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SUMMARY OF COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
(January 22 - February 21, 1981)

March 1981

Prepared by the Federal Research Division of
the Library of Congress under an interagency agreement

Analyst: John Stepanchuk

PREFACE

This monthly survey compiles articles on sub-Saharan Africa which appear in Pravda. It has been prepared since April 1980. Pravda is the official newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Items published are presumably authoritative. Articles dealing with Soviet political, military, or economic interests in Africa are entirely translated or extensively excerpted or summarized. News accounts which heavily rely on news services of other countries are simply noted. All entries have been arranged chronologically under general African or country headings. FBIS translations are summarized or annotated for reader reference; duplication is avoided.

Summary of Commentary in Pravda on Sub-Saharan Africa

(22 January - 21 February 1981)*

Africa General

African and Regional Countries Praise Brezhnev Peace Proposals

(Summary) Reports from Madagascar, Libya, Angola, Ethiopia, and South Yemen condemn US military activities in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean areas. They unanimously support L. I. Brezhnev's initiatives, announced during his visit to India, for the guarantee of peace and security in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf. (4 February 1981, p. 4)

Commentary on Western Activities in Africa

(Excerpt) The Pravda correspondent in Luanda, Valerii Volkov, comments on the recent session of the International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes of Racism and Apartheid held in Angola. The following is an excerpt from this article:

"The report (of the Commission) observes that Western powers supplying weapons and military equipment to the South African Army are acting as direct accomplices and participants of the racist crimes. In addition to equipping the racist gendarmes with military technology, the NATO countries, above all the new United States administration, have recently begun supporting unpopular regimes, including the Republic of South Africa (RSA).

"On the eve of the session of the International Commission, officials Washington attempted to discredit the South African liberation movements, recognized by the United Nations, the OAU and other international organizations, by casting doubt on their legal status and openly declaring them alleged 'terrorist organizations' supported by the USSR and other socialist countries. . ." (9 February 1981, p. 5)

Conference of "Frontline States"

In Lusaka, the capital of the Zambian Republic, a meeting of "frontline states" was held in which the heads of state and representatives from Angola, Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique, and Tanzania took part. In addition, a delegation from the South West Africa People's Organization was present. The participants discussed the Namibian problem after the failure of the Geneva Conference to implement the UN plan for granting independence to this territory. (18 February 1981, p. 5)

* Not including 31 January issue.

Soviet Indian Ocean Proposals

(Excerpt) The following is an excerpt from an article by Pravda correspondent Aleksander Nikolayev on the session of the UN Special Committee on the Indian Ocean:

"The Soviet Union is cooperating with developing countries in the region over the issue of transforming the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, free of military bases and nuclear weapons. The Soviet proposals for the guarantee of peace and security in the region of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean have had wide repercussions in Asian and African countries. These proposals respond to the vitally important interests of the peoples of a huge region incorporating a third of humanity." (18 February 1981, p. 5)

Foreign Ministers Meet in Algiers

(Text) Issues of economic, technical, and cultural cooperation will be discussed at the Algiers Conference of Foreign Ministers from Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Mali, Nigeria, and Chad, countries which are situated in the greatest desert of the world, the Sahara. (19 February 1981, p. 1)

Book on Brezhnev Published in Dar es Salaam

(Excerpt) L. I. Brezhnev: Pages from Life is the title of a biography on the Soviet leader published in English by the National Printing Co. of Tanzania. The following is an excerpt from Brezhnev's preface to African readers:

The Soviet Union is successfully developing good, friendly, and cooperative relations with many African countries. We have built and continue to build our policies in accordance with the principles of equality, respect for sovereignty and independence, noninterference in internal affairs, and the recognition of every nation's right to determine its own destiny and path of development. As far as possible, we are seeking to help African countries overcome the difficulties which they face, and consequently, we support their struggle for the liquidation of the remnants of colonialism. The Soviet Union is cooperating with a number of African countries in the construction of industries; in energy-related, agricultural, and education projects; in the establishment of fisheries, the exploration of valuable minerals, planning, the preparation of cadres, etc. Many Soviet teachers, doctors, agronomists, and other specialists are helping the liberated African peoples build a new, free life.

The Soviet people hail the struggle of the African peoples against imperialism and favor international peace and social progress. We share their view of imperialism as the main danger to the freedom and independence of the African continent as well as to the prosperity and welfare of its peoples. We stand in solidarity with the selfless struggle of the Namibian people and the heroic people of South Africa who are fighting for the liquidation of apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination.

The Soviet Union and our Communist Party are waging a struggle for the strengthening of peace and security of peoples and against the arms race which is constantly urged forward by NATO. The limitation and stoppage of the arms race would not only lessen the danger of a world war, but would also allow countries with a large military potential to free considerable resources, some of which could be used to help developing countries. Africa is affected in the most direct way by the question of preventing the further spread of nuclear weapons which are controlled by the most sinister enemies of the peoples of the continent, the South African racists." (20 February 1981, p. 1)

Organization of African Unity

Conference in Tanzania

(Excerpt) At a session in Arusha (Tanzania), the Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) unanimously approved resolutions on the issue of Namibian independence. The Namibia question was the main item on the agenda. The adopted resolutions condemn the South African racists who hampered a peaceful settlement in Namibia at a recent conference in Geneva, and blame them for its failure. (25 January 1981, p. 4)

Angola

South African Attacks

(Text) The Ministry of Defense of the People's Republic of Angola announced in a communique, which has been publicized here, that the country's popular armed forces continue to fight the South African aggressors who raided Angolan territory on 11 January. It was announced that Angolan anti-aircraft forces shot down three helicopters and a bomber of the South African Air Force. As a result of the counterattack undertaken by units of the Angolan armed forces, the interventionists suffered losses in casualties and equipment. (22 January 1981, p. 5)

Aftermath of Congress

(Text) In the People's Republic of Angola a learning campaign has begun for the study of documents relating to the First Extraordinary Congress of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA)-Labor Party. At local party organizations as well as municipal and provincial conferences, party activists unanimously approve the decisions of the Congress and submit concrete proposals for their realization. Special attention is given to the problems of raising the productivity of labor, increasing the profits of production, and strengthening discipline.

The task in the area of ideological work is to study the theory of scientific socialism more deeply and to struggle against all manifestations of petty bourgeois ideology. V. Volkov. (22 January 1981, p. 4)

Angolan Cooperative Movement

(Text) The cooperative movement in the People's Republic of Angola (PRA) is growing. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, 785 peasant associations and 60 cooperatives comprising more than 200,000 peasants have been formed in the province of Uige alone. The country now has several thousand peasant societies numbering about 1.5 million workers. V. Volkov. (26 January 1981, p. 5)

Economic Development in Benguela Province

(Summary) Special Pravda correspondent V. Volkov describes agricultural and industrial development in the province of Benguela. The most urgent problems facing Angolan planners and party officials are the lack of skilled workers and the large rate of illiteracy among the population. (1 February 1981, p. 4)

Record of South African Strikes Compiled

(Summary) The International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes of Racism and Apartheid is holding sessions in Luanda. The report of the Angolan delegation reveals that more than 1800 people died and more than 3,000 were seriously wounded during the last 3 years of the "undeclared war" between Angola and South Africa. The South Africans have committed 290 bombing raids, 50 landing operations, and 70 mechanized strikes against Angola. The cost of damages to Angola amounts to \$7 million. (2 February 1981, p. 5)

First Session of the Maputo FRELIMO Organization

(Summary) Delegates to the First Conference of the Maputo organization of the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (FRELIMO) condemned the South African landing operation against a camp of South African refugees in a suburb of Maputo. The conference elected the committee of the local Maputo party organization, made up of 50 members. Antonio Tai became the First Secretary of the Committee. (3 February 1981, p. 5)

20th Anniversary of Angolan Resistance Against Portuguese Colonists

(Summary) The People's Republic of Angola is observing the 20th anniversary of its armed resistance against the Portuguese colonists. Pravda correspondent V. Volkov describes the first armed strike by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) against the "bastions of colonialism" in 1961. (4 February 1981, p. 5)

Proceedings of the International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes of Racism and Apartheid

(Summary) The International Commission concluded its session in Luanda and produced a report calling apartheid a "crime against humanity." The document states that "reactionary circles" in the USA, West Germany, Great Britain, other NATO countries, Israel, and China are accomplices of the South African regime. (5 February 1981, p. 5)

Propagandists' Conference

(Text) The National Conference of Propagandists of the National Union of Angolan Workers ended today in the province of Cabinda. The participants observed the necessity to perfect methods of propaganda work, and to raise the level of political education among trade union members. (7 February 1981, p. 1)

US Policy in the Indian Ocean Criticized

(Text) The Angolan Information Agency (AIA) calls for an end to the intensified American military presence in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, and the transformation of the region into a zone of peace.

AIA writes that the USA is attempting to make the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf into "an American zone" and force the countries of the region to resign themselves to imperialist plots. In spite of protests by the overwhelming majority of countries along the Indian Ocean, particularly Mauritius, the USA continues to expand its military presence in the Indian Ocean and to interfere in the affairs of the countries in this region. (8 February 1981, p. 5)

Military Aviation School Opens

(Text) The first national military aviation school opened in the city of N'gaga. It will prepare pilots for the air force. (15 February 1981, p. 1)

Benin

Soviet Agricultural Aid

(Summary) The Soviet Union is offering technical assistance to Benin for the construction of a 1,000 hectare experimental farm in Zu Province. Aid consists of agricultural specialists and farm machinery. (14 February 1981, p. 1)

Ethiopia

Ethiopian Ideological Journal

(Summary) The organ of the ideological section of the Central Committee of the Commission on the Organization of the Ethiopian Workers' Party, Meskerem, exhorts its readers to follow the example of the October Revolution in Russia and the teachings of Lenin on the Communist Party. (28 January 1981, p. 4)

Campaign Against Landowners and Opposition Groups

(Text) Elements of the Revolutionary Army of Socialist Ethiopia, in conjunction with peasant defense brigades, conducted a successful operation to liquidate bands of former large landowners and separatists operating in the northeastern province of Tigre. (1 February 1981, p. 5)

Ethiopian Journal Lauds the Soviet Communist Party

(Excerpt) The organ of the Ideological Section of the Central Committee's Commission for the Organization of the Ethiopian Workers' Party, Mekserem, writes that the experience of the Bolshevik Party, created by the Great Lenin and which spearheaded the struggle of the Soviet people for the building of socialism, has universal significance. . .

Mekserem points that the example of the USSR instills confidence in many Asian, African, and Latin American countries that their chosen path is correct and will lead to a decisive victory in constructing a society with social justice and equality. (7 February 1981, p. 4)

US Policy in the Indian Ocean Criticized

(Text) The Ethiopian newspaper Ezaraitu Ethiopia calls the activities of the United States and its NATO allies in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf a "concrete example of the militaristic course of the USA."

In spite of the demands of the world community and the resolutions of international organizations calling for the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, the United States has unleashed a network of military bases in the region centered in Diego Garcia. (8 February 1981, p. 5)

Mengistu Speech

(Text) The Ethiopian Revolution, which has done away for good with imperialism and has become a component of the world revolutionary process, will inevitably lead to victory, and the guarantee for this is its indissoluble link with the socialist countries and all progressive forces in the world. This was stated by the Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) of Ethiopia and Chairman of the Commission for the Organization of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia (COPWE), Mengistu Haile Mariam, in a speech before the Central Committee of COPWE.

He continued to say that the forces of reaction have recently unleashed an open campaign against socialism which has been joined by the reactionary leadership in Beijing and other right-wing or fascist groups in countries following the capitalist path of development.

The speaker made special notice of the fact that the undermining of detente, the course which the American administration has taken during the last few years, is an obvious confirmation of the general aggressive strategy chosen by Washington in order to impose its conditions on countries which do not wish to follow the political channel of American imperialism.

Mengistu Haile Mariam concluded that the goal of the Ethiopian Revolution is to establish workers' rule and to build a socialist society. (10 February 1981, p. 5)

Ideological Campaign

(Text) The Central Committee Plenum of the Commission for the Organization of the Ethiopian Workers' Party (COPWE) is continuing its sessions here. In his report on ideological work, Member of the Executive Committee of COPWE Fikre Selassie Wogderess pointed out the necessity to activate all efforts to disseminate the ideas of Marxism-Leninism among the workers with the aim of raising the political consciousness of the people in the decisive moment of their struggle for building a new society. (11 February 1981, p. 4)

Ethiopia Seeks to Strengthen Links with USSR

[The COPWE Plenum decided to strengthen solidarity with the Communist Party, government and people of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries. (15 February 1981, p. 5 translated in toto in FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #033, 19 February 1981, p. J1).]

Joint Ethiopia and Yemen Communique

(Excerpt) Socialist Ethiopia and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) called upon all peace-loving forces to support USSR proposals in the area of disarmament and also to provide guarantees of safety for non-nuclear countries. They stated the necessity to strengthen the unity and solidarity of all progressive and peace-loving forces with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community in the struggle for international peace and national independence. . .

Ethiopia and the PDRY resolutely condemned the political course of the USA, fraught with the threat of military conflicts. (19 February 1981, p. 5)

Madagascar

World Peace Council in Madagascar

(Excerpt) The Presidium of the World Peace Council met in Madagascar. The following excerpt is from the speech given by O. S. Kharkhardin, Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace:

"The sharp growth during the last few months of activities by the bellicose reactionary powers consisting of the United States and its allies requires further intensification of the struggle against their plans.

Here, on the shores of the Indian Ocean, which the United States bluntly designates as the 'third strategic zone' of American 'national interests', there is a deep feeling of threat emanating from the concentration of American armed forces in the Persian Gulf and from the so-called 'rapid deployment force' which uses bases on the island of Diego Garcia torn away from Mauritius.

In this regard, participants of the discussion here actively support the doctrine of peace formulated by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in his speech before the Indian Parliament." (24 January 1981, p. 5)

Session of the Presidium of the World Peace Council Continues.

(Excerpt) At today's session, representatives of countries along the Indian Ocean littoral and activists from peace movements from all countries represented at these sessions resolutely condemned the activities of the USA which are transforming the Indian Ocean into a nuclear powder keg and threatening peace with most dangerous adventurism.

They unanimously supported the doctrine of peace formulated by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at a meeting Indian parliamentarians in New Delhi. . .

Delegates from European countries and the USA also displayed a great interest in solving the problems of the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. Mr. Goodland, the Chairman of the American delegation, said, "It will be difficult, but we will wage an active campaign against the activities of our administration. This struggle will acquire the same intensity as was characteristic of our campaign to end the war in Vietnam." U. Zhukov. (25 January 1981, p. 5)

Soviet Ideological Commentary at the World Peace Council

(Excerpt) The reconfiguration of economic relations between developing and capitalist countries on an equal basis is possible only when developing countries strengthen their national economies and secure their sovereignty. The solution to this problem will be accompanied by a halt of the arms race, which involves the developing countries directly or indirectly.

Head of the Soviet Delegation and Director of the Africa Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Professor A. Gromyko spoke about the interrelationship of these two processes. However, he remarked that the disarmament of national liberation movements waging armed struggle for freedom and independence is out of the question. (26 January 1981, p. 4)

World Peace Congress Condemns Western "Economic Neocolonialism"

(Excerpt) At the session, a summons was made to oppose decisively the efforts of imperialism to maintain the same economic structures in developing countries that existed earlier in the times of colonialism. In conjunction with this, the Zambian delegate, Frank Chitambala, indicated that the so-called "assistance" given by multinational corporations to new countries is actually causing economic difficulties. The same consequences stem from the activities of Western financial organizations such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. (27 January 1981, p. 5)

Final Session of the World Peace Council

(Summary) At the final session of the Presidium of the World Peace Council, delegates passed resolutions condemning the growth of Western and US strategic

and nuclear weapons. The participants approved a statement which favored the transformation of the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf region were well received. (28 January 1981, p. 5)

Coup Attempt in Madagascar

(Summary) A curfew has been in effect in Tananarive since 3 February as a result of an attempted coup by elements of the Malagasy "Government in Exile" headed by former Vice President J. Rabemananzari. Clashes between insurgents and the government forces in the capital city claimed 5 lives and 44 wounded. The situation in the city has returned to normal. The National Front for the Defense of the Revolution summoned the people of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar to "strengthen their vigilance in the face of maneuvers by the reactionaries attempting to steer the country from the path of socialist orientation chosen by the people." (7 February 1981, p. 5)

Mozambique

South African Raid

(Summary) At 2:00 a.m. on 30 January, a group of South African parachutists penetrated into Mozambican territory and attacked a camp made up of South African refugees. The camp was located in Matola, a suburb of Maputo. Nine people died and many were wounded in the resulting machine gun and grenade cross-fire. (1 February 1981, p. 5)

US Activities in Indian Ocean

(Text) The Mozambican newspaper Noticias da Beira made a plea to activate efforts to transform the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. The newspaper observes that the island of Diego Garcia has already turned into a unique, long-range tool of American imperialism, situated in the middle of the ocean and ready to fire upon any target in the basin. The American and French military bases, located in number of littoral countries, receive ships and plans of military contingents prepared to wage military activities in Africa. (6 February 1981, p. 4)

Machel Condemns South African Incursions

(Summary) President of the People's Republic of Mozambique S. Machel came out with a statement in which he announced that the Republic of South Africa (RSA) has concentrated its forces on the Mozambique border and that South African planes have violated Mozambican airspace during their reconnaissance flights. The President said that this racist blackmail poses a new threat to peace in southern Africa.

The message of the Mozambican Government to UN Secretary General K. Waldheim states that the latest aggressive preparations of the regime of apartheid is another attempt by the RSA to destabilize the situation in southern Africa and frighten the independent African states. The message indicates that the government of Mozambique reserves the right to defend its national territory against threats and blackmail by the racists. (8 February 1981, p. 5)

Namibia

Cartoon Caption

(Text) The Western monopolies which exploit the natural resources of Namibia support the South African racists who impede the granting of independence to Namibia. (22 January 1981, p. 5)

Press Conference by SWAPO Observer at UN

(Excerpt) Observing that the situation in Namibia poses a serious threat to peace and security, T. B. Gurirab, Head of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) Observer Group at the United Nations, critically reviewed the role of so-called "contact groups" of Western countries. SWAPO, he noted, has been trying to obtain the acceptance of effective international sanctions against South Africa since 1976, but the Western countries assured the organization that not all possibilities for a peaceful settlement were exhausted and came forth with an idea to work out a plan for granting Namibia independence under the aegis of the United Nations. It is now obvious that these very maneuvers of the West have placed the final solution of the Namibian problem in a deadlock. (23 January 1981, p. 5)

African Countries Petition the UN Security Council to Review Namibia Problem

(Text) A group of African countries in the United Nations decided to ask the Security Council to convene for a discussion of the Namibian problem. The report of the UN Secretary General on the Geneva Conference held between 7 and 14 January concerning the issue will be heard at the session. (30 January 1981, p. 1)

Asia-Africa Organization Condemns South African Policy in Namibia

(Text) The Organization for the Solidarity of the Peoples of Africa and Asia (AAPSO) severely condemned the attempts by Pretoria to obstruct the efforts of the international community to end the illegal occupation of Namibian territory by South African racists. In a statement disseminated in Cairo, the Permanent Secretariat of the AAPSO blamed the South African regime for intentionally frustrating the recent UN Conference on Namibia. (2 February 1981, p. 1)

TASS Interviews SWAPO Leader

(Text) During his recent working visit to the Soviet Union, President of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma had an interview with a TASS correspondent in which he stated that the Soviet Union and its Leninist Communist Party have always been and remain the most loyal and reliable allies of all peoples fighting for genuine freedom and independence.

S. Nujoma continued to say that the assertions of the new American administration that the USSR is an alleged party to "international terrorism" are absolutely unfounded and demonstrate a total lack of desire to understand the process of basic social transformations taking place in the world today.

SWAPO, which is waging a courageous struggle against the Pretoria regime and imperialist intrigues in order to obtain full freedom for Namibia, expresses its deep gratitude to the Soviet Union, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev for their unselfish aid and support, and views these as a source of inspiration and a reliable guarantee for a decisive victory. (6 February 1981, p. 4)

Cartoon Caption

(Text) The struggle for the freedom of Namibia has reached a critical stage. People of this country are full of resolve under the SWAPO leadership to wreck the plots of imperialists and racists who attempt to impose a neocolonial regime on them. (10 February 1981, p. 5)

SWAPO Spokesman Critical of US Policy

(Text) Member of Central Committee of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) N. Nandi stated that the attempt to equate terrorism with the legitimate national liberation struggle is an insult to all African peoples. She indicated that the goal of the present propaganda campaign, which has unfurled in the USA under the same hackneyed and unconvincing pretext of a "Soviet threat", is to lead the peoples of the African continent astray, to instill in them fear of progressive changes, and to push them along the path of compromise with international imperialism. (11 February 1981, p. 5)

Republic of South Africa

Newspapers Banned

(Text) The publishers of two South African newspapers popular among Africans, the Post and the Sunday Post, closed their publications. According to Johannesburg reports, the decision came about as a result of constant threats and persecution by the racist regime in Pretoria. (22 January 1981, p. 5)

Cartoon Caption

(Text) It was decided in Pretoria to make fingerprints of the entire African population of the Republic of South (RSA) and to place them on file under the pretext of "national security concerns and the struggle against Communism." (23 January 1981, p. 5)

South African and Israeli Collusion

(Summary) The information bulletin of the African National Congress, Weekly News Briefing, reports that South African leaders will offer Israel \$250 million in economic aid. Israel, in turn, has stated its intention to supply Pretoria with Gabriel and Shafir rockets, Kfir fighter planes, and rifles. (28 January 1981, p. 5)

South African Death Sentences

(Text) During 1980, 170 death sentence were carried out in the RSA. This was announced today in Capetown by the Justice Minister of the Apartheid Government, H. J. Coetsee. He admitted that practically all of those sentenced were Africans, "coloreds", and emigrants from Asia.

According to reports from the RSA, most of those sentenced were political prisoners. (13 February 1981, p. 5)

Western Assistance to South African Special Battalion

(Summary) The Times of India writes that the RSA has been waging an undeclared war with the People's Republic of Angola for the last 4 years. They have engaged in the premeditated murder of peaceful citizens. Western countries are actively supporting the racist regime in Pretoria. The 32d Special Battalion of the RSA Armed Forces, conducting military operations on Angolan territory, is outfitted with mercenaries, from the USA, England, Israel and other countries. (14 February 1981, p. 5)

Somalia

Somalia Receives US Weapons

(Text) The US administration decided to begin the delivery of weapons to Somalia. In the near future the US will supply the regime with 12 anti-aircraft installations of the "Vulcan" variety and three long-range radar stations for air defense. The overall cost of the deliveries is \$42 million. (8 February 1981, p. 1)

Uganda

Obote Speech on Internal Subversion

(Summary) Ugandan President M. Obote denounced the attempts of domestic saboteurs to destabilize the Ugandan political process. Speaking at a press conference in Entebbe, the president announced that "subversive forces" attacked an arsenal at a military school in the Mubende region on 6 February. After attempting to seize the weapons there, they proceeded to attack a number of police stations in Kampala and other cities. (14 February 1981, p. 4)

Political Developments in Uganda

(Excerpt) In an article entitled, "Uganda: A New Start", Pravda correspondent U. Sergeyev describes political developments in Uganda since the presidency of M. Obote. The following excerpt outlines Uganda's relations with the Soviet Union:

The Ugandan Government favors the development of relations with all countries of the world on the basis of equality and respect. Continuing the policy of the first years of its independence, Uganda is striving to broaden its cooperation with the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries. It is well remembered that during Uganda's first years as an independent country, the Soviet Union assisted in the construction of a cotton-spinning factory and a training center for machine operators in agriculture. Soviet doctors and teachers worked in Uganda.

The Ugandans have always displayed an interest in the USSR and in learning of its experience. They are now aroused by the forthcoming 26th party Congress in the Soviet Union, an important event in the life of the Soviet People. The local press is devoting more of its space to our country these days." (11 February 1981, p. 4)

Zimbabwe

Emergency Situation Continued

(Summary) The Parliament of the Republic of Zimbabwe voted 55 to 14 to approve the government bill extending the state of emergency in the country for another 6 months. (23 January 1981, p. 5)

Government Changes

(Summary) Prime Minister of Zimbabwe R. Mugabe announced changes in the government. President of the Patriotic Front J. Nkomo became a minister without a portfolio, having special powers in the areas of national defense and civil service. (29 January 1981, p. 5)