Demand for prepayment meters is expected to reach

signed for low-income areas, but we have also received orders from affluent areas like Lonehill," the spokesman said.



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'Intimidation' ends bus service from Zimbabwe

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Bibay 19/7/91

HARARE — Three Zimbabwe bus companies taking passengers across the border at Beitbridge to Johannesburg 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 75-seater Zimbabwe buses would go only as far as Beitbridge. The passengers would catch South African taxis on the other side.

D'Almeida said the Zimbabwean companies had obtained legal road service permits and had held meetings 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 represented 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 17-storey building, which adjoins the Harare International Conference Centre, venue of the Commonwealth summit to be opened by Queen Elizabeth 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 Barsby, said 216 of the hotel's 308 rooms had been occupied.

The blast is the first such serious incident here since April 29 last year when a parcel bomb maimed Father Michael Lapsley, a pro-African National Congress Anglican priest.

The Kuwaiti Embassy in Harare is situated on the 16th floor of the Sheraton. — Sapa.

Mugabe condems bomb blast

CT 22/7/91 (362)

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 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 slates hotel blast at summit venue

Star 22/7/91 (362)

HARARE — President Robert Mugabe yesterday inspected extensive bomb damage at a luxury Harare hotel, intended venue of the next Commonwealth summit conference.

Three employees of the Harare Sheraton Hotel were slightly injured in the explosion in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Mr Mugabe described the attack as a vicious, insensitive and inhuman act and vowed to bring those responsible to book.

"But as to who has done it we cannot say at this stage," said Mr Mugabe, who will host the summit of the 48-nation Commonwealth in October.

Police believe the device, perhaps with a timer, was left in a briefcase behind a settee on the ground floor near a steakhouse and coffee shop.

Many Commonwealth delegates are scheduled to stay at the 700-bed Sheraton, which adjoins the Harare International Conference Centre where Queen Elizabeth II of Britain will officially open the conference.

Mr Mugabe would not speculate on who might have planted the bomb.

But he told reporters that since independence from Britain in 1980, South Africa had been behind several bombings in Zimbabwe, a longtime critic of apartheid.

A key issue at the Commonwealth summit is expected to be whether economic sanctions should be sustained or lifted since President de Klerk has introduced widespread political reforms. Zimbabwe favours continued boycotts.

Mr Mugabe said priority would be given to reconstruction of the badly damaged lower floors of the State-owned hotel, which is managed by the Sheraton International group.

The president also promised that security in and around the five-star hotel and conference centre would be tightened up.

"We will have to maintain a high level of vigilance here and at other facilities to be used during the conference," he said.

In London, the Commonwealth Secretariat said on Saturday that the bombing would not affect plans to hold the summit in Harare.

Several hundred guests were evacuated to other hotels after the explosion.

Hotel manager Robert Barsby said a team of experts was assessing the damage to determine when it could reopen.

The offices of two diplomatic missions based at the hotel, Kuwait and Malaysia, had been temporarily closed, their representatives said.

The 18-floor, six-year-old Sheraton boasts 340 rooms and several bars and restaurants. — Sapa-AP.

Star 23/7/91 (362)

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 - Zimbabwean 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

Star 25/7/91

(362)

WASHINGTON — 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 ZD96 million (about R108 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 businessmen. — Sapa.

A US forecaster gives South Africa a poor risk rating, writes **Hugh Roberton**

Bank on turmoil, not investment

Star 24/7/91.

A COMPANY which specialises in forecasting risks for American businesses around the world, and which is widely consulted by banks and multinational corporations, has given South Africa a poor risk rating for the next five years.

Political Risk Services says in a report from Washington that the chances of turmoil in the country between now and mid-1996 are "very high" and forecasts mounting troubles for President de Klerk in trying to reconcile the differences between competing black groups.

In their latest survey the company also forecasts a "moderate" degree of turmoil in Zimbabwe in the next five years, with inflation there soaring to 25 percent, and it predicts that President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia will be ousted in open elections later this year and will be replaced by a pragmatic civilian government under the leadership of Frederick Chiluba, a trade unionist.

Political Risk Services, which sells a 50-page report on South Africa for $295 (about R840), says President de Klerk's inability to stop fighting between the African National Congress and Inkatha, and the growing restiveness of whites, will challenge his efforts to forge a peaceful transition to multiracial government.

While the South African Government continued to propose and implement major reforms, "the possibility of a stalemate over the terms of the transition and growing organised opposition among whites threaten a peaceful evolution", the report says.

It adds that "increasingly militant statements by ANC officials over continued violence and the Government's role in it indicate the unlikelihood of getting a consensus among black groups".

The report says there is only a 40 percent possibility of a "reformist National Party" being the government in 18 months' time, and only a 40 percent chance of a "pragmatic ANC" coming to power in the next five years, although it does forecast a new government within the next five years.

Inflation will grow to 18 percent between 1992 and 1996, while the growth in the real gross domestic product will be only 1,8 percent in the same period.



Kenneth Kaunda . . . rule ending?

Zimbabwe, by contrast, will have an inflation rate of 25 percent between 1992 and 1996, with a four percent growth in its real gross domestic product, and there is a "moderate" chance of turmoil in the long term.

Commenting on President Robert Mugabe's plans for buying white-owned land for redistribution to blacks, the report says: "With the economy continuing to weaken and the youthful and urban population growing, the loss of foreign investment and white agricultural managers could hasten economic deterioration and undermine a stable and pragmatic government."

In Zambia, continuing economic decline coupled with pressure for democratic elections had forced President Kaunda to schedule elections for October.

"He may postpone the elections or use repressive techniques to ensure his victory, but the possibility of widespread violence makes such actions unlikely. Open elections will most likely produce a victory for the opposition Movement for Multiparty Democracy and lead to a pragmatic civilian government under the leadership of a popular labour leader, Frederick Chiluba," the report says.

Political Risk Services do not forecast events in Mozambique, Angola or Namibia at this stage. — Star Bureau. □

Harare hotel bombing won't affect summit

Star Africa Service (362)

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.

Star 24/7/91

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 Weerstandsbeweging, Civil Cooperation 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 two 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

B1Bday 26/7/91

HARARE — Zimbabwe has not yet been able to reduce its budget deficit, estimated at more than Z$1bn, and figures contained in the estimates of expenditure tabled in parliament yesterday indicate increased public spending, the domestic news agency reported.

Senior Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero outlined a programme last year to reduce the deficit to 5% of gross domestic product (GDP) by 1995, a development which is central to Zimbabwe's economic structural adjustment programme (ESAP), Ziana reports.

Among the steps proposed to achieve this were a reduction of the civil service by 25%, and scrapping of subsidies to parastatals and on some commodities.

However, this year's estimates reflect an increase in the vote for the public service, as well as subsidies to parastatals, with some of them being allocated almost three times that of 1990-91.

In addition, the controversial Ministry of Political Affairs, which houses one senior minister, two ministers of state and four deputy ministers, although showing a reduction of almost Z$15m, has an increased salary, wages and allowances bill of more than Z$23m, compared with Z$21,5m last year.

The president's salary has been frozen at Z$125 000 a year.

The nearly Z$15m cut in the Political Ministry's vote is largely accounted for by the drastic reduction of the allocation for national service, which plummeted from Z$20m last year to Z$1,5m, Ziana said.

The public service, which has an 180 000-strong work force, has been allocated an additional Z$9m.

Subsidies

The perenially loss-making national flag carrier Air Zimbabwe had its subsidy increased from Z$9m to Z$26,7m this year, while the allocation of public funds to struggling Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Company (Zisco) has risen to Z$139m from Z$100m last year.

National Railways of Zimbabwe, one of the few parastatals that have managed to reduce losses, this year received a subsidy of Z$148,6m, compared with Z$255m last year. Agricultural subsidies remain almost constant at Z$270m.

The hosting of the Commonwealth heads of government meeting represents a Z$1,8m bill.— Sapa.

SA firms show goods in Zambia

B1Bday 26/7/91

LUSAKA — Thirty SA companies will take part in the Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show, which kicks off in Lusaka on August 1.

The record SA presence confirms that Zambia is in fact trading with SA.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry officials said yesterday that the 30 firms had been given permission to exhibit their products at Zambia's largest agricultural and commercial show.

Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show Society chairman Andrew Hamaamba has appealed to the Zambian business community to take advantage of the presence of SA businessmen who will be exhibiting.

"This is your chance to make hay while the sun is shining," Hamaamba said.

Many Zambian shops are flooded with SA products.

SA products ranging from machinery to household goods will be on display at the show next week.

Asked last week why Zambia could not normalise trade relations with Pretoria — especially in the light of the availability of SA products in Zambia — Commerce and Industry Minister Crispin Sibeta said: "The time is not yet ripe for us to do so. When the opportunity arises, we shall make a formal announcement about trade links with SA." — ANO.

Violence 'scaring off buyers'

B1Bday 26/7/91

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — The volume of residential property sales to foreign buyers has dropped considerably because of violence and political uncertainty, says Seeff Residential Properties MD Samuel Seeff.

Seeff does not expect the lifting of sanctions to have much effect on the local property market in the short term. Traditional foreign investors — people from the UK and Europe who had previous involvement with SA — have continued purchasing with a view to acquiring holiday homes or places to retire to.

Seeff's London-based international property manager, Adele Beare, says the easing of the UK property market could release new buyers for SA's market.

"One of the factors that would result in greater movement from potential immigrants from the UK is the lowering of interest rates by 2% in the past two months. This has led to a greater number of sales than in any similar period in the last two years, so buyers waiting to sell in the UK before coming to SA will be able to move that much more freely."

Seeff says that in the medium to longer term new investors will be brought to SA as companies return to do business here.

SA's property market remains undervalued compared with the rest of the world. Should SA overcome its problems and move toward political settlement, "we can expect a great resurgence" of foreign investors, he says.

On the domestic front, Seeff says Transvaal buyers have shown much interest in Cape Town property, and that sales in white areas have increased noticeably since the Group Areas Act was scrapped.

Azapo will attend talks on patriotic front

B1Bday 26/7/91

THE Azanian Peoples' Organisation (Azapo) yesterday cleared the way for a patriotic front when it dismissed speculation that it would not attend talks with the ANC and PAC in Cape Town next month.

Azapo projects co-ordinator Lybon Mabasa told a news briefing in Johannesburg: "There has been speculation that Azapo is pulling out of the patriotic front. There can be nothing further from the truth."

But Mabasa acknowledged there were problems surrounding the concept of a front, "and we hope to find solutions".

Asked to identify the problems, he said agreement on a front was reached outside SA's borders by the ANC, PAC and the OAU — which recognised only these two organisations. — Sapa.

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Inkathagate could set back relations with Harare, says DP MP Peter Soal

Zimbabweans stop smiling at 'Comrade FW'

Star 26/7/91 (BOTA) (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 turnaround 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 descriptive terms used on Zimbabwean 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 a 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



Before the scandal . . . Peter Soal with Zimbabwe Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira.

enthused. It seemed to me that we were close to an historic breakthrough in our 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 "assumed" 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 sad to have to say this, the consequences of the Inkatha payments 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'

Star 26/7/91

By Hugh Roberton
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.

Star 30/7/91

Zimbabwe gives order to shoot

362

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 Dumiso 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 swopping 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 mealie meal.

The inflow of weapons has also led to increased poaching. — Star Africa Service.

Cafca prospers despite export slump

B/Day 31/7/91

ROBERT LAING

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$8,7m compared with Z$6,2m in the last interim period, down from 1990's growth of 56%.

Cafca held its dividend cover at 4,1, paying an interim dividend of 7 Zimbabwean cents on earings of 28,4c 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 Z$6m.

The drop in exports was offset by a 33% increase in domestic sales, boosting turnover 25% to Z$55m compared with Z$44m 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

B/Day 31/7/91

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.

"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 R12,2m (R12m) 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.

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