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SUMMARY OF COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
(September 22 - October 21, 1982)

November 1982

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

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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 September - 21 October 1982)

Africa General

Contact Committee meets in Addis Ababa

(Excerpt) In Addis Ababa, a meeting of the contact committee of six African countries began, a committee created in August of this year in Tripoli during the conference of 30 heads of state and governments of African countries who form the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Presidents Nyerere of Tanzania, Kaunda of Zambia, and Sassou-Nguesso of the Congo, representatives from Libya and Mozambique, Ethiopian President Mengistu and the OAU General Secretary participated. (6 Oct 82, p. 5)

Central Africa

New Highway Opens

(Text) The new autoroute linking the African countries of Zambia, Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda, was opened to traffic. One of the sections of this highway includes a ferry crossing on Lake Tanganika. The road will be under the joint control of Zambian, Burundian, and Kenyan transport companies. (9 Oct 82, p. 5)

Southern Africa

New South African Military Base

(Excerpt) In Maputo, Mozambique, it is reported that racist South Africa is expanding its net of military-strategic units for the implementation of aggressive excursions against neighboring independent African states. According to reports in the southern African newspaper, Citizen, in northern Transvaal near the small town of Louis Trichardt, construction of a large military base will soon begin. The new base, located in the immediate vicinity of the Zimbabwean capital, Botswana, and Mozambique, will include a landing strip for fighter planes. (29 Sep 82, p. 5)

Angolan and Zimbabwean Presidents Condemn South African Aggression

(Excerpt) Zimbabwean President Banana and Angolan President Dos Santos placed decisive blame on South Africa for its aggressive policies toward southern Africa. The stability of peace and security in the regime is possible only under conditions in which South African soldiers are withdrawn from Namibia and the southern regions of Angola, there is a cessation of aggressive acts of the Pretoria regime against the frontline states, and apartheid is destroyed, noted the Zimbabwean president during a reception held in Harare for the visiting Angolan head of state. (14 Oct 82, p. 1)

Angola

Angolan Workers' Delegation Visits USSR

(Excerpt) A delegation of Angolan party workers headed by Z. Eshtevau, chief of the State Organs Section of the MPLA--Workers' Party Central Committee, was in the USSR 1-11 October. It was received at the Party Organizational Work Section of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR People's Control Committee and the Administration of Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers. (12 Oct 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #202, 19 Oct 82, p. J4)

Botswana

Telegram Sent

(Summary) L. Brezhnev sent a telegram to President Masire of Botswana on the occasion of Botswana's sixteenth anniversary of independence. (20 Oct 82, p. 2)

Central African Republic

Conference on Forestry

(Excerpt) A series of important decisions were made in the capital of the Central African Republic, Bangui, regarding the development of the wood industry in Africa during the sixth conference of the African Forestry Organization. (28 Sep 82, p. 1)

Ethiopia

National Census to be Undertaken

(Text) Next year in Ethiopia, for the first time in its history, there will be a national census of the population. At the same time the number of dwellings will be counted. Preparations for this important measure are already underway. (23 Sep 82, p. 5)

Expansion of Exported Goods

(Excerpt) The traditional Ethiopian exports are coffee and hides. Now the country is taking steps to expand its list of export goods, including spices, meat products, construction material, textiles, and wine. The increase in exporting caused the creation of the Ministry of Foreign Trade. Ethiopia actively participates in many international trade fairs. At the same time, the country is trying to raise the quality of traditional exported goods. (26 Sep 82, p. 5)

Loans to Peasants

(Text) Almost 24 million birrs ,approximately \$12 million. were distributed to peasants in the form of loans from state banks for rural economic and industrial development in Ethiopia during the next fiscal year. Since the revolution, land passed from private hands into state property, and the banks do not demand

guarantees on loans in the form of the availability of land property. Rural associations - peasant associations and cooperatives - come forward with contractors for loans. In order to implement large-scale production, for example to install irrigation, they are granted loans with 15-year terms. Different banks have been established in all the important rural economic provinces. Last year, 228 associations and cooperatives of rural inhabitants availed themselves of their services. (28 Sep 82, p. 5)

New School Year Begins

(Excerpt) The school year for elementary and middle schools began in Ethiopia earlier than usual. According to a new resolution, the length of the academic year will increase with the goal of raising the level of education and learning. (29 Sep 82, p. 5)

Publication Expands Activities

(Excerpt) The Ethiopian publisher, "Kuras", established in the post-revolutionary period, has expanded its activities. For the past two years, it has issued 30 book titles published in Amharic, works on social and political questions, general education literature, and artistic works. (13 Oct 82, p. 4)

Mengistu Speech in Kremlin

(Summary) During his visit to the Soviet Union, Mengistu spoke on 12 October at a dinner in his honor in the Great Kremlin Palace. He spoke of the growing cooperation between Ethiopia and the USSR in all spheres, domestic improvements and problems, the war with Somalia, and the danger to world peace from conflicts all over the world. (13 Oct 82, p. 2, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #202, 19 Oct 82, pp. J1-4)

Foreign Mass Media on Ethiopian-Soviet Talks

(Excerpt) Foreign mass media are paying great attention to the Soviet-Ethiopian talks being held in Moscow. Prominent politicians and public figures in various countries are stressing that the Soviet Union has reaffirmed its unbending will to consolidate peace and security and has advocated the speediest, full elimination of the remnants of colonialism and racism. (14 Oct 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #067, 21 Oct 82, pp. J1-2).

Mengistu Departs Moscow

(Summary) Mengistu left Moscow for Minsk today, and was seen off at the airport by Andrey Gromyko, Konstantin Chernenko, Petr Demichev and Boris Ponomarev. He was also seen off by M. A. Yasnov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N. K. Baybakov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; M. P. Georgadze, Secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; USSR Minister V. P. Yelyutin; S. A. Skachkov and V. V. Fedorchuk, Chairman of USSR State Committees; S. L. Sokolov, USSR First Deputy Minister of Defense; R. A. Ulyanovskiy, Deputy Chief of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department; USSR Deputy Ministers S. S. Pavlov and V. I. Petrov; and D. S. Nikiforov, Chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department. (15 Oct 82, p. 1, and summarized by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #205, 22 Oct 82, p. J1)

New Awards Given to Workers

(Excerpt) In Ethiopia, a new form of Socialist competition is spreading, appearing in state industrial enterprises. Recently the press reported on the awarding of the rank of "best worker" to laborers in a textile factory in Bahir Dar, in a tannery in Addis Ababa, and in a wool fabric factory in Debre Mark'os. (16 Oct 82, p. 5)

State Farm Products

(Excerpt) In the state sector of Ethiopia's rural economy are 60 general farms which cultivate more than 230,000 hectares of land. The state farms provide the country with a variety of products including those to be exported. Among exported products are vegetables, cotton, fruit, and livestock. (17 Oct 82, p. 5)

Soviet-Ethiopian Joint Communique

(Summary) Talks between Ethiopian and Soviet officials in Moscow included the presence of high-ranking members of the Communist parties of both countries. The Ethiopian delegation also visited Minsk in Belorussian SSR, and both sides exchanged views on questions of foreign policy, areas of tension in the world, and the determination to strive to make the African continent a nuclear-free zone. (17 Oct 82, pp. 1, 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #203, 20 Oct 82, pp. J1-4)

Telegram of Thanks

(Excerpt) Ethiopian President Mengistu sent L. Brezhnev a telegram in which he thanked the Soviet leader for the warm reception the Ethiopian delegation had received in the Soviet Union. (18 Oct 82, p. 1)

Mengistu Speaks Highly of Soviet Trip

(Summary) Ethiopian President Mengistu spoke highly of the results of his working visit to the Soviet Union and his talks with Leonid Brezhnev. It is significant that the visit took place at a time when the process of setting up a party of the working people of Ethiopia is nearing completion. (20 Oct 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #203, 20 Oct 82, pp. J4-5)

Opening of Photography Exhibition

(Text) An exhibition of photography on the development and goals of science and technology in the Soviet Union opened in Addis Ababa. It is devoted to the 60-year formation of the USSR. (21 Oct 82, p. 1)

Guinea

Telegram of Congratulations

(Summary) L. Brezhnev sent a telegram to President Ahmed Sekou Toure of the Republic of Guinea, congratulating him on the 24th anniversary of the Republic's independence. (2 Oct 82, p. 1)

Guinea/Guinea-Bissau/Cape Verde

Telegram to Vieira

(Excerpt) L. Brezhnev sent a telegram to Brigadier General J. B. Vieira, General Secretary of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, and Revolutionary President of Guinea-Bissau, in which he congratulated him on independence day. (28 Sep 82, p. 2)

Kenya

Soldiers Sentenced

(Text) A military court in Kenya sentenced ten soldiers to prison terms ranging from 12 to 20 years. They had participated in the attempted coup d'etat of August 1. (22 Sep 82, p. 1)

Six Soldiers Sentenced

(Text) The special military tribunal in Kenya has sentenced 6 soldiers of the Air Force to prison for their participation in the attempted military coup of 1 August. The total number of convicted participants has reached 172. (13 Oct 82, p. 4)

More Soldiers Sentenced

(Text) The special military tribunal in Kenya has sentenced another 33 Air Force soldiers to terms of 1 to 18 years for their participation in the coup attempt of 1 August. (21 Oct 82, p. 1)

Liberia

Aid to Liberia

(Summary) The Executive Committee of the USSR Union of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has sent a large consignment of medical supplies to Liberia following the natural disaster which occurred there. (16 Oct 82, p. 4)

Madagascar

Exchange of Telegrams

(Excerpt) L. Brezhnev and the President of Madagascar, Didier Ratsiraka, exchanged telegrams on the tenth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. (1 Oct 82, p. 2)

Election to be Held

(Text) In Madagascar, the beginning of the election campaign was announced for November 7. Officially there will be two candidates: current President Didier Ratsiraka and the leader of the National Independence Movement Party, Monja Jaona. (19 Oct 82, p. 4)

Mozambique

Interparty Ties

(Excerpt) A delegation from the Mozambique Liberation Front Party (FRELIMO) headed by J. Rebelo, member of the FRELIMO Party Central Committee and Secretary of the Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union 17 through 24 September. The delegation was received by B. N. Ponomarev and a plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and FRELIMO for 1983-84 was signed. (25 Sep 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #059, 29 Sep 82, p. J1)

Graduation of Students from Central Party School

(Excerpt) The next class of the central party school in Matole graduated in Mozambique. During the course of instruction, dozens of future secretaries of city and regional FRELIMO Party Committees mastered questions of Marxist-Leninist theory and practices to build a Socialist society in Mozambique. (28 Sep 82, p. 4)

Soviet-Mozambican Trade Ties Developing

(Excerpt) Trade and economic ties are developing successfully between Mozambique and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is rendering assistance in the continuing progress of Mozambique's national economy in 17 fields. With the help of Soviet specialists, more than 6,000 qualified workers and technicians have trained in production and rural economic fields. Mozambique has imported from the USSR 4,000 automobiles, 600 tractors, and other farming equipment. During the past 5 years, the volume of trade between Mozambique and East Germany has tripled. (30 Sep 82, p. 1)

National Vigilance Day Observed

(Excerpt) National Vigilance Day was observed on 11 October in Mozambique. FRELIMO called for an active struggle with counterrevolutionary elements and for a strengthening of the country's defense capacity. (11 Oct 82, p. 1)

Health Care Improvements

(Excerpt) Over the years of independence, Mozambique's development has progressed with enormous success in the securing of medical help for the working masses, noted P. M. Mocumbi, Minister of Public Health, in Maputo. Recently in Mozambique, 14 general hospitals and 700 health workers were counted. (16 Oct 82, p. 1)

Mozambican Delegation to Tajik SSR

(Summary) A delegation from the National Assembly of Mozambique traveled to Tajikistan for 2 days. It was received by the president of the Tajik Supreme Council, and the guests were told about the achievements of workers in economics, science, and culture. (21 Oct 82, p. 4)

Namibia

SWAPO Criticizes US Negotiations

(Excerpt) The Reagan administration, pursuing its global strategic interests in southern Africa, has led the process of granting independence to Namibia into an impasse, reads a memorandum published by the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO). Seeking to prevent a just solution to the Namibian problem, Washington and Pretoria, the document points out, are trying illegally to link this question with the presence of Cuban internationalists in Angola. (10 Oct 82, p. 1, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #202, 19 Oct 82, p. J4)

New Wave of Terror

(Excerpt) A frontline city attitude reigns these days in Windhoek, the administrative center of Namibia. According to reports from this occupied territory of the racist regime of South Africa, the puppet authorities in the city began a campaign of terror and murder, especially in a heavily African populated suburb. The police didn't have time to complete the interrogation "with partiality" of more than 600 people detained in the last days as a new wave of arrests took place in which hundreds of policemen participated along with a special battalion. (21 Oct 82, p. 5)

Niger

Niger Ambassador Presents Credentials

(Excerpt) On 29 September Harouna Alou, Ambassador of the Republic of Niger, presented his credentials to P. G. Gilashvili, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. (30 Sep 82, p. 4)

Republic of South Africa

Shock Batons to South Africa

(Text) The US Secretary of State acknowledged that the Department of Commerce issued a license for the delivery to South Africa of the newest police equipment, shock batons, to be used for control in antigovernment demonstrations and for interrogation purposes. (22 Sep 82, p. 1)

Military Figures

(Text) Racist South Africa maintains 81,400 men under arms, and also possesses 400,000 men in reserve corps fit for immediate mobilization. According to a BBC

report, South Africa has 211 military planes. This is the latest data from the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. (1 Oct 82, p. 1)

Report on Treatment of Prisoners

(Excerpt) The committee of families of imprisoned kinsmen presented a report aimed at the Ministry of Law and Order in Pretoria, based on evidence provided by people who had been tortured by the apartheid government. In the report, numerous accounts of torture are presented about people who are subjected to imprisonment and accused of being "enemies of the system." (5 Oct 82, p. 5)

US-South African Cooperation

(Summary) Pravda commentator, Igor Tarutin, writes that it is characteristic that the visit to South Africa by the head of the US CIA followed a series of subversive acts organized by the South African special services against neighboring states, and attests to the close cooperation between the United States and South African secret services. (13 Oct 82, p. 5, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report, #207, 26 Oct 82, pp. J1-2)

Gandhi Condemns Apartheid Policy

(Summary) Indira Gandhi condemned South Africa for its apartheid policy during a message to a special UN committee. (14 Oct 82, p. 1)

Satire on South African Racist Policies

(Summary) Lately, the Prime Minister of racist South Africa has frequently promised a "resolution" to relax the race laws of apartheid. And yet, in one city, the head of the local government ordered the construction of a brick wall to separate "white" dwellings of the city from bordering African mining settlements; the city authorities had decided that dark-skinned people would defile the rest of the city by their presence. The "dark-skinned" people responded by leveling the wall. The police commissioner was summoned from Pretoria and told government personnel that the security policy of the country called for the manacling of the "coloreds" and also of dissatisfied whites. The South African Government also decided to order from overseas a batch of the most modern shock batons at a cost of \$180,000, and one Western firm had promised delivery of a computer. (16 Oct 82, p. 5)

Seychelles

Rene Speaks at Congress of People's Front

(Excerpt) Seychelles President Rene noted during the closing of the Congress of the People's Progressive Front of the Seychelles Islands that unity and discipline are decisive factors in the Socialist structure. The Seychelles' press agency reported that he also remarked that the attempted coup in November of last year failed thanks to the unity of the people of the Seychelles. The press agency also reported that the Congress decided in the future to form executive local organizations of the People's Front. (15 Oct 82, p. 5)

Tanzania

Ambassador Received

(Excerpt) B. N. Ponomarev received I. Sepetu, Tanzanian Ambassador to the USSR. A talk was held on questions of Soviet-Tanzanian cooperation and the development of ties between the CPSU and the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania. (30 Sep 82, p. 4)

CPSU Delegation to Attend Tanzanian Party Congress

(Excerpt) On 18 October, by invitation from the leadership of the Tanzanian Revolutionary Party, a CPSU delegation departed from Moscow to Dar es Salaam to attend the Fifth Congress of the Party. (20 Oct 82, p. 4)

Party Congress Opens

(Excerpt) The Fifth Congress of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania opened on October 20 in Dar es Salaam. Almost 2,000 delegates are participating, representing party organizations from continental and island regions of the Republic. (21 Oct 82, p. 4)

CPSU Announces Participation in Tanzanian Party Congress

(Summary) In a message from the Central Committee of the CPSU, the participation of a Soviet delegation at the Fifth Congress of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania was announced. The message noted the recognition of the CPSU of Tanzania as a frontline state which is dedicated to the struggle to destroy racism in South Africa and to end colonization. (21 Oct 82, p. 1)

Zambia

Newspapers Come Under Government Control

(Text) The newspapers Times of Zambia, Sunday Times of Zambia, and the publishing house Printak, came under the full control of Zambia's ruling party, the United National Independence Party (UNIP). Previously, they belonged to an English company. Reporting on this measure, the President announced that all the newspapers' employers and publishers would continue to work. (8 Oct 82, p. 5)