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15 April 1985

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

SMUGGLING REACHES 'DANGEROUS LEVEL' IN WEST AFRICA

Ikeja CONCORD WEEKLY in English No 25, 28 Jan 85 pp 17, 19

[Article by Mohammed Adam]

[Text]

Throughout the West Africa sub-region, reports about smuggling come in with alarming regularity - a group of cocoa farmers in the Volta Region of Ghana arrested by border guards with headloads of the commodity heading for the Togo border, another group in the Brong Ahafo region accosted by law enforcement agents heading for Ivory Coast, an articulated truck load of timber products seized at the Aflao border post on its way to the Togolese capital, a Saudi Arabian national arrested at Lungi airport attempting to smuggle gold out of Sierra Leone, a Nigerian trader arrested at Murtala Mohammed airport, Lagos with thousands of naira concealed on her.

Stories of smugglers of one kind or another, caught in the process of transporting cocoa, food stuffs, oil, kerosine, local or foreign currency swamp newspaper offices everyday but even then official estimates suggest that this is merely the tip of an enormous iceberg.

Such has been the phenomenal increase in smuggling activities across national boundaries in West Africa and indeed other parts of the continent that today, it is not merely a nuisance, but a gigantic multi-million pound conspiracy that cruelly fleeces the economies of many countries, rich and poor alike, to the point of bankruptcy.

In spite of severe sanctions against smugglers in many countries, including high prison sentences, confiscation of property and even the death penalty, no country has as yet met with any considerable success in dealing with this very awesome socio-economic problem.

Indeed so serious a menace has it become to the economic progress of many countries that, it has attracted the attention of not just public servants or police officers but economists, ministers and even Heads of States.

General Buhari's recent appeal to delegations from Niger, Benin and Togo for cooperation in stamping out currency trafficking and illegal importations of goods and President Siaka Stevens' reference to the adverse effects of smuggling on the economy of Sierra Leone, in his recent autobiography, all point to the gravity of the problem.

Smuggling takes place largely across the land borders of Ghana and Togo with the Aflao border enjoying a notoriety unparalleled anywhere in West Africa. Other land borders between Ghana and Ivory Coast and that across Nigeria and Benin are also noted for flourishing smuggling activities.

These borders are used mainly for trade in such goods and commodities as cocoa, timber products, food items including what is known in the region as essential commodities - milk, sugar, margarine, tinned mackerel, corned beef, gold, oil products and currency trafficking.

In countries like Mali and Burkina Faso, livestock constitute a major item of smuggling as do diamonds in Sierra Leone.

A report issued as recently as 1983, at a meeting of economists and trade experts drawn from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in Benin said that "unrecorded trade" (an euphemism for smuggling) among the 16 ECOWAS countries, stands at more than 1.3

billion naira per annum, a hefty sum that goes down the drain.

Many reasons have been given to explain the causes of smuggling, among them disparities in production levels and availability of goods in different countries.

Other factors that encourage smuggling, according to ECOWAS experts include currency trafficking, uncoordinated currency rates and "imprudent domestic pricing" by some governments in the sub-region.

Also pertinent is the non-convertibility of such West African currencies as the naira, dalasi, leone, cedi and many others.

Important as all these factors no doubt are, the single most crucial reason behind the astonishing rise in smuggling activity in recent times must be the deteriorating economic conditions in many countries and the consequent sharp fall in the living standards of the people.

Even though smuggling goes back several years, it has reached today's alarming proportions because as many people became poorer and poorer with no hope of improvement, smuggling offers a way out of economic delinquency.

This was certainly true of Ghana whose economy has, perhaps, suffered more from the effects of smuggling than any other country of comparative resource ability in the region.

Smuggling reached its peak in the period under the late General Acheampong between 1973/74 and 1978, at the height of the economic decline.

As almost every enterprising person began to indulge, the telltale signs - economic collapse, food shortages and rocketing prices - began to reveal themselves.

More damaging however, was the effect of cocoa smuggling. As the long-suffering farmers also took to smuggling their

produce across the borders into Togo and Ivory Coast, Ghana's foreign exchange earnings fell.

It was estimated that, at the height of cocoa smuggling, nearly a third of the country's crop was illegally sold outside in Togo and Ivory Coast.

Mali is another country which has similar problems. A report issued by the Meat and Livestock Authority in 1983, said that, even though 24,000 cattle and 85,000 sheep went out of the country through official trading channels, some 32,000 cattle and 124,000 sheep were illegally taken out of the country.

Even though a large part of smuggling goes on among countries in West Africa, it is by no means exclusive to the region. A lot of traffic goes on between West Africa and Europe particularly the United Kingdom. A major item on this route obviously is narcotics which in spite of the dangers involved has become a very lucrative trade like gold and diamonds. But there is more.

So far, smuggling has defied solution and the reasons are not difficult to understand.

Many people in the border guards, anti-smuggling squads and customs officials, themselves victims of the economic depression, are all too often more than eager to turn a blind eye to the activities of the smugglers in return for a handsome reward and so far not enough honest customs personnel have been found to withstand monetary and material temptations to do their jobs properly.

Worse still, those countries whose economies derive benefits from smuggling are usually loath to assist in efforts to deal with the problem.

From their very advantageous position, they can see no reason to stop what obviously is a profitable business for them. As long as this thinking persists, one must accept that the problem will simply not go away.

Smugglers Not Deterred...Despite Decree 20

[Article by Niyi Alabi]

[Text]

Despite the closure of Nigeria's borders with her neighbouring countries and Decree 20 which metes out harsh penalties to convicted smugglers, smuggling as an economic activity still thrives. I came face to face with this reality on a random visit to the Nigeria-Benin border post on the Lagos-Badagry expressway on Wednesday January 9, with our staff photographer Segun Adebayo.

In two separate incidents, the Badagry area Customs and Excise had arrested two men for allegedly attempting to smuggle into Lagos large consignments of sports shoes and assorted Dutch and English wax prints.

A middle-aged man who gave his name as Jimoh Ajani was being held for smuggling 2,307 pairs of sports shoes estimated at 115,000 naira.

The second incident involved a young man in his late twenties who gave his name as Amos Oladele. He was arrested while driving a Beetle 1500 with registration number LA 1868 KG towards Lagos. His arrest was the result of a routine check at Ijanaki, near Lagos. The defendant's car was found to be stuffed with 125 pieces of assorted wax prints estimated at 7,500 naira.

The expertise with which the small VW Beetle was packed with such a large consignment of textile prints defies description. The label on each piece was marked with the name "Iya Taju". This could mean that the man arrested, Amos Oladele, was only acting as an intermediary between the suppliers in Cotonou in the Republic of Benin and the presumed owner of the goods, Iya Taju.

The Area Administrator of the Customs and Excise department, Alhaji Nanawa Wakiki took us round the customs premises to show us the large quantities of goods that had been seized and the alleged smugglers in custody. Among those in custody was a man who refused to give his name, but who, according to the Area Administrator, had claimed he was a policeman.

Asked why in the two incidents reported, the smugglers had got so close to Lagos before being intercepted, the Area Administrator said that "because there are many villages and cottages along the road, it is difficult to know where the smuggled goods are loaded unto vehicles."

He, however, stressed that the Lagoon "is being heavily policed" because that had been proved to be the channel through which goods are smuggled from the Republic of Benin into Nigeria. Asked to comment on the impact of the border closure on smuggling, Alhaji Wakiki said that smuggling "is so lucrative that those who are bent on enriching themselves the easiest way will do everything to achieve their aims." To prove this point, the Area Administrator said that the man arrested for smuggling the textile prints had told his men that. "If I am unlucky to be arrested today, next time, I will try armed robbery."

It becomes clear that the Federal Military Government's war on smuggling is not, after all, being won. The time has come for a combined air and naval operation to get under way to patrol the vast stretch of sea along the Badagry-Lagos expressway because smugglers are capable of using canoes to ferry their goods from the Republic of Benin to Nigeria and vice versa. This becomes imperative in view of the serious economic effects smuggling has on Nigeria's ailing economy.

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

AFRICAN COOPERATIVES MEETING REPORTEDLY FRUITFUL

Ouagadougou SIDWAYA in French 11 Feb 85 p 4

[Excerpts] The bilingual regional seminar organized by ACI (International Cooperative Alliance) on the theme "Information and Cooperative Publicity" began on 4 February at the Hotel Independance and ended Saturday in our capital. For a week the participants had the opportunity to share their experiences with each other after hearing what has been done in our country, Ghana and Senegal in the field of cooperative promotion. Four topics were discussed and considered in working groups. They were:

- 1) utilization of radio and bulletins as a means of training, information and cooperative publicity.
- 2) the role and functions of the public relations man in the cooperative movement.
- 3) methods and techniques of cooperative education.
- 4) techniques and resources for information and publicity to insure and increase the effective participation of members in the life of the cooperative.

Both the opening and closing sessions were chaired by Comrade Abdoul Salam Sawadogo, chief of staff for the minister of agriculture and stock-raising. During the course of the ceremony, a final summation of the work of the conference was read out to the participants, who came to the following conclusions:

--First of all, the effort to find the correct role of information, education and cooperative publicity depends on a strategy of consciousness-raising. In order to accomplish this, the participants called for deep reflection on current practices with a view to a comprehensive and multi-media approach to the production and utilization of the media.

--The correct strategies for the production and utilization of the media depend on the general level of understanding and the socio-economic condition of the cooperative members, as well as the stage of technological development in a given area.

--Systematic use should be made of participative pedagogical techniques, in which the cooperative members will take part both as objects and subjects of

the information and publicity process, and not simply as consumers of the end product. From this point of view, the participants defined the media as the entire set of teaching methods and means utilized to make cooperative activity better understood and more effective. The participants also judged that in our countries at present, radio and simple, expressive posters are the most effective techniques, although they did not exclude the possibility of using other means. Such an approach should also be discussed with media technicians, producers and heads of cooperatives. The importance and utilization of informal channels that exist in rural communities (meetings, markets, wedding, baptismal and funeral ceremonies, etc.) were also acknowledged by the seminar participants. The latter emphasized the importance of more widespread dissemination of cooperative practices and more energetic resort to the media in an effort to see that these practices are more widely known and better understood by the people. They also recommended:

- 1) establishment and upgrading of a special entity for information, training and consciousness-raising within cooperative institutions;
- 2) provision of radio air time in the national languages of each of the countries participating in the seminar, with the use of this time to be organized and directed by cooperators themselves;
- 3) establishment of a publicity and information system utilizing documents and signboards;
- 4) creation and systematization of a network for the exchange of information regarding cooperative developments and problems;
- 5) organization of "brainstorming" seminars and exchanges between rank and file cooperative members of different countries affiliated with the ACI;
- 6) encouraging further initiatives by ACI-BREAO [Regional Bureau of West African States] to sponsor informational meetings with a view to continuing education of the cooperative members.

According to Comrade Salem, the development experiences of the last 2 decades prove that success requires voluntary and well-informed participation of the people concerned. He concluded his remarks by congratulating the seminar participants on their choice of a theme and the effective participation of the target population. Ten countries were represented at this meeting in Ouagadougou: Burkina, Benin, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Guinea (Conakry), Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. Six countries out of the 17 included in the BREAO did not take part in the seminar: Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.

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ANGOLA

JOURNALIST REPORTS FROM LUBANGO ON MPLA'S EFFORTS AGAINST UNITA

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 14

[Article by Marie Joannidis]

[Text] Lubango--Profiting from a cease-fire in fighting against South African troops occupying this southern region, Angola is strengthening its already powerful air force for a concerted drive against anti-government rebels.

Angolan officers stationed at Lubango, military headquarters for the southern region, said the country's air force now included advanced Soviet-made Mig-23 and Sukhoi fighter planes in addition to the MiG-21s acquired earlier by Luanda.

The Soviet Union, Angola's main arms supplier, has also provided the country's air force with MI-24 combat helicopters, which can be seen stationed both in Luanda and Lubango.

The Angolan Government is also seeking to diversify its military air fleet.

It recently purchased a number of Swiss-made Pilatus reconnaissance planes and negotiations are underway with Spain for the purchase of Casa anti-insurgency aircraft, officials said.

Luanda is also on the verge of concluding a contract with France for the purchase of 25 Gazelle combat helicopters and Dauphin patrol helicopters.

Angolan military sources said the halt in fighting with South African troops, who occupied southern Angola to choke off infiltration by nationalist guerillas into the Namibia, would allow Luanda to concentrate its forces on the rebels.

The sources said the government's new strategy against Unita called for concerted attacks on insurgent camps and sanctuaries which they said had spread "beyond Unita's logistical capacities" to support

CSO: 3400/820

ANGOLA

UNITA'S PURPOSE IN CAPTURING FOREIGNERS ANALYZED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 14 Mar 85 p 17

[Article by Andrew Walker]

[Text] Western diplomats and South African military observers say that Angolan rebels are using foreign captives as "ammunition" in a three-pronged assault on the Angolan Government.

The latest group of 22 captives is due to be handed to the Red Cross in southern Angola today and is expected at Jan Smuts Airport in Johannesburg by Saturday.

In the past three years Unita has captured, and later released, more than 150 foreign hostages.

The scheduled release of two Americans, three Britons and 17 Filipinos follows their capture during a raid by National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) rebels on December 29.

They have been marched more than 1 000 km in what has become Unita's "Propaganda Trail" through the Angolan bush.

The trail ends at Jan Smuts Airport with the repatriation of the captives to consular officials via a Red Cross flight from the rebel headquarters at Jamba in southern Angola.

Diplomats and military experts told 24 Hours that the capture and eventual release of foreigners was being used by Unita to:

- Get international recognition for the rebels as a major pro-Western force in a civil war against the Marxist Government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

- Present Unita's image as being that of a disciplined fighting force by returning captives unharmed.

- Stop foreigners providing badly needed skilled labour and specialist knowledge for the running of Angola's vital mining and oil complexes.

A Western diplomat, who did not wish to be identified, said: "Unita is trying to tell the world that there is a major civil war going on in Angola and that Unita is a force. Its object is to get out of the country the foreign technicians whose skills are badly needed to help earn the money to pay Angola's Cuban forces."

Another diplomat said in Pretoria that Unita's

capture campaign "gives them a chance to get their story across to the world".

He pointed out that some captives had been released at Jamba amid a glare of international publicity.

In briefings at Jamba for the Press, Dr Savimbi has also claimed that some captives, particularly foreign churchmen, had to be taken by Unita if caught up in attacks or they would be killed by Angolan forces in an attempt to discredit the rebels.

Professor Mike Hough, director of the Institute for Strategic Studies at the University of Pretoria, said that, by capturing foreigners, Unita had made the British and Czechoslovakian Governments talk to the rebel movement on its own ground.

"Basically it is connected with the idea of publicity."

Where foreigners had been caught up in the Angolan conflict, Unita had been careful not to injure them, he said.

CSO: 3400/820

JPRS-SSA-85-030
15 April 1985

NEW POLICE CHIEF OF STAFF INSTALLED

Cotonou FHUGU in French 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Lt Col Leopold Ahoueya was officially installed yesterday in his new position as chief of staff of the Public Security Forces.

The installation ceremony, held at the Police School of Instruction, was attended by a large delegation of officers, noncommissioned officers and enlisted men from the People's Armed Forces of Benin, and representatives of various ministries.

In handing over the new department to his successor, Col Issa Lawani, the outgoing chief of staff, said that the Public Security Forces play an integral role within the People's Armed Forces of Benin in strengthening the defensive foundations of our country. He noted that the Public Security Forces consist of five commands, namely company commands, commissariats, customs regions, forestry inspection units and emergency and rescue units.

Thus, the chief of staff of the Public Security Forces makes use of all these commands under his authority to carry out the missions of operational defense of the nation's territory, security and other specific missions of an economic or environmental protection nature.

Col Issa Lawani called upon his successor to maintain the willingly assumed iron discipline of the force and to keep personnel morale at a high level so that both uniformed and civilian members of the Public Security Forces, inspired by an acute sense of their professional obligations, carry out willingly and thoroughly their varied responsibilities, thereby meriting the continued trust of the popular masses of our towns and rural areas, our party and our revolutionary state.

Speaking of the tasks facing the new chief of staff, Col Issa Lawani said that one of the first will be to attach the two schools of instruction directly to the general staff of the Public Security Forces, so that henceforth they can train elements from all components.

Eventually, the new chief of staff should look for ways and means of establishing a consolidated school at an appropriate site. The outgoing chief of staff also said that eventually his successor should create officer cadres within the Public Security Forces who are trained in the military arts and capable of correctly assuming defense and security missions.

Finally, Col Issa Lawani thanked his former colleagues for the efficiency they demonstrated in the various missions that were assigned to them during his tenure as head of the Public Security Forces, exhorting them always to show the same ardor within a spirit of discipline and lawfulness.

"My hope is that those few rogues who are still to be found in our ranks will pull themselves together and cease their retrograde conduct," shouted the outgoing chief of staff in conclusion.

Lt Col Leopold Ahoueya expressed his respectful gratitude to the authorities of the party and the state who chose him for his new position, and said he was honored at the confidence that had been placed in him by President Mathieu Kerekou, our great comrade in the struggle.

The new chief of staff emphasized that security is everyone's concern, because it affects everyone, for good or ill. Also, he invited his comrades in uniform to work with him in a spirit of candor in order to "guarantee that the security of the state and the broad popular masses is maintained thoroughly and durably."

9516
CSO : 3419/320

BOTSWANA

SWEDISH AID PROGRAM TO MANDATE LESS SPENDING IN SOUTH AFRICA

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 15 Jan 85 p 5

[Article by Eva Elmsater: "Botswana's Dependence To Be Reduced"]

[Text] Gaborone (SvD)--At least half of Swedish aid to Botswana is used for local purchases--that is, to buy things in South Africa. Nearly 100 percent of the purchases for the water program have been made in South Africa, says Anders Trydell, deputy aid director in Botswana.

Swedish aid to Botswana amounts to 80 million kronor annually. This was unrestricted until recently. Now 10 million per year have been restricted to purchasing in Sweden equipment for the water program. This means a return of only 13 percent to Sweden.

"We have tried to increase the share of restricted aid in order to be able to steer buying away from South Africa and to Sweden instead," says Trydell. "And we have met with understanding for this from Botswana's government."

South Africa Cheapest

Botswana has received 615 million kronor so far in Swedish aid, and a large portion of this money has gone to South Africa, despite the fact that the principal objective of Swedish assistance to Botswana is to break the dependence on South Africa.

There are many explanations as to why it is regarded as necessary to buy primarily from South Africa. It is considerably cheaper, and the transportation costs are also much less than from other countries.

Swedish authorities have studied the possibilities of buying in Zimbabwe, but it was shown to be substantially more costly and the quality of the goods is lower.

Botswana is in practice totally dependent on South Africa for oil, grain, food, spare parts and machines. The goal of the Swedish aid is to try to reduce this dependence. However, many slightly exhausted aid workers in Botswana say: "It's like spitting in the ocean."

Change

But the situation continues to change slowly. Botswana is reaching out to other countries. Interest has been expressed, for instance, in increased trade with Sweden. In 1982 imports from Sweden totaled 700,000 kronor. Last year they were 25 million.

For the present, Swedish companies are not involved in any large projects, except for L.M. Ericsson, which is to expand the telephone network with assistance from the development loan from BITS. Also, Swedish Railsystem AB may get a contract for machines for producing concrete crossties. This loan is for 4 million. The loan for Ericsson is for 40 million kronor.

Since 1982 Sweden has been requiring as a stipulation in the aid agreement that all major purchases be made in consultation with Swedish authorities and that they not be made in South Africa.

The Swedish water program receives 20 percent of the aid funds. Since it began in 1972, some 70 percent of the population have gained access to water. Out of 350 villages, 210 now have water, with 40 villages being added per year.

Reaches Water Goal

Botswana is one of the few countries that can meet the UN goal for water supply. On the other hand, everyone agrees that the shortage of water will always be a factor impeding development in Botswana. The only surface water available is the Okavango River--which runs out in a delta right into a desert--and the Chobe River.

"We want to use both the surface and the ground water," says Gulam Quaraishi, director of the water department. "The problem, however, is that there is too little surface water. And the more water we pump up, the more it is used."

Botswana has learned to live with a shortage of water, and many of the industries use recycled water. The diamond industry, especially, needs much water and can recycle it.

Everywhere in Botswana one sees the Swedish drill holes and the characteristic water tanks and water faucets sticking out of the ground where the village population gets its water.

As a rule, two holes had to be drilled, each about 100 meters deep. Each hole cost about 60,000 kronor. Sometimes a hole had to be drilled as deep as 300 meters. A water line goes from the borehole to a tank that is located maybe 6 meters higher, and a diesel motor pumps the water to 5 or 6 public water faucets.

One of the problems resulting from the water project is that an increased use of water leads to sewer problems.

"It will be hard for Botswana to take over the water facilities and their maintenance. It'll be 10 years at least before they can run it themselves," says Quaraishi.

SIDA hopes that it will no longer be needed by then. As things now stand, SIDA is the sole supporter of the project, assuming 70 percent of the costs. Botswana pays the rest.

The water shortage is just one of Botswana's major problems. Livestock is another. Few people are willing to admit that cows cause a problem in Botswana. This is because they occupy such a central place in community life.

The Tswana people are a cattle-raising people who came to Botswana in the 1600s and settled on the arid 1,000-meter-high plateau. It is for the most part covered by the Kalahari Desert, and the Tswana settled in the east where agriculture can be pursued. The Bushmen live in Kalahari. But there has always been a mixing of the ethnic groups.

Cows are Money

The Tswana people have in a way continued their traditional life with extensive villages where families move long distances between the habitation sites, fields and grazing lands. Cattle make up the nucleus of their world view. Having cows is like having money in the bank.

"Overgrazing was not a problem before. Cattle were unable to go where water was available. With the new techniques of the 1940s, cattle could all at once be kept out in the Kalahari Desert. New refrigeration methods, veterinary service and a larger breed of animals have combined to create problems of overgrazing--especially during drought periods," says Anders Johnsson at the aid office in Gaborone.

Together with an agreement for meat deliveries to the Common Market, this has led to continued investment in cattle breeding.

Overgrazing and drought are the major threats to Botswana, and already 580,000 people are now receiving drought aid out of a population of slightly over 1 million. The UN has also decided to make its largest environmental protection investment in Africa right here in Botswana.

Physical Planning

SAREC [Administration for Research in Developing Countries] has also invested in agricultural development in a project in northwestern Botswana and they are supporting individual researchers at the university in Gaborone.

The greatest portion of Swedish aid has gone for school construction and instruction. Forty percent goes for this. So far, 1,600 classrooms have been built plus 15 district libraries and a national archive. For two years efforts have been directed to increasing the quality of instruction.

Sweden earlier worked to get electricity to the villages. In a recently completed program, 15 villages were provided with electricity.

Other major investments are sector support and district support. This goes to support various sectors such as schools and roads and supports the government services in the district. Training of local and district personnel is a growing responsibility.

"We are trying to see that people gain title to their piece of ground. That they get water and at least an outdoor toilet and maybe someday sewers," says Nils Viking of the planning office at Francistown in northern Botswana. He and the others have had tough bouts with the authorities in trying to end segregation in housing.

"I think we have succeeded in convincing them of our ideas. Not to have too many differences in living standards in residential areas. And," he adds, "we are trying not to introduce any ready-made Swedish solutions but rather to find sensible local alternatives."

9992

CSO: 3650/150

BOTSWANA

RSA ATTITUDE CHANGES SAYS BOTSWANA OFFICIAL

East London DAILY DISPATCH in English 26 Feb 85 p 15

[Text]

GABORONE — A senior Botswana Government official has described talks held with South Africa last Friday on mutual security matters as conciliatory.

The External Affairs Secretary, Mr Geoffrey Garebamano, told the government-controlled Radio Botswana a delegation led by the External Affairs, Minister, Mr Gaositwe Chiepe, to the one-day Pretoria meeting had expected to come under more pressure to sign a non-aggression treaty with its neighbour.

"During the meeting, the Botswana delegation found the South African attitude, for a change, quite conciliatory," he added in an interview.

After the talks, the Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, announced that South Africa accepted an assurance by Botswana that it would not

allow subversion from its soil and would not demand a formal security agreement.

Botswana and Lesotho have refused to sign peace accords with Pretoria similar to those entered into by Mozambique and Swaziland.

Mr Garebamano said South Africa had presented Botswana with an 11-page non-aggression pact in February last year, which was rejected because "Botswana did not see the need for such an accord, since the two countries were not at war."

He added that a less formal, five-page document had been presented in subsequent talks last April, but Botswana had still resisted.

Mr Garebamano said South Africa's announcement on Friday that it would stop pressing Botswana to enter into a formal accord had been a pleasant surprise. — SAPA-RNS.

CSO: 3400/827

BOTSWANA

GOVERNMENT AGREES TO TAKE OVER RAILWAYS

Harare THE HERALD in English 2 Mar 85 p 7

[Text]

THE governments of Zimbabwe and Botswana have agreed that Botswana Railways take over the National Railways of Zimbabwe in that country on January 1 1987, a railways spokesman said here yesterday.

"By agreement between both governments it (the take-over) is scheduled to take effect from January 1 1987," the spokesman said.

The NRZ has been assisting for the past seven years with the training of Batswanas as clerks, train crews, locomotive and rolling stock maintenance artisans and other allied trades, by agreement with the government of Botswana.

"In Botswana more than 90 percent of the resident railway staff are already Batswana. Management level training in the accounting personnel and

traffic functions has been given to a selected number of Batswana trainees and on-job railway experience has been afforded to Batswana engineering graduates in the civil and signal/communications engineering fields," the spokesman said.

Up to now it has been possible to pay in local currency for Zimbabwean exports to travel as far as the South African border near Mafeking.

"This represents a considerable saving on foreign currency to the exporter which is currently assessed as \$16 million a year," said the spokesman.

There were at present some seven goods trains and one passenger train passing daily between Botswana and Zimbabwe plus a weekly passenger train to Johannesburg.—Ziana.

CSO: 3400/827

BOTSWANA

BRIEFS

EXILES FEAR ATTACKS--Most South African exiles in Botswana are thinking of resettling overseas after the recent bomb attack on two exiles. The bomb almost claimed the lives of fellow countrymen Nat Serache and Gabriel Pule. The two escaped with multiple leg injuries when a massive bomb reduced their Gaborone home to rubble on February 13. They have since left the country for Zambia. The remaining South African exiles--unofficially estimated at 200--are gravely concerned. They feel they also face the threat of bombings if they stay in Botswana. Some of them are single, but others are married with children. They now see America or Canada as safer havens--since these countries encourage conditional resettlement. One of the conditions laid down by America is a non-criminal record, the denunciation of communism and totalitarianism and valid proof of refugee status. Lately, many South African exiles--plus others from Namibia and Angola--have been making enquiries at the United States and Canadian embassies about their prospects for resettlement. This could lead to a mass exodus from Botswana. [Text] [Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 3 Mar 85 p 5]

CSO: 3400/827

BURKINA

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NEW GOLD MINE INAUGURATION DISCUSSED

Paris EUROPE OUTREMER in French No 654, Jul 84 p 32

/Text/ The Poura gold mine, located in Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta), 180 km southwest of Ouagadougou, has just been inaugurated by the head of state, Capt Thomas Sankara, in the presence of the diplomatic corps and representatives of the financial backers of the project.

This is the only new metal mine of importance opened in west Africa in the past 20 years (except of the uranium deposits in Niger). Its operation has been assured by the Mining Research Company (SOREMI), the Burkinabe mixed investment company capitalized by Burkina Faso (60 percent), the Islamic Development Bank (20 percent) and the French Mining Company (Coframines) (20 percent), with a mining branch of BRGM /Geological and Mineral Prospecting Office/, playing the role of operator.

The exploitable reserves of the mine should furnish more than 20 tons of gold from an ore yielding 11 grams per ton. The operations at both the ground level and below ground are planned to last for about 10 years with about 2 tons of gold per year.

The investments for constructing the mine amount to almost 15 billion CFA francs and have been provided by SOREMI: 29 percent; the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation (CCCE): 27 percent; the European Investment Bank (EIB): 19 percent; The West African Development Bank (WADB): 6.5 percent; the Financial Company for Investments and Development in Africa (SIFIDA): 6 percent; the balance of 12.5 percent by various loans. In addition, the European Development Fund (EDF) has contributed to the building of the infrastructures (2 billion CFA francs); the CCCE has financed a program for developing the Black Volta valley and the Aid and Cooperation Fund (FAC) participated in financing formation shares.

The impact of this new activity on the economic development of the country will be very great: 800 people, for the most part Burkinabe, are employed on the mine site and it is expected that the population of the village of Poura is going to grow by several thousands. Therefore, a large accompanying program was launched to integrate the development of the mine district into a plan for the entire middle valley of the Black Volta, a region which is mainly devoted to agriculture. The agricultural development effort will include in particular

the introduction of foodproducing crops and the development of measures for the rehabilitation of forests. Beyond the immediate economic fallout which it would bring to local employment, the Poura gold mine will play an energizing role in opening up and developing this region economically and socially, while contributing in a significant way to the commercial balance of the state and to its own resources.

8956

CSO: 3419/283

15 April 1985

ETHIOPIA

BRIEFS

LIBYAN, USSR TANKS, PLANES--"The Ethiopian regime has received the following materiel from Libya and the USSR: 100 new T-62 tanks, MiG-23, Sukhoi planes and pieces of artillery," an official of the FPLE [Popular Front for the Liberation of Ethiopia] said. According to Said Barre, questioned on this point, as much as 80 percent of FPLE's armaments are spoils of war, the remainder being supplied by parties in sympathy with Ethiopia's objectives. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jan 85 p 11] 8568

DEPARTURE OF CUBANS--"The Cubans are leaving the country," a highly placed source stated, "because we do not need them any longer, our army having become strong enough." According to observers, Havana has always refused to involve its forces in Eritrea or, more recently, in Tigre. According to Western sources, 4,000 Cubans have left Ethiopia since the beginning of the year and 4,000 are allegedly preparing to leave, leaving a remainder of 3,000 civilians and soldiers. According to the same sources, the Soviet presence numbers 3,000 people, not counting the nationals of other Eastern countries. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jan 85 p 19] 8568

HELICOPTER DELIVERY--The British publication, HELICOPTER INTERNATIONAL, has indicated in its edition No 8-3 that Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL-Inde) had delivered 10 Chetak helicopters, type SA-316B Alouette-III, produced under Aerospatiale (France) license. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jan 85 p 19] 8568

CSO: 3419/278

GABON

BRIEFS

REMOTE-CONTROL VEHICLE DELIVERY--AI Security of Cambridge (Great Britain) is delivering this month to the presidential security force a caterpillar vehicle, type Ro-Veh, operated by remote-control by a cable 100 meters long. This contrivance makes it possible to observe and destroy explosives at a distance or to handle poisons, tanks to a mobile arm controlled by a closed-circuit television camera. This mine-clearing robot is equipped with two 38 mm water guns (Disrupter) and one 12-caliber Browning FN semiautomatic rifle. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jan 85 p 15] 8568

CSO: 3419/278

GUINEA

TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Conakry HOROYA in French 26 Feb 85 p 3

[Article by Alhassane Tangué Bah]

[Text] On Saturday, 23 February 1985, the offices of the Guinean Ministry of Commerce were the scene of a ceremony marking the signing of a trade agreement protocol between the Guinean delegation, headed by Saikou Barry, general director of foreign trade, and a delegation from the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia, led by Lazarek Stefan, general director of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade.

The first contract concerns the supplying of 100,000 tons of Kindia bauxite a year by Guinea, through the Prominex enterprise, to the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia.

In the contract, 50,000 tons will be used to pay for the clearing and the rest will be used to improve trade relations between the two countries.

The second agreement is entitled Barter Agreement No 1 between the Ministry of Commerce of the Republic of Guinea and the Federal Ministry of Foreign Commerce of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia. The latter contract stipulates what goods are to be supplied by the two partners.

It should be noted that this first session of the Guinean-Czechoslovak joint economic commission met after 8 years of interruption, as eloquent proof, as Saikou Barry said, of the trust which Czechoslovakia has for the Second Republic.

During the work of the meeting, both sides observed that their commercial trade was below existing potential, which is why they expressed their common will to increase the volume of their trade and improve bilateral economic relations.

At the close of the ceremony, the head of the delegation from Czechoslovakia, Lazarek Stefan, stated that Czechoslovakia greatly values the documents signed and that it will use every possible means aimed at integral application of the contents of the documents.

For his part, Saikou Barry closed the ceremony by emphasizing the spirit of friendship that has prevailed during negotiations. He asked both sides to put the documents into practice. To do so, he noted that in the Republic of Guinea, a page had been turned, the page consisting of making commitments that one failed to respect.

It should be noted that during its stay in Conakry, the Czechoslovak government delegation was received by our minister of commerce, Capt Cherif Diallo, at a meeting also attended by Dr Zdenko Hrcka, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia to the Republic of Guinea.

11,464

CSO: 3419/311

GUINEA

HEALTH AID FOR REPATRIATES

Conakry HOROYA in French 7 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by Bangaly Oulare]

[Text] The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor has just been granted eight ambulances, two trucks and three light vehicles (Landrovers) by the High Commission on Refugees (HCR), within the framework of assistance to Guineans repatriated as a result of 3 April 1984.

Some 20,000 of the repatriates will in the weeks ahead receive farm implements and seed in order to facilitate their reintegration into the nation's productive activities. The farm tools will arrive in Conakry very soon.

The vehicles will be used to provide liaison between the Ministry of Social Affairs and Guinean repatriates.

A ceremony on Monday, 4 February, brought together the minister of social affairs and labor, Dr Mariama Djelo Barry, and the HCR representative in Guinea, Abou Moussa. The latter took advantage of the opportunity to reiterate the willingness of his organization to help the government of the Second Republic in the search for a solution to the rehabilitation of Guineans with a legitimate ambition to live freely.

On behalf of the CMRN [Military Committee for National Recovery] and the president of the republic, Col Lansana Conte, Mrs Mariama Dielo Barry, minister of social affairs and labor, warmly thanked the HCR representative for the interest and sympathy which his organization has in the people, who at this precise time of Harmattan, are suffering from many diseases: malaria, bronchitis, and so on. To show that such aid has its price, Mrs Mariama Dielo Barry said: "I will confess to you here that the two truckloads out of the total lot which you have just solemnly given us are already in the interior, taking pharmaceutical products to zones of epidemics near Mali...."

The gesture is doubly useful, the minister said, for "far from being a gesture aimed only at the repatriates, it will serve the entire Guinean population. Actually, the eight ambulances have already been sent to the prefectures of Conakry II, Koundara, Forecariah, Dabola, Kerouane, Labe, Dubreka and Koumbia, whose hospitals previously had none."

One must also mention that the HCR has turned over to the Ministry of Social Affairs some 10,000 blankets and medical kits, which will go to several prefectures.

IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

BRAZILIAN FLEET'S FRIENDSHIP VISIT--A Brazilian naval fleet, called the "Frigate Independencia," has been docked in Ivorian waters since yesterday. According to Adm Edson Ferraci'u, commanding officer of the fleet, the visit aims to strengthen friendship between our two countries. "Brazil is subject to strong influence from African culture," Ferraci'u said, "and it is a pleasure for us to know the brother people of the Ivory Coast." The fleet is made up of four vessels, including the frigate "Independencia," the destroyer "A Lagos," the submarine "Amazonas" and the tanker "Narajo." The "Independencia" (F-44) was launched on 2 September 1974 at the Rio de Janeiro Naval Arsenal by Mrs Luci Geisel, wife of the president of Brazil at the time. The vessel is the sixth to bear the name. The first was a gunboat built by the Naval Arsenal at Belem do Para'. According to our guest, the vessel participated in many military operations in the Amazon region. The second vessel is smaller and of wood. It was used by the nationalists against the imperialist forces during the War of Independence of 1834. The third, a gunboat commissioned in 1852, was useful in the fight against pirates and smugglers. Finally, the fourth vessel, a brigantine launched in 1874, has four 125-inch guns, two 9-inch guns, 12 machine guns and two torpedo tubes. It displaces 9,310 tons. [Excerpt] [Abidjan FRATER-NITE in French 11 Feb 85 p 7] 11,464

CSO: 3419/311

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

THREE AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE PLANES--The government has placed a new order for three supplementary planes of the Israeli type IAI-201 Arava. This equipment will be used for aerial reconnaissance by the army which already has three units. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jan 85 p 12] 8568

CSO: 3419/278

MALI

TOMINIAN DISTRICT LEADER SPEAKS ON DROUGHT

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 16-17 Feb 85 p 7

[Interview with Lt Mahamadou Diop, Tominian district commander, by Sekou Youssouf Traore; date and place not specified]

[Text] The drought that has struck almost everywhere in Mali has not spared the district of Tominian, notes Lt Mahamadou Diop, commandant of the district. The top administrative official of the district disclosed, however, that the scourge has not broken the will of the inhabitants to fight back with all their resources.

[Question] Mr District Commander, we have reached the end of the 1984-1985 agricultural season. Can you tell us how things have gone?

[Answer] The food deficit is estimated at 5,060 tons, and production is down 65 percent, primarily because of insufficient rainfall. The food shortage is particularly tragic for the inhabitants. In all the villages the granaries are empty, the families are completely destitute. Today the specter of famine hangs over most of the villages. The livestock are suffering both from malnutrition and disease, because of the inadequate pasturage and lack of water.

[Question] Mr District Commander, has the health of the people been affected?

[Answer] It is a matter of concern at this time. District health statistics, for example, show a high incidence of gastroenteritis and various maladies caused by intestinal parasites.

The people are also suffering acutely from other problems, namely a water shortage and illiteracy.

We want to improve truck gardening. To succeed, we must motivate the people to devote their energies to basic improvements and accessing subterranean water sources. Steps have already been taken by the Development Committee to solve the problem of water, which is our source of life.

Companies such as Mali Aqua Vita, Operation Well and CFAR of Zura have drilled and dug a number of wells throughout the district, and their work continues. These projects are essential for the expansion of truck gardening in our district. I note with satisfaction that one village has taken the first steps in this direction, namely Kagnan. This village has a truck gardening project initiated by the people themselves.

The applied nutrition project has decided to contribute to this work. Its contribution involves completing work on a well dug by the people that provides 10 cubic meters per hour, as well as providing seed and agricultural implements. I hope that Kagnan will be the pioneer in this domain, and that other villages will follow its example, realizing that there is no longer enough rainfall to support agricultural self-sufficiency.

9516

CSO : 3419/315

MALI

JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL AID REPORTED

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 18 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] Agriculture Minister Issa Ongoiba and a Japanese delegation from Sumitomo Chemical participated last Friday in a ceremony at the ministry to mark the presentation of a donation of agricultural equipment and chemical products to Mali.

Altogether the various consignments making up the donation are worth Fr CFA 200 million. Included in the gift are 30 motor-driven pumps, 25 assorted motor-driven sprayers, 50 other manual sprayers, 200 manual dusting devices, and more processing products and fertilizers for Operation Seed and Harvest Protection (OPSR).

With the presentation of this gift, cooperation between Japan and Mali in the agricultural domain is enriched by a qualitative leap forward in know-how and technology. Both sides are extremely hopeful that these advances will contribute to bringing Malian agricultural production closer to the goal of food self-sufficiency, one of our country's top priorities.

In his response to the remarks delivered by Mr Okano, the director of Sumitomo Chemical and leader of the Japanese delegation, who was accompanied at the ceremony by the director of [word illegible], (its representative in Mali), Minister Ongoiba expressed his satisfaction with the high caliber of cooperation between Japan and Mali, noting the effectiveness of the Japanese role in the development and expansion of irrigated land in Baguineda.

He also expressed the hope that the various elements of this gift will lead to "results that will make our cooperation a shining example of making things happen." Then Mr Ongoiba thanked the Japanese delegation and government, on behalf of the party and the Malian Government, expressing the hope that Japanese technology, which has been proven in all the markets of the world, will help strengthen relations between our two countries.

9516
CSO : 3419/315

MALI

SAUDI AID PROJECTS NOTED

Water Works Project Signed

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 18 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] A contract for the digging of 630 boreholes and 20 wells in the areas of Segou, Baroueli and Dioila was signed Friday 15 February at the Saudi Arabian Embassy. The two signatories were Iraj Amir Tahmasseb, general manager of SEFI (Drilling, Excavation, Boreholes and Injections), and Wolf-Dietrich Steinert, representative of the GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Technische Zusammenarbeit [German Technical Assistance Company]).

The aforementioned West German company is supervising execution of the portion of the Saudi hydraulics program that deals with countries hit by the drought. The program has funding of \$81 million, and our country's share is \$12,240,000 or 15 percent of the total available. It should also be noted that this water works program represents a portion of the aid promised by the Saudi kingdom at the TAEF [expansion unknown] summit in 1981 as an expression of Islamic solidarity.

The GTZ conducted the studies to assess the water projects proposed for our country. It also submitted bids, which were evaluated by SEFI. The company should begin work within 90 days of the signing of the contract. It should be finished by May 1987. Theoretically, it should be possible to stay within this timeframe, according to Mr Tahmasseb, SEFI's manager, because there have been notable advances in drilling techniques. It is now possible to drill and fully equip a borehole in a single day.

The signing ceremony was attended by the state minister for industrial development and tourism, Mr Djibrill Diallo; the minister for foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr Alioune Blondin Beye; Mr Al Sugair, vice president of the Saudi Fund, and His Excellency Fadh Bakht, charge d'affaires of the Saudi Embassy in Mali. The latter, in his brief remarks, underlined the fact that this hydraulics program for Segou, Baroueli and Dioila is an expression of Islamic cooperation between the Malian and Saudi peoples.

Teaching Institute Hailed

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 18 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] A grant agreement between Mali and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia totaling Fr CFA 346 million was signed Friday at Koulouba in the meeting hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

This sum, allotted to our country by the Saudi Development Fund (SDF), will be dedicated to construction of a teaching institute at Tombouctou. The purpose of the institute is to train teachers in the Arabic language and Islamic culture. In other words, this building is designed to provide logistical support for the upcoming ceremonies at Tombouctou marking the 15th centennial of the Hegira.

According to our minister of foreign affairs, Mr Blondin Beye, the signing of this agreement marks a step forward in preparations for Uma Islamy's celebration here of the 15th centennial of the Hegira, in a lavish religious ceremony appropriate for meditation and reflection. After a brief review of historical contacts between the celebrated town of Tombouctou and Islam, Mr Alioune Blondin Beye said that the present project, which benefits from the generosity of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, is an aspect of Islamic dynamism which, by restoring our ties to the past, will restore the prestige of Tombouctou, by providing it the means to "dress up" for the festival of universal Islamic brotherhood.

Our minister praised the cooperation between Mali and Saudi Arabia, a diversified cooperation that corresponds to development imperatives and is inspired by mutual understanding in accordance with the Islamic ethos and the principles of Arabo-African cooperation. Mr Beye described our country's economic and financial problems and appealed for Islamic solidarity.

Finally, he offered profuse thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Saudi people, and the Saudi leaders for the important decision on construction of the second Bamako bridge, which has been so eagerly awaited by the Malian people, particularly by those who live in Bamako.

His Excellency Sheikh Mohamed A. Al Sugair, vice president and general manager of the SDF, said in his remarks that the project indeed represents a recognition of the vanguard role played by our country in the spread of Islam in West Africa and in consolidation of the historic ties existing between the peoples of that region and the Arab countries.

According to Sheikh Mohamed A. Al Sugair, the new accord "testifies once more to the solidarity of the historic ties between our two countries and at the same time reflects the policy of His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia, one of the objectives of which is to aid fraternal and friendly Third World countries suffering the repercussions of the world economic crisis, as well as the baneful effects of the drought that continues to ravage the region."

The SDF, which is the principal vehicle for channeling Saudi aid, has to date allotted our country a total of more than Fr CFA 43 billion in loans. In addition, the Saudi government has pledged more than Fr CFA 17 billion to cover the cost of the second Bamako bridge, half of which is being underwritten by the SDF. The fund has also agreed to provide Fr CFA 8.5 billion of the financing needed for two projects still under study, namely the second cement works at Diamou and the irrigation plan for the 6th region.

In addition to the contribution of the SDF and the aid provided by governmental agencies, we should mention that Saudi Arabia also provides indirect aid through international and regional organizations and institutes to which the Saudi government makes substantial contributions.

MOZAMBIQUE

GOVERNMENT'S INCREASING INVOLVEMENT IN ECONOMY EXPLAINED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 Feb 85 p 10

[Article by Robin Drew]

[Text]

The socialist government of Mr Robert Mugabe is involving itself more and more in the Zimbabwean economy in line with the declared aim of increased State participation in the means of production.

The latest development is the appearance of the Zimbabwe Milling Corporation, a company formed by the Government with the intention, according to a document lodged with the Registrar of Companies, of taking over wholly the functions of the existing milling companies.

The news of the company's formation, broken in the independent weekly *Financial Gazette*, has raised more questions than answers about how the Government intends to operate its stake in the multimillion-rand milling industry.

The existing companies, in some of which there are substantial South African interests, have had nothing to say in public about the latest move.

It was nearly two years ago that Mr Mugabe said the Government intended to buy all or the majority of shares in key areas, including the milling industry.

Financial commentators have urged caution in reacting to news of the possible wholesale takeover and have said the Government is unlikely to break with its declared policy of negotiating on a willing buyer-seller basis.

That has been the general pattern up to now in the involvement of the State in business and industry. The Government now has a stake in a wide variety of activities. They include:

- Mining, through shareholdings in Wankie (coal) and MTD (copper and gold).

- The steel industry, through a majority holding in Zisco.

- Fuel procurement, which is handled entirely by a State company.

- Banking, through the Government's majority holding in Zimbank.

- Mineral sales, all of which go through a State body.

- The drug industry, through its control of the biggest company, CAPS.

- Food processing, through its partnership with Heinz.

- The hotel industry, where the Government owns or has a stake in four hotels.

- Farming, through State farms including ranching, dairying, wheat production and market gardening.

- Newspapers and bookshops, through control of Zimbabwe Newspapers and Kingstons by the Mass Media Trust.

The socialist philosophy has been implemented through co-operatives

in a host of small industries and resettlement schemes on the land.

All this is in addition to the heavy involvement which the Government inherited in the railways, the airways, posts and telecommunications and the broadcasting media.

However, the Government goes to some pains to reassure private enterprise that for the foreseeable future there will be a place for it, albeit limited, alongside government or co-operative enterprises.

Indeed, the ruling Zanu (PF) party has set an example in this regard by forming a holding company, Zidco, which has interests in farms, a garage, a shop and import and export.

The Zidco chairman, Dr Frederick Shava, who is also Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, said there was no contradiction in the party's policy of socialism and the company's profit-making activities, because the profits went not to individuals but to the party.

"There is nowhere in the world where trade does not go on," he said. "What is important is how the profits are used. The party is not one person but the people. We are not not accumulating funds to be moneylenders, for example." — *The Star's Foreign News Service.*



'Scuse me sir, but when you're through with that . . ."

CSO: 3400/836

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL REVEALED AS BITTER OVER BOTHA'S BETRAYAL OF NKOMATI

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by J.H.P. Serfontein]

[Text]

MAPUTO — "It seems to some of us as if President Samora Machel has been betrayed by President P W Botha on the Nkomati Accord.

"When he signed a year ago he believed that he could trust the Afrikaners in a first historical step towards a peaceful solution of the problems in southern Africa."

Thus spoke a friend and close adviser of President Machel this week in Maputo. His comment reflected the anger and deep resentment of the Frelimo leadership about what they perceive to be the total failure of South African Government to bring to heel the Renamo movement.

However, the adviser stressed that this was not the official view of President Machel and members of his Politburo.

Until now, President Machel saw the Nkomati Accord as a vital component to the solution of the problems of both Mozambique and the internal situation in South Africa.

Whilst the Mozambican government is prepared to give Pretoria officially the benefit of the doubt; accepting the personal sincerity of Mr Botha in signing Nkomati, there is no hiding of their deep disappointment that it has failed on fundamental aspects.

"We have always believed that President Botha was a De Gaulle in full control of his own country. But we have now come to realise that he is merely a manager who cannot force through his will.

"He apparently has to take into account the different conflicting groups in the army, the police and politics.

"There is sufficient evidence that some of these elements have been sabotaging the Nkomi agreement," a Cabinet minister said.

And three weeks ago in a statement which came the closest to officially blaming the South African government, President Machel said: "South Africa is not upholding the Nkomati Accord. I do not know whether they have the capacity to implement it or whether they are unwilling."

Senior Western diplomats in Maputo claim that there is sufficient evidence that until very recently support for Renamo has come directly from South Africa.

Frelimo leaders stress: "We are proud that we have fulfilled our part of the agreement, both in spirit and letter. Within weeks after Nkomati we took tough action against the ANC, however painful it was to us," said a member of the Politburo.

This week there was flurry of diplomatic and political activities in Maputo, as it seems as if Mozambique has finally reached the crossroads regarding South Africa and the Nkomati agreement.

There is all evidence that there has been a hardening of Frelimo attitudes towards South Africa in the three weeks since my previous visit.

I was then promised several top-level official interviews to evaluate a year of Nkomati.

But Nkomati has become a swearword.

At the time of writing, no official interview has materialised, although privately the Frelimo establishment is expressing the most scathing views of the South African role.

Explaining their anger, the Machel adviser told me: "We are in a most embarrassing situation. Because critics of Nkomati, who include some of our closest allies, are now in a position to say: 'We told you that you cannot trust the Afrikaner.'"

Stressing that Frelimo categorically rejects this analysis and fully accepts Mr Botha's personal integrity, he added: "How is it possible that the ex-

tremely efficient and sophisticated South African security machine cannot curb Renamo activities from South Africa?

"We do not believe that individuals and organisations can support Renamo without the knowledge of the South African government."

In the past 10 days the Politburo and special Cabinet meetings devoted all their attention to evaluating Nkomati.

The most significant event is the special visit this week of President Machel to talk to Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere in Dar es Salaam.

It follows two interviews in which President Nyerere expressed his strongest condemnation of the Mozambican involvement with Nkomati.

"We find it increasingly difficult to defend ourselves against people like Nyerere or attacks from OAU circles," I was told.

This has upset President Machel, who has had the closest relationship with President Nyerere for 20 years.

One reason for the anger of the Frelimo government is that for the first time in 10 years they are forced to seriously consider asking assistance from the Soviet Union — which would seriously reduce its sovereignty.

"They will lay down conditions which would probably include a demand that we reassess our stand on the ANC," a senior Cabinet minister told me.

According to the Frelimo government, such a step would destroy one of the major achievements of the Nkomati Accord: the avoidance of an East-West confrontation.

For more than a decade it has been a holy cow of Frelimo foreign policy to refuse Soviet or Cuban assistance.

The anger over the alleged South African failure to clamp down on Renamo should be seen against the background of the serious domestic situation in many of provinces.

They directly accuse the South Africans of sending vast amounts of arms and ammunition to Renamo fighters inside Mozambique on the eve of the Nkomati signing.

Colonel Sergio Vieira, the security minister, recently admitted that up to 15 civilians were killed each day because of Renamo activities.

The disruption of daily life in many areas in the countryside — because of Renamo, floods, droughts and mismanagement — is said to be most serious.

Mr Rob Pannekoek, director of the Eduard Montlane Foundation — a Dutch organisation of voluntary workers involved in projects throughout the country — confirmed reports that at least 100 000 people had died of hunger over the past year.

Some government officials openly admit that elements of the army have become unreliable. They are underfed and in some instances it is they and not Renamo who are responsible for attacks on civilians for the sheer necessity to survive.

The domestic crisis seems to have assumed such proportions that even if South Africa should succeed tomorrow in effectively preventing Renamo from operating from its soil, it will have very little effect.

NAMIBIA

HARARE PAPER TERMS NEW DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES 'IMPERIALIST MOVES'

Harare THE HERALD in English 4 Mar 85 p 4

[Article by Charles Chikerema]

[Text]

NEWS that the coming weeks may yet see another American initiative to end the deadlock over the Namibian independence issue is bound to create speculation about the real intentions of the US and the apartheid regime in South Africa.

The flurry of diplomatic activity since the heady days of the Nkomati Accords had given rise to great expectations in many quarters and had led some political analysts in the West to draw an over-optimistic scenario in which things were finally moving in the right direction in Southern Africa in general and Namibia in particular.

But it is now clear that the scenarios inspired by events such as the Nkomati Accord and the disengagement agreement in Angola have become unstuck.

This is mainly because everything that seemed to be concessions and sweet reasonableness on the part of the apartheid regime were nothing but devious devices to protect apartheid at home and to give it a respectable image abroad.

After Nkomati it was believed in Pretoria and other capitals in the West

that the independent African states in Southern Africa had at long last seen reason and had changed their attitudes towards the apartheid regime.

It was said that they had finally realised that the regime was too strong militarily to be challenged by states whose economic positions were in poor shape.

It was said then that the pace and scope with which the apartheid regime was "making things happen", was causing spectators "to catch their breath".

Domestically the apartheid regime had counted on focusing attention on the so called constitutional dispensation exercise by which the tricameral parliament was set up.

And in Namibia one of the founders of Swapo, Cde Herman Toivo ja Toivo, was released.

All these moves were viewed not as solutions in themselves, but as necessary steps in a general process to alter the political framework in which the apartheid regime was to appear in the Southern African context.

Among the reasons behind the release of Cde

Toivo, on the part of Pretoria, was the belief that he would lead a splinter faction against the president of Swapo, Ode Sam Nujoma, and shift attention from armed struggle to create conditions for an internal settlement.

Throughout the year when these moves and initiatives were taking place, one perceived a desire on the part of the apartheid regime and its allies abroad to set in motion a network of relationships in a process leading to Pretoria's dream of a constellation of Southern African states.

In that framework, it was believed, the Cubans would have gone home, leaving Angola vulnerable and at the mercy of the apartheid regime and Unita.

It would no longer be necessary to speak of Resolution 435 for Namibia as the envisaged division between the internal and the external wings of Swapo was to have introduced a new equation on the Namibian political agenda, superseding the need to implement United Nations resolutions.

With the Indians and Coloureds fully participating in the tricameral political structure, the anti-apartheid front would have been split at home, leaving the Nkomati Accord to deal the death blow to the freedom fighters across the borders.

This scenario was to have left the apartheid

regime towering over its neighbours in Southern Africa, as the US towers over the Latin American states.

It would have been a glorious ending of the policy of constructive engagement, leaving the independent states of Africa not only subdued, but with no alternative save to accept the inevitability of apartheid.

But this has not happened and this means the authors of the next initiative over Namibia will have to come up with a new set of assumptions, seeing that the original ones have collapsed.

The Nkomati Accord which was meant to ensure that neither South Africa nor Mozambique would be used as a base for attacking the other, has turned out to be a one-sided show.

While Mozambique has kept her part of the bargain the apartheid regime has done nothing of the kind and the MNR bandits are still in business.

Many people now believe the apartheid regime had no intention of honouring the accord in the first place.

As far as Pretoria was concerned the accord was a bait to lure the rest of the African states in the region into signing a series of Nkomatis and when this did not happen, the accord ceased to be of any interest for Pretoria.

In Namibia Ode Toivo has maintained his implacable opposition to apartheid identifying himself with Swapo as

the general secretary of the fighting movement.

In Angola while Luanda and Havana have said the Cuban international troops could go home, they will not be precipitous about it.

In South Africa itself the Indians and Coloureds did not vote en masse for the tri-cameral parliament while more important still the Africans have stepped up their opposition to the regime.

On the continent generally the OAU put its house in order somewhat during the last summit, electing a veteran opponent of the apartheid regime in Tanzania's Julius Nyerere as chairman.

In the US, where the Botha Government hoped to have unending sympathy, things are not that rosy either. Popular opposition to apartheid is mounting while some Congressmen are working on plans to implement legislation that could affect economic ties with South Africa.

All this indicates that the frantic attempts by the apartheid regime to have a new image at home and abroad have not been completely successful and that the world has seen through the subtle subterfuge and ploys.

Ode Nelson Mandela and his principal colleagues turned down the conditional offers of liberty, proving once again that all the moves and initiatives on the part of the enemy will flounder as long as they are aimed at preserving apartheid.

NAMIBIA

JOURNALIST WITNESSES, DESCRIBES KOEVOET'S ACTIVITIES

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Mar 85 p 7

[Article by Stephen Terblanche]

[Text]

A TASK force of Swapo's elite fighting unit — known as the Special Unit — has been almost wiped out and the annual rainy season infiltration through Owambo to the south of South West Africa has been stopped.

Most of the terrorists were tracked down and killed by Koevoet, the crack police counter insurgency unit operating in the war zone.

I spent my first day in the bush with Koevoet in a fighting group made up of 40 men drawn from the local population and led by four whites and one black commander.

The men were assigned to four landmine-proof Casspir vehicles.

After less than an hour in the bush a radio message was received that another police unit (not Koevoet) had picked up two sets of tracks and that the insurgents had fired on the group.

Our group, under the command of Sergeant Boesman Pretorius, raced to their aid through dense bush.

Tracks

They soon found the other police unit some 50km to the north-east and not far from the Eenhana area.

From there the group spent the day following the hardly visible tracks and stopping at numerous kraals for information.

Knowing that the insurgents were not more than 2km ahead, the Koevoet men pushed on.

Another message on the two-way radio — a group of about 20 men had been ambushed 30km north of us at the Angolan border.

Four men had been injured by a Soviet-made RPG rocket fired into their Casspir and had been airlifted to Ondangua hospital.

With nightfall came the rain. The tracks left by the insurgents were washed away and a temporary base was made in the bush.

The man who helped me erect my bivouac for the night, Warrant Officer Lucas Kilino, told me that he had been making war since the age of 14. He was now 37.

He was first recruited by Holden Roberto's FNLA in Angola and sent to China for training.

He first fought Angola's Portuguese rulers, later he fought the ruling MPLA in Angola, then joined the South Africans in 1976 in the Angolan war against the MPLA and the Cubans.

At the end of that war he fled to Owambo where he joined the Army's 32 Battalion.

ion, after which he volunteered for service in Koevoet.

WO Kilino is now a fully-fledged South African policeman. Most of his fellow Angolan refugees who have joined Koevoet are Special Constables of the SWA Police.

Word was received that another Koevoet group operating just above the Etosha Pans had found several Swapo tracks; I joined that group led by Warrant Officer Rob Brockway some 180km to the south.

Passing through Oshakati on my way to WO Brockway's group, a massive explosion rocked the town.

The wife of the Portuguese owner of a shop and a local civilian had been killed by a Swapo bomb planted in the shop.

The Portuguese couple had been known to all the men of Koevoet and the unit bought a wreath for her funeral.

Just a week before the unit had buried one of their own — Constable Willem van As who had died in a skirmish with Swapo.

At the nearby market I met a legless Owambo farmer confined to a wheelchair. He had been a victim of an earlier bomb blast which had destroyed the town's post office.

On reaching WO Brockway's Koevoet group, the group had closed the gap between them and two insurgents.

In the late afternoon a brief firefight erupted and the two insurgents were killed. One was a top Swapo commander of the elite Special Unit, known only as Sakkie.

With first light the next morning the other set of tracks was followed once more.

On the extremely dry and hard ground — no rain had been falling in that area — the tracks were invisible to my untrained eyes.

But the Koevoet men followed the tracks of two men effortlessly.

Not long afterwards they told WO Brockway that the two insurgents were only about 300m ahead. By noon the distance had shrunk to 200m and two helicopters joined the search.

The insurgents were now employing anti-tracking strategies such as walking on their toes, jumping from one tuft of grass to the next, and leading their pursuers in circles.

At one stage it was discovered the Swapo insurgents had been walking behind their pursuers for some 200m on our own tracks.

The dense bush prevented the helicopters from spotting them from above.

Crash

Shortly afterwards the trackers found a hole where the Swapo men had been drinking water.

Then temporary commotion broke out. A helicopter coming down to a clearing to refuel from one of the Koevoet trucks crashed.

One crew member broke a leg and a Koevoet spotter on board injured his back. They were evacuated to Ondangwa with another helicopter. But the chase continued.

With nightfall it stopped. Swapo insurgents do not move at night for fear of leaving tracks, and a temporary base was erected.

Early next morning WO Brockway and his men again pursued the tracks.

Within two hours they closed in. The silence was shattered briefly by gunfire. Their mission was over.

NAMIBIA

PERMITS NEEDED FOR OFF-LIMITS AREAS

Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 15

[Article by Gary van Staden]

[Text]

WINDHOEK — From tomorrow almost 25 per cent of Namibia will be a no-go area, off limits to all but those who live there unless in possession of a permit and the permission of the police.

The "security areas" stretch for more than 1 000 km on the country's northern border and run down 450 km on the eastern flank with Botswana. They include Kaokoland, Ovambo and Kavango along the border with Angola, the eastern Caprivi on the frontier with Zambia and Bushmanland as well as Hereroland where Namibia meets Botswana.

The Council of Churches in Namibia claimed in a statement that the motive for the proclamation was to hide that which the security forces did not want the world to see. The Council said its work would be hampered by the permit requirements which were designed to make it difficult for church, political organisations and the media to get into the war zone.

The National Democratic Party asked why these security areas were needed if Swapo was as impotent and weak as it was said to be.

The police made it clear that they saw the security measures as helping to protect the public. The aim of the measures, they said, was to ensure the safety of the visitors to these areas.

"There are too many people wandering about in dangerous places and the security forces can no longer guarantee their safety," the police added. They denied having any political motive.

According to the police there will be no checkpoints as such on entering any of the areas. They said that it was up to the individual to ensure they had the necessary permit.

They also stated that any journalist who needed to get into any of the areas on short notice would be assisted by the police.

But they made it clear that the issue of a permit would not be automatic.

"If in the opinion of the police the area a person wishes to visit is unsafe then the permit will not be issued," they said.

CSO: 3400/828

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

SWAPO LOSSES--The South West African Territory Force had a kill-rate ratio of 21:1 in Namibia during 1984, according to Jane's Defence Weekly publication. And, in the same issue it is reported that Swapo's leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, appealed for more military equipment for use in the war against South Africa because he says, "Pretoria has extended the South African Defence Act to Namibia and is recruiting Namibians over the age of 15 into its forces with the aim of causing civil war in the territory." According to Jane's, 584 insurgents were killed in 1984 compared to 26 members of the security forces. This figure is considerably lower than in the previous two years. In 1982, 1 268 Swapo insurgents were killed in operations and in 1983, 918 were killed. In the first seven weeks of 1985, insurgency losses reached the highest of any Namibian war-year with 153 Swapo members killed by security forces. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 9 Mar 85 p 1]

CSO: 3400/828

SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT CRITICIZED FOR RECKLESS LEFTIST COURSE

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 13 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial by Gawie: "Moving Left With Increasing Frenzy"]

[Text] An English-language Sunday newspaper recently wrote that the government is "hostage" to the rightists. Mr P. W. Botha actually cannot "move" as fast as he really could, the newspaper complained, because he must constantly look over his shoulder at the rightists.

Gawie has never really thought much of some English journalists' understanding of politics (especially Afrikaner politics), and statements such as this do nothing to dispel this view.

But this statement can perhaps also have been made with ulterior motives and perhaps shows not as much a lack of understanding as it may appear at first glance. You see, some English political commentators these days have something of a problem maintaining the one-time dividing lines between them and the government. However much more and however faster the government moves to the left, all the more must they accuse it of not moving fast enough. They are, as it were, fleeing to the left, but are always screaming assiduously that it is not going fast enough! It is all show, and transparent politics.

The truth is that the government at this point is not hostage to the rightists. It is moving to the left in a frenzy, as the events of the past few weeks indicate. For example, who could have predicted several years ago that discussions with the ANC and the release of terrorist leader Nelson Mandela could become part of public political debate? But now it is so. Denials of the charge that the government has talked with the ANC are untrue. It has, and it is also planning to set Mandela free in the foreseeable future.

As this is being written, the Mixed Marriages Act and Article 16 of the Immorality Act are under discussion in parliament, while the Orange Free State NP [National Party] is looking into admitting Indians into the Free State.

No one who knows the NP will bet a penny that the Immorality Act and the Mixed Marriages Act are going to remain on the books.

No, at this point the government is anything but hostage to the rightists. In this regard, the situation differs considerably from the 1970s, when Mr John Vorster was continually peeking over his shoulder to see what the HNP [Reconstituted National Party] was doing and how much support it was enjoying. Later he was denounced by his own people, who said that this was all that he was doing and that he had come to a complete standstill in his movement to the left.

The fact is that the HNP, then much weaker than the rightist movement today, had a very restraining effect on politics. Integration measures were implemented more slowly and at larger intervals, and were usually alternated with deafening noise directed at other countries or something similar in order to draw attention away.

Today it is of course an entirely different story. Events over the past few weeks have caused the feeling to gain ground among many whites that the government is not only on a leftist course, but that this course has achieved momentum reminiscent of an airplane without a pilot or at least one that is not at all capable of staying on course.

Much has been written over the past 10 or more years about American influence on the government. Recent developments show, however, that it is scarcely a question of "influence" anymore. Sometimes it seems as if certain elements of the South African governmental structure are rather extensions of the White House.

Without this, events such as Nkomati, the actions against RENAMO and the proclamation of black rights in white areas would scarcely have been possible. Pressure at home is not strong enough for this.

As everyone now knows, it was American pressure that made the government conclude a treaty with Mozambique and afterwards turn its back on its ally, RENAMO. It was also pressure from Washington that made Mr Pik Botha fly recently to East Africa in order to stop up RENAMO's supply routes.

As Capt Gatsha Buthelezi correctly pointed out recently, it was also pressure from America that made the government decide to examine forced resettlement.

In the meantime, Dr Chester Crocker and his assistant, Mr Frank Wisner, are continuing their shuttle diplomacy, and scarcely a week goes by that one of them is not in South Africa. They are continually applying pressure, pressure.... If it is not about South-West Africa, it is about Mozambique. Or about blacks in white areas, forced movings and anything else that possibly smells of apartheid. In the meantime, poor Mr Pik Botha must simply explain and promise that things will "work out."

The power wielded by the Americans over the government is emphasized by the fact that although its (the government's) entire power base is being threatened by the Right, it is totally unable to slow down its move to the left. Where any other government in its position would take action to try to shore up waning support, it apparently passively watches as its power base drops out from underneath it, the helpless hostage of the Yanks.

So it is no wonder that the people are in a state of bewilderment. "The people are 'punch drunk,'" as someone pointedly put it recently.

At the same time, the situation is also humiliating for all right-minded South Africans. A government with a serious lack of self-respect impairs the honor of all its citizens as well.

But above all, the situation is extremely dangerous. This course cannot be followed for much longer without far-reaching consequences for white people. This government is in many cases no longer serving its own party's political interests, and has long since failed to serve those of South Africa.

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CSO: 3401/127

SOUTH AFRICA

SCHISM IN FAK-AV RELATIONSHIP REPORTED

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 22 Feb 85 pp 1,2

[Article: "AV Breaks Away from FAK"]

[Text] Johannesburg -- Professor Carel Boshoff, president of the Afrikaner People's Guard [AV], plans to resign at once as lifelong member and member of the executive committee of FAK [Federation of Afrikaner Cultural Associations] in a step which indicates that the AV will shortly become an alternative rightwing cultural organization apart from FAK.

This follows yesterday evening's decision by the executive committee of FAK that affiliation of the AV with FAK will not be granted now. It was reported that after this Professor Boshoff left the meeting, which was held here yesterday and lasted nearly all day.

At the same time, a sharp personal attack was made on Professor Gawie Cillie, president of FAK, in which he was accused of being a "political instrument" and of having committed a breach of faith.

Confirmation

This new threat of a schism within Afrikaner ranks is not unexpected and has been predicted for a long time in rightwing circles. As a matter of fact, it has been known for a long time now that prior to the meeting, the AV had already planned an AV meeting for 15 March in Pretoria to discuss the FAK decision.

Following the FAK meeting, Professor Boshoff confirmed that the AV "will continue directly to pay attention to this situation and has already planned a meeting for 15 March in order to make further plans."

He reacted very sharply to a statement issued by FAK following the marathon meeting which lasted roughly 9 hours, and said that he would resign as executive committee member and member of FAK. He stated that he had not been aware of the statement and called it "nonsense." In response to inquiry DIE BURGER was told that after the decision was made Professor Boshoff asked to be excused from the meeting. He then left the meeting.

In its statement yesterday evening, FAK noted that from the beginning of the activities which led to the establishment of the AV, FAK observed "despair, division and alienation" within Afrikaner ranks.

"This was due to the fact that the People's Guard was presented as a potential alternative organization to FAK, and also that its creation and activities were excessively political in nature," says FAK's statement, among other things.

Professor Boshoff stated that it was "absolutely not true" that the AV was presented as an alternative organization to FAK. He said that FAK was not able in this time of crisis to draw the Afrikaners together into a united and nationally aware cultural front.

Professor Boshoff referred to the economy, to SABC television which "blatantly and unscientifically" portrays the Afrikaners as non-white, and to the national freedom of the Afrikaners which is being threatened by a general American plan, and said that it appears that FAK lacks any awareness of reality.

"This is the beginning of the crumbling of FAK because it was not able to take into consideration the emergency situation the Afrikaners find themselves in," he said.

At the same time, in reaction to FAK's decision Professor P.G. Nel, a former executive committee member of FAK well-known within People's Guard and far right circles, made a sharp attack last night on Professor Cillie.

He stated that FAK's decision was "insane" and a tragic day for Afrikaner culture. He added that "the person who must be held responsible for this tragedy is nobody else but Professor Cillie."

According to him, Professor Cillie allowed himself to be used as a political instrument while he also committed a breach of faith with regard to the executive committee of FAK. This breach of faith occurred because, according to Professor Nel, last year at the annual congress of FAK in Oos-Londen Professor Cillie attacked the AV and "pulled the trigger which tore the Afrikaner culture as a whole to pieces."

On that occasion, Professor Cillie said that the culture was divided into two camps by the AV and that this caused a great deal of damage to the Afrikaners.

Professor Cillie said last night that he would rather not comment on that because it was such a personal attack. He denied, however, that he has ever been the political instrument of any person or political party.

Professor Cillie refused to say anything about yesterday's meeting, except that it was one of the most thorough discussions ever conducted by FAK on any subject.

DIE BURGER was told that at times the discussions were heated. In addition to Professor Boshoff, Professor J.C. Lombard of the Free State University also voted for the affiliation of the AV. DIE BURGER was not able to confirm whether Professor Marius Swart took the side of the AV.

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. BOTHA'S REFORM APPLAUDED DESPITE REJECTION ABROAD

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 27 Feb 85 p 14

[Article by Dawie in the column "From My Political Pen": "In Spite of Low Point in South Africa, Hopeful Signs Still There"]

[Text] If one accepts the premise that a country's misfortunes progress rhythmically like the life of a person, then South Africa is probably at a low point now or is rapidly moving toward it.

But even though this is a time of problems, there are also hopeful signs that the challenge can be earnestly met.

Let us accept the fact that there are problems with the economy and the rand and the price of gold, and even though a person would like the political climate inside and outside the country to be more favorable, this would not be the complete picture.

Pull

The inherent potential of the country and its people should not be underestimated. There are forces which, when they are actually called up, have pulled the country out of numerous dilemmas in the past.

Everything is not solely negative. There is reason to believe that the economy will start turning again and it seems, fortunately, that the drought is becoming more and more alleviated.

Leaders

In the midst of sporadic black unrest in the country, it cannot be overlooked that the new allocation eliminated a great deal of racial friction. The first steps of real reform that were dared were not without success.

This provides courage for the further difficult task that lies ahead. Because this is probably the single greatest reason for hope: that the country's leaders, led by the president, did not hesitate to tackle the problems at the core and honestly to search for answers.

These days, a person cannot avoid thinking about how often the country has had the right leaders to guide it through times of need.

Wish

Can you imagine how somber the prospects would be if, under the current circumstances, the country had been saddled with another kind of government, one which would not have committed itself to search for answers along the road of peace and reform?

This is a time to think about the leaders and about the extremely difficult circumstances in which they tackled the task of reform, and continue to pursue it -- too rapidly according to some, too slowly according to others. But in any case, with so many forces and factors against them that it is nearly impossible to believe.

The greatest wish of our reformers would probably be that they might have had a more favorable climate in which to take action. It is unfortunately true that reform is often fraught with a revival of radicalism, which aims at spoiling and failure.

The characteristics are, on the one hand, to try to prevent reasonable people from being successful. On the other hand, they want to create a situation in which it seems that every step taken by the government is nothing but a reaction to pressure. Those elements want to claim credit for everything that is being done.

Overheated

We see that there is recognition abroad for the peace initiatives in South Africa, but at the same time there is a nearly hysterical outburst of hatred and resistance against this country. People say that not a day goes by in America without every television station, even the smallest, pouring out poison against South Africa.

Within the country there are forces at work to incite especially the black people to such an extent that in many places the possibility of violence lies just below the surface. In addition to what is being done in the cities, a special attempt is now being made to involve the rural areas.

Such an overheated situation, which is being stirred up from the inside and the outside, makes the task of reform infinitely more difficult. This explains why sometimes action must be taken against leaders, even though the ideal would be rather to engage in talks with them.

This creates a dilemma for which there is no simple and quick solution. All that remains for the reformers is to run ahead, to keep the initiative and to make sure that the wreckers are not given an excuse for violence or other negative behavior.

Worth the Trouble

The dividing line between the builders and the wreckers has existed for a long time in this country. It looks very ominously as if the oppressors would like to push this even further.

In these difficult times, it is more than a comfort to know that the government has taken the side of values which make it worth the trouble to tackle the problems with goodwill.

8463

CSO: 3401/130

SOUTH AFRICA

PFP LATE IN JOINING NEW ALLOCATION POLICY

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 1 Mar 85 p 16

[Editorial: "Preferably Help"]

[Text] In his speech to the Cape Town Press Club this week, the leader of the PFP [Progressive Federal Party], Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, gave credit to the government for its positive steps with regard to the country's black people. It is true that there were several qualifications, but yet there were signs of a moving away from the virtually automatic negative policy which has become so symptomatic of PFP speakers.

We cannot refrain from pointing out a serious error to Dr Slabbert. He said that he believes -- and welcomes the fact -- that South Africa is moving away from confrontation politics and that a new era of negotiation politics is approaching.

That is not what history tells us.

Did not the government several years ago already repeatedly announce that South Africa needed a new political allocation of which negotiation and consensus should be the keystones? Did it not in all seriousness get the negotiation process started with the creation of the first presidential council? Where were Dr Slabbert and his party then? They actively opposed the new initiative and tried to influence others to follow their example.

So much for that. Meanwhile, the government has started implementing its policy on black politics and, through the words of its leader, the PFP has now revealed a willingness, with certain reservations, to help with the policy of negotiation. However, if this "help" takes on solely the role of monitoring -- and Dr Slabbert himself mentioned that possibility -- it could turn out that there would be more hindrance than help.

Actual help, with tangible results, is necessary now in the interests of South Africa, and not only if it comes from the side of the PFP. Other political parties, groups and bodies could also lend a hand in a team effort to solve the country's most urgent problem, as we pleaded in this column yesterday relative to the squatter problem in the Peninsula.

As far as the squatters are concerned, for too long there have been elements, mostly within leftist liberal circles, who have helped create an atmosphere which, consciously or unconsciously, encouraged and strengthened the squatters in their illegal actions.

A great many difficulties await South Africa on this path. The time has come for everyone who is concerned about the future, to reflect upon how they could make their best contribution.

8463

CSO: 3401/132

SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL PARTY LEAVING CONSTITUENCY BEHIND, RISKS LOSING VOTES

Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 10 Mar 85 p 9

[Article by Jean Le May]

[Text]

FOR the first time in 35 years the National Party is moving so far ahead of its constituency that it risks losing massive voter support.

Senior Nationalists in Cape Town — including a Cabinet Minister — have freely admitted that the NP would lose both the Transvaal and the Free State to the Conservative Party if there was a general election within the next few months.

This could lead to a realignment in South African politics, with traditional voters switching allegiances in the greatest political upheaval since the great depression of the 1930s.

Ironically, this has come about in curiously similar conditions to those which led to the Pact and Coalition governments of that era — drought, the gold price, a depressed economy and labour troubles.

This week the State President, Mr P W Botha, announced cuts in the civil service which will save the country an estimated R500-million. In the face of outbursts of anger on a scale unusual among white voters, Nat MPs have kept up a brave front.

But they do not disguise the fact that they are worried. They admit that votes lost to the right will have to be regained somewhere else.

Significantly, senior Nationalists are beginning to talk of the NP and the Progressive Federal Party as the political centre.

And they hark back to the referendum vote, as if that magical 67% will carry them through this crisis.

A senior Prog said the PFP would stick to its policies and was not prepared to budge from them. freehold for blacks in areas where they at present have leasehold.

● He spoke about "orderly black urbanisation", which has since become a watch-word of the reformists.

● Earlier, he announced that the coloured preference area in the western Cape was to be done away with and that blacks would be allowed leasehold there.

● The Minister of Co-operation, Development and Education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, suspended removals, pending investigation.

● He then performed a dramatic volte-face on Crossroads. He announced that the squatter camp would be upgraded instead of demolished, that there would be no forced removals to Khayelitsha and that blacks would get freehold in old-established Cape townships.

● At the same time, Dr Viljoen announced amendments to the pass laws which will give blacks greater freedom of movement.

● Within the last month blacks have been brought into Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Mr Chris Heunis's Co-ordinating Council for Local Authorities.

● The Mixed Marriages Act and Section 16 of the Immorality Act are almost certain to be done away with during this session.

● The President's Council is making a survey of amendments and adjustments to discriminatory legislation, including the Group Areas Act and the Separate Amenities Act.

The Conservative Party meanwhile has continued its unceasing allegations that the government has abandoned whites, that it is moving towards integration, that it has adopted the policies of the PFP, that it is spending too much on blacks and that

it is running a coalition government with coloureds and Indians — a view apparently supported by both the Rev Allan Hendrickse and Mr Amichand Rajbansi, leaders of majority parties in their respective Houses and Cabinet Ministers without Portfolio.

All of a sudden, the happy philosophy of 'tomorrow is another day' has caught up with white voters.

The crunch for them is now, with:

- 31 000 retrenchments of whites in the private sector in the last year;
- close on 3 000 firms liquidated;
- a spiralling cost of living; and,
- increases in travel, transport and communication costs.

Punitive

They now face a punitive Budget in a week's time.

On top of this, Mr Botha announced the most savage cut of all — in the once-cherished civil service.

There are many in Parliament, Nationalists included, who see the move as a sign that, at last, the Nationalists have grown up as a government.

For once, commented PFP finance spokesman Mr Harry Schwarz, the government has been prepared to take advice as to what will be best for the country in the long run, although he said earnings should not be cut unless a commensurate effort were made to contain prices.

Bewildered NP backbenchers are hoping Mr Botha will pull something out of the bag and that things will have changed before the next general election, probably in 1989.

Maybe so, but it will be tough sledding for the NP in the meantime.

SOUTH AFRICA

FLOOD OF VOTERS ABANDONING PARTY SEEN AS PREDICTION OF DEFEAT

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 12

[Article by David Breier]

[Text]

THE National Party Government is beginning a grim battle for survival as the seemingly impossible now becomes a real threat — a defeat for the NP in the next General Election after almost 40 years in government.

The white backlash against President P W Botha's reforms has now been reinforced by economic hardships and austerity measures which have all the makings of a change of government like the one which catapulted the United Party out of power in 1948.

The Nat Government should have faced its "High Noon" election showdown with the white electorate early next year. But last year the Government effectively extended its life by more than three years. Now the Government finds it needs every minute of extra breathing space which it voted itself.

Even Nationalist politicians are privately admitting that traditional Nat voters are now abandoning the party which their families had supported for generations.

A number of Transvaal Nat MPs now have little chance of retaining their seats against the verkramptes. Reports are gaining ground that several MPs are considering leaving the NP to salvage their political careers.

The flood of voters abandoning the party because of its reformist policies is becoming uncontrollable as the economic depression bites. This week's cut-backs in public service pay has come as the last straw for many.

Both the Conservative Party and Herstigte Nasionale Party this week reported a torrent of new support from rebel Nats.

Whites last had a General Election in April, 1981. Under the system of five-yearly elections, the next General Election should have been held by April next year.

But last year the Government passed a measure to begin the term of the new tricameral Parliament in September 1984. This means the next General Election for all three chambers is due only by September, 1989.

The NP in effect now has more than three years of extra rule before it has to face the electorate.

In a bid to retain its grip on Government, the NP is expected to reduce the number of rural seats in favour of the cities next year, in the hope that urban voters will be more likely to support reformist policies than conservative plattelanders.

But so great is the swing from the NP that this could prove futile. The CP in several by-elections has proved its support in

the Transvaal platteland as well as in the vast PWV urban complex.

And the backlash against the Government by disgruntled public servants is most concentrated in the cities.

A General Election next year could have threatened the majority of the NP in the white chamber which in turn controls the government.

Analyses of recent by-election results shows the NP is threatened in as many as 50 Nat-held seats. And since the last by-election in Primrose, the situation for the NP has deteriorated badly.

The NP needs to lose only 35 seats in order to lose its overall majority in the white chamber.

The Progressive Federal Party is being tipped to take one of these seats in the Newton Party by-election on May 1. The CP is now expected to stand in Newton Park as well, drawing

votes from the NP and effectively helping the PFP win — a scenario that could be repeated in future elections.

PFP party workers report dozens of public servants in the seat this week applied to the PFP for postal votes in response to the cut in their bonuses.

But the real onslaught on the Nats in the next General Election will be by the rightwing, with the CP aided by its HNP ally.

A rightwing majority in the white House of Assembly is generally regarded as out of the question.

A more likely scenario is that the NP would be the largest party, but without an overall majority. The conservatives would be the second largest and the PFP could hold the balance of power. The PFP would then be in a position to push for swifter reform.

CSO: 3400/833

SOUTH AFRICA

REPEAL OF SEPARATE AMENITIES ACT DEBATED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 85 p 4

[Text]

PARLIAMENT — The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, was repeatedly interrupted by hostile interjections and questions when he replied to demands in the House of Representatives for the scrapping of the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act.

In a debate on a motion calling for its repeal, the law was denounced as "the most unjust law on the statute books of South Africa".

When Mr Heunis put the Government's viewpoint, there were interjections of "the same old story", "come to the motion" and "do you support the motion — yes or no?"

At one stage Mr Peter Hendrickse (LP, Addo), son of the leader of the Labour Party, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, interjected that he could not listen and began walking out of the chamber.

The Chairman, Mr Philip Sanders, called him back and ordered him to withdraw the remark. After doing so, Mr Peter Hendrickse walked out.

Mr Allan Hendrickse, Chairman of the Ministers' Council of the House of Representatives and a Cabinet member, listened and watched intently from his bench but did not speak.

Earlier Mr Peter Hendrickse urged Mr Heunis several times by way of interjections to say whether he supported the motion.

Mr Heunis was also interrupted by Mr Desmond Locket (LP, nominated) who objected that a remark by the Minister implied participation in the new Parliament meant acceptance of apartheid.

He accused the Minister of misleading the House, but was ordered to withdraw this remark.

Introducing the motion, Mr Luwellyn Landers (LP, Mitchell's Plain) said the law had made South Africa "the polecat of the international community".

It was the law that brought into being "whites only" signs.

It did not only provide for separate amenities for different race groups but also for unequal amenities.

It was the most unjust law on the statute book.

"It is a law that cannot be improved. It must be eradicated," Mr Landers said.

RACIAL PURITY

When the law was introduced in Parliament by the NP Government in 1953, it was de-

scribed as a measure aimed at preserving "the racial purity of the Afrikaner".

Quoting from the Hansard record of debates, Mr Landers said the motivation of those who introduced the legislation could only be described as "an insult to our human dignity".

Supporting the motion, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Dennis de la Cruz, said amenities should be opened to all races to ensure peace in South Africa. The Official Opposition in the House of Assembly had not done enough to ensure that the Cape Peninsula's beaches were opened to all people.

Mr Ebrahim Carter, the Minister of Education and Culture, said the role of the old United Party in the implementation of the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act was deplorable. The UP had not opposed the principle of the Act.

At one stage Mr Heunis said: "You are sitting here because of the collective efforts of reasonable men."

A member interjected: "We say thank you. Go on."

Mr Heunis said no free country in the world could claim a completely just society.

CSO: 3400/832

SOUTH AFRICA

BOTHA PRAISED FOR PRISONER AMNESTY INITIATIVE

Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 16 Feb 85 p 8

[Article by Dawie: "There Is No End to the Peace Machine!"]

[Text] President P. W. Botha's peace machine just will not come to a standstill. New plans have just been announced that will make the difficulty of movement that began with the Mandela affair even worse. On top of everything, President Botha has now given power to the entire political spectrum, from the far Right to the far Left.

In a speech yesterday, he extended his offer to release certain long-term prisoners, and said directly to the African National Congress as well as to other groups that he is willing to enter into talks with them if they renounce violence.

Rightists Too

One can deduce that President Botha is working on what could be called a total peace initiative. What he is prepared to offer to the far Left he is prepared to do for the far Right as well.

To purport that he has changed in principle is of course not right. Only a fool would turn his back when an organization, even the ANC, wishes to make a peaceful contribution. Everyone has in fact always known that when the ANC is ready to lay down its weapons it would be able to join in discussions.

What has now happened is that President Botha was courageous enough to make the possibility of such talks into a current political theme. There are now specific proposals on the table. What is more, this also applies to rightist organizations whose members have embarked on the road of violence.

Whites

In addition, he made the offer that prisoners involved in crimes against the state who have not yet served a substantive part of their sentence will receive credit if they renounce violence. This will then be taken into account, together with other factors, when considering their release.

The implication is that this is applicable not only to ANC prisoners, but also to members or former members of white organizations such as the White Commando and the Afrikaner Resistance Movement who are in prison.

These steps show how serious President Botha is in his attempt to foster peace in this country.

Because politics has to a great extent become a trial of strength between those who want to solve problems at the conference table and those groups that want to do it with violence.

There can be no uncertainty about it: President Botha's proposals are based on non-violence. People who wish to persist in shooting cannot also want to be included in talks. Reject violence as a solution and the door is open for conducting talks.

Mistake

The radical elements struggling so hard for the retention of violence in politics are probably relying on the fact that they enjoy wide support, here and abroad. The question is whether they are not making a serious mistake.

The fact is that there are black leaders in South Africa and numerous leaders abroad who are increasingly concerned about political terrorism. Numerous countries have after all experienced it themselves, and it has become so bad that 10 of these countries quite recently conferred again on how this evil can be resisted.

At any rate, there is no doubt that President Botha's initiative is welcomed in all respectable circles--abroad as well. It must signify a considerable gain for South Africa that its government has repeatedly shown in a tangible way that it is prepared to involve all people in its talks, and it is not seen as unreasonable that this is qualified by a renunciation of violence.

History

Those who want to cling to violence are thus in a dilemma. They see how the new dispensation is being accepted here at home and is clearly expanding its foothold even more. Therefore, they are working so diligently to maintain unrest in this country.

What they will not be able to escape is the fact that it will be written in the history books that President P. W. Botha made his overtures for peace but that, thus far, they have been rejected.

These stories of how inaccessible and one-sided this government supposedly is will in the future no longer be taken so easily for the gospel truth.

Who Will Say?

But at any rate, what is at stake here is not primarily political image or political gain. At stake here is people who want to save the future of South Africa.

Is there no one who can make this clear to this country's leftist and rightist extremists?

12271

CSO: 3401/128

SOUTH AFRICA

SQUATTER PROBLEMS IN SOUTH AFRICA DISCUSSED

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 27 Feb 85 p 14

[Editorial: "Crossroads and Khayelitsha"]

[Text] The possibility that the squatter problems in Crossroads could be solved effectively and peacefully increased after yesterday's debate in the House of Assembly on this subject, which has already become international in scope.

A significant contribution to this was the suggestion of the minister of co-operation and development that one might consider allowing at least some of the inhabitants of Crossroads to remain there permanently.

This would be possible in consultation with and after deliberation with the inhabitants of Crossroads, which the minister repeatedly stated yesterday he was willing to do. The cooperation of the inhabitants of Crossroads will be indispensable for this -- but the responsibility for this rests very heavily on them to help overcome a problem which could otherwise get out of control and has already claimed lives.

It should be clear to all those involved that the problems of unlimited action by squatters in Crossroads, which with its estimated 80,000 or more inhabitants is already severely overpopulated and which because of unsanitary and other bad conditions is subject to serious diseases and dangers, simply cannot be ignored.

The solution is not simple by any means. Not only does it involve the upgrading of Crossroads as such, but it also requires that a large number of inhabitants move from their current precarious situations to better ones. A number of inhabitants have already moved to Khayelitsha, where relatively cheap basic houses as well as controlled conventional housing is available.

If more inhabitants could be peacefully persuaded that it would be to their own advantage to use better accommodations elsewhere, the problem would obviously be easier to handle, also in terms of improving the standard of living of those who remain in Crossroads. In that case tougher methods, which have still not been excluded as a last recourse by the minister, would obviously be unnecessary.

Overall, a satisfactory solution to the problems of Crossroads is part of the urbanization process which is taking place all over South Africa. This does not include only the existing cities, but also the development of deconcentration points and urban expansion in the national states. Within this broad approach to the modernization of South Africa, Crossroads and Khayelitsha in the Western Cape have become important building stones.

8463

CSO: 3401/131

SOUTH AFRICA

DEVELOPMENT OF SQUATTER SETTLEMENT BY CHURCHES, OTHERS URGED

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 28 Feb 85 p 18

[Editorial: "A Team Effort?"]

[Text] It would be a mistake to want to see the squatter problem of the Peninsula, with Crossroads as its central point, solely as something for which the government alone must find a solution. Naturally the final decisions and the implementation of such decisions lies primarily with the government, but that does not mean that other bodies cannot and should not make positive contributions.

It would be a great gain already if the problem could be shifted from the partisan political arena. If there are politicians who believe that they can make capital from this problem for themselves and their party with political sniping at the government, then they are indeed playing with fire. The time has come now to put South Africa first.

After all, the negative and ugly side of the 'squatters' situation which is given so much attention abroad, embarrasses not only the government. It touches South Africa as a whole. Therefore it is necessary for as many individuals and bodies as possible to help wherever they can. Is a team effort in the interest of South Africa so unthinkable?

When the minister of cooperation, development and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the day before yesterday in the House of Assembly held out the prospect of maintaining the squatter camps in Crossroads and KTC [expansion unknown] if an agreement can be reached with the inhabitants which would lead to a thorough renovation of those regions, he did not call solely on the leaders of the squatters to cooperate in order to help create better living conditions for their people. He also invited other bodies to help carry out orderly urbanization and urban renewal. This is an invitation to which attention should be paid.

Among the bodies he mentioned were organizations, employers in the private sector and the churches. Especially the latter could make a gigantic contribution, but then some of them would have to give up their political activism and accept the good faith of the government that what is at stake here is the uplifting of people.

More employers of black people who come from the areas involved could show greater interest in the living conditions of their workers. They could do something to improve those living conditions, and they could urge their workers to cooperate.

One thing which should be remembered by all the interested parties is that if all the positive steps taken by the government recently relative to the urban blacks, were to be wrecked because of a lack of cooperation or political sabotage, this could create an untenable situation with ugly consequences.

8463

CSO: 3401/132

SOUTH AFRICA

PRETORIA RESISTS OPENING BUSINESS DISTRICT TO ALL RACES

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 20 Feb 85 p 2

[Article: "No Change in Policy: Pretoria Resists Mixed Business Districts"]

[Text] The government's plan to open up central business districts to all races is meeting with ill-fortune in Pretoria. Preliminary indications are that the management committee of the city council, under heavy pressure from the rightist opposition, is going to be slow to open up business districts in accordance with government directives.

The chairman of the management committee, Dr Gerhard Davidtsz, says that he cannot see how the city council can now "make an about-face and open everything up."

"Pretoria's development has proceeded thus far in an orderly fashion, and I cannot see how areas can now be thrown open--anything but that. It is unreasonable to expect us to throw everything overboard now."

Dr Davidtsz says that the city council will continue with the policy pursued in the past. The city council has no reason to carry on business differently than it has thus far. Pretoria is different from Johannesburg and has taken a different road. When Pretoria has been asked in the past to open up areas, the city council has refused.

According to Dr Davidtsz, the city council is not trying to handicap government policy, but only to look after the city's interests. However, the city council is not empowered to override government decisions in this context, Dr Davidtsz says.

The HNP [Reconstituted National Party] is in the meantime preparing to offer strong resistance to any possible opening up of the city's business districts. The leader of the HNP on the council, Dr Piet Barnard, says that the party is going to "oppose to the bitter end" a multiracial business district in Pretoria.

However, Dr Barnard points out that the powers of city councils are limited. From the government's announcement it does appear as if local authorities will have a say in the matter.

"Fortunately the HNP introduced a motion last year with respect to this and thus forced the management committee to say that it stands by its past policy. At that time the management committee declared outright that it is in favor of group areas and does not foresee modifying its policy. Thus, if the management committee now decides to open up areas, it will go against an earlier decision. The whole issue will probably be brought up at the next city council meetin," Dr Barnard says.

A city council member representing a district in the inner city, Mr Joseph Chirole (HNP, District Five), has also come out strongly against any possible opening up of Pretoria's central business area.

Mr Chirole points out that the legal modification involved is not limited to the central business district of a city or town. Secondly, it can also be applicable to a single building, for example to the offices of lawyers or attorneys.

"This modification in the Group Areas Act cannot be viewed in isolation," Mr Chirole says. "It is closely connected to the attempts to repeal Article 16 of the Immorality Act and the Mixed Marriages Act, and is merely the first bloom of the fruit of the votes in favor of the referendum."

Mr Chirole predicts an increase in non-white businessmen in central business districts. This together with more and more non-white positions in the civil service will lead to the blackening of a city like Pretoria.

"We must remember that thousands of whites live in Pretoria's central business district. They will be pushed out to an increasing extent, while crime will also increase. This situation will turn South Africa's central business districts into ghettos on the American model."

He expects pressure from non-white businessmen to live near their businesses, Mr Chirole says. "We have already learned that the exception eventually becomes the rule. If non-white businessmen are first allowed to live in central business districts, they will also eventually gain access to all white residential areas.

"Where will non-whites who own businesses in central business districts exercise their municipal right to vote? This is the first step to a common voting list," Mr Chirole says.

The minister of constitutional development, Mr Chris Heunis, announced last week that permission has been granted by the government for 44 "free trade areas." All races will be able to do business and own property in these areas. Mr Heunis added that the government is irrevocably committed to the principle of "free trade areas."

The announcement follows from a recommendation made last year by the Strydom committee in which extensive modifications in the Group Areas Act were recommended.

SOUTH AFRICA

MOST COLORED FAMILIES HAVE WHITE MEMBERS

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 22 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Johannesburg -- Most colored households in South Africa have white family members -- often even white grandparents.

This does not mean that those families want to flaunt this or make capital out of it, said Mrs Angelique Rabie, wife of the Colored politician Mr Jac Rabie, yesterday to DIE BURGER.

"In my opinion, a person's family ties -- and especially in this country with its unique political system -- are a very private matter," she said.

Mrs Rabie, who works at the American consulate in Johannesburg, talked with DIE BURGER in connection with her husband's "warning" to the KP [Conservative Party] in parliament the day before yesterday.

According to Mr Rabie, he has an uncle who became white and who is now president of the board of an electoral division of the Conservative Party in Transvaal. Mr Rabie stated that for family reasons he would keep the man's name a secret, but if the KP were to continue insulting Colored people he would venture to make the man's name public.

In his address Mr Rabie referred, among other things, to a manuscript which is to be published shortly.

In this manuscript -- "Groups Without Borders. The Role and Status of the Mixed Population in the Cape from 1652 until 1795" -- reference is made to the black, colored and Indian ancestors of well known Afrikaner families.

Simple

From an early age Mrs Rabie was aware of her own white family. Her grandfather on her mother's side was a white Frenchman and her grandmother, also on her mother's side, had white and Griqua blood.

She often stayed with those grandparents and at an early age began to ask questions about the difference in appearance between them and herself.

"And I made my peace with it. I simply realized that nothing would alter the fact that part of my family has certain privileges which I will never have."

But not all the members of their community feel the way she does, Mrs Rabie emphasized. Many of them are highly emotional and even bitter about this fact.

Meeting

So is her husband to a certain extent. "He is a proud man and views like those of the KP, which he referred to in his address to parliament, hurt him."

Mr Rabie's ancestors are of white, Jewish and Indian origin. Mrs Rabie has never met the white uncle he mentioned, but she did meet another white uncle of Mr Rabie's -- a doctor in a West Transvaal village.

8463

CSO: 3401/129

SOUTH AFRICA

RESETTLEMENT POLICY, BLACKS' RESPONSIBILITIES DISCUSSED

Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 22 Feb 85 p 12

[Editorial: "New Beginning"]

[Text] Eloquent proof that the black question in South Africa cannot be wished away is provided by events in the Western Cape during the past few years.

First Colored labor was given preference, but blacks, particularly from the Eastern Cape, kept streaming in. Appalling squatter camps sprang up, and with them a protracted tale of confrontation and bad publicity for South Africa abroad.

Granted, there was and still is intimidation and political instigation. But blacks who feel reasonably safe about their future and circumstances and believe that something is really being done about their political aspirations will be less amenable to it.

After dozens of attempts to defuse the Crossroads situation, the government has started work on a basic formula for order and peace. The main components are permanency and improved facilities. That Crossroads cannot be seen in isolation is evident from the fact that the black areas of Langa, Nyanga and Gugulethu are also to receive 99-year leases, so that those living there will not feel threatened by squatter problems or feel that they have been treated poorly.

The lesson has thus also been learned in the Western Cape that rethinking must be done on black urbanization, because it is not a problem that can be solved with bulldozers and one-way tickets back to national states.

But what good is it if the government is prepared to handle old problems in a new way while black leaders refuse to make use of the invitation to talk, for the benefit of their own people? There is so much to be done to make new strategies succeed, but then there must be signs of cooperation now.

Both Sides

Throughout the entire debate on reform in South Africa, the emphasis has thus far been primarily on the enormous demands that the entire process is making on whites. These demands, of which many are certainly not without their merits, are innumerable. Whites must adapt, take the lead, scale down their expectations, terminate their privileged position, change their attitude....

This is as if change is a one-sided transaction with whites parceling out and blacks receiving.

But it is not so simple. And thus it is the part to be played by blacks in the creation of a new South Africa that Capt Gatsha Buthelezi pointed out this week in an article in the influential American WALL STREET JOURNAL.

As the Zulu leader put it, "The responsibility for bringing about radical change in South Africa rests on black shoulders. This is a South African struggle, and blacks must take the lead."

Blacks have responsibilities as well. They too would do well to search their hearts and ask themselves if their attitude is right. They too should strive for acceptance, instead of demanding mere acceptance by whites. They too should realize that a prerequisite for change is that it come from both sides.

Only when more black leaders come forth in this spirit will they become part of the solution, instead of remaining part of the problem.

12271

CSO: 3401/128

SOUTH AFRICA

BLACK COMMUNITY WANTS GOVERNMENT APPOINTED LEADER REMOVED

Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 10 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by Jo-Anne Richards]

[Text]

RESIDENTS of KwaNgema, an Eastern Transvaal 'black spot', went as far as the Supreme Court this week in a desperate attempt to overthrow their government-appointed leader.

In the midst of the threatened removal which has hung over the small community for years, members of the resident Ngema family now want their "acting chief" temporarily deposed from this position, until the matter is settled finally in court.

Behind their attempt lies the fear that, unlike the biblical figure Moses, Mr Cuthbert Ngema will aid the government in "leading their people out of the Promised Land", Mr Jack Unterhalter SC said in court this week.

The community-elected Ngema committee, and its chairman, Mr Moses Ngema, brought an urgent application in Pretoria to prevent Mr Cuthbert Ngema from acting as chief — a position of government-imposed authority. Judgment was reserved.

The "Promised Land" of KwaNgema is a fertile farm in the Wakkerstroom district which the Ngema clan has occupied for 100 years.

Mr Unterhalter, acting for Mr Moses Ngema and the committee, said the order would prevent irreparable harm to the community, in which there was "widespread opposition to removal".

He said Mr Cuthbert Ngema, with whom the government insisted on negotiating over the proposed removal, was not the chosen representative of the people. And the Ngema people had never before had an appointed chief as they were not a tribe, but a family group.

Opposition

"One is driven to the inevitable conclusion that (Cuthbert's) appointment was calculated to facilitate the removal in the face of opposition from Moses Ngema and his committee," Mr Unterhalter argued.

Mr Unterhalter said that since the government had failed to "convince the Ngema family of the 'wisdom' and 'beneficial effects' of removal, they have ceased to negotiate with the community, the family or the committee. Instead they have singled out one man and vested him with extraordinary powers".

Cuthbert's predecessor as family head, Mr Gabriel Ngema, had also been singled out for negotiation before his death last year.

Mr Alfred Ngema, the oldest community member, said in an affidavit: "I heard that Gabriel Ngema informed government officials that we would leave this

farm, although he did not consult with us in this regard.

"As a result we stopped trusting him. We supported the Ngema committee instead."

In his argument, Mr Unterhalter said the government had refused, since 1983, to hold any form of election among the people.

And this week in court, the Minister of Co-operation and Development turned down Mr Justice T T Spoelstra's suggestion that the Ngema people be allowed to choose their leader.

The applicants' affidavits describe months of uncertainty for the people of KwaNgema, who could get no reply on their possible removal.

The community merely sought to discuss "this momentous proposed event", wrote Mr Moses Ngema. Mr Unterhalter said that when the community finally received assurances in October last year, these were "unconvincing". The committee was told the removal was still open to negotiation. But less than a month before, Mr B H

Wilkens, Deputy Minister of Development and Land Affairs, wrote to Mr Peter Soal, MP, that "KwaNgema is a black area within a white area and the people residing thereon must be settled elsewhere ..."

Mr Unterhalter set out a history of meetings between the community and the department.

On January 21, 1982, Mr Louis Pretorius, the department's Director of Land Matters, told the family they should appoint a committee to deal with the department.

At a meeting on February, 28, 1982, Mr Pretorius again said: "It is for the family to decide who should be their representative ... We do this removal on negotiation basis."

The recently-formed committee expressed opposition to the removal on June 24, 1982.

Mr Unterhalter said the government's attitude then changed. On November 12, 1983, the question of removal was "absolutely non-negotiable".

"At this stage, the previously stated position of allowing the community to decide on their representatives has been replaced by threats to deal with those they deem advisable."

In two letters the department spoke of appointing Mr Gabriel Ngema as chief — a position which did not exist in the community — to "put the department in the position to deal with the Ngema tribe".

Every right

Appearing for the Minister of Co-operation and Development and various officials, Mr I W de Villiers SC said the government had every right to appoint an acting-chief to the Ngema people.

The community definitely constituted a tribe in terms of the ordinary meaning of the word, he said.

The applicants had failed to show that they would suffer irreparable harm if the temporary order were not granted, he argued.

Mr Cuthbert Ngema fulfilled important administrative functions. If he could not

exercise them, it would seriously prejudice the community. He was the channel of communication between the government and the people.

The people had been told further negotiations on removal would be undertaken and everyone was welcome to participate.

Mr M Maritz, acting for Mr Cuthbert Ngema, said that far from preventing harm to the applicants, granting the temporary order would prejudice the section of the community he represented.

The government had never shown they would negotiate only with him and if he were prevented from taking part in discussions, it would prejudice his supporters.

Mr Cuthbert Ngema had been appointed and was accepted by the community and the government, who had officially appointed him acting chief.

Chiefs Chosen by Genealogy

THE Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said in Parliament his department determined the leaders of 'traditional' communities by means of genealogical tables. He said this in answer to a question by Mr Peter Soal of the Progressive Federal Party.

The Transvaal Rural Action Committee (TRAC) believes the Department of Co-operation and Development "sets up certain individuals as their consulting partners" when they could find no leaders prepared to negotiate with them.

In a paper 'The Myth of Voluntary Removals', TRAC fieldworkers wrote that the state now placed emphasis on "consultation".

"It is obviously much easier for the government if their partners in consultation are friendly. To this end, in virtually every black spot removal, the person recognised by the state as 'chief' is offered all sorts of perks on condition that he co-operates."

It stated this was the case with Mogopa, where the community voted to depose their headman, Mr Jacob More, allegedly failing to respond to tribal discipline.

Although the government held a commission of inquiry, Mr More remained and the government negotiated with him on the question of removal, the paper added. The results of the inquiry were never made known to the community.

Court actions concerning the removal of black communities are still occurring, despite Dr Viljoen's promise to suspend forced removals.

His announcement, earlier this year, was greeted by a cautious welcome from fieldworkers who document removals and advise threatened communities. Dr Piet Koornhof had made similar promises before the community of Mogopa was surrounded by police and removed to Pachsdraai last year.

SOUTH AFRICA

WOMEN COULD LOSE UNDER NEW MARRIAGE LAW

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 5

[Text1

THE NEW Matrimonial Property Act which sets out to protect the financial position of married women through the accrual and equal administration system, may not be all it is made out to be.

A note of warning has been sounded by the Association of Trust Companies that, depending on the particular circumstances, the wife may be prejudiced under the new system.

No better off

The chairman, Mr Arthur Skelton, says that if the consumer price index were used to obtain the "real" value of the husband's assets on the dissolution of a marriage, the wife might find herself hardly better off than had the new legislation not been introduced.

"Certainly the accrual system is no substitute for community of property for a wife," says Mr Skelton.

"If a husband declared assets to the value of R100 000 at the date of marriage and the wife nothing, and the marriage dissolved after 15 years, during which period inflation had run at an annual rate of 12 percent, the assets would have achieved a value of R1 million.

Inflation factor

"The inflation factor involved would amount to about R547 000. We are also assuming that the wife still has contributed nothing to the combined assets."

To determine the "real" value of that estate, one would have to deduct the sum of R547 000. This means the estate would be worth only R453 000 in "real" terms.

He went on: "Under the accrual system, half of the difference would now accrue to the wife and she would get R176 500. Her husband would be left with R823 500.

"And some people say the new act looks after the interests of the wife!"

Aggravated

Mr Skelton added that the inequity of using the consumer price index to arrive at the "real" value of an estate would be aggravated the longer a marriage endured before dissolution.

Another potentially difficult area was where couples married under the accrual system, or those already married elected to have their marriages made subject to the accrual system.

Profession advice

"How does one determine the value of those assets excluded from the accrual system like donations, legacies and personal damages as well as any specifically excluded in terms of the antenuptial contract — or assets substituted for them — when the marriage is dissolved?

These and other related problems all required professional advice and management and couples would be well-advised to seek the necessary help suitable to their particular circumstances.

CSO: 3400/833

SOUTH AFRICA

BLACKS CLAIM UNREST IN TOWNSHIP NOT CAUSED BY AGITATORS

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 85 p 2

[Article by Patrick Laurence]

[Text]

TOWNSHIP residents emphatically reject the view that the prevailing unrest is caused by "agitators", says Professor Lawrence Schlemmer, director of the Centre for Applied Social Studies at the University of Natal.

Identification of "agitators" or "revolutionary elements" as the main instigators of the unrest has been a recurring theme in statements by official and semi-official commentators in the past few months, says Professor Schlemmer in the latest issue of Indicator.

The commentators range from members of the development boards and the black town councils to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange.

But Professor Schlemmer says that on the basis of a survey of attitudes in 1 000 households drawn from South Africa's main metropolitan areas, township residents reject the "instigation and agitation thesis".

As black residents saw it, there was not one single cause of the unrest but a series of interacting causes. Moreover, what is thought to be the main cause in one urban area is not necessarily given the same weight in another.

In Pretoria townships, education-related grievances emerged as the single most important cause, whereas in the Vaal Triangle rent increases and "political factors" were listed with education as the important causes.

In Natal and KwaZulu townships, however, social deviance (liquor, drugs and poor education), unemployment and the breakdown of traditional and family authority are seen as more important.

Professor Schlemmer comments: "Township violence is multi-faceted. In seeking constructive solutions more careful investigations are required. In the meantime it would be wisest to pay heed to all the voices in the public debate, albeit with circumspection."

In another article in Indicator, Mr Nicholas Haysom, a labour lawyer, says the old division between two different sets of labour laws for whites and blacks has given way to a new dichotomy between "insiders" and "outsiders".

The insiders are workers who are subject to the labour legislation of the post-Wiehahn era. The outsiders are workers in the "homelands" who "find themselves without exception governed by more primitive and repressive laws".

CSO: 3400/834

SOUTH AFRICA

LOWVELD FARMERS MAY LEGALLY EMPLOY MOZAMBICANS STARTING MAY

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 Feb 85 p 20

[Text]

NELSPRUIT — Lowveld farmers will be allowed to employ Mozambicans legally from May 1.

This good news follows talks in Maputo last week between Mozambican officials and a technical committee of the Department of Manpower.

Mr Willem Joubert, chairman of the Lowveld Farmer's Association, and fellow Lowveld farmers Mr Jacob de Villiers and Mr Henning Radley, represented the SA Agricultural Union.

Mr Joubert said the decision was an important breakthrough for agriculture in the region.

"Mozambicans are hard-working people, willing to work on our farms and in our mines.

AVERSION

"Likewise, we are happy to employ and pay them so that they can support their families back home," he said.

At the request of Mozambique, an office is to be opened in Nelspruit where all workers presently employed in the Lowveld will be "legalised".

Although the Lowveld has more than enough labour to serve its agricultural needs, there appears to be an aversion among locals to working on farms.

Mozambicans, on the other hand, have proved excellent employees, willing to work hard and learn all farming skills.

In recent years many farmers have paid heavy fines for employing the more effective and productive Mozambican labourers illegally.

CSO: 3400/832

SOUTH AFRICA

VIOLENCE IN TOWNSHIPS NOT SEEN AS WORK OF AGITATORS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 85 p 15

[Article by Jo-Anne Collinge]

[Text]

Consider these words by leading *Sowetan* journalist Aggrey Klaaste to describe this week's unrelenting township clashes between residents and the authorities ...

A crazy, subtle, sniping war of attrition that will cost us heavily.

In the first two months of 1985 at least 36 people died during unrest in volatile townships. And by the fifth day of March another two lives had been lost. Since February last year, when young Emma Sathekge of Atteridgeville died during a schools protest, more than 200 lives have been lost in turmoil. This is just under a third of the deaths among members of the South West Africa People's Organisation and the South African security forces in 1984 in open warfare in Namibia. And it actually exceeds the 159 civilian lives lost in 1984 in the Namibian war. Injury figures in the townships are simply not calculable.

But police have used buckshot and rubber bullets scores of times this year to disperse crowds.

In addition there are those who have been injured during stonings or burnt in petrol bomb attacks.

Perhaps more telling than the number of injuries or deaths in the last two months are:

- The sheer number of violent outbursts.

In January and February more than 40 townships have been affected, many gripped by repeated protest and police reaction.

- The extent of the area affected.

The turbulence has not been confined to industrial centres.

A significant number of clashes has occurred in the conservative backwaters of Free State dorps and Eastern Cape villages.

- The growing complexity of issues and the compounding of grievances.

For instance in Katlehong, near Germiston, the initial

demonstrations last year were against the education system.

Soon there were attacks on the homes of town councillors.

And by this year fresh antagonism against the council was sparked by the raising of rents.

In Thabong, near Welkom, and Seeisoville, near Kroonstad, unrest flared because of school grievances.

After police stepped in and deaths ensued during clashes, the police themselves became a focus of aggression ... as was indicated by the petrolbombing of nine policemen's homes.

- Indications that discontent simmers just below the surface and can at the slightest provocation blaze up. Last week trains to the Pretoria township of Soshanguve were delayed for over four hours by a derailment.

Commuters stoned the trains, smashing about 120 windowpanes. What the casual observer might not have known was that residents of the area fought bitterly some

months ago to preserve a bus service to the township.

They lost out to authorities bent on making sure the railway was used.

Rent rises, removals, homeland incorporation, educational grievances, evictions, bus fare rises, resistance to local government, labour disputes, police action ... any of these may signal a battle between people and police.

University of South Africa politics Professor D Kotze foresaw violent political expression in August last year.

He ascribed it to a feeling among both the masses and the elite of a common suspicion, cynicism and alienation. He said: "This attitude can be justified historically.

"It is supported and reinforced by the so-called

vulnerability of the weak as well as by a feeling of hapless entrapment."

If a common sense of alienation has bred violence, perhaps a growing awareness of links between bread-and-butter grievances and the system of minority rule has made issues intractable to the solutions of apartheid authorities.

Student and civic leaders alike phrase their demands in terms of democratic participation, not technocratic answers. There is no doubt that the growing crisis in providing adequate social services to black communities has been paralleled by heightened political consciousness.

The trail of slogan-bearing teeshirts around the country indicates the role which

popular organisations such as the United Democratic Front have played in this new awareness.

But is this proof of the agitator theory of unrest? Hardly, argues journalist Klaaste, who is prepared to stake the bond on his house that there are no agitators in places such as Tumahole, near Parys, and Secisoville, near Kroonstad.

It is noteworthy that the people detained and arrested in the wake of unrest have been local leaders, not imports.

Also, even as the national leadership of the United Democratic Front is immobilised in jail facing treason charges, there has been no let-up in township violence.

And, as the last few months have shown, there is no knowing what area and which lives might be affected next.

CSO: 3400/832

SOUTH AFRICA

SOTHO, SHANGAAN TRIBES COUNT CASUALTIES AFTER TRIBAL BATTLE

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 11 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by Dirk Nel]

[Text]

One man has died and 29 people have been injured in violence between Sothos and Shangaans at Lenyenye, near Tzaneen in the North Eastern Transvaal, a police spokesman said recently.

Sixteen of the 29 had serious injuries, he added.

The dead man was Mr John Shipalanu, a Gazankulu citizen who died in clashes which have left a trail of destruction in the last three weeks.

Brigadier W Beetge, Lebowa's Commissioner of Police, said 64 homes had been destroyed by fire; two shops and two hostels had been damaged by arsonists; six motor vehicles had been destroyed by fire and six buses had been damaged by stone-throwers.

Brigadier Beetge said some sources had estimated damage at about R500 000.

He added that this week the situation was fairly calm, but he warned that both Lebowa

and Gazankulu police units would not hesitate to act swiftly to protect life and property.

He confirmed that South African Police reinforcements were called in as a neutral unit to try to keep fighting Sothos and Shangaans apart at the height of the clashes.

"If this action had not been taken," he said, "I think hundreds would have died."

The Chief Ministers of the two homelands and Co-operation and Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen have agreed to appoint a commission of inquiry headed by a judge.

Fighting between Sothos and Shangaans dates back to the turn of the century, says 90-year-old Mr Frans Mangene, who works on Mr Peter Faul's farm near the scene of the clashes.

Mr Mangene recalls that invading Shangaans wielded zebra skin

shields which were totally unknown in the Northern Lowveld during his childhood.

He spoke of the first Rain Queen, Modjadji I, stretched much further among the North Sotho than that of her granddaughter, the present Rain Queen.

Modjadji I, said Mr Mangene, gave permission to live in her area to a Shangaan man from the neighbouring Portuguese country (present-day Mozambique).

"But he built more huts than he was allowed and brought many of his people into the area," added Mr Mangene.

A Shangaan man said most people in the area lived quite happily in harmony with their Lebowa neighbours across the river.

He felt the sporadic trouble had always been caused by a few hot-heads.

SOUTH AFRICA

COMMUNITY'S FIGHT FOR ANCESTRAL LAND CONTINUES

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 12 Mar 85 p 15

[Article by Jo-Anne Collinge]

[Text]

"Negotiated" forced removal might sound a nonsensical contradiction in terms, but it's the issue at the heart of a Pretoria Supreme Court case in which Mr Justice T T Spoelstra is expected to give judgment this week.

The applicants — the Ngema Committee and chairman Mr Moses Ngema — have said they believe an acting chief has been appointed by the Government to facilitate the removal of about 150 families from their ancestral land near Wakkerstroom.

They fear that talks might be held with this chief, Mr Cuthbert Ngema, which could pave the way for removal.

They argue that this would harm the community irreparably and that the chief should therefore be suspended as a matter of urgency until the legality of his appointment is settled in a further court action.

The question of removals dominated the case on its third and final day last week.

Counsel for the Ngema Committee, Mr Jack Unterhalter SC, told the court: "The appointment of Cuthbert Ngema as acting chief — notwithstanding the fact that there had not been an incumbent for 30 years — was calculated to facilitate the removal in the face of opposition from Mr Moses Ngema and his committee."

He argued that officials of the Department of Co-operation and Development had begun talks on removal in 1981 and early 1982 on a basis of negotiation, insisting that the Ngema family determine who should represent it and suggesting it elect a committee.

When the Ngema Committee was duly formed and made clear its opposition to removal in June 1982, "the question of removal is

no longer done 'on a negotiation basis' as was previously stated. Removal is now not negotiable," argued Mr Unterhalter.

By the end of 1983, continued Mr Unterhalter, from the Government point of view the question was no longer whether the community should move, but when and where to. The commissioner at Wakkerstroom, Mr M J Prinsloo, is quoted as saying at a meeting: "The Government has decided that the Ngemas must move. There is nothing to discuss. It also won't help to plead. The Government has already made up its mind."

Mr Prinsloo and another senior official had threatened that they would in future deal with "the head of the family" or "those they deem advisable".

It was shortly after this that the head of the family died and the Government took a series of

actions culminating in the appointment of Mr Cuthbert Ngema as chief.

Talks with the Ngema Committee about removal ceased totally. But in October 1984 the Deputy Minister of Development and Land Affairs, Mr Ben Wilkens, wrote to Progressive Federal Party MP Mr Peter Soal, saying the Ngemas would be moved to Oshoek/Lochiel near kwaNgwane.

Counsel for the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Mr I W de Villiers SC, and for Mr Cuthbert Ngema, Mr Mike Maritz, argued that the Government had no intention of removing the community without due consultation of all affected parties.

They also insist that the appointment of an acting chief is not out of keeping with the Ngema community's tradition and the suspension of Mr Cuthbert Ngema would create an administrative vacuum.

SOUTH AFRICA

SUCCESS AT CURBING BORDER EXODUS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 14 Mar 85 p 10

[Article by Dirk Nel]

[Text]

PIETERSBURG — Government efforts to stabilise the country's sparsely-populated northern border region, though hampered by a prolonged drought and the present economic recession, appear to have achieved a measure of success.

This emerged from recent meetings between a Government task force and border committee, which highlighted the following trends:

- The population drain along the border has been checked and there are enough farmers between Ellisras and Messina to consolidate all land into economically viable units, according to Mr Flip Rademan of the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning.
- Low interest-rate loans are available for drought-ravaged farmers to restock their cattle ranches now that good rains have improved prospects for reasonable winter grazing.
- Financial help for new border farmers will continue.
- Considerable progress has been made with the improvement of infrastructure.
- There are no serious security problems according to a Defence Force spokesman.

Farmers have been able to convey their complaints to the Government via the task force.

These have centred mainly around alleged administrative delays in the handling of loan applications and a law which only provides for financial aid for border farmers occupying their land.

DILEMMA

Mr Jack Klaff of Messina summarised the dilemma of the border farmer when he pointed out that it costs the average beef producer R8 000 to send 100 cattle to Pretoria or Johannesburg by train. He appealed for the establishment of local abattoirs, and the lifting of certain marketing restrictions.

Brigadier M Fourie of the Defence Force's Northern Transvaal Command pointed out that good co-operation existed between the army and border communities, with a high percentage of reserve force men already involved in military training.

"Cattle thefts and illegal immigrants crossing the border are at present our most serious problems," he commented, adding that the electrification of security fences and extensions to the region's radio network were priorities at this stage.

There is evidence that both Messina and Louis Trichardt have developed notably since being declared official growth points in terms of the Government's decentralisation incentive scheme.

A plan has been devised to make Alldays an important commercial centre within two years. Attention is also being given to Thabazimbi and Ellisras.

However it is clear that the economy will no longer allow for a R100 million handout, such as occurred at the peak of the border exodus in 1979-80. The resourcefulness of border communities to build on the injection they have received, is now a vital factor.

CSO: 3400/832

SOUTH AFRICA

FARMERS FEAR MORE BORDER MURDERS, BELIEVE ANC RESPONSIBLE

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 15 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Chris Freimond and Dianna Games]

[Excerpt]

WHILE police yesterday combed dense bush and farmland for the three murderers of a western Transvaal farming couple, the Minister of Law and Order told Parliament he believed the ANC was responsible for the attack.

And farmers in the Swartruggens area — which borders on Bophuthatswana and Botswana — are afraid the attack was "only the beginning".

Speaking in a debate in the House of Assembly, Mr Le Grange said spent cartridges from AK-47 rifles had been found at the scene of the murders of Mr Hannes Joubert, 51, and his wife Soon, 48, at the store on their farm Kafferskraal Bult, near Swartruggens, at 2pm on Wednesday.

Grieving family and friends of the couple gathered at the scene of the murders yesterday and the town was abuzz with talk of the tragedy that has stunned the community.

A blackened shell was all that remained of the couple's general dealer store, which once catered for a large section of the Swartruggens farming community.

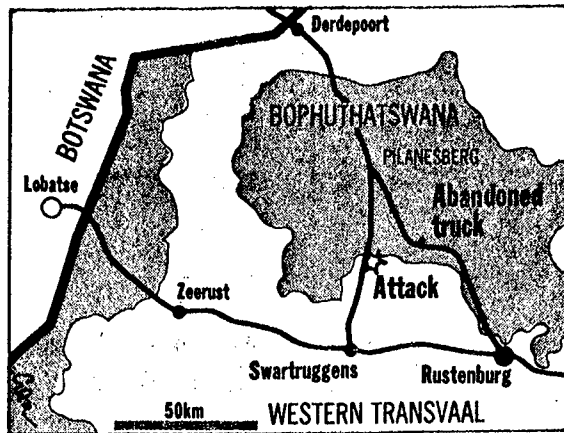
The raiders set fire to the store after shooting the couple.

Mr Le Grange told Parliament the killings were the latest in a series of at least 15 incidents involving 48 insurgents in the north western Transvaal since August last year.

The search, involving well over 100 policemen from various Transvaal police sta-

tions including Potchefstroom, and members of the Bophuthatswana Intelligence Service, and conducted mostly on foot, was spread over a wide area, including Rustenburg and Sun City, police said.

Mr Joubert's bakkie, which the three men stole after the attack, was found abandoned early yesterday morning near Matooster on the Sun City road, about 50km from the farm.



They arrived back at the farm from various parts of the Transvaal after being told of the attack.

Farmers fear there is little they can do to protect themselves.

Explosives experts spent yesterday sifting through the charred remains of the store.

Metres away, at the farmhouse which was left untouched by the men except for some evidence of drawers having been searched, three of the Joubert's five children — Ria, Manie and Anna Marie, grieved over their sudden loss, and farmers gathered through the day to discuss the incident.

Mr Joubert was head of the Swartruggens civil defence unit "and when the time came, he was helpless", one farmer said.

Reports in the area say the three men walked along the main untarred road to the farmhouse and one of them carried a sack over his shoulder, which held the three automatic weapons.

A farm clinic had been set up near the store for the day and some labourers even greeted the men.

CSO: 3400/835

SOUTH AFRICA

POPULATION FIGURE NOT TO EXCEED 80 MILLION

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 1 Mar 85 p 2

[Article: "Population 'Should Not Exceed 80 Million'"]

[Text] South Africa must be influenced in such a way that by the end of the next century its population growth will come to an end and the total population will be stabilized at roughly 80 million, otherwise the country will be facing a crisis which would seriously threaten stability and progress.

This warning was issued in Cape Town by Dr J.H. Schoeman, general director of the Population Development Division of the Department of Health and Welfare, during a press conference on the government's population development program.

Dr Schoeman noted that the South African population is currently growing at an average rate of 2.3 percent per year -- whites 1.55, Coloreds 1.80, Indians 1.76 and blacks 2.80 -- and that at this rate by the year 2000 the population figure will stand at 47.2 million, and by the year 2080 at 138 million.

South Africa's sources of livelihood are limited and it has already been calculated that from the point of view of all of South Africa's usable water sources the country cannot sustain a population of more than 80 million.

In order to ensure that by the end of the next century South Africa will have a population of 80 million, it will be necessary for the average number of children per woman (the so-called replacement level) to reach 2.1 for all population groups by the year 2020.

If this goal is reached only by the year 2080-2085, as is generally expected, then South Africa's population by the year 2100 will be 183 million.

8463

CSO: 3401/130

SOUTH AFRICA

NATION'S HUGE POPULATION GROWTH AGGRAVATED BY APARTHEID

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 13 Mar 85 Vol 26 No 6, pp 7-8

[Text]

SOUTH AFRICA: POPULATION AND APARTHEID: A national conference on Developing the Total Population of South Africa attended by delegates of all races was held in Grahamstown from 1-6 February 1985. A "report back" conference was held in Johannesburg on 6 March. The basic document, entitled "The Human Option", prepared for these conferences, sets out in the starkest terms the perils of South Africa's huge population growth -- a phenomenon afflicting much of the continent (AC Vol 25 No 9). Apartheid makes the problem worse.

Total Population	(Millions 1980)	Growth Rate	Doubling Time (years)
Whites	4.4	1.5%	45
Coloureds	2.5	1.8%	39
Asians	.8	1.8%	40
Blacks	20.7	2.8%	25
Total	29.4	Average	31

Source: South African Dept. of Health.

If present growth rates continue, South Africa's population of 28.4m will reach 47.15m in 2000, 79.19m in 2020 and 138.19m in 2040.

Space in a country so large as South Africa is not in short supply. Water is. Before the recent drought, South Africa was a maize-exporting country. The position of some of the so-called homelands, where there is chronic lack of investment, unemployment, overcrowding, soil erosions, de-forestation, and often hunger, is especially critical. South Africa's leaders, both white and black, can look at Zimbabwe (see pointer in this issue) where, since 1980, agricultural production by blacks has increased by a remarkable 253%. In South Africa the black 80% of the population own only 13% of the land -- and that 80% is going to double in number within 25 years.

It is not only white South Africans who are becoming aware of the dangers of unrestricted population growth. The present starvation in Ethiopia and the threats posed to the living standards of countries such as Kenya and Nigeria by their rocketing birth rates are portents of what might happen in South Africa if family planning is not given a sufficiently high priority. Gone are the days when whites thought they should increase their numbers to keep pace with the blacks (an impossible task in any case) and when blacks thought they should breed in order to swamp the whites. As Dr Nihato Motlana, chairman of the Soweto Civic Association and of the Committee of Ten recently said, a lower birthrate is in the interests of all. But a reduction in the birthrate will not come about until blacks are granted a far larger slice of the national cake. Leaving aside the coercive methods used in China, experience has shown that economic development and birth control are inseparable.

SOUTH AFRICA

MUSLIMS IN LENASIA RESENT EFFORTS OF CHRISTIAN CONVERSION

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by Luke Zeeman]

[Text]

A BATTLE is raging for the souls of Lenasia.

Muslims claim that Christians are trying to convert their followers and taking advantage of the poor and ill-educated by threatening them with damnation unless they follow Christ.

To counter this attack, a group of Muslims have issued a booklet which questions many of the basic beliefs of Christianity. They claim this gives the Muslims ammunition to challenge the missionaries.

Already about 100 000 booklets have been distributed in Lenasia and other Indian areas, but this week it was declared undesirable by the Directorate of Publications in Cape Town.

Mr Abdulla Deedat of Lenasia, whose brother Ahmed wrote the booklet, said they had been shocked by the ban.

"We are going to appeal. It is clear that someone has objected. We think it is a member of

one of the Christian churches.

"It is very unfair when it is borne in mind that we are not out to gain converts. It is not our belief to search for lost souls. People either believe in Islam or they don't.

"That's why we are angry that these missionaries come knocking on Lenasia doors, especially of the poor and uneducated.

"How can they defend their Islamic faith against this onslaught unless we give them enough information to be able to argue back?

The booklet is titled "Crucifixion or Cruci-Fiction?"

Mr Ahmed Deedat accuses some churches of using high-pressure salesmanship.

"Being a rather impressionable youth, I was amazed at the manner in which scores of young articulate men believed in the Crucifixion as the only factor in salvation and seemed to be concerned about my being condemned to hell."

CSO: 3400/833

SOUTH AFRICA

ECONOMY TO IMPROVE LATER IN '85 SAYS SANTAMTRUST

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Feb 85 p 13

[Article by Stan Kennedy]

[Text]

Although the South African economy may improve significantly later this year, a sustained improvement in underlying economic conditions during the next few years is unlikely, say unit trust managers Santamtrust.

Reasons are the potential volatility of the gold price, which Santamtrust believes will remain in a cyclical downward phase, and the inability of the authorities to timeously apply economic policies.

It says in its February issue of *Market Opinion* that measures introduced by the Reserve Bank in the early part of this month led to the rand appreciating markedly.

However, because the gold price is vulnerable and the fundamentals concerning the capital account of the BOP are not favourable, a sustained appreciation of the rand cannot be forecast with confidence at this stage. This is despite the current account surplus.

Santamtrust believes that in addition to the almost customary increases in excise duties on liquor and tobacco, GST may well be raised again, while the possibility of another surcharge or loan levy on individuals cannot be discounted.

Since consumer demand is likely to remain depressed in the foreseeable future, Santamtrust is of the opinion that companies will have no option but to absorb more cost increases.

While this will tend to restrain price increases, it believes that the inflation rate will still rise to 16 percent or more on a year-to-year basis.

Net domestic savings increased in the last quarter of 1984 — the first time since the third quarter of 1983 — and with domestic spending liable to decline further, it is likely that there will be more increases during the next few quarters. This should result in

short-term interest rates showing a downward trend in the future.

"While the positive trend in net domestic savings should also impact favourably on long-term interest rates, the expected acceleration of the inflation rate could have an adverse effect on the attitude of investors towards the long-dated bond market in the next few months," says Santamtrust.

"In this regard, it is somewhat disquieting that local long-term rates are still markedly lower in real terms than their US counterparts.

"If the Budget contains a moderate expenditure forecast and further tax increases, it could cause long-term rates to decline meaningfully."

However, because of the unfavourable outlook for gold and inflation, it is doubtful whether the budget will herald a sustained decline in long-term rates.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

RSA-ITALIAN TRADE ON RISE

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 6 Mar 85 p 7

[Article by Priscilla Whyte]

[Text]

TRADE between Italy and South Africa looks set to increase this year.

Agip, which has operated in South Africa for some years as a supplier of lubricants to the general engineering and mining sectors, is expanding.

Dr Luciano Alberti, the managing director, says an agreement has been signed with Alfa Romeo and Inter City Motor Spares to provide Agip with a national network of agents and distributors.

"The other lubricant companies have a head start on us, but we are determined to obtain a reasonable share of the SA market."

Agip was established in 1926 to prospect, purchase and develop oil fields and to trade in petroleum and derivatives.

Fiori Africa, a subsidiary of Fiori Betondumpers, is investing R8m in a SA concrete mixer manufacturing operation.

The first R2m has already been invested with the building of a factory in Pretoria North.

A further R500 000 will be spent this year on personnel training, R750 000 on internal organisation and a computerised system and R250 000 on promotion.

About R4m has been earmarked for the final stage, which will raise local content of the mixers to 100% in two and a half years' time.

Two-way trade between Italy and South Africa rose by 14% to R3,091bn in the period January to October 1984, com-

pared with R2,708bn in 1983, with the balance clearly favouring South Africa.

The Italian Statistics Bureau says in the period January to October 1984, imports from SA amounted to R2,339bn and exports to SA to R752m.

In the corresponding period in 1983, Italy imported R1,975bn of SA products and exported R733m of goods to South Africa.

According to Dr Michele Armento, the Italian trade commissioner, 65% to 70% of SA exports to Italy are gold.

He says that about half the trade is transacted in dollars and half in Italian lire.

The rand has depreciated by about 30% against the lire, says Dr Armento.

South African trade statistics show a somewhat different picture because they do not include gold exports to Italy.

The latest available SA statistics are for the period January to November 1984 when about R713m of Italian imports entered South Africa, compared with about R468m in 1983 — an increase of about 52%.

Exports to Italy in that period increased about 57% to R567m, compared with about R361m in 1983.

South Africa's major trading partners are the US, West Germany, Japan, Britain, France and Italy.

According to Dr Armento, imports from Italy increased 56.13% in the January to September 1984 period, meaning they increased at a greater rate than those from the US.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

RAND DECLINE DAMAGES ECONOMY

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Malcolm Fothergill]

[Text]

BILLIONS of rands have been hacked out of the South African economy by a lethal combination of optimistic ignorance and the fall in the rand's exchange rate.

Millions more are at risk unless the rand strengthens soon — something foreign-exchange dealers do not expect to happen.

Exactly how much has been lost since the rand took its tumble halfway through last year is impossible to establish accurately.

However, an idea of how big the losses are can be gained from comparing the amount of money overseas banks lent South Africa's public and private sectors in 1983 against the figure now.

In 1983, South Africa's foreign debt exposure was between \$12 billion and \$15 billion, about three-quarters of it in loans to the private sector. (See *Albert Tells How*, Page 3.)

This year, it is between \$25 billion and \$30 billion.

South Africa's indebtedness to foreign banks has therefore increased by between \$13 billion and \$15 billion since 1983.

Some of that extra money will have been added to the

bill by South Africans borrowing more. Some will have been added by the fall in the value of the rand.

Taking the gloomiest view, that South Africa's losses have equalled the 50-percent fall in the value of the rand since 1983, the country lost either half of \$13 billion (\$6,5 billion, or R13 billion at today's exchange rates) or half of \$15 billion (\$7,5 billion, or R15 billion at today's rates).

Added to bill

In fact, since many of the loans must have been taken out while the rand was on its way down, the country's loss must be less than that.

How much less is anyone's guess, but it seems fair to assume that R5 billion or R6 billion of today's R50 billion to R60 billion indebtedness to foreign banks has been added to the bill by the fall in the rand's exchange rate.

Foreign-exchange losses admitted recently by firms quoted on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange make horrific reading:

- Tedelx has made loss provision for R108,6 million;
- Sentrachem — provision for R57,1 million;
- Gencor — R46,5 million;

- AngloVaal — R33,5 million;
- Toyota — R32,8 million;
- Barlow Rand — R27,1 million;
- AECI — R24 million;
- C G Smith — R20,7 million;
- Rex Trueform — R16,3 million;
- Kanhym — R14,7 million;
- Premier — R13 million.

Other firms that have admitted losing millions include Trans-Natal, Federale, Farm-Ag, Kohler and Lucem.

More gloomy losses could well be revealed in coming months as organisations continue to roll their loans in the hope that the exchange rate will turn in their favour — reducing or even wiping out their paper losses — and are forced to call it a day and swallow their medicine.

"It's scary," says Barclays Bank dealer Ms Loretta Gell. "Many people are not prepared to cover in or repay their loans at present exchange rates."

"They will continue rolling their loans in the hope the exchange rate will improve, but there is no imminent prospect of that happening."

Meanwhile the companies' involvement is hidden from view, as is the Reserve Bank's.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEPRESSED RAND BOOSTS LOCAL TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 15 Mar 85 p 10

[Text]

THE textile industry is benefiting from the low rand because of increased import costs.

Some products previously imported are now being produced locally.

But total textiles demand has decreased.

Mr Charles Kluk, president of the Textile Federation, speaking at the organisation's annual meeting, said domestic demand dropped 10% last year compared to 1983.

"Yet this declining market was saturated by a volume increase in fabric imports of 50% during the first half of the year."

This was a reaction to overstocking and "import costs resulted in a volume increase for the year as a whole dropping to 22%".

He said the Textile Federation was now being told "by highly-placed individuals in Government that imports in the general context are excessive".

Investigations by the federation indicated that the cushioning effect of the low rand was now being rapidly eroded, and that unavoidable production cost increases had virtually overtaken the beneficial effects of SA's depressed currency.

Preliminary results had shown that in January 1985, compared with January 1984, production costs in the textile industry had increased between 21% and 23%.

The textile industry bottomed out during July and August 1983, ahead of and to a greater extent than other industrial sectors.

There was a slight upward movement starting in the second quarter of 1984, and the rising cost of imports resulted in a more rapid improvement during the third and fourth quarters of 1984.

There were weak areas, particularly those concerned with supplying the furniture and automotive industries.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

STOCKBROKERS CALL FOR 'CLEAR' ANTI-INFLATION BUDGET

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 11 Mar 85 p 13

[Article by Peter Farley]

[Text]

A call for a clear economic strategy and the presentation of a believable medium-term plan to combat inflation in next Monday's budget comes from stockbrokers Simpson, Frater, Stein & Strong in its latest monthly newsletter.

The report accepts that although economic circumstances have seldom been more trying, they cannot be changed by the budget alone. But it does say that a great deal of the current economic plight has been self-inflicted by reactionary economic policies over the last few years.

"What is urgently needed is a clear departure from these policies when the minister presents his budget."

But, with no scope in this budget for quick cures for the fundamental economic ills, the report says that industrial shares face a very testing time in the immediate future.

NO SOLUTION

"Share trading volumes will remain sparse, with sellers scarce and buyers even more so. Those prepared to look towards 1986/87 should be ready for bargains."

The stockbrokers point out that although the record rand gold price has offered considerable respite, it provides no real solution for the fundamental problems.

"We have spent and taxed ourselves into a corner of massive dependence on the gold price. The authorities now have to show the private sector that they have a believable plan for putting SA back on a lower inflationary path."

They say that the financial community has already accepted that there can be no soft landing for the economy. And the report says that the way back to single digit inflation will not help company profits for some considerable time.

It nevertheless says that: "A believable strategy for reducing the size of our bloated bureaucracy, targeting money supply growth, privatising and de-regulating markets wherever practicable and simplifying and reducing the tax burden, will go a long way towards putting confidence back into SA's business community."

"We would then have," it adds, "a recuperation with a

clear purpose rather than crisis management."

It says that the country must return to the basics of saving, improving productivity and being realistic about what we can afford in a world economy that has undergone major fundamental changes.

It notes that in light of the ongoing vulnerability of the rand, the export sectors continue to provide superior fundamental value among SA equities.

But the report also suggests: "If the Minister maps out a believable medium-term anti-inflationary strategy, a well founded bull market in gilts could be underway a lot sooner than is presently generally recognised."

It concludes: "A preference for inflation-hedge investments can, however, only provide temporary protection."

"In the not so long run there has to be a day of reckoning which will amount to further massive erosion of SA's international purchasing power and competitive position."

"Let us all hope that an alternative scheme at least begins to emerge in the budget."

SOUTH AFRICA

CREATION OF FREE TRADE ZONES ADVOCATED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 14 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Michael Chester]

[Text]

The Small Business Development Corporation has urged the Government to create a national network of free trade zones. The corporation believes that, by eliminating red tape in these free zones, new factories will spring up and unemployment will be reduced.

Dr W B Vosloo, the corporation's managing director, believes the primary aim should be to allow entrepreneurs to escape the tangles of regulations that often hinder the launch of small business enterprises.

Bureaucracy and restrictions inside the special industrial complexes should be stripped or kept to a minimum to give freedom to private enterprise.

The proposals have three main objectives:

- To cut red tape for new small business ventures.
- To check the growing burden on taxpayers who finance the cash incentives offered under the formal decentralisation programme.
- To create thousands of new job opportunities.

The proposals are assured of a warm welcome by economists who have long been pressing the Government to loosen the reins that have held back the huge potential of the informal sector — backyard businesses running on an unofficial basis.

Progress

Dr Vosloo outlined his proposals at a conference called by the Manpower and Management Foundation to review progress with the industrial decentralisation programme which, he estimated, had attracted about R4 000 million in investments to start new business ventures in the development zones and created 128 000 fresh job opportunities since incentives were enlarged in 1982.

He forecast that the cost of the incentives offered by the Decentralisation Board was likely to soar as high as R500 million in the 1985/86 financial year that begins next month.

He is convinced that increasing emphasis should be on dangling cash carrots to encourage the launch of small firms in particular. He calculates that the cost of creating a single new job in a large sophisticated enterprise now amounts to between

R99 000 and R120 000 while the cost to small ventures often shrinks as low as R120 to R10 000 per job.

Potential

The potential of the small business sector in tackling unemployment problems was also underscored at the conference by Dr D Mullins, director of Central Economic Advisory Services, an arm of the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning.

He advocated that South Africa take note of trends overseas:

- In the US, as many as five million out of a total of nine million new jobs that emerged between 1969 and 1976 were created by small businesses.

- In Hong Kong, 35 000 firms — or 92 percent of all businesses — had fewer than 200 employees but, among them, employed two out of every three workers in the overall labour force.

SOUTH AFRICA

OVERCAPACITY OF CABLE INDUSTRY REPORTED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Mar 85 p 8

[Article by Priscilla Whyte]

[Text]

RATIONALISATION of the R500m-a-year cable industry was seen by a prominent spokesman as the only way to regain real growth.

Mr Beverley Pyke, chairman of the Association of Electric Cable Manufacturers, added that overcapacity was a major problem.

To compound the sector's anxieties the likelihood of major infrastructural developments by the cablemakers' biggest customers, Escom and the Post Office, seem slim.

Biggest manufacturers in the over-traded market are Aberdare, African, Asea, Scottish, SA PVC, Siemens, Usco and ATC.

African Cables has been mooted as a takeover target since October. BICC's 35% stake in the company is available to a buyer willing to take a substantial minority stake.

Mr Peter Muller, managing direc-

tor of African Cables, said that there were "a number of interested bodies but nothing concrete to date".

Mr Muller said: "The cable market is in the doldrums with low-priced imports coming in and intense local competition."

He noted that the merger of Scottish Cables and Asea from this month had not sorted out the overtrading

In October BICC's 58% stake in Scottish Cables was sold to Power-tech. This resulted in the merger of Scottish with the cable making interests of Asea.

"PVC cable is being sold well below a marginal costing level," he said.

"Capacity utilisation in most companies is low, particularly for PVC insulated cable, where utilisation is running below 50%."

He added that the price of raw materials, particularly plastics, was a problem but believed that the industry's tariff application would soon relieve some of the input cost pressure.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

DUTCH BANKS TO DISCONTINUE SALE OF KRUGERRANDS

Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 19 Feb 85 p 13

[Article: "No Krugerrands for the Netherlands"]

[Text] Amsterdam--Dutch banks have finally decided to discontinue the sale of the controversial Krugerrand.

The General Bank of the Netherlands (ABN), the Rabo Bank and the Amro Bank informed the Anti-Apartheid Committee Southern Africa that they even want to give their customers the opportunity to turn in already sold Krugerrands now in circulation.

The ABN is the only one of the three banks that will have the coins remelted. The Rabo Bank instructed its branches that only the supply of Krugerrands on hand may still be sold.

According to the banks, demand for Krugerrands has fallen drastically over the past months. "It was no longer justifiable from a commercial point of view to continue to sell them," a spokesman for the Amro Bank said.

For months, a "passive" sales policy was pursued, and customers who asked for Krugerrands were advised to buy the Canadian Maple Leaf investment coin instead.

The decision by the banks is the result of a nationwide campaign that began in the Netherlands in October 1984.

The Committee Southern Africa gained the support of more than 200 local action groups, church groups, labor unions, city councils, universities and holders of bank accounts in order to exert pressure.

The only places where the coins can still be purchased are at the Dutch Trade Bank, at border exchange offices and at a number of federal savings banks.

The Netherlands has always occupied a modest place in the world market for Krugerrands. In 1983, for example, the worldwide return on the sale of Krugerrands was approximately two billion rands, of which the Netherlands' share was only 12 million rands.

SOUTH AFRICA

DETAILS OF AID TO MOZAMBIQUE FOR RAILROAD, PORT

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 20 Feb 85 p 1

[Article: "P. W. Helps Machel With 10 Million Rands"]

[Text] The South African government in rendering monetary aid amounting to more than 10 million rands for maintenance of Mozambican railroads and Maputo harbor. The costs associated with the repair of Mozambican equipment are being defrayed by the Industrial Development Corporation [IDC] to SA Transport Services [SAVD].

The entire agreement concluded last 5 November between SAVD and the DNPCF (the Mozambican railroads) came into the possession of DIE AFRIKANER last week. The agreement was signed by the general manager of SAVD, Dr Bart Grove, and the national director of DNPCF, Mr Fernando Ferreira Mendes.

It appears from the agreement that the SAVD has not only taken upon itself carrying out large-scale repair and maintenance work for Mozambique, but that credit that may amount to as much as 10.094 million rands will be granted to Mozambique by way of the IDC. Costs associated with the repair work will be paid in South African currency by the IDC to SAVD in Johannesburg.

The agreement goes into exhaustive detail on the repair work. Thus, six diesel train engines will be repaired in Bloemfontein at a cost of 769,000 rands. Spare parts for train engines will be repaired in Bloemfontein or Swartkops at a cost of 171,000 rands, while trucks will be repaired in Pietermaritzburg at a cost of 1,743,000 rands. The cost for the repair of 12 harbor elevators will amount to 1,412,000 rands and that of five forklifts 664,000 rands. Three mobile elevators will be repaired in Koedoespoort at a cost of 294,000 rands.

An amount of 3,449,000 rands is allocated for spare parts for the Mozambican railroads. Besides this, 146,000 rands are designated for electrical provisions in Maputo harbor and 150,000 rands for signals on the main trajectory of the railroad.

Large quantities of equipment are being supplied by SAVD to the Mozambican railroads. This includes 150 tons of steel for concrete sleepers, 200 jacks,

500 forks, 500 spades, 150 pairs of gum boots, 150 pairs of gloves and 50 knives, as well as spare parts for a sleeper factory. The cost: 1,289,000 rands.

The aid to Mozambique is the result of the Nkomati Accord of last March. According to all indications, this aid is all that remains of the accord, in view of the fact that South Africa is still not receiving any electricity from the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric project. Although the Mozambican government took it upon itself to rid its territory of ANC terrorists, well-known communist Joe Slovo is still in Maputo. Slovo is a leader of the terrorist attacks against South Africa.

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CSO: 3401/133

SOUTH AFRICA

KOEBERG POWER STATION COSTS DISCUSSED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 26 Feb 85 p 11

[Text]

CAPE TOWN — Koeberg Nuclear Power Station could be costing the consumer more than R2 million a day at present overdraft rates, says Progressive Federal Party energy affairs spokesman Mr Roger Hulley.

He was commenting on a statement by an Escom public relations spokesman that Koeberg's closing meant no loss in revenue.

Mr Hulley said his information was that the capital cost of establishing Koeberg had been R3,5 billion.

Information supplied to him yesterday said this was borrowed money which had to be financed.

At current rates the interest alone on this money would be over R2 million a day excluding operating costs, maintenance and overheads.

Mr Hulley said even if the financing of Koeberg was at a more favourable rate, he would estimate that the interest bill must be at least R1 million a day.

"If you have the facility and do not derive electricity from it and then say you are not making losses," he added, "it is juggling with figures to a ridiculous point.

"The hard fact is that you can't afford to spend that amount of money on something not producing anything."

Mr Hulley said if South Africa's electricity supply were so over-established there was an element of wasted money on facilities.

Escom spokesman Mr Etienne du Plessis said the argument used by Mr Hulley for Koeberg could be used if any of the Highveld coal-fire stations were closed, as they were periodically.

They also cost Escom money and were also built on loans.

Mr du Plessis disputed the claim that South Africa's electricity supply was over-established.

He said he thought it would be irresponsible if Escom did not have reserves to call on in a shutdown, whether at Koeberg or a major coal-fire station in the Transvaal.

"Because Escom has this reserve capacity it is still selling and supplying the same amount of electricity as it did before Koeberg was shut down," he added.

"And that is why I say there is no loss in revenue." — Sapa.

SOUTH AFRICA

SASOL MAINTAINS 'EXCELLENT' GROWTH RECORD

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

SASOL achieved a 20,1% earnings growth in the six months to December to maintain its excellent growth record.

Cash flow was so great that Sasol Ltd and Sasol 3 will be repaying R700m of their Government loans.

Sasol income attributable to shareholders for the six months was R245,5m (43,6c a share), compared with R204,4m (36,6c) for the same period in 1983.

An interim dividend of 16,5c (14c) has been declared.

The directors, in a report released today, say that, as forecast at the end of the preceding financial year, provision for tax has increased considerably. The provision rose by R153m compared with R1m in the corresponding period of 1983.

"The financial results of our industry depend to a large extent on continuous and steady operations, control of production costs and on the market prices of crude oil and petroleum products.

"At the Sasol 1 and Sasol 2 plants of the oil-from-coal production division and the related collieries production was consistently good.

"At Sasol 2, production optimisation resulted in a material improvement in production.

"Since the half-year ended in 1983, Sasol 3 has attained full normal production, which also positively influenced these results."

The chemical division also benefited in respect of exports from the strengthening of the dollar against the rand.

Results of the fertiliser division, however, were unsatisfactory.

In the interests of the group "a flexible dividend policy is applied in respect of Sasol 3 due to future uncertainty regarding crude-oil prices and exchange rates. It has been decided to maintain the previous interim dividend of R25m."

The profit attributable to Sasol for the half year therefore includes R12,5m being the company's share of the interim dividend declared by Sasol 3.

Sasol 3's before- and after-tax profit for the half year was R225m (R73m). Apart from the strengthening of the dollar against the rand, it reflects the achievement of full production at Sasol 3.

Of the future outlook, the directors say: "The profit expectations in respect of the oil-from-coal production division for the remaining six months of the financial year will be influenced largely by the dollar market prices of crude oil and petroleum products and the international value of the rand.

"If the present circumstances continue, it is expected that the profit growth for the current financial year will not be less favourable than the rate achieved in the past."

The directors add: "The present favourable cash flow outlook permits the exercising of the contractual right to accelerate repayment of the loans. At this stage it is anticipated that Sasol Ltd will repay approximately R400m and Sasol 3, approximately R300m of these loans at the end of the financial year." — Sapa.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

SUCCESS OF ANGLO'S BRAZILIAN OPERATIONS NOTED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 6 Mar 85 p 6

[Article by Brendan Ryan]

[Text]

ANGLO American's Brazilian operations are now financially independent and remitting dividends to the major shareholders, Minorco, De Beers and Anglo.

This emerged from a recent interview in Johannesburg with Dr Mario Ferreira and Mr Peter Burnell who are responsible for Anglo's South American operations.

Dr Ferreira is an Anglo executive director responsible for the group's Brazilian operations. Mr Burnell, who was recently made a director of Anglo, is responsible for the group's South American operations outside Brazil.

"Our general policy is that we finance the expansion of our Brazilian operations from our own sources.

"If we cannot do this then it is an indication to me that we must go slowly on whatever we are trying to do," Dr Ferreira said.

Mr Burnell said this was not yet the situation in Argentina or Chile where the development of Anglo's business was lagging behind the Brazilian operations by some five to eight years.

"Initially we were set up and funded by the Anglo group, but over the last four years we have invested \$300m of our own funds back into our operations," Dr Ferreira said.

"We started remitting dividends to our overseas shareholders about two years ago. To date they have been small, but we are building up to a dividend level that will be a responsible return on the investments made in South America," Dr Ferreira said.

He declined to give precise details of dividends being paid by Anglo's Brazilian operations and declined to give the cost of the deal announced last November when the Anglo group bought out its partners' 60% holding in Empresas Consolidadas Sudamericanas (Empresas).

Dr Ferreira's career with Anglo has spanned 21 years working in the group's operations in France and Portugal. He was also involved in managing the Cahora Bassa project in Mozambique.

Mr Burnell started with Charter Consolidated in 1965 and he moved to the group's Brazilian operations in 1977.

AAC was attracted to South America initially by the continent's mineral potential.

"Chile, Brazil and Peru, in particular, have tremendous mineral resources. They have the largest reserves of iron ore in the world and the second largest reserves of bauxite.

"Brazil is the world's third-largest producer of gold. However, Brazil is also a developing industrial economy with a large population.

"More than 50% of Brazil's exports are industrial products. Foreign investment is encouraged by the government and the tax regime is reasonable.

"There is no restriction on the remittance of dividends from the country. Further we are optimistic over the future political development of Brazil and Argentina.

"Brazil this week will install its first democratically elected president, which is a particularly important step," Dr Ferreira said.

He said he was aiming at setting up Ambras (Anglo American Corporation do Brasil Limitada) as a mini-AAC.

Ambras has interests in gold and nickel mining, banking, food, agriculture and steel, but its major interest is the Morro Velho gold mine which is Brazil's largest underground mine.

Brazil is estimated by Dr Ferreira to have produced some 55 tons of gold in 1984, but less than 17% came from underground mines because the bulk was produced by the independent garimpeiros (diggers).

Morro Velho is currently in an expansion phase, which will double its production capacity to 100 000 tons milled a month by 1986.

15 April 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

CLOSE CORPORATIONS ON INCREASE

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 6 Mar 85 p 19

[Text]

Before the end of the year it is likely that more than 5 000 close corporations will be registered in South Africa, according to a spokesman for the Association of Trust Companies.

Since the first close corporation was registered on January 2 this year, 703 close corporations have been approved, according to the office of the Registrar of Companies and Close Corporations and the experts expect the rush to convert or register as a close corporation to continue.

South Africa's leading trust companies are guiding the hand of many clients not only in deciding if existing private companies should be converted into close corporations, but also in deciding which of the available vehicles — private companies, trusts or close corporations — are most suited to a particular client's needs, the spokesman said.

The chairman of the Association of Trust Companies, Mr Arthur Skelton, said:

"The close corporation is proving to be a popular vehicle for small business but there are still areas of confusion or uncertainty which need clarification."

He advised that any person or business considering creating a close corporation would be well advised to consult a trust company: "The inexperienced person may be unaware of some of the potential pitfalls associated with close corporations, issues

which could cause him problems," he said.

For instance, unless the close corporation association agreement specifically deals with the disposal of members' interests, a member could be hamstrung when trying to sell his stake in the close corporation as the sale would require the consent of every one of his co-owners.

"Something else to be aware of is that you could be at a disadvantage if your co-owners are maximum taxpayers and you are not.

"Your co-owners would probably prefer to let the corporation's income be taxed in its hands and thereafter draw tax-free dividends, whereas you might prefer to extract part of

your income in the form of salary to enjoy a lower personal tax rate."

"It is also important to be aware that close corporations cannot be owned by companies or inter vivos trust and that the number of members may not exceed 10."

Some of the consequences of these facts are that if the venture grows to a size where the members wish to sell out to a large company, the close corporation itself will have to be converted to a company before the transaction can proceed.

Mr Skelton said "the close corporation is likely to prove a very viable and popular corporate vehicle. It has many features which make it attractive."

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

KANHYM HIT BY HUGE LOSSES

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 6 Mar 85 p 19

[Article by Peter Farley]

[Text]

Kanhym plunged deeply into the red in the year to end-December, with net losses some 800 percent higher at R46,5 million, or 339c a share.

And the prospects for any positive earnings this year appear pretty remote with, as things stand now, almost R60 million needed to cover finance charges and cumulative pref dividends before ordinary shareholders get a look in.

In fact, it appears unlikely that ordinary shareholders can expect any dividend payment before the end of 1987.

CAUTIOUS

New MD Mr Donald Masson is, however, cautious on this point and says it will be another couple of months before they know if Kanhym can make a post interest profit this year. It all hinges on the possible sale of assets to reduce gearing.

But, apart from being plagued by soaring interest rates on a debt mountain of nearly R180 million and foreign exchange losses, the meat and coal group also saw operating profit slashed to R3,2 million from 1983's R15,8 million. And that on turnover virtually unchanged at R1,1 billion.

Some start has been made on the debt position. But only R2 million has been recouped through the sale of the company's plane, some Newtown properties and the Rand Offal Pool.

SALES

The key to some sort of stability this year will be the sale of Kanhym's two coal investments. Mr Masson says that they are actively seeking a buyer for the shareholdings in the Eikeboom and Greater Middleburg collieries — which he values at around R45 million. Also up for sale is the South West African abattoir, worth another R10 million.

In addition, he says that a major financial restructuring of the group is being examined by parent company Gencor. But he would give no indication of what sort of developments are on the cards.

If the company is to survive, and chairman Mr Ted Pavitt notes that "at the present interest rates it will be extremely difficult to service this debt," Gencor is going to have to come to its rescue.

There will certainly be massive resistance from minority shareholders to put any more money into the company after the maiden pref dividend on last year's R50 million rights issue was summarily passed.

The group is still in the process of a major internal re-organisation and this is not expected to be completed before May.

Mr Masson was therefore unable to reveal details of either the group's new marketing

structure or its planned operating policies.

But, the marketing of consumer products, both fresh and processed meats, is set for a substantial shake out following the recent appointment of former Kelloggs SA MD Mr Jimmy Linsell as marketing director.

On the feedlot side the group saw an extension of previous losses, with feed prices up by more than 30 percent and the Meat Board floor price down by 3,6 percent.

But Mr Masson points out that with the huge volumes passing through the feedlot, even a small price increase can have a dramatic impact on the bottom line.

But one of the major concerns are the company's debtors. These, mainly farmers and co-operatives, now total more than R110 million, of which R60 million is in the auctioneering division.

Mr Masson says every effort is being made to reduce that figure, but it is a delicate situation as it has to be done without

hurting Kanhym's long-term customers.

The group has had a torrid time for the past couple of years and is set for an equally difficult period immediately ahead.

PROBLEMS

Some of the problems have been due to factors outside its control — the drought and the exchange rate — while a number of the misfortunes have been compounded by weak management.

Now that a new team is in there it must be given a chance to get on with the job. But unless some more fundamental aid is received from Gencor the problems may prove insurmountable.

The shares closed yesterday at 300c, a far cry from the halcyon days of the early 1980's which saw it peak at 1550c in two successive years. There should be no new buyers even at the current level, but equally the price has probably bottomed as all those who have wanted to get out are likely to have sold before now.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

AMIC EARNINGS BUOY ANGLO

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 85 p 18

[Article by Peter Farley]

[Text]

Anglo American Industrial Corp (Amic) kept its head comfortably above water in 1984, despite realised currency losses of R55 million and another R44 million deduction as its share of the losses at Sigma/Amcar.

Bottom line earnings were only three percent lower at R157,5 million and the dividend was maintained at a total 180c, despite a 4,6 percent increase in the issued share capital.

This latter factor pushed earnings per share more than seven percent lower at 329,3c (355,9c in 1983). The share capital increase resulted from last June's R100 million rights issue.

The most significant development during the year was the final commissioning of Mondi in the last quarter, only 28 percent over budget at R823 million. This compares with cost overruns at Sappi of plus 50%.

Nevertheless, the commissioning of Mondi should significantly strengthen the Amic bottom line this year as the capital drain is stemmed and earnings start to flow.

The pulp and paper producer should also have earnings greatly enhanced next year by substantially higher rand product prices than was envisaged when the project first got the go-ahead.

CREDITS

There will still be losses at Amcar this year, though with that stake now transferred into a 30 percent holding in Samcor (after the merger with Ford) the losses should be reduced.

However, if group profit is taken after extraordinary items, earnings were some six percent higher. More than R65 million was brought to account below the line after credits resulting from changes of accounting po-

licies in subsidiaries and associates, net of a further R36,6 million extraordinary losses at Amcar from the Ford merger.

On the foreign currency side, the group has uncovered borrowings of \$160 million, of which \$62 million related to product imports and the balance to the uncompleted portion of capital projects.

At the operating level Amic pushed earnings 16 percent higher at R243,5 million, but this was on reduced margins as turnover was almost 30 percent up at slightly more than R2 billion.

The group followed a pattern of deteriorating earnings in the second half of the year. It remains to be seen whether reversals at Sigma and Mondi will be sufficient to offset this trend elsewhere in the group, but there seems little likelihood that the dividend will be under pressure this year.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

GENCOR EXPERIENCES CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 85 p 18

[Article by Peter Farley]

[Text]

Investor and business confidence in the Gencor group is at its lowest level ever. Its stock-market rating is, at best, more than 50 percent out on its main competitors and, in some instances, more than 100 percent out.

And, if it was not for the artificial strength of the rand gold price, the diversified mining group would probably be even further behind. Full year results are out tomorrow and are likely to fulfill that scepticism.

It is fair to say that Gencor is going through a crisis of confidence, both internally and externally, with everything it touches seemingly turning immediately to stone.

The position is best illustrated by the shambles surrounding the pre-listing of new mine Beatrix. What should have been a fairly straightforward exercise has turned into a nightmare, mainly because of abysmal communications.

There does not appear to be any corporate strategy, morale is at a low ebb and management appears prepared to battle on in the hope that "things will come right in the end".

In fact the group cannot seem to do anything right at the moment.

But probably the biggest shadow over Gencor is its inability to overcome problems in the foreign exchange market. And that really boils down to inconsistent policies.

Why, for instance, does the platinum division cover everything forward — at an opportunity cost of R34 million — while the industrial divisions cover some areas, leave some open and end up with overall losses now in excess of R500 million?

Ever since the unhappy departure of chairman Mr Wim de Villiers some two years ago Gencor has lost its way amid a myriad of hasty investment decisions and seemingly uncohesive management policies.

Externally the group has received massive criticism for its five-man committee structure at the top. Some senior businessmen describe the situation as "the saddest thing that could have happened to Afrikaans business."

But Gencor management argues that the position is no different from the previous structure. Nevertheless, as things stand now there is no Wim de Villiers to keep Gencor on an even keel.

Current chairman Mr Ted Pavitt is an honest, straightforward businessman with a strong mining background. But Mr Pavitt wanted to retire two years ago. He agreed to stay on as a stop-gap measure until the end of August 1986, but in a non-executive capacity.

With the problems now coming to the surface what Gencor needs is a stronger, younger man who can run the group with the help of an executive committee — not as another voice on such a committee.

And if one is to apportion blame, as much of the responsibility for the current plight must lie with major shareholder Sanlam as it does with the group's executive management.

Nevertheless, the focal problem points are the group's listed industrial companies and its external communications. Both are the responsibility of executive director Mr Basil Landau.

Industrial companies under the control of Mr Landau produced a combined net loss of R70 million in 1984 — despite Sappi coming in with a R61,3 million profit.

That disastrous bottom-line performance is despite turnover in those companies — Sappi,

Kanhym, Tedelex and Kohler — virtually exceeding R3 billion.

Mr Landau has certainly attracted more of the criticism — both from inside and outside his group — than any other executive member of Gencor.

His stance over the foreign exchange losses at Kohler was of particular embarrassment to Gencor and its advisors.

And apart from major losses in Kanhym and Tedelex, the massive Ngowana project undertaken by subsidiary Sappi is likely to end up as much as 60 percent over its original R800 million budget.

His responsibility for corporate communications has certainly let Gencor down on more than one occasion. Whether he should carry the can for these actions is a Gencor/Sanlam decision. In certain other companies there is little doubt what would have happened.

Whether things in Gencor would have deteriorated to this level had there been someone at the top with both a firm commitment and firm control is a moot point. What is clear is that something must be done quickly if the situation is not to be allowed to get even worse.

SOUTH AFRICA

MOTOR INDUSTRY CATCH 22 SITUATION REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 9 Mar 85 p 9

[Article by Jeremy Sinek]

[Text]

The South African motor industry has said farewell to another of its stalwarts.

Mr Morris Shenker, chief executive of Mercedes-Benz of South Africa, has retired after a 25-year involvement with the company.

He is succeeded by Mr Jurgen Schrempp. Forty year-old Mr Schrempp comes from an engineering background, and joined the then UCDD company in 1974.

At a ceremony in Johannesburg marking his retirement, Mr Shenker fired some parting shots on the contentious subject of local content.

Calling for a phasing down of the local content requirement from the present 66 percent to 50 or at the most 55 percent, he said: "Our problem in South Africa is that the marketplace is not free. Our motor industry is bound hand and foot by stringent local content legislation."

As a result, he said, major investment decisions are not made according to normal business considerations. He described a "Catch 22 situation" whereby manufacturers cannot afford to stay in this market because of the losses they suffer,

but because of the investments they have made they cannot afford to get out.

He described the arbitrary way in which the present 66 percent level was set: "When the final phase was being negotiated in the late 1960s the existing requirement was 52 percent of the vehicle by mass. The authorities wanted a maximum of 70 percent, while the industry offered 60 percent. So they split the difference and agreed on 65 percent."

"It was as simple and technically unrelated as that."

"Then someone spotted that tyres had not been taken into account. The figure moved up to 66 percent — and suddenly it looked scientific!"

He pointed out that above a certain level, the industry becomes highly capital-intensive, not labour-intensive. "So for all the heavy capital investment we do not create major new employment, and most of the money goes overseas anyway at unfavourable exchange rates for the purchase of tooling items."

He said he believed the level above which local content became super-expensive was about 55 percent.

SOUTH AFRICA

RSA'S INFLATIONARY EXPECTATIONS SOAR TO 34 PERCENT

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 4

[Article by John Spira]

[Text]

South Africa's inflationary expectations have soared to a staggering 34 percent.

This is the conclusion of a research project into the country's pricing structure by Econometrix, which predicts that the official inflation rate will be 18 percent during 1985.

One of the principal reasons behind the Econometrix forecast is the lack of monetary control.

"During 1985 we predict this growth to be 30 percent, in 1986 31 percent, in 1987 35 percent and in 1988 38 percent. Consequently, inflationary expectations will remain relatively high at a level in excess of 30 percent."

Also contributing to South Africa's high inflationary expectations, Econometrix contends, is excessive government involvement in and regulation of the economy.

"If we want to benefit from a vital, dynamic and innovative economic system, we must accept the need for mobility and adjustment. If we want the baker to bake a pie, we must not beat him up and steal his flour.

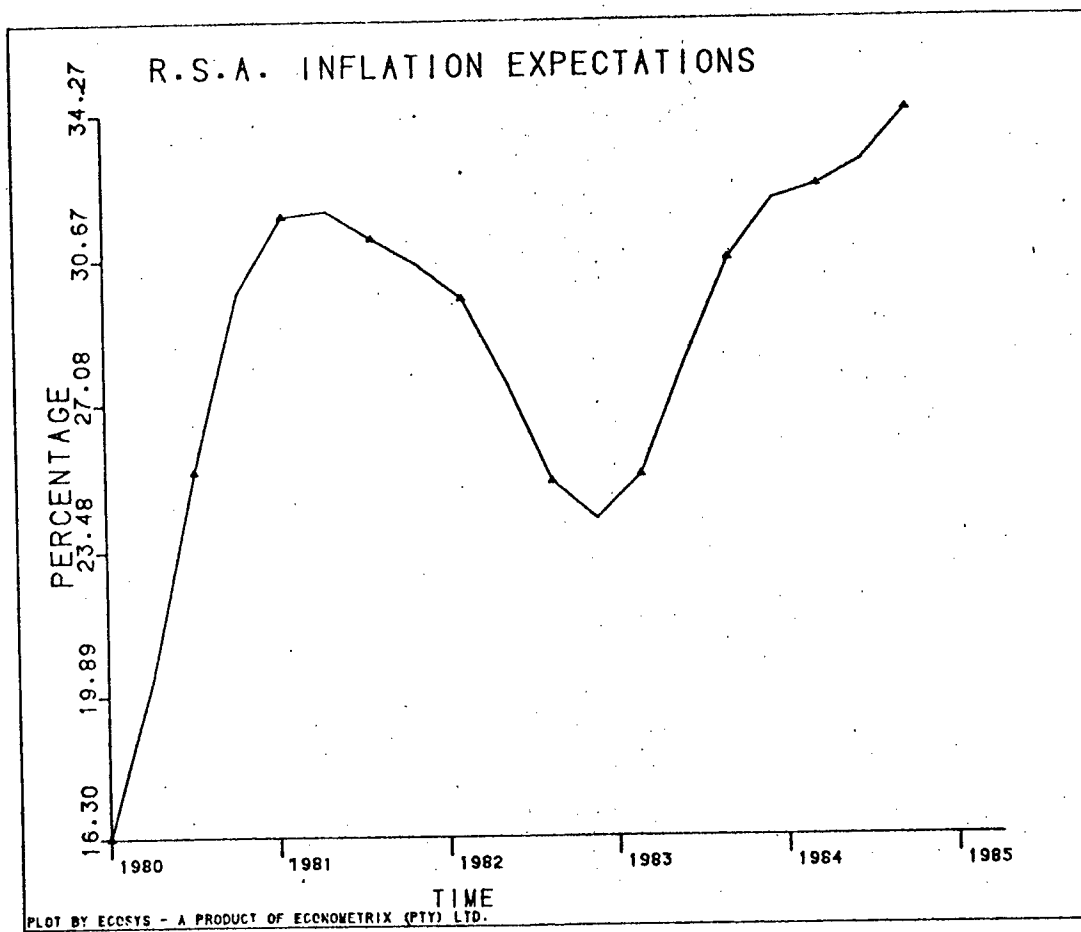
"Even within a low gold price scenario, the local economy can perform well — provided the central authorities interfere to a lesser extent in economic activity.

"The best medicine with which to treat the sick South African economy is to sharply reduce marginal taxes, corporate taxes and government expenditure. This, in turn, will release real resources, which will enable the economy to heal.

"The other tool that we recommend is the implementation of a proper monetary device to exercise control over the most important cause of inflation — monetary growth. We propose the cash base system, which is similar to the one currently being used so successfully in the United States."

Econometrix's other projections include:

- Between 1985 and 1987 the balance on the current account of the balance of payments will exhibit deficits. Only during 1988 will a surplus emerge.
- The consumer price index will increase by 18 percent in 1985, 16 percent in 1986, 14,5 percent in 1987 and 17 percent in 1988.
- For 1985 the upper limit of the rand will average US45c, with a lower limit of US24c. The respective figures for 1986 are US39c and US19c.
- Exchequer spending will decline from an average 20 percent during 1985 to 14 percent in 1988.



CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

POST OFFICE CUTS COSTS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Post Office budget is another example of the Government's new-found determination to put responsible financing ahead of politicking.

The Post Office's 15% average tariff increase, effective from April, has given ammunition to opposition politicians. But most critics have ignored the alternative.

Had the Post Office not increased tariffs, 96% of its 1985-86 capital expenditure would have had to be financed through loans. The new tariff structure will lower the loan portion to a more responsible 67%.

Business methods

The new Postmaster-General, William Ridgard, says: "We are a business in the strictest sense of the word.

"We cannot afford to allow ourselves to be come overgeared, no matter what the economic circumstances. If we did, future generations would have to meet the costs incurred today."

His deputy in charge of finance, Robbie Raath, says the increased prices are related

to the demand for new services.

"There is still a waiting list for 225 000 telephones and there has been a sharp increase in the growth of postal and telecommunication traffic.

"We have to meet the public's demands. The only way to do so is to increase capital expenditure."

Mr Raath says the Post Office hierarchy is adjusting to economic realities.

"In normal times we would stick to the Franszen Commission's recommendation of financing at least half of our capital expenditure internally. But to do that this year would have meant a much sharper increase in tariffs."

Cost cutting

Mr Raath says of cost cutting: "It has been policy for some time not to fill vacant posts. We have also intensified other saving measures.

"But there is a limit to how far you can go when the demand for services keeps rising. We have not retrenched staff, but will not make any general salary increases this year."

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

NUM'S WILDCAT STRIKES CONDEMNED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by Brendan Ryan]

[Text]

THE National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has been irresponsible in supporting wild-cat illegal strikes by its members, says Mr Clive Knobbs.

In his annual reviews as chairman of East Rand Proprietary Mines (ERPM) and Durban Roodepoort Deep (Durban Deep), he says the NUM has supported such illegal strikes before making use of local grievance procedures.

"The agreed dispute settlement arrangements entered into between NUM and certain employers are flagrantly violated and flouted.

"It is to be hoped that this behaviour is merely a temporary phenomenon and that a more mature and responsible approach will soon emerge to give credence to the basis requirements of a good-faith relationship," Mr Knobbs says.

He adds that the day-to-day relationship between white and black employees on the mines must be developed more positively.

The other major industrial relations problem to be dealt with in the coming year is the "scheduled" person restriction in the Mines and Works Act. Mr Knobbs says this must be replaced with a non-racial "competent" person definition.

He says the safeguards governing security of employment in the transition from the designated scheduled person to competent person are as important to the employer as to the employee because standards of performance must be maintained.

"The country has an acute shortage of skilled workers and it is for this reason that the majority of skilled white workers need not fear for their future.

"However, unless opportunities are provided for suitably-trained and qualified black workers to progress, the future for all could be very bleak.

"It is hoped that employers and employees can resolve this problem without Government intervention, but if an agreement is not reached shortly, such intervention could be unavoidable," he says.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

SUBSIDIARY OF FULMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Mar 85 p 6

[Article by David Furlonger]

[Text]

A LEADING British materials research organisation has set up shop in SA.

The Fulmer Research Institute, founded in 1946 and based near London, is a world leader in research into all aspects of industrial and commercial materials.

Its increasing business with SA corporations has caused it to set up a local subsidiary, Fulmer Research SA, based in Johannesburg.

Its operations include general research, development, design, failure analysis, consultancy, technical advice, evaluation and testing.

The institute has done research worth millions of rands for SA corporations in recent years. Its clients have included the Chamber of Mines, Anglo American, Mintek, Boart International, Haggie Rand, AECL, Gencor and Iscor.

Until now these corporations have had to approach Fulmer in the UK. Although all research will continue to be carried out at the institute's UK laboratories the SA subsidiary will operate as a go-between.

Its managing director is Mr Brian Protheroe, a Welshman, who has spent the past nine years as a researcher for the Chamber of Mines. Most recently, he was manager of the chamber's engineering materials branch.

The Fulmer Research Institute has a turnover of about R11m a year, of which about 16% comes from customers outside the UK. It has already established a subsidiary in Singapore.

Besides industry, the local Fulmer Research may also expect to attract interest from the Government, particularly the police and SA Defence Force.

Fulmer Research in the UK claims to lead the world in research into bullet-proof materials and the effects of impact on the human body.

Although much of its research has been conducted on behalf of the British Ministry of Defence, directors say the findings are available to others. They believe the disclosure of such information does not contravene rules forbidding sales of strategic equipment or information to SA.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

MONEY SUPPLY UNDER TIGHTER CONTROL

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Harold Fridjhon]

[Text]

MONEY supply growth is at last coming under tighter control.

But there is still a long way to go before the Reserve Bank can feel in any way secure about the outlook and the implications for inflation.

In January, however, the M1 aggregates dropped to a 29,8% growth, year-on-year, compared with 34% in December and 39,6% in November 1984.

The 29,8% growth is the second lowest since April 1984 when the calculation of the M1 figures was revised.

M1 consists of coin, banknotes and demand deposits of the non-bank private sector.

M2, which is M1 plus short and medium-term deposits of the non-bank private sector, rose by 23,4% in January compared with 25,8% in December 1984 and 28% in November.

M3 is M2 plus all other deposits of the non-bank sector and these figures dropped to 20,3% in January from December's 23,2%, and November's 24,7%.

The M3 total of R42,06bn is actually lower than December's R42,14bn and it is believed that this is the result of a large transfer of investment funds from long-term to

short-term. This would account for the increases in M1 and M2.

In other words, there are positive signs that money supply is starting to grow more slowly.

While the turning point appeared to come in December 1984, commentators were a little hesitant to read too much into the slower rate of month-on-month increases.

The January figures appear to be confirming the trend, which is probably the result of the slowdown in the growth of bank credit to the Government and particularly to the private sector.

Since September, the month after the austerity package which took prime rate to 25%, M1 has grown from R23,035bn to R25,11bn, and M3 has grown from R39,7bn to R42,06.

In the past three months M3 has dropped from R42,2bn to R42,06bn and M2 has been almost static.

Dr De Kock has emphasised that the money aggregates should be read together with the figures reflecting the velocity of circulation of money — the rate at which money changes hands.

Dr De Kock has reported that the velocity of circulation has been slowing down. On this basis and the latest figures it would seem that at last some control is being exercised over money supply.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

ZIMBABWE COMPANY USED AS FRONT TO EXPORT FRUIT TO MIDDLE EAST

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 12 Mar 85 p 11

[Text]

HARARE — A South African company is exporting fruit to Middle East countries using a Zimbabwean-registered company as a front, it has been claimed here.

The *Sunday Mail*, quoting the Ziana news agency, said a South African company, Fruit And General Exports (Pty) Ltd, airfreighted the cargo of fruit to Harare.

On arrival in the Zimbabwean capital, the fruit was re-packed and re-documented before being dispatched by air to Dubai in Saudi Arabia.

In the oil-rich country, the fruit was said to be distributed widely to other Arab countries.

LUCRATIVE

The operation, which has allegedly been going on since last year, was reported by the newspaper to be "very lucrative".

The report quoted a Middle East businessman who is resident in Harare as saying that Arab countries were cutting down their imports from South Africa because of its apartheid policies, and its strong ties with Israel.

The Harare re-export operation had no doubt succeeded in convincing Arab consumers that the fruit was being grown in Zimbabwe, said the businessman.

CSO: 3400/832

15 April 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

MOTOR INDUSTRY SLUMP FOSTERS UNEMPLOYMENT

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by David Furlonger]

[Text]

THE slump in the motor industry has cost more than 30 000 jobs, says the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA (Naamsa).

In its latest quarterly review, Naamsa says unemployment in the vehicle assembly industry has fallen from 48 194 in September 1983 to 42 000 — a loss of more than 6 000 jobs.

"In this context," says the review, "it must be remembered that for every retrenchment at assembly level, an additional four redundancies inevitably take place at component supplier industry level and in the retail motor trade."

The review, covering the last three months of 1984, is pessimistic about the industry's short-term future and says there is little prospect of immediate relief.

"The major current thrust of economic policy has been to exert very strong downward pressure on consumption expenditure and, especially, expenditure on durable consumption goods such as motor cars."

It says manufacturers realise that little or no relaxation can be expected in the Government's stringent policies until a combination of factors materialises. These factors are:

- The current account on the balance of payments strengthens and remains in surplus;
- Inflationary pressures abate; and
- The authorities are satisfied Government spending is under control.

ment spending is under control.

"It is realistic therefore to expect that the downswing phase in real business activity will continue for most of 1985, with the effect of consolidating the domestic economy and strengthening the balance of payments and thereby hopefully creating a solid base for renewed and sound economic growth towards the end of this year or early next year."

While pessimistic about the remainder of 1985, the review expects vehicle sales to pick up in the next two years.

Average sales forecasts by vehicle manufacturers predict a decline in all sectors this year over 1984, followed by steady increases in 1986 and 1987.

The forecasts are:

- Cars: 1984 — 268 751; 1985 — 243 000; 1986 — 268 000; 1987 — 291 000;
- Light commercial vehicles: 1984 — 117 275; 1985 — 109 000; 1986 — 115 000; 1987 — 124 500;
- Medium commercials: 1984 — 6 362; 1985 — 6 000; 1986 — 6 500; 1987 — 7 200;
- Heavy commercials: 1984 — 13 422; 1985 — 12 000; 1986 — 14 000; 1987 — 16 000.

The review points out that immediate prospects will depend to some extent on Monday's Budget.

"Naamsa would of course prefer a neutral Budget so as not to aggravate the already difficult circumstances facing motor vehicle manufacturers, suppliers and manufacturers of motor vehicle components, and the motor trade at large."

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

RESULTS OF HSRC LABOR REFORM SURVEY REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 13 Mar 85 p 17

[Article by Sue Leeman]

[Text]

White tradesmen have uttered a resounding "no" to labour reforms of the Wiehahn Commission. These include the scrapping of job reservation, the same pay for the same work, and equal opportunities for advancement and training for all races.

The hardline attitude of 603 white artisans and technicians polled by the Human Sciences Research Council in the Pretoria-Brits area has indicated that Government, in trying to bring about reforms, could be sitting on a powderkeg which is waiting to explode.

More than 40 percent of the blue-collar workers polled indicated that they would resort to strike action to save their jobs from black encroachment, and a staggering three-quarters said they would rather resign from their jobs than work on an equal footing with blacks.

Nearly 90 percent warned that white workers would stand together on this, and said they saw (exclusively) white unions being called on to play an increasing role in protecting members.

Most (82 percent) said they felt the changes left the door open for black domination in the workplace.

LIVING STANDARDS

Another 17 percent said they felt the economy would suffer because of the poor quality of work done by blacks.

Most respondents took a strong stand against all reforms, with nearly 72 percent indicating opposition to equal training, 66 percent opposing equal promotion opportunities, and nearly 44 percent indicating that they were against equal pay for equal work.

An overwhelming 80 percent called for the reservation of certain work for whites.

Nearly 61 percent predicted that increases in the number of black artisans would lead to lower salaries and living standards for whites.

Supervisors Inadequately Trained--HSRC Study

Supervisors employed by many South African companies are inadequately trained in staff management and therefore failing to deal effectively with conflict in the workplace, according to an HSRC study released yesterday.

Researchers said that although management did not usually regard supervisors as part of management, they were of crucial importance for sound labour relations because they were at the place "where white meets black".

However, after questioning the personnel managers of 44 companies, researchers found 73 percent were dissatisfied with the way their supervisors handled prickly situations of conflict and discipline.

A total of 64 percent said their supervisors were not up to scratch when it came to dealing and communicating with black workers.

Researchers note that many supervisors have only a superficial training, with only 48 percent of those who took part in the survey having attended management or supervisory courses of any kind.

Face Reality, Prof Tells White Artisans

An HSRC poll showing white blue-collar workers to be strongly opposed to labour reforms had "brought out into the open just how far removed from reality these people are", according to the head of the industrial relations unit at the University of Port Elizabeth, Professor Roux van der Merwe.

He called on employers to "look beyond the rhetoric" at the reality, which was that black artisans would become increasingly commonplace.

But white workers had no reason to feel threatened, he said. Their experience and superior education made them quite able to hold their own in the market place.

He said white workers had been protected from competition for too long and it was time that they stood on their own feet.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

BIG SIX FIRMS DEMAND SWEEPING REFORM

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 14 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

The private business sector today increased pressure on the Government to accelerate sweeping reforms to remove apartheid and defuse the overseas disinvestment campaign.

In a significant show of unity, all six of the main business organisations, whose member firms provide 80 percent of the entire national labour force, have linked forces to ensure full clout to the demands.

The signatories to a joint statement pledged support to initiatives to speed up "an ongoing process of economic and political reform".

They signatories are: Association of Chambers of Commerce; SA Federated Chamber of Industries; Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut; Chamber of Mines; Steel and Engineering Industries Federation; and National African Federation of Chambers of Commerce.

PROGRESS

The announcement of their stand follows warnings issued to the Government yesterday by the South African Foundation that impatience and anger was

growing inside big business over the slow pace of reforms.

A joint statement said: "Realism dictates that economic and political reforms must be pursued on their own merits.

"Nevertheless the organisations are keenly aware of the positive impact which visible progress along this road is likely to have on overseas opinion, and especially on the current disinvestment debate in the United States."

Initiatives taken so far have had the full support of the American Chamber of Commerce in South Africa.

The six organisations listed five main targets:

- Full participation by all South Africans in a private enterprise economy and in the political dispensation of the country.
- A common loyalty to the country as expressed through citizenship for all.
- Ending forced removals.
- Safeguards for the administration of justice by the courts.
- Further development of a free and independent trade union movement.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

ASSOCOM COUNTERS DISINVESTMENT THREAT

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Mar 85 p 13

[Article by Andrew Duncan]

[Text]

BUSINESSMEN must take immediate action to counter the threat of disinvestment, says the Association of Chambers of Commerce.

Assocom added in its latest quarterly review that everyone in business should act before irrevocable machinery was set in motion in the US.

People should urge their American contacts to lobby congressmen and senators to vote against any form of US disinvestment.

The publication said anti-SA sentiment had reached far beyond arms embargoes and original concepts of the Sullivan Code. Bankers were being forced to reconsider and, perhaps stop, loans to this country (Citibank has already stated that it will not grant new loans after March).

American trust and investment companies were being urged to shed holdings in US companies with trading links in this country.

The next step, said Assocom, would be to apply as much pressure as legally possible to force companies with interests in this country to sever all ties.

Assocom said businessmen dared not be indifferent to what was happening in the US nor should they regard pickets in Washington and legislative moves as being the actions of a crankish minority.

They were all sections of a lobby gaining strength and which could do tremendous damage to this country.

Assocom said the country's economic potential and political stability could not be ensured without a stable, secure and prosperous workforce.

Employer organisations had had some success in urging the SA Government to make policy changes in widening labour relations and in opening up equal opportunities for all, in advancing black home-ownership rights, educating and training people of all races, and in encouraging black entrepreneurship, especially in the informal sector.

It said employer organisations were still working towards further reforms in the structure of society.

These included more political participation for blacks, full participation in a private-enterprise economy, full SA citizenship and a free and independent trade union movement.

Assocom said that time was, however, running out fast. Events were moving against SA and once decisions to disinvest or apply sanctions had been made they would be almost impossible to reverse.

The political juggernaut in this country often moved at a frighteningly slow pace, said Assocom, and action would have to come from the private sector.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

FARMERS FACE CRITICAL CASH FLOW PROBLEM

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 26 Feb 85 p 13

[Article by Stan Kennedy]

[Text]

The cash flow problem of farmers, especially those in the summer rainfall areas, is critical, says Volkskas' *Economic Spotlight*.

From 1976 to 1985, the total debt burden of farmers rose from R2 300 million to about R9 000 million, mainly because of inflation, high interest rates and the drought.

With the industry's assets amounting to some R40 000 million, a general debt ratio of 22,5 percent can be regarded as favourable, it says. Fixed assets are about 75 percent of the total capital assets, which means that agriculture is likely to experience liquidity problems when climatic conditions are poor and the inflation and interest rates are high.

A study carried out by the SA Agricultural Union shows that the debt burden of 22,4 percent of all farmers exceeded the cut-off mark of 30 percent in 1983, and this had increased to 33,5 percent in 1984.

The number of farmers with little or no debt declined from 49 percent in 1983 to 38,7 percent at

the end of last year.

Total interest payable on farming debt has grown at a faster rate than the total debt burden itself, says Volkskas. While this debt rose by 77 percent during the past four years, the interest burden increased by 364 percent.

At the same time, short-term debts, which also include carry-forward debts, accounted for a large part of the increase in total debts. At current interest rates, the present interest burden is estimated at R1 800 million.

Volkskas says: "It seems that costs have risen far more sharply in agriculture than in any other sector. Recently, the price of fertiliser rose 20 percent, fuel by 30 percent and further increases are also expected for tractors, chemicals and animal feeds.

"Agriculture is in no position to absorb these increases, which will inevitably weaken the financial position of farmers even further."

To reduce his risks, the farmer is advised to diversify his activities. This will not only improve his cash flow but could bring about a better utilisation of fixed costs.

The main issue, says Volkskas, is financial planning. To an increasing extent, farmers will have to acquire experience in financial management. Short-, medium- and long-term planning will have to take place and funds will have to be provided accordingly.

They will have to draw up proper cash flow budgets and adapt their expenses accordingly. Analyses of various enterprises can serve to identify profitable operations and will help to eliminate unprofitable enterprises.

Similarly, they should seriously consider separating their private accounts from business accounts. In this way they will achieve greater financial discipline in both areas.

Lastly, farmers can effect considerable cost-savings through efficient inventory management.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

INCREASED FERTILIZER SALES REPORTED

Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 10 Mar 85 p 13

[Article by Tony Koenderman]

[Text]

SALES of fertiliser increased last year — for the first time since 1981.

They rose 9,8% last year to 706 000 plant food tons (the active ingredient which grosses up to 2,57-million physical tons).

But a savage price war cost the industry an estimated R150-million and manufacturers probably earned less last year than in 1983.

The increase in physical sales is attributable to improved rains, notably in the Free State winter crop area and Natal, but comes off an extremely low base — fertiliser sales in 1983 were 27% below the 1981 peak.

Demand from the main maize area remained depressed until the end of last year.

Another disadvantage to the manufacturers has been the patchiness of the rains. As transport accounts for a high proportion of total costs, manufacturers locate their factories in the middle of the areas they serve. If rains are bad in its area, a factory is put at a cost disadvantage.

Exports of granulated fertiliser (diammonium phosphate and phosphoric acid mixtures) also rose last year, to about 150 000 tons. This is in addition to Foskor's exports of phosphate rock, which amounted to 500 000 tons.

Discounts

But with two new entrants to the market (Sasol and AECI's Kynoch), the industry is more fragmented than ever, and, thanks to the price war — with discounts of 20% to 30% — nobody is making any profit.

"Sasol is having to buy market share," said one senior industry executive. However, Sasol managing director Mr Albie de Waal said it was necessary to see the discounts in context.

"The fertiliser companies put their prices up by 20%," he said. "We saw no point in putting prices up by 20% and then discounting by 20%, so we did not raise our prices."

The changes in the industry have led to a marked redistribution of the market.

In the days when AECI had 49% of Triomf it did not market fertiliser separately, and Dr Louis Luyt's company had a 45% share of the market. Fedmis had the lion's share of the rest.

But last year AECI entered the market separately (through Kynoch) after its split with Triomf. AECI now claims a market share of 23%, which is above its original projections.

"We were very pleasantly surprised with the acceptance of Kynoch in the marketplace," said Kynoch chairman Mr Chris von Solms.

Now the market is split much more evenly between the five producers, with the estimated market breakdown as follows:

Fedmis	27%
Triomf	23%
Kynoch	23%
Sasol	16%
Omnia	11%

"Five companies in the field is definitely too many," said Mr von Solms. "Each of them needs a certain throughput to keep their factories going, so there is a tendency to buy market share through discounting. But the competitors have to discount as well, so there is no benefit in the end."

The industry needs to operate at 80% of capacity to be viable, according to Mr Johan van der Walt, Sentrachem senior general manager in charge of Fedmis. But the total capacity of the industry is currently about 5,2-million tons, which means capacity utilisation is not much more than 50%.

FERTILISER MARKET

	Plant food tons	Physical tons
1981	897 850	3,35 million
1982	821 690	2,98 million
1983	642 850	2,30 million
1984	706 100	2,57 million

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

IMPACT OF DROUGHT ON MAIZE CROP EXAMINED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 16

[Text]

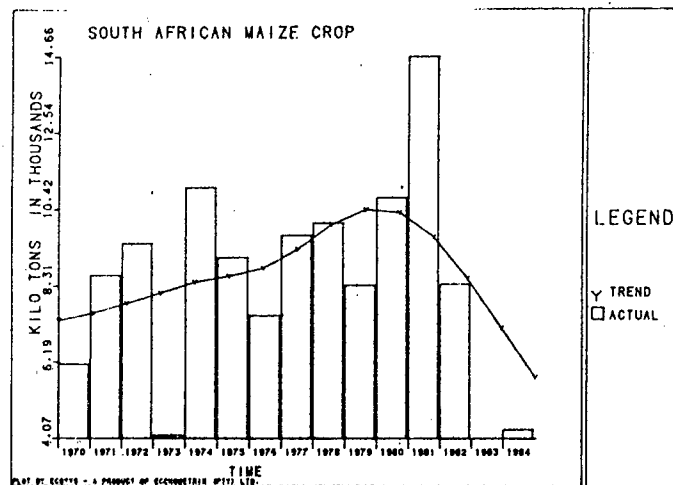
HOW BADLY the drought has ravaged South Africa's prime agricultural product is shown in the bar chart at right. After a peak in 1981, the maize crop virtually disappeared in 1983, with 1984 showing only marginal improvement.

That the calls for reduced Government spending are justified may be gauged from the second graph: such spending as a percentage of gross domestic product was at a record-high 26 percent in 1984.

Private-sector building plans have collapsed. Since this indicator is one of the prime barometers of the economy, it emphasises the depth of the current recession.

Money-supply growth showed little sign of tapering off towards the end of last year. However, subsequent statistics reveal that the growth in M1 has begun to decline in the early months of 1985.

All graphs by Econometrix.



CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN OIL

Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 10 Mar 85 pp 13, 15

[Article by Tony Koenderman]

[Text]

THE government is considering private sector involvement in South Africa's first big gas field near Mossel Bay, if the R2,5-billion venture turns out to be commercially exploitable.

"Private sector involvement in any project going ahead is certainly being contemplated," said a spokesman for the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs this week.

"This is very much a real possibility if the feasibility study now under way is favourable."

It could be the biggest public flotation since Sasol went public in 1979.

Public involvement could well be similar to that in Sasol — a partnership between the public and private sectors — with the government's stake in the hands of Soekor.

This time, however, the private sector would have a shareholding "from the word go", the spokesman said. "It is the policy of the government to get the private sector involved as much as possible."

Privatisation

Privatisation of the venture is likely to proceed simultaneously with its launch.

Obvious first candidates for participation would be the oil companies (who are already involved in the feasibility study) — probably in a private share issue. Their equity participation could be linked to a right to distribute their share of the Mossel Bay output through their garage chains.

"It is no good producing oil products if you don't have the distribution network," said Mr Alan Hill, energy analyst with stockbrokers Ed Hern, Rudolf Inc, who recently produced a detailed study of oil and gas developments off the Southern African coast.

"I would guess that there would be 35%-40% private sector participation."

The likelihood is that a public issue would only follow at a later stage, when the venture is operational and it is easier to value the shares. As with the Sasol issue, it is thought that the government might ultimately retain a stake of about 30%.

The government is making provision for the establishment of an 'energy bank' which will build up funds for the development of projects like the Mossel Bay gas project.

This is being done through the State Oil Fund (Amendment) Bill, currently being introduced in Parliament, which will convert the State Oil Fund into the Central Energy Fund, and broaden its scope.

Dr Robert Scott of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs added: "The possibility exists that revenues not only from levies on petroleum products but from other energy carriers would be obtained and utilised in that fund for a variety of development projects."

The SOF's activities are concerned only with securing and supplying fuels.

The feasibility study currently under way, at a cost of a couple of million rand (and financed partly

by the oil industry), is due for completion by the end of July.

If favourable, it will be followed by a conceptual and engineering design study which would cost perhaps 10 times as much, and take a little longer to complete. At this stage the method of financing the project would come into consideration.

Construction

Construction of the project would probably take about four years, which means it could be in production by the end of the decade.

Meanwhile, the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs is also conducting a feasibility study jointly with AECI into a coal-based methanol plant using Mobil technology.

The Mossel Bay gas field is based on two important structures, the F-A and the E-M, with a third (the E-S) which could be included in the project in time. The F-A structure, the largest, is located 90km south of Mossel Bay and the others 40km from it.

Most of the 11 potentially commercial holes drilled by Soekor since it started offshore exploration in 1973 are in this area.

The total recoverable gas reserves in the three structures is about 30-billion

cubic metres. In addition, there is significant volume of associated light condensate (condensed gas).

On conversion to diesel fuel, this could produce 20 000-25 000 barrels a day for 20 years.

Experts believe such reserves are enough to form the basis of a viable gas project. It could meet something like 10% of the country's needs and save about R500-million a year in foreign exchange.

"This is quite meaningful," said Mr Hill. "It could become more meaningful, too, as the history of such finds worldwide is that once one of these projects is under way, similar fields in the area become more attractive to exploit."

"You don't find these fields in isolation, but in clusters. Once Mossel Bay is going, it might become feasible to exploit the smaller Plettenberg Bay field, which has about a quarter of the volume of gas and would not be feasible on its own."

The exploitation of the field could also pave the way for similar developments further afield and involving neighbouring countries — though this, clearly, is fraught with political difficulties.

Most promising among other finds are the Kudu hole drilled off the Orange River mouth in Namibian waters in 1974 and Mozambique's onshore Pande field.

Kudu is thought to have two to three times as much gas as Mossel Bay, and Pande possibly twice as much.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

FINANCING SMALL OFFSHORE OIL FINDS CONSIDERED

Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English 10 May 85 p 13

[Article by Stephen McQuillan]

[Text]

SMALL offshore gas and oil pockets not viable by themselves may eventually be tied into the R2 000-million Mossel Bay gas project — to boost output or extend its life.

And the gas field development, expected to be approved by Government towards the end of this year, could be the forerunner of other offshore production projects.

Industry analysts say the technological know-how, skills and experience of Soekor — the State-funded oil exploration organisation — have been successfully honed and South Africa's oil men will almost certainly press on with the search to pinpoint other viable fields of oil or gas.

Energy analyst Alan Hill, of stockbrokers Ed Hern, Rudolph Inc, says the smaller, less significant finds could be tagged-on to larger gas fields set to be exploited by Soekor.

Soekor confirmed the possibility. A spokesman said: "This is possible and would provide an added bonus.

"But first it would have to be established if the reserves of such wells were big enough and that they were not a great distance from the Mossel Bay project."

Mr Hill said Soekor was initially concerned with two extensive gas accumulations. Since starting the planning for the Mossel Bay gas exploitation, a third area in the

immediate vicinity has gained importance.

"It now seems the three areas will be linked together," he said.

"There are potentially small deposits near Plettenburg Bay, Stilbaai and Algoa Bay. Some of these could be tied-in to the system."

Soekor would "not stop now," he said. "Experience elsewhere in the world has been that the discovery of one deposit sufficient to justify a project in own right has led to the development of smaller deposits in the vicinity — deposits which otherwise would not have been viable.

"Soekor is probably looking at other deposits within 100 km of that site. Oil from these — like the 2 600-barrels-a-day find two weeks ago — can be shipped to Cape Town and the gas deposits can be piped into the established field.

"Once the Mossel Bay project is given the go-ahead, everything will snowball."

The additional oil or gas pockets could increase output from the conversion plant from the estimated 22 000 barrels a day or increase the lifetime of the project.

"The initial cost of exploration, setting-up production rigs and the rest is very high — but so are the profit margins," said Mr Hill. "In the North Sea, operating profit mar-

gins in excess of 85 percent of selling values are not uncommon in the gas fields.

"It follows that the returns on the Mossel Bay investment will also go through the roof."

The field now being studied off Mossel Bay already amounts to one trillion cubic feet of gas and has a life expectancy of at least 20 years — the minimum requirement for viable offshore production.

And Mr Hill said it was rare to find pockets of oil or gas in isolation. "They tend to come together."

"I would expect the exploration to carry on regardless of the Mossel Bay project — Soekor could, in time, even use cash from the project to step-up the search. It may also be that more drilling is undertaken by non-Government parties."

The Mossel Bay project will provide the equivalent of about a quarter of the combined Sasol Two and Three operation — an estimated 10 to 15 percent of the national consumption.

And the entire domestic fuel supply could be turned upside-down if Swakor — the South West African equivalent of Soekor — proves the Kudu field, just inside SWA/Namibian waters, which has been billed as potentially one of the biggest gas fields in the world.

Soekor is still looking for a partner to carry the risk of sinking four more wells around the Kudu site.

The Sedco 135 rig, working for the American Chevron Company, struck gas there in April 1974, but because of high pressure of the gas, among other things, the well could not be tested.

All figures with respect to possible reserves of the Kudu field are therefore "complete speculation", said a spokesman for Soekor.

But observers say the decision to go ahead with more drilling at Kudu is an indication that South Africa is preparing to pull out of SWA/Namibia.

"They don't want to continue subsidising South West Africa and it is crazy nothing has been done about Kudu earlier," said an industry expert.

South Africa would stop pumping money into the country as soon as possible and the Kudu field would provide an ideal legacy.

SWA/Namibia could use no more than 15 percent of its potential, the rest being available for export to South Africa or the rest of the world.

The most reserved estimates put the amount of gas available at three times that of Mossel Bay.

The gas would logically be converted in South Africa and returned as useable fuel. The infrastructure of SWA/Namibia is not big enough to justify the construction of a new fuel conversion plant.

Soekor says the Kudu field could be developed three or four years after new drilling begins — at the earliest.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

CHAMBER OF MINES THREAT TO CLOSE MINES CRITICIZED

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 13 Feb 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Chamber of Mines Threatens"]

[Text] Most mines not belonging to the Oppenheimer group are in most cases somewhat afraid of the Chamber of Mines, which they see as a front organization for Anglo-American/De Beers interests.

Mr George Nesbit, president of the Chamber of Mines, is worried about two matters:

First of all, there are movements under way to no longer allow mines to singly write off their investments in capital goods for income tax purposes;

Secondly, Mr Nesbit is concerned that the government wants to block the merger of a number of Orange Free State mines. This merger has only one purpose, namely, to gain important short-term tax benefits.

Mr Nesbit is of the opinion that if the government does not remain amicable towards the mines, development will come to an end, and then the minerals will remain in the ground.

Mr Nesbit said other unpleasant things, such as that no one will then extract the minerals from the ground. However, he seems to forget that the mining industry exists as a result of the excessively tolerant attitude of the South African government, which enables mines to make larger profits than in any other country in the world.

We are not so sure, if the mining entrepreneurs were to close the mines, or to leave low quality ore in the ground, that things cannot be put right by withdrawing mining rights. Mr Nesbit is apparently forgetting that more than half of the world's mines are operated by governments, and under considerably less favorable circumstances than those under which they pursue their activities here.

Mr Nesbit ought to know that many businessmen have the interests of the country and its people at heart only as a last resort. Mr Nesbit's members are in the

mining business for only one reason--profit--and in this respect he ought to know that the South African mining industry is one of the most profitable in the world. The reason for this is primarily the presence of the rich deposits in the South African soil.

We also find it curious that Mr Nesbit speaks so openly of the reduction in mining activities. We can say to him without the least fear of contradiction that with his remarks he has favorably predisposed neither the government nor the mine workers.

12271

CSO: 3401/127

SOUTH AFRICA

COAL INDUSTRY WILL CONTINUE TO EXPAND

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 5 Mar 85 p 17

[Text]

A major factor encouraging the development of coal-mining in South Africa has been the building of the infrastructure to allow for large-scale export of, predominantly, steam coal.

Output in 1983 totalled 142 million tons and preliminary estimates put last year's figure at 155 million tons.

Speaking at the 1985 Safety Programme for South African Collieries, the chairman of the Chamber of Mines' Collieries Committee, Mr D Rankin, said a feature of the exports was the rapid growth of both the export of coal and coal mined by Sasol for its oil from coal plants.

Longer term projections, which allow for a slower rate of economic growth indicate that by 2000 output will be about 280 million tons.

South Africa is one of the major producers of hard coal in the world and ranks fifth after Russia, the United States,

China and Poland.

The industry was becoming increasingly modernised and capital intensive and this was reflected in the high labour productivity.

He gave as an example the 142 million tons produced in 1983 with a total labour force of 114 000, compared with the UK tonnage of 105 million tons by 191 000 workers.

"The implementation of loss control, with the prime objective of saving life and avoiding injury, will also assist significantly in containing cost increases, improve efficiencies and increase productivity."

The fatality rate on collieries in 1982 was 0,99 per 1 000 shifts, increasing to 1,49 in 1983, largely as a result of the Hlobane disaster. Last year it was 0,68 per 1 000 shifts — a 31% improvement over 1982 and a 58% improvement over 1983.

The industry was setting out to get under the 0,5 mark this year, Mr Rankin said.

SOUTH AFRICA

RECORD REVENUE FOR GOLD MINES REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 5 Mar 85 p 17

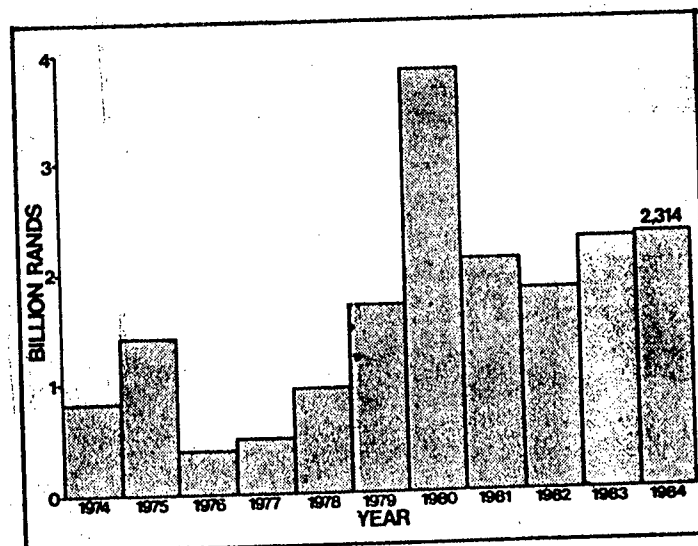
[Text]

Revenue earned by South African gold mines last year reached a record of almost R11 000 million, while profits increased by 6,2 percent over the previous year to R5 669 million, says the Chamber of Mines in its January/February newsletter.

Despite increases in working costs of 13,2 percent and 17 percent in capital expenditure, dividends for the year fell only 2,4 percent.

Gold production of 680 552 kg was marginally higher than the 679 527 kg in 1983. Grades declined from 6,55 g/t in 1983 to 6,44 g/t last year, but the effect of lower grades was offset by an increase in milling volumes from 99 810 million tons to 101 128 million tons.

While there was a drop of 15,1 percent in average dollar values, the rand devaluation of more than 34 percent during the



The gold mining industry's direct contribution to State revenues.

year actually increased rand revenues by 11 percent.

The gold mining industry is the biggest single sectoral contributor to government revenues. Last year it paid

R2 314 million in direct taxes (see graph). Benefits to the Treasury also came from indirect taxes through wages and salaries paid to the 500 000 employed on the gold mines.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

LOCAL PRODUCER PRICE FOR ZINC MOOTED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Mar 85 p 18

[Article by Priscilla Whyte]

[Text]

THE Hot-Dip Galvanisers' Association is calling for an SA producer price for zinc.

The price is now based on the European producers price converted into rands via the dollar. It is set monthly and not open to the spot market fluctuations of the London Metal Exchange. SA users are paying a high price for this corrosion-resistant commodity because of the weak rand.

In the 18 months to the end of February there has been a 120% increase in the rand price of zinc to about R1 900 a ton. During the same period the dollar price of zinc dropped \$100 to \$900/ton.

Black Mountain, Rosh Pinah and Prieska are the three mines producing zinc concentrate in SA. About 125 000 tons are produced annually of which roughly 25% is exported.

Prieska contributes about half of the total production.

The depreciation of the rand has given a new lease of life to the Prieska copper and zinc mine which was due to close in the

second half of this year. Its life has been extended to about mid-1986.

According to Mr Walter Barnett, chairman of the Hot-Dip Galvanisers' Association, all zinc concentrates mined locally are refined by Zinc Corp, part of Gold Fields of SA.

Mr Barnett advocated an SA producer price to guarantee a fixed maximum and minimum for six months.

He estimated that Zinc Corp's break-even price for refined zinc was about R800 a ton and galvanisers could comfortably operate within a R1 200 to R1 600 price range.

Mr Barnett noted that internationally there was plenty of zinc.

Mr Richard Beck, general manager of Zinc Corp, said: "Zinc is an international commodity and, therefore, the SA price should be linked to an international pricing mechanism."

More than 70% of Zinc Corp's costs are related to the buying of zinc from mines.

Mr Beck said Zinc Corp produced 90 325 tons last year and sold 92 871 tons by drawing on a stockpile.

He believed an SA producer price would work only if the mines agreed to sell zinc concentrate to Zinc Corp in a rand price related to the selling price to SA galvanisers.

Mr Michael Fuller-Good, a general manager of GFSA, said the international zinc price had been depressed from 1975 to 1983.

He added that for years consumers of zinc had had a favourable pricing situation and that the balance had now swung in favour of the mines. This was hardly a cause for a reduction in the SA producer price.

He noted that consumers in every country except the US were paying more for zinc.

The LME price of zinc in September was about £600 and in February the price had risen to more than £800.

Mr Fuller-Good believed that the international price for zinc would continue to increase steadily for the next year.

SOUTH AFRICA

ANGLO COMPUTERIZED SAFETY RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIBED

Johannesburg MINING WEEK in English 27 Feb 85 p 5

[Text]

COMPUTERS are playing an ever-increasing role in the South African gold mining industry and in Anglo American mines, micro-computers are now being used underground in research projects aimed at improving safety.

A system called "Diginet" (Digital Information Network) is being used at present to detect and record rock movement, but it will eventually have numerous other applications.

Diginet has been developed by the Rock Mechanics Department of the Research and Development services of Anglo American's gold division in Welkom.

Research into rock movement and seismic events is not new to the group. Work in this direction has been carried out for more than a decade.

However, the installation of computers underground in recent months has provided a sophistication to underground research believed to be unequalled anywhere

else in the world.

So far, six micro-computers have been installed underground, and six on surface, to record signals from geophones imbedded in rock. Ultimately there will be 32 sites.

The system monitors virtually the entire Free State goldfield.

Equipment has also been installed on mines which are not part of the Anglo American group so that Anglo researchers are able to develop an overall picture of seismic activity in the area.

Radio transmitters at the tops of headgears at Western Holdings, Free State Geduld, President Steyn, President Brand, Unisel and St. Helena, and on surface where geophones and micro-computers are located, send relevant information, over distances of up to 12 kilometres, to the RDS Rock Mechanics Department based near the Western Holdings No. 7 Shaft.

Here, 32 radio receivers, three mini-computers and other up-to-date

electronic installations are used to monitor outstations and analyse seismic activity.

Mr David Lawrence, research head in charge of computer-based systems within the Rock Mechanics Department, has explained that Diginet provides a high-quality record of events and eliminates the distortion encountered in the old analogue system which conveyed signals over long distances in an electrical cable.

Micro-computers underground provide digital signals which are not susceptible to outside electrical interference and monitor geophones which record extremely small vibrations and give signals which range from millionths of a volt up to 10 volts.

Mr Lawrence said RDS had developed the system and had written programs for the micro-computers underground. It had taken about one-and-a-half man-years to do this and

it had taken six-to-eight man-months to write the programs for the mini-computers on surface.

The equipment is able to record the location of earth movement, the time it takes place, its intensity, and other relevant information of interest to seismologists employed on the mines.

An important feature of the system, Mr Lawrence explained, is that computers underground, which were being used to control the process, may be instructed through a console on surface to perform certain functions.

For example, if it is suspected that certain components in the systems underground are malfunctioning a program may be run to carry out diagnostic tests.

Another feature is that if a geophone becomes faulty underground for any reason the computer underground can be told to ignore the particular channel for the time being.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

NEERI SIGNS LIGHTNING RESEARCH DEAL WITH BRAZIL

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Mar 85 p 3

[Text]

THE CSIR's National Electrical Engineering Research Institute (Neeri) has signed a R450 000 deal to act as principal subcontractor for a lightning research station in Brazil.

The facility, which will be the most sophisticated of its kind in the world, is to be built near the city of Belo Horizonte.

The project calls for Neeri to design, supply and install the equipment for the research station.

Neeri is advising on the basic design and construction of the station and on subsequent research operations and interpretation of the data.

The project, according to a spokesman, is an example of the CSIR's dynamic interaction with local industry.

Spescom is designing the computerised data acquisition system to enable the station to cap-

ture and analyse individual lightning current pulses.

Dr Andy Eriksson, the leader of the CSIR lightning research programme, says of Neeri's contribution to the project: "We have guided the design of the tower on which lightning current will be measured and provided the associated transducers and control instrumentation, supplied the special instruments necessary for measuring lightning current peaks in power transmission lines and provided closed-circuit TV and special camera systems for observing and measuring lightning striking distances.

"An early lightning warning system recently developed by Neeri and industrialised by Spescom will automatically switch on the research station when a storm approaches."

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

DURBAN'S PORT CONTINUES TO BE BIG MONEY EARNER

Durban THE DAILY NEWS in English 20 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

DURBAN'S port director, Captain Peter Cox, yesterday said the reason Durban harbour remained a money-spinner in an otherwise international shipping slump was because the port handled half of the country's total volume of cargo.

It was reported in Parliament this week that according to the Auditor-General's report on the South African Transport Services for 1983/4, Durban harbour cleared a profit of R223,6 million — R10 million more than in the previous year. The next highest margin was Table Bay with only a R19,3 million profit.

Richards Bay, however, showed a loss of R9,9 million — a 50 percent reduction on its previous year's losses.

Captain Cox said that exports "have just taken off", in particular the base products such as coal, steel, granite and ferro-alloys.

"Yesterday we had eight ships waiting outside for berths in the harbour

— a lot more than we have had for some time."

Container traffic was still "well up" after record levels were achieved in September and October last year.

Ironically it has been a consequence of the frailty of the economy that a number of large bulk carriers have been visiting Durban harbour, discharging North American cereal products to supplement South Africa's drought-diminished domestic supplies.

There are also certain other noteworthy changes on the liner shipping front which have taken place in recent months, especially the increase in the number of vessels operated by the Hamburg-based non-Conference company MACS. This includes the frequent trading of the two multi-purpose French ships, the Marie Delmas and the Lucie Delmas, as well as their modern cargo liner, Cape Town Carrier, the freighter Tennessee and the multi-purpose liner Concordia Star.

CSO: 3400/822

15 April 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

DECLINE OF ELSA SHIPPING LINE REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 Feb 85 p 14

[Article by David Furlonger]

[Text]

EUROPEAN Lines SA (Elsa), the independent shipping line established late last year to carry cargo between SA and Europe, is about to sink without trace.

The SA agent, African Shipping (Afship), has pulled out of the venture after disagreements with the line's Greek owner. Since being set up last October, Elsa has not made a single sailing.

Although local exporters were prepared to support the new line with northbound cargoes to Europe, the London base agents could offer no southbound cargoes.

More problems arose with the owner's unwillingness to provide ships for the service. Although he was expected to make available five 26 600-ton vessels, they never arrived, and a Liberian-registered vessel, the Amazonia, was chartered for the first sailing.

In the event, the Amazonia never arrived, because a British nationalised industry, British Steel, took up prior re-chartering rights on the vessel.

Confirming yesterday that Afship had pulled out of Elsa, managing director, Mr Clayton Elsley, said the line was as good as dead.

"The owner can't supply the ships we want so we said he can negotiate elsewhere. There is no other

South African agent coming in so I'd say for the time being the line is dead."

Although Elsa's owner operates other shipping lines around the world, he has been unwilling to have his name linked to the South African service and has remained anonymous until now.

Business Day learned yesterday, however, that he is Mr Lou Kolkis, a Greek shipper who operates out of London. He owns a fleet of about 30 ships and does much of his traffic to the Red Sea and North American Great Lakes.

Because of the strength of the US dollar, it is understood Mr Kolkis is taking advantage of the huge European export trade to the US and diverting more of his ships to the Great Lakes service.

Mr Elsley admitted Afship has been embarrassed by the Elsa saga and is now wary of further European adventures.

"We've been approached about another European service but because of our Elsa experience, we say 'give us the evidence and tell us when the ships will sail, and we'll do the rest'.

"When you tell shipping companies that, they're likely to run for cover, but we're not prepared to embarrass ourselves again by announcing the arrival of a line and then have nothing happen."

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

MEMOREX TO EXPAND RSA OPERATIONS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 Feb 85 p 14

[Article by Stan Kennedy]

[Text]

Memorex, a leading US company in information storage, retrieval and communications equipment, is to expand its operations in South Africa with a view to penetrating the markets of other African countries.

The company, a member of the Burroughs group, is one of IBM's chief challengers in peripheral manufacture and is recognised as a front-runner in communication's display terminals and storage products. The company supports only IBM equipment.

Mr Lars Turndal, president of Memorex International and vice-president of Burroughs Corporation, said in Johannesburg this week that turnover of the local company in its first 14 months of operation was R5 million.

"We have been quite successful and with the competition not being as severe as we thought it would be, and with IBM being such a big marketplace, we have decided to open a branch in Cape Town.

"We intend to stay here and we anticipate increasing turnover to R15 million by the end of the year."

Memorex has worldwide operations with manufacturing facilities in 29 countries and product distribution in more than 60.

Mr Turndal said he was also in South Africa to investigate the possibility of sourcing some products locally. Because of exchange problems, the company sources about 60 percent of its products outside the US.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

DETAILS ON COMPUTER FAIRE GIVEN

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 9 Mar 85 p 9

[Article by Stan Kennedy]

[Text]

SA Computer Faire, the only specialist computer exhibition in the country, will hold its seventh computer show at the National Exhibition Centre, Crown Mines, from May 22 to 25.

On display will be the latest in micro and mini-computers, software for business and scientific applications, peripherals, accessories, word processing systems and industrial micro-processing.

Already 85 percent of the 212 stands have been sold and the organisers are confident that the remainder will be sold in the next few weeks.

Anchor Life Assurance, which has sponsored the show since its inception seven years ago, is confident that attendance will exceed the record 40 000 in 1984.

In the past, some of the major suppliers exhibited at the Business Equipment Association's (BEA) show. Now that the BEA has opted out of mount-

ing a specific computer exhibition, many of them have booked stands at Computer Faire.

The trend to find more powerful forms of processing information is leading companies to invest in major computing equipment, resulting in a sharp drop of 60 percent in international sales of small computers in the past year.

Although customer requirements in South Africa are in line, generally, with those in Europe, there is still a big demand for micro-computers, particularly for small businesses and for training and education.

Estimated sales of small computers in South Africa last year were R180 million. Peripherals and accessories accounted for many more millions of rands. This is expected to increase, despite the economic recession.

With skilled people hard to find, office automation will play a big role in assisting the economy to expand. Computer development is now concentrating on ease of operation, with minimum training, so that relatively low-skilled people will be able to operate the equipment.

Mr Dick Adams, Wang's vice-president, sales for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, said in Johannesburg recently: "The potential in South Africa in terms of evolution in office automation is on the verge of great expansion. Locally, it is still virgin territory and it can only grow."

Overseas companies are aware of this and interest in the exhibition has been shown by some hardware and software manufacturers in Taiwan, West Germany and the US. Dr Wilf Rosenberg, public relations director, says representatives of these firms have promised to attend.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

CONTROL OF DATA FLOW UNRESOLVED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by Jennigay Coetzer]

[Text]

COMPUTER technology has encouraged a mania for collecting data which has brought with it new problems, many of which rely on moral ethics as a safeguard against abuse.

And, with the increasing ability to access massive databases from thousands of miles away by computer, privacy has become an issue the world cannot ignore.

Few people stop to think that credit information — both good and bad, current and historical — is stored in large databases throughout the country on most South Africans who have ever applied for credit.

Furthermore, each time you buy something the chances are that personal details, written perhaps on the back of a cheque, are kept and used later for marketing purposes.

A security specialist remarked the other day that he had only been in the country for a month and he was already receiving sales literature

from several different companies. How did they get the information?

Confidential records of individuals have always been vulnerable even when kept in filing cabinets.

But, with a computerised database, we are dealing with a problem of new magnitude because, once into a computer system a person with malicious or criminal intent could copy thousands of personal records in just a few minutes.

Most individuals, even those with nothing to hide, have a dread of having their records on file. In the past the primary safeguard against this has been the inefficiency of manual systems, where records have been inaccessible, uncollated and decentralised.

But that situation is fast changing and even now networks of computers can be linked together to access international databanks through

satellites in a few minutes.

The British Government recently passed its first law on the use and disclosure of personal information held on computers, and in the US all 50 states have their own legislation.

In South Africa, legislation on what data may be stored in a computer with regard to private individuals has been discussed at government level for many years with no conclusion.

Some countries hold that the rights of the individual are of paramount importance, while others are opposed to a Bill of Rights in the belief that the interests of the group should override those of the individual.

With two such opposing schools of thought, the mind boggles as to how international law will be able to control the flow of data between countries once international computer networks really get under way.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

COMPUTERIZATION OF TENDER INFORMATION REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 12 Mar 85 p 20

[Article by Stan Kennedy]

[Text]

Instant access, on a daily basis, to tenders issued by State departments, provincial administrations, municipalities, parastatal bodies and consulting engineers is now available to the country's 300 civil engineering contractors.

The computerised system, believed to be a world first, has been introduced by the SA Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (SAFCEC) in association with the Infonet Division of Computer Sciences.

Mr Tony Sheffield, SAFCEC's Transvaal and OFS regional manager, says members will have a big advantage over the previous system, which involved a printed tender bulletin being mailed weekly. Tenders can now be "fine-tuned" and prices made keener, he says.

"The computerised bulletin board informs members of the latest tender results and contract awards.

"Information on price increases is another feature of the system and thousands of rands can be saved by prompt ordering in advance of an increase, given sufficient warning."

Suppliers to the industry, who are also eligible to subscribe to the system, can contact successful tenderers quickly and negotiate orders or special deals.

Subscribers are allocated an identity number to allow them to clear information by telex or a computer terminal every day.

Data is transmitted in three ways — via a telex machine, a printer and modem or a personal computer/word processor linked via a modem to a telephone.

Cost of the service is R1 100 a year for SAFCEC members who operate one or two outlets. Large groups of companies get bulk discounts to help them equip their offices throughout the country. In the case of a contractor with 10 or more outlets, the cost reduction per unit is 40 percent.

"It is not a question of whether they can afford it," says Mr Sheffield. "Members should ask themselves if they can afford not to have it since the success in obtaining one contract could pay for the computerised service for many years."

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

CSS REPORTS UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Mar 85 p 5

[Article by Amrit Manga]

[Excerpts]

MORE than 8 000 jobs could be on the line every month if the rate of retrenchment recorded last year continues.

Retrenchment patterns have not changed much in most sectors, except in the motor industry where total employment has stabilised at 42 000 — down from the peak of more than 48 000 in September 1983.

Nic Vermeulen, chief executive of the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers, says: "The extension of repayment periods on hire-purchase sales and the gradual phasing in of fringe benefit taxation have helped to stabilise employment. But whether the situation will improve depends largely on the Budget on March 18."

Training loss

Besides the direct cost to industry of retrenchment benefits, motor manufacturers are carrying large losses in lost training investment.

Central Statistical Services say the number of jobs lost between 1981 and 1984 in the general manufacturing sector alone is 23 000.

The clothing industry in the Transvaal is experienc-

ing its worst downturn since the recession began. Almost 7 000 jobs have been lost and another 2 000 are threatened.

Total employment in clothing has fallen from 25 000 two years ago to 19 000. In the past two months, 1 200 garment workers have lost their jobs. The head count will drop by another 150 when a Johannesburg knitting firm closes this month.

Building

Wynand Stapelberg, general secretary of the Building Industry Industrial Council, says 221 skilled and semi-skilled workers registered for unemployment benefits last week, bringing the total between October 1984 and February 1985 to more than 1 800.

The council paid out benefits totalling more than R20 000 in this time compared with R1 000 in the comparable period last year.

The number of general workers — mainly unskilled — in the building industry in the Southern Transvaal alone dropped by 14% between September 1984 and January this year. This translates into 6 200 jobs.

Total retrenchments in the construction and civil engineering sector could exceed 12 300 for the 12 months to January this year.

CSO: 3400/822

15 April 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

OLD FOLK JOIN QUEUES FOR JOBS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Mar 85 p 9

[Article by Angus Macmillan]

[Text]

SENIOR citizens are looking for work in droves as recession bites into their retirement nest-eggs and pensions.

High inflation and interest rates are forcing many elderly folk to freeze retirement plans and hop back on the working merry-go-round.

Trust companies say less than 10% of South Africans retire financially sound enough to enjoy their twilight years.

Senior Citizen Employment Bureau, a Kelly group subsidiary which has been around since 1974, reports a marked increase in the number of retired people looking for jobs.

The company has branches in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

Operations manager Joan Osborn says most applicants are unemployed. Usually, they are unable to live off their pensions and savings and have to find additional income.

"There is a variety of work for people aged 55 to 69, although clients are fairly de-

manding. Over the age of 70, there is little chance of landing a job."

Glut

Positions offered vary from book-keepers and clerks to caretakers, storemen and commissionaires.

There is also work for engineers, accountants, cashiers, switchboard operators and club personnel.

In Durban, there is a glut of retirees looking for caretaker positions. Free accommodation is usually part of a caretaker's package.

Salaries vary, but as with jobs at any age, they are usually highest in Johannesburg.

Book-keepers earn R750 to R900 a month, administration clerks about R800, storemen R600 to R1 000 and caretakers R350 to R1 000 plus accommodation.

Some State pensioners have to tread carefully in the job market. If they earn too much they risk failing the means test for money from Government coffers.

CSO: 3400/822

SOUTH AFRICA

RAND PRIVATE SCHOOL PIONEERS INTEGRATION

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 1 Mar 85 p 12

[Article: "Multiracial School for Afrikaners"]

[Text] Johannesburg -- Next year, Afrikaans speaking children in the Rand will be admitted for the first time to a multiracial, multilingual private school, where they will be taught in their own language.

As of next year, the well-known Marist Brothers Sacred Heart College in Observatory will house a significant number of Afrikaner students -- the result of an ideal for a private Afrikaner school which was expressed a few years ago among a group of prominent Johannesburgers.

The original idea to start an elite school for Afrikaner children encountered a good deal of opposition from people who felt that it was a whim of a group of snobbish Afrikaners to practice their own apartheid, said Mrs Amora Waterson, member of the steering committee for the new school. In time the idea grew to something which has become much more now -- a unique concept which, according to the committee, could play a role in the ethnic plan.

Development

An Afrikaner protestant element will now be brought into a school which has traditionally been Roman catholic and cosmopolitan, and which houses children of all races and all population groups.

The president of the Afrikaner steering committee is Judge Johan Kriegler. The other members include Dr Johan Cloete, chief economist of the Barclays Bank, Dr Izak Labuschagne from the board of directors of the South African Bok, Mrs Sherry Joubert, Mrs Amora Waterson and Professor Jacques Kriel, head of the Medical School at the University of Witwatersrand. Professor Kriel will be responsible, in consultation with experts from the two Johannesburg universities, for the development of a study plan for grades five, six and seven. However, he will remain attached to the University of Witwatersrand and will act as educational consultant for the school, which will be renamed Observatory College.

The Johannesburg Centennial Committee is so excited by this project that it has officially made it one of its centennial projects.

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

VIDEO CASSETTE PATENT--Durban--Millions of rands could flow into South Africa from the video patent of a South Coast man who is desperately trying not to sell his idea overseas. The inventor is offering his patent to South African companies in the hope that they will manufacture his new type of reel-to-reel video cassette--and make a fortune. Mr Digby Thompson of Shelley Beach says plans to lift South Africa from its economic woes and the results of disinvestment have prompted him to reveal his patent in the hope that a South African concern will see its potential. "I do not want to see the money go to another country," he says. The product is an openable cartridge to fit Beta and VHS machines. One buys only the reel containing the desired film from a store, it is then placed inside the cartridge, which shuts down and operates like any normal video cassette. Because it is so cheap it will reduce the amount of piracy, as it will not be worth going to the trouble of copying it. Its size makes it easy to store and it opens many new avenues of marketing. [Text] [Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 1]

SHIPPING SERVICE LAUNCHED--A new freight shipping service has been launched linking Durban with the Comores Islands and Mayotte. The service, offering general cargo shipment with container reefer space, is expected to operate every 30 or 35 days, calling at Mayotte, Mutsumudu, Anjouan and Moroni. It is a joint venture between Unicorn Lines and Societe Commorienne de Navigation (SCN). SCN is represented in South Africa by Mitchell Cotts Maritime. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 27 Mar 85 p 14]

SERVICING COMPUTERS--The computer industry is rapidly gaining an unsavoury reputation regarding service and backup, says Mr Colin Ainscough, managing director of South African Peripheral Equipment. Companies had been supplying customers without offering full back-up to dealers and end-users. Mr Ainscough estimated that almost 20% of hardware, software and peripheral suppliers would be out of business by the end of this year. High interest rates and the effect of the weak rand against the dollar would, in the long term, benefit the computer industry as it forced unscrupulous and under-capitalised companies to close. He said the computer peripheral market--estimated at R40m a year--was expected to grow by 30% this year. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 85 p 9]

CISKEI TAX ABOLISHED--The abolition of company tax in Ciskei this month has produced a flood of inquiries from companies wishing to establish plants there. Wessel van Wyk, director of communications with the Ciskei Government says "literally hundreds" of inquiries have been handled since the announcement last year of the abolition of company tax. About 34% of inquiries are from the Far East, particularly Taiwan and Hong Kong. Companies in several African nations, the United States, Israel and Europe are interested in Ciskei. Mr van Wyk says 57 factories are under construction compared with only 10 or 20 before the tax announcement. Almost 85% of office space, both built and under construction, has been let and more than 30 000 jobs have been created since independence. Companies benefiting from decentralisation concessions are not entitled to the tax holiday--they must pay 50% tax on profits. Husbands and wives are taxed separately and the first R8 000 is tax free. The rest is taxed at 15%. Businesses in the Ciskei can remit profits to their country of origin subject to the same exchange-control regulations as South Africa after paying a 15% withholding tax. Jan de Jager, director of information services at the Federated Chamber of Industries, says there is a lot of interest among South African companies in relocating to Ciskei but most will wait for one or two years to see how the abolition of company tax works. [Text] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Mar 85 p 6]

ENGINEERING TENDERS SLOW--Tender activity in the civil engineering industry got off to a slow start this year with only 45 inquiries for new contracts during January. And the value of the 53 new contracts, for which the tenders had closed at the end of 1984, was a modest R98m in January, Mr K. Lagaay, director of the SA Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (Safcec), reports in the latest survey. The 21km extension of the N1 freeway past Warmbaths accounted for R27,7m of the R98m total. The 17-month project will include toll road facilities. Three railway contracts totalling R31m comprised the bulk of the other contract awards. Results of 35 of the 45 tender inquiries for new contracts during January have been received by Safcec. Total value, on the basis of the lowest tender prices, was R32m--"a very low total," says Mr Lagaay. There were no major tenders but large numbers of tenderers were a feature of several projects for which tenders closed during January. The 10km Klipportjie outfall sewer in Germiston attracted 21 tenderers with a lowest offer of R1,5m. A 12km steel pipeline in Brits attracted 12 tenderers, with bids ranging from R1,9m to R2,6m. A medium-sized project was for the strengthening of runways and taxiways, and improvements to the drainage system, at B.J. Vorster Airport, Kimberley. A bid of R4,8m was the lowest of four tenders. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 27 Feb 85 p 16]

RSA DEVELOPMENT AID--Independent and self-governing states received R2 002-million from South Africa in 1982-83, says the current issue of Development Southern Africa. Self-governing states received R1 014-million compared with R988,6-million for the independent states. Self-governing states got R855,7-million in grants and services compared with R555,6-million for the independent states. The independent states were paid R341,2-million under Customs agreements. The self-governing states are considered part of South Africa for Customs. The report says certain categories of expenditure in

the independent and self-governing states are not sufficient in spite of frequent accusations by commentators of profligacy on the part of the administrations. Lack of skilled labour is one of the major constraints to development in the regions--an average of 20% of total expenditure in all states was for education. More should be spent, says the report. Continued financing of regional development will not reverse the flow of migrant labour, but will reduce it. Much of the benefit of regional development accrues to areas next to or near national states. The authorities should explore the possibility of a "metropolitan fiscal authority," including two or more states, to bear the cost of providing social facilities in areas where economic activity spills over into neighbouring territories. [Text] [Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 1]

IDC UPS INCOME--Cape Town--Net operating income of the Industrial Development Corporation was up by 20% last year while advances during the year dropped by 6% according to the IDC's annual report for 1984 released yesterday. The report says total income increased by 101% from R89m to R179m, largely due to an increase in capital profits. Last year net operating income rose to R100m--up R17m from 1983. However, advances during the year dropped from R407m in 1983 to R383m.--Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 85 p 3]

FISHING INDUSTRY--South West Africa Fishing Industries' earnings declined by 10% in 1984 but the final dividend has been maintained at 70c to make an unchanged 100c. Earnings for the year to December were down at 142c from 158c in 1983, mainly as a result of a drastic fall in usage fee income from United Fishing Enterprises, caused by poor anchovy catches. That accounts for a 2% decline in operating income to R6,1m (R6,2m), although turnover rose by 32% to R25,2m (R19m). Canned pilchard production was slightly higher while lobster revenue improved significantly. The entire Luderitz lobster catch is exported to Japan and this year's catch is already pre-sold. Large quantities of canned pilchards had to be imported and the industry suffered losses because all purchases are conducted in dollars. The industry was granted a 9,5% increase in the fish meal price as many users, mainly feeds manufacturers, are importing fish meal at a much higher price than the domestic price. A special application for a further increase in the fish meal price has been lodged with the authorities to compensate for the fuel price rise. The fish oil price will be higher, according to the pricing formula. The directors say in the preliminary report that, given a normal pelagic fishing season and no unforeseen developments in other sectors, Swafish's earnings should show a reasonable increase this year. Comment: Swafish's large cash kitty ensures maintenance of dividends in poor years. Income from investments amounted to R3,303m in the past year (1983-R3,19m). [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 85 p 4]

RICHARDS BAY TONNAGE--Modifications to the two Fives-Cail Babcock ship-loaders at Richards Bay coal terminal will increase loading through-put by about 25 percent at the port which can accommodate ships up to 250 000 tons deadweight, according to Mr Dick Smith, managing director of Fives-Cail Titaco. Fives-Cail Titaco is a joint venture in South Africa between

the local Titaco engineering and manufacturing group and Fives-Cail Babcock, the international, French-based engineering conglomerate, which was responsible for the supply and original installation of the shiploaders at the bulk coal handling facilities at Richards Bay. Planned handling facility upgrading, which was determined by the Richards Bay Coal Terminal authority, calls for: Modifications to the boom conveyor; An increase in the speed of the conveyor belt from 4 m/sec to 5,1 m/sec.; An increase in the installed horse-power rating of the power plant; Larger conveyor drive pulleys. "Minor structural modifications to the loaders' steelwork," Mr Smith said, "will also be necessary to accommodate the additional power packs." Fives-Cail Titaco was called in by the Richards Bay coal Terminal Authority to examine detail drawings and determine the feasibility of the modifications in terms of structural steelwork integrity. [Text]
[Johannesburg MINING WEEK in English 27 Feb 85 p 3]

COAL HANDLING PLANT--PHB Weserhutte started work on a contract valued at about R6 million by PPC Lime for the supply of a coal handling system at Limeacres in the Northern Cape. The system will include a wagon tippler for off-loading coal trucks at the rate of 800 tons an hour. Coal is fed on to a PHB Weserhutte circular stock pile facility with stacking to the PEHA chevron mode, including a conveyor belt system, civil and rail track works and electrical reticulation and control systems. According to Mr Noel de Wet, managing director of PHB Weserhutte, this improved coal handling system for Limeacres, believed to be the largest lime works in the Western world, offers several advantages including: More efficient off-loading of railway wagons with shorter turn-around time; More efficient storage of coal with lower windage losses and less penetration of rain water; Homogenising and blending of the coal; Improved product quality through more regular kiln operation. [Text] [Johannesburg MINING WEEK in English 27 Feb 85 p 6]

CAPE INDUSTRIES--London--Cape Industries is selling its motor products business to BBA for R35 million in a further rationalisation of loss-making activities. Cape, which is 67 percent-owned by Charter Consolidated, has suffered attributable losses of more than R1,26 million a year for five years on its motor products business which makes commercial vehicle clutch and brake linings. Losses in the UK have more than exceeded profits made in Belgium, Sweden and elsewhere. BBA is a Yorkshire-based manufacturer of conveyor belting, industrial textiles and friction material, including car brake and clutch linings, and it plans to achieve large cost-savings by merging the two companies' British operations. Cape's latest move comes three months after it closed part of its fibre insulation division and sold the rest. The company has been struggling for three years to recover from a sharp earnings drop in the early 1980s after a sudden slump in demand in its main markets and the impact of adverse publicity surrounding asbestos products. Cape has factories in Manchester, Bristol and Leeds employing 1 000 people. The rationalisation will lead to some job losses and the closure of some of the two companies' overlapping distribution depot networks. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Feb 85 p 19]

ATC AGENT FOR FOCOM--Southern Africa's only fibre optic cable manufacturer, ATC, has been appointed sole agents for Focom Systems of the UK. The first data communications system supplied by Focom to the South African market was recently installed at the Sun City complex. It was designed to replace bulky copper cables linking computer terminals with optical fibre cables that operate on light impulses instead of electrical current. The equipment now being offered by ATC, which is also one of the largest communication cable manufacturers in South Africa, makes it possible to integrate a number of terminals even when widely distributed in an office complex or adjacent buildings. Up to 32 data channels can be handled over a slim, twin-fibre optical cable and data can be transmitted over greater distances at faster speeds and higher bandwidths without re-generators. It is immune to lightning and electrical interference and can be laid in ducts carrying high voltage cable without being affected by induced voltages. It is particularly suitable for organisations with large computer networks or problem-atic computer systems. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Mar 85 p 17]

POLYETHYLENE PLANT--Consol, a member of the Anglovaal group, is to spend R4,6 million on a new factory for its plastics packaging division. The division, presently operating from rented premises in Strikland, will be relocated at larger premises with room for expansion at Kuils River in the Cape. The new plant will make and print high and low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene film, and convert them into bags and sheet products. This is Consol's fourth major plastic packaging expansion announced in three months. In December, Consol announced it would spend R9 million on expanding its rigid plastic packaging at its Wadeville plant and would establish a new plant in Ciskei. Later it said it would spend R4,1 million on the Paktex factory at Ezakheni, near Ladysmith, which makes bags and sacks. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Feb 85 p 19]

UNEMPLOYMENT IN DURBAN--Tongaat Textiles, part of the Tongaat Group, has retrenched 36 of its total workforce of 4 000. Mr Ron Phillips, a spokesman for the Tongaat Group, said yesterday the move had resulted from a change in demand patterns and product mix. "Despite the drop in domestic demand, Tongaat Textiles is pursuing every opportunity of developing export sales to help offset problems in the labour market." The ranks of unemployed continue to swell, according to figures released by the Department of Manpower in Durban. Mr J.N. Hitchcock, the divisional inspector, says that in January, 1 986 whites, 1 387 coloureds, 4 692 Indians and 6 661 blacks had registered as unemployed. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Mar 85 p 6]

ELECTRICAL COMPONENT EXPORTS--Stone Stamcor, part of the Murray & Roberts Group, is winning sizeable export orders for electrical components. According to its chief executive, Mr John Rohman, export sales could eventually outstrip local trading figures. Much of the overseas interest is for the company's crimping lugs and sleeves for copper conductors, manufactured at Stone Stamcor's Boksburg factory. Early exports to Greece,

Iran and Abu Dhabi were hampered by political problems but now the company believes it is on the verge of major orders. It has already received orders worth more than R100 000 from Hong Kong. Mr Rohman said there had also been inquiries from Australia and negotiations were underway to conclude an agency agreement there. "We have also received a response from Taiwan, from where we expect an initial trial order." [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Mar 85 p 11]

SPONGE IRON FACILITY--Bessemer Steel Construction of Krugersdorp has completed a R250 000 bin storage facility at Davsteel's newly-commissioned sponge iron plant at Cullinan, in the Transvaal. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Mar 85 p 21]

RESERVES DOWN--The total gold and foreign assets of the South African Reserve Bank dropped by R499,0 million, to R4,3 billion at the end of February. Gold holdings alone fell by R303,6 million, to stand at R3,4 billion, after having dropped by R319,9 million in January, according to the Bank's monthly statement. Gold reserves were valued at R517,70 per fine ounce compared with R536,91 as at January 31. Foreign bills rose by R40,8 million, to a value of R81,6 million, while foreign investments fell by a marginal R1,6 million to R77,2 million. Other assets, which rose by over R760 million in January decreased by R235,0 million, to stand at R694,9 million at the end of February. Notes in circulation increased by R17,9 million to R3,5 billion. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 85 p 18]

ATLANTIS FLOUNDERS--Atlantis, the new motor town 50 km from Cape Town, has become a pathetic sight with its spiralling unemployment. A company making heavy vehicle silencers recently retrenched 112 workers and, says the South African Labour Bulletin, Atlantis is now filled with people queueing for unemployment benefits or trying to find work. Atlantis was established as South Africa's base for the manufacture of diesel engines and other vital components for the heavy truck industry. As motor vehicle sales have slumped so it has suffered. "Developments in Atlantis are important," says the South African Labour Bulletin, "because of state attempts at fostering decentralised growth points where workers live near to the industry and where urbanisation in a sense can be curbed. "Unionisation in the area is extremely weak, making workers vulnerable to management abuse." [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 85 p 20]

LOCAL CONTENT RULES--Port Elizabeth--A complete review and overhaul of the South African local content programme was needed in the light of the country's dramatically changed economic circumstances, Mr Spencer Sterling, managing director of SA Motor Corporation, said in Port Elizabeth yesterday. He told a seminar that what was required was a set of complimentary incentives aimed at encouraging not only local content investment but also the creation of jobs through exports of locally produced components and vehicles. "More importantly, however, the revised local content rules should encourage local development of high technology products and industries selected in relation to their export potential as part of a totally new and ambitious national industrial strategy."--Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 6 Mar 85 p 21]

STRIKE STATISTICS--Blandly recording official strike figures is often a meaningless exercise but Department of Manpower statistics released last week reveal trends which are still appropriate. The startling increase in strike activity last year can be ascribed to two main factors: the tremendous unionisation of black mineworkers and recession-linked disputes over wages, dismissals and lay-offs. As industrial relations consultant, Mr Andrew Levy pointed out, strikes are getting deeper and longer and involving more workers. This is shown by the fact that while the number of strikes increased by 40% (from 336 to 469), the number of working days lost by them increased by 200% (from 124 594 to 378 712). The size of strikes in the mining industry, particularly the massive legal stoppage by more than 40 000 workers in September, has been largely responsible for the increase in working days lost relative to the number of strikes. In many ways the mining industry was, and is, atypical, both because it is just about the only industry not in a slump and because unionisation started only recently. Mining's contribution to the overall level of labour unrest should continue this year, largely because there is a generalised thrust by black mineworkers to use their newly-organised muscle to improve wages and working conditions. [Excerpt] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 11 Mar 85 p 13]

INVESTMENT ATTRACTED--South Africa could become a haven for foreign venture capital because of the weak rand. There are opportunities in non-quoted companies for ground-floor equity investment. Mr Owen Le Roy, director of Trinity Asset Management, said there were three or four propositions in which American investors were showing interest. "An Argentinian industry group is doing a feasibility study in the industrially depressed environs of Port Elizabeth. The authorities, with high unemployment problems, are bending over backwards to assist. Trinity Asset Management manages investment portfolios for smaller corporate clients with pension funds, and for individuals who have more than R25 000 to invest. Asset management for corporate clients includes offshore financing. The client mix is 50% local and 50% foreign. Mr Le Roy said that at the end of February money market call rates were being negotiated at 23,9% for clients and he believed that this market was very attractive. The gilt market, he believed, offered good returns for mid-1985 investment. Government bonds should still be given serious consideration by US investors. RSA 13% 2005 stock reacted to the fall in the gold price to below \$300 with the yield rising to 17,51% from 17,07% in the last week in February. Comparable bond rate in the US were 11% and in Britain 14%. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Mar 85 p 13]

ISONGOYANA TUNNEL--Mitchell Cotts civil engineering subsidiary, Clifford Harris-Marti, has started work on a R19,8m contract for the construction of a rail tunnel in northern Natal. The 2,5km Isongoyana tunnel will form part of a realignment programme aimed at improving the main coal export line between the south-eastern Transvaal and Richards Bay. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 13 Mar 85 p 15]

ROBOTICS CHANGES--Robotics in South Africa is likely to undergo radical changes in the next few years, says Mr Terry Riley, technical manager, robots, at Afrox. He says there will be a marked shift from welding robots to materials handling robots, largely because the materials handling industry in this country is much bigger than the welding industry. "The vast majority of the more than 60 robots sold in South Africa over the last four years are welding robots. I believe we will follow the world trend in the growth of materials handling robots, although there will be a strong growth factor in the dedicated robot welder field. "A factor which will have an important bearing on the growth of the dedicated robot welder market--apart from the state of the economy--will be the possible introduction of tungsten inert gas (TIG) and plasma welding robots on the local market. "At present, only arc and spot welding robots are available. The new robots will have the capacity of welding a wide range of metals and working with much thinner plate." Mr Riley says South Africa is unlikely to match the expected worldwide growth in robot use. While international use is expected to grow threefold in the next five years, South Africa--which has a robot population of about 60 out of a world total of 50 000--will increase its use at a far slower rate. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 15 Mar 85 p 10]

GENCOR COVERS LIABILITIES--GENCOR is leaving nothing to chance over the foreign loan liabilities of Beatrix Mines and has covered them fully. Beatrix Mines had borrowed \$117,5m and lent this amount to Buffelsfontein for the development of the Beatrix division. The deal, on a back-to-back basis, was fully hedged with Buffels owing this amount to Beatrix. Buffelsfontein has now paid back \$66,6m to Beatrix, meaning this amount of the total loan is no longer covered. Beatrix's directors have decided to cover the entire amount of the loan at a rand/dollar rate marginally more favourable than that ruling at December 31 which was used in the prelisting statement. The rand equivalent of Beatrix's foreign currency liability has therefore been fixed at R233m and no further currency differences can occur. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 15 Mar 85 p 4]

DIESEL ALTERNATIVE--Investigations to find an alternative fuel in diesel engines are being carried out by the School of Mechanical Engineering at Wits University. Researchers are carrying out tests on a Deutz diesel engine which is running on a mixture of 5% diesel and 95% methanol. According to Professor Alan Nurick, investigations are aimed chiefly at replacing the 5% diesel component with one of several substitutes, including a sunflower oil compound or dimethyl ether vapour. Prof Nurick said the recent sharp rise in oil-based fuel prices had highlighted the urgency of the research. Methanol, by contrast, was a clean-burning, potentially cheap alcohol fuel manufactured from coal or other resources. However, while methanol could be used directly to fuel petrol engines, it failed to ignite in diesel engines. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Mar 85 p 8]

TV4, ADVERTISING--The arrival of TV4 later this month is likely to meet a mixed reaction from the advertising industry, says Mr Mike Leahy, media director of McCann-Erickson. Allocations for advertising time on the channel began on Friday. According to Mr Leahy: "Everyone applauds what SABC is doing from an entertainment point of view. However, from an advertising point of view, there are many questions which will only be answered after TV4 has been running for a reasonable period of time. "From an agency point of view, therefore, whilst welcoming the medium, there are certain reservations we have with regard to its advertising effectiveness." He said that while black viewers have been considered a "bonus" by TV1 advertisers, they were likely to switch in large numbers to TV4. "Secondly, the rate structure is a radical departure from SABC's existing system in that commercials will be broadcast on all days of the week, including Sundays. Sunday viewing, however, is notoriously low compared to weekdays amongst whites. By contrast, Sunday viewing by blacks is almost the same as the Monday to Friday level." Mr Leahy welcomed the SABC's willingness to experiment but said advertisers would prefer a more controlled method of securing desirable time slots. To guarantee a week or a day, a premium of up to 33% has to be paid on the advertising base rate. He pointed out that, traditionally, English-speaking viewers made up the majority of viewers after 9.30 pm. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Mar 85 p 19]

NUMBER OF BLACKS MOVING--Parliament--More than 5 000 black people were moved from urban areas in the Republic to black states last year, the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said in the House of Assembly yesterday. Replying in writing to a question by Mr Ray Swart (PFP, Berea), Dr Viljoen said 5 122 black people had been so moved. Figures he gave in his reply show 2 566 of these people were moved from East London to Ciskei, 528 from Witbank to kwaNdebele, 357 from Allanridge to Botshabelo, 336 from Jan Kempdorp to Bophuthatswana and 264 from Luckhoff to Botshabelo.--Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 85 p 4]

CSO: 3400/832

ZIMBABWE

ZIANA-SOVIET EXCHANGE DEAL FOR NEWS SIGNED

Harare THE HERALD in English 5 Mar 85 p 5

[Text]

THE Zimbabwe Inter-Africa News Agency and the Novosti Press Agency (APN) of the Soviet Union yesterday signed a co-operation agreement in Harare.

At the signing ceremony the Deputy Secretary for Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Cde Robert Zvinovira, said the agreement between the two news agencies would usher in a new form of co-operation.

The executive secretary of the Zimbabwe Mass Media Trust, Dr Tim Matthews, who signed the agreement on behalf of Ziana, said it would go a long way in cementing the friendship of the new agencies that, was real-

ised two years ago.

He commended the local newspapers for using news material filed by Novosti, adding that for many years Zimbabwe had been isolated and did not have the correct idea of what was happening in other parts of the world.

The chief correspondent of APN in Southern Africa, Cde Sergei Borisov, said APN's motto was "information for peace and international friendship" and expressed hope that the ties between the two countries would be strengthened and developed.

The co-operation agreement provides for the regular exchange of news, features and other printed and photographic matter.

CSO: 3400/830

ZIMBABWE

SPARE PARTS SHORTAGE COULD BE EASED THROUGH DUTCH COMPANY

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 1 Mar 85 p 6

[Text]

ZIMBABWE's spare parts shortage could be eased if efforts by a Dutch company to export used car and truck parts to this country are successful.

The company, Harry Vloet (BV), buys body-corroded or damaged vehicles of all makes from most western European countries and breaks them down for spares. Mr Willien Vloet, the company's managing director, said they have large quantities of spares (including complete engines) for almost every car or truck manufactured in Europe today.

"As some European countries have large coastal areas, they experience a serious problem of body-corrosion in vehicles. This is due to the high level of salt and moisture content in the air. It is very expensive to replace the bodies of these vehicles, so my company buys such cars and trucks and breaks them down for spares," Mr Vloet said.

Mr Vloet was in the country this week to try and reach trade agree-

ements with local private companies wishing to buy spare parts. He said he was particularly interested in those companies operating DAF trucks, as these are manufactured in Holland. From Zimbabwe, Mr Vloet visited South Africa, which is his last stop before he returns to Holland. He has already visited several African countries, including Algeria, Sudan, Kenya and Zaire.

"In all the countries I have visited so far, the problem of foreign currency is rife. Many private companies indicated their willingness to do business with my company, but they just don't have the foreign currency with which to buy the goods," he said.

"But so far indications are that Zimbabwe is likely to be first to do business with my company," he forecast. "Zimbabwe has the need of and the capability to acquire used parts from us. All we are waiting for now is the announcement of the next allocation of foreign currency by the Zimbabwe Government."

CSO: 3400/835

15 April 1985

ZIMBABWE

RISING EXPORTS TO ROMANIA

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 24 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

ZIMBABWEAN exports to Romania rose to nearly \$10 million dollars last year after the signing of a joint commission on trade between the two countries in 1983.

And yesterday afternoon the Romanian Minister of State for Foreign Trade and International Economic Co-operation arrived in Harare to explore possibilities of increasing trade between the two countries.

The minister, Cde Gheorghe Cazan, was met at the airport by the Minister of State (Industry and Technology), Cde Kumbirai Kangai, and the Romanian Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Cde Gheorghe Badrus.

A Romanian Embassy spokesman said yesterday

the main purpose of the visit was "to review the progress on the understandings reached during the second session of the joint commission in May 1984". This was held in Bucharest, Romania.

Dr Cazan is expected to meet the ministers of Mines; National Supplies; Industry and Technology; Trade and Commerce; Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development; and Finance. He leaves on Wednesday for Kenya where he is also expected to conduct trade negotiations.

Zimbabwean exports to Romania have so far been limited to mineral products, particularly ferrochrome, nickel and asbestos. It is quite likely that Dr Cazan will seek to increase the range of exports.

CSO: 3400/835

ZIMBABWE

CONTINUING WHITE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT ANALYZED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Mar 85 p 11

[Article by Richard Wilson]

[Text]

IAN SMITH is greyer and more stooped, but he speaks with the same blunt conviction.

HE STILL believes communism and the permissive society are the biggest evils in the world.

HE STILL believes white Rhodesians are the salt of the earth.

HE STILL says he would like nothing better than to retire to his farm, but his "people" won't let him.

HE STILL says blacks stop him in the street to shake his hand and wish he was running the country again.

Mr Smith sees little, if any, positive developments in Zimbabwe. In fact, he thinks it's gone mad.

"My goal is to get some sanity back into the scene," he says in the lounge of his comfortable double-storey mansion next to Harare golf course.

Dominating

An anachronism he may be, but the tall, spare frame of the man who declared UDI still dominates white politics in Zimbabwe.

Like an old bull elephant, he won't lie down and die — although many whites, including some of his former followers, wish he would fade away.

It is felt that Mr Smith and his party, the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe, are living in the past and act as a catalyst for white bitterness.

Also, they further confuse an already complex political scene in which whites are searching for a valid and permanent role to ensure survival of their influence and political clout after the expiry of the Lancaster House guarantees in the next decade.

With the general election due in June — the first since independence — white politics in black-ruled Zimbabwe are not as irrelevant as they may seem at first glance.

In the 1980 election, all 20 entrenched seats were won by Mr Smith's old Rhodesian Front.

Afterwards there was a series of breakaways over the years as whites realigned and adjusted to their minority role.

Today, the line-up is seven seats to Mr Smith's CAZ, and 13 independents.

Eleven of the independents recently formed a loose alliance, called the Independent Zimbabwe Group, to fight the election.

Its leader is former Rhodesian Cabinet Minister Bill Irvine.

The two main white factions have widely divergent strategies.

The Conservatives (or confrontationists as their opponents call them) criticise and condemn the government at every opportunity.

The Independents seek as far as possible to co-operate with the government on progressive policies which they feel are in the interests of the country, while trying to exert moderate influence on its radical policies.

Both tactics are valid. Observers point out that Mr Smith is vigilant and fearless

in his opposition to the government, which is very much aware that its every move comes under critical scrutiny.

On the other hand, the positive mood of co-operation fostered by the independents has enhanced relations between blacks and whites.

White followers of both political parties are split along predictable lines.

The old die-hard "Rhodies" back the CAZ, while the moderate whites who have adapted to black rule support the independents.

Since it is mainly the "Rhodies" who have quit the country — reducing the white population from 225 000 at independence to 100 000 today — the scales seem to tip in favour of the independents for the June election.

However, both Mr Smith and Mr Irvine claim they will gain seats from the other.

The wild card in the white election pack is apathy. Only 30 000 out of a possible 50 000 have registered to vote, the other 40 percent preferring to keep out of it.

They regard politics now as a totally black domain.

Ironically, the whites enjoy a more privileged position today than they did under the tough sanctions-bound and war-torn UDI years.

Force

Their lot was succinctly summed up by former Zapu secretary-general Cephas Msipa, who said:

"Whites are no longer a force to be reckoned with politically, so whites are left alone."

"Whites are not forced to do anything. They don't have to have party cards. They are not forced to attend party meetings or rallies."

"They can travel freely without being stopped and asked for cards."

Independent leader Bill Irvine disagrees with those who contend the whites are a spent force politically.

He said: "Whites are not powerless. They do wield a great deal of influence, particularly through the standing committees in Parliament."

Mr Irvine, an engineer and former Rhodesian Transport Minister, is himself chairman of the key public accounts committee, which monitors government spending.

Mr Irvine believes that through their expertise on these standing committees whites are able to exert considerable pressure.

"White MPs also meet Ministers privately, particularly to discuss the economy. It is a useful contribution, this backroom influence."

"If we are successful in nudging government away from socialist philosophy and towards private enterprise, then the future looks very good indeed."

"I'm not as despondent as most people. I think there is a fair chance we can persuade the new government to be kinder to private enterprise, and even get some whites to return to Zimbabwe."

Ian Smith sees things differently. He says black Cabinet Ministers told him at independence.

"We should be on our knees thanking the white man for handing over this jewel of Africa."

But now, he believes, the jewel has lost its sparkle.

'Insane'

"If we go on like this, drifting towards communism, we are heading for bankruptcy. I hope we can get the government to recant communism."

"It's insane, it robs the industrious and the intelligent to subsidise the lazy and the poor."

"If we can get some sanity back on the scene, whites will return and will stop leaving. That's my goal now."

Mr Smith says there is a lot of back-biting between his MPs and the independents, whom he calls "those white dissidents".

He said: "They are self-seekers who got together out of their own interests to try to get closer to Mugabe and get a better deal for the white man."

"But they have failed. They allowed Mugabe to divide and rule. He has played one against the other."

"The biggest tragedy that has befallen the white man of this country is that we are now divided and at each other's throats."

Mr Smith's ideal would be to see a coalition of Shona, Ndebele and whites running Zimbabwe.

"That would be a dream come true... but things don't look optimistic," he said.

At 65, Ian Smith sees no imminent end to his 30-year political career, although he says he would like to retire.

Muscle

"I intended quitting four years ago, but I had a delegation of my MPs urging me to stay on because there was no successor. Reluctantly I agreed."

"But I have told my people that after this election they must find someone suitable

among themselves to groom for the job," he said.

He also never thinks of leaving Zimbabwe.

"I have played an important role in this country's history. People have told me that if I left there would be a flood behind me."

Between the polarised political points of view, there's an alternative option for whites that is slowly gaining support among moderates and the private sector.

It is that whites should begin now to seek "talent" rather than political representation, based on the value of their skills in agriculture and commerce and industries.

The feeling is that they should concentrate on lobbying white interests through bodies such as the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries and the Commercial Farmers Union.

In the next decade, when whites are likely to be excluded from the party political process, they will then be in a position to exert muscle through a network of these non-political, independent organisations.

This thinking ties in with government's attitude to whites.

Participation

Information Minister and senior Zanu-PF Politburo member, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, told me: "There will be continuing white participation in government."

"They have always been with us, and will continue because there are special areas where white citizens have special interests."

He cited the example of the non-political Minister of Agriculture, Mr Dennis Norman.

He has successfully looked after the interests of the country's remaining 4 800 white farmers (down from nearly 6 000) while implementing the government's socialist policy of peasant agriculture and land redistribution.

ZIMBABWE

LAND RESETTLEMENT SUCCESS DIFFICULT TO JUDGE

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English Vol 26 No 6, 13 Mar 85 p 8

[Text]

ZIMBABWE: RAIN. By the end of January lightening had claimed 100 victims and the country's 10 largest dams had overflowed for the first time in three years. The ministry of agriculture is now forecasting maize deliveries to the *Grain Marketing Board* of 1.8m tonnes. That would give a surplus over domestic consumption of about 700,000 tonnes.

The problems of excessive rain have replaced the far greater problems of continuing drought. The government will have to find Z\$ (Zimbabwe dollars) 6m to buy enough bags to transport the unexpected maize bonanza: despite the 4m bags equivalent capacity of the Cheguta silo, there remains a short-fall of storage capacity. Tobacco farmers, cautious after the last three years, are expected to exceed production quotas. And most of the national cattle herd that had been dispersed to counter-act the drought, is being brought back to the main grazing areas.

Against this lush background it will be difficult to judge the success of the government's land resettlement schemes. The past two years were abnormally harsh, this year will be abnormally easy. Immediately after independence the government envisaged resettlement of 162,000 families and the acquisition of 1.1m hectares of land on which 18,000 families would be settled at a cost of Z\$60m.

In the economic circumstances it was a difficult task, and the government was at times heavily criticised. Less than a year ago there was worry about the number of newly-settled farmers needing urgent finance to start off (AC Vol 25 No 18). The government no longer appears to be under any pressure from former guerrillas or those affected by the war. Resettlement can now concentrate on relieving the pressure on over-populated land. But as pointed out by the recently-released *Chavunduka Inquiry* into agriculture, "one of the best investments a communal farmer can make is to educate his family so that they can obtain urban employment". Few Zimbabweans take resettlement as seriously as the government: better off people want the land but lack the skill or the commitment (The *Herald* newspaper calls them "telephone farmers"), while the less fortunate prefer the urban challenge.

If any African country is to dim the glamour of urban poverty, it is likely to be Zimbabwe, partly because its urban townships are so gloomy. The amount of aid money committed to rural development is large, and the back-up by the civil service on planning and execution is good. An aid agency can identify a project, and the government can carry it out. As all aid agencies like to show value for money to the metropolitan government, they are keen to back Zimbabwean schemes which give them that quality. The main thrust of resettlement aid is borne by Britain, as purchase of land is often needed, and that is thought by donors and government alike to be a British responsibility. But resettlement itself is only a modest part of the development costs, with all major donors contributing to sectors such as water development, education and infrastructure.

New components come off the drawing board each month. For example, a Z\$7m scheme in Gwanda (a ZAPU stronghold) for 6,000 cattle and 654 families was announced this month. That is a Model F scheme, while in Karoi, north of Harare, there is a new Model A scheme for 106 plots, the smallest of which is 100 hectares. The latest Z\$7.2m scheme from the UK land purchases scheme unveils four separate components, settling 2070 families on 92,000 hectares.

None of this resettlement has yet involved compulsory purchasing of working farms. The government has supported a willing-buyer-willing-seller approach, but has sometimes insisted on a sale to itself as the willing buyer. Prices have averaged about Z\$20 a hectare, and as the average White-owned farm is about 2,200 hectares, nobody has made a fortune. The resettlement has many aspects. The least successful is through the *Agricultural and Rural Development Authority* (ARDA) when it replaces a White farmer with its own management. It is to be expected that the new management will take time to appreciate the new farm.

As resettlement is taking longer than anticipated, and as there is so much land willingly available, most of the 4,500 White commercial farmers see a longer future. The increase in the minimum wage to Z\$60 per month is countered by increased mechanisation, which is countered in turn by decreasing supplies of spare parts - problems that are less onerous if the harvest and prices are good. Indeed the traditional fringe sectors of commercial farming, such as coffee, tea and sugar have all greatly increased since independence. The sugar company *Hippo Valley* claimed nine records during last year's milling season, while its rival, *Triangle*, distilled 15% of Zimbabwe's petrol from ethanol. *Tanganda Tea* expects its exports to increase from a record Z\$8.4m to Z\$15m. Coffee is now the fifth leading export crop with an export quota of 5,000 tonnes.

The only factor that can upset the success of Zimbabwean agriculture in the short-term is the unrest created by the forthcoming election. At present the trouble is largely confined to the Shona-Ndebele border area, whereas during the civil war the trouble was much more widespread. Provision of extension work and transport is almost impossible in the eastern fringe of Matabeleland, where the climate of fear badly affects commercial farms' productivity. Agriculture has not yet been subjected to Marxist scrutiny, but by the time the harvest is gathered in June, it will almost certainly be the subject of envy.

ZIMBABWE

MATABELELAND NORTH GOVERNOR LISTS PROVINCE PROGRESS

Harare THE HERALD in English 15 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Bulawayo--Hundreds of schools, clinics, bridges and other projects have been built or reconstructed in Matabeleland North since the new provincial administrative structure was introduced in the first half of 1984.

In a review of progress made in Matabeleland North since then, the Governor, Cde Daniel Ngwenya, gave details of projects undertaken from ward to provincial level.

"A lot of progress" had been made in the preparation of the five-year development plan and 10 separate reports out of 14 had been completed.

These reports would be combined to produce a provincial plan which was likely to be completed by October 1985, Cde Ngwenya said.

The governor said the effectiveness and efficiency of village development committees and ward development committees were still in doubt as the committees were formed only recently and a lot of grooming was required for them to operate as expected.

He described as excellent the co-operation and co-ordination between the provincial development committee and the district council committees.

The failure to complete some projects on target dates could be attributed to two main factors, said Governor Ngwenya. These were inadequate community involvement due to lack of motivation and inadequate transport to carry the required materials.

Cde Ngwenya said he was not pleased with some contractors. "They need close supervision. Where the community is to provide basic building materials the contractors have had to take more time in the completion of the projects," said the governor.

The food-for-work project had been implemented "very well."

"The major problem seems to be lack of tools due to centralisation of ordering such tools. Heavy rains and the people's concentration on their fields have also retarded progress of projects in some areas," he said.

Cde Ngwenya said 314 primary schools were reconstructed, 15 Government secondary schools were built, 52 Government aided secondary schools constructed and three resettlement primary schools were constructed.

Matabeleland North planned to spend \$855 500 on roads and bridges in all the six districts in 1985 and boreholes would cost \$347 500.

Cde Ngwenya said the expected good harvest in the province this year would promote self-help projects and council projects as people would be better able to afford rates, taxes, secondary school fees, building funds and other levies.

The boundary dispute at Lubimbi between Lupane and Binga had been settled, but the amalgamation of rural and district councils could alter some district boundaries as recommended by the local Government commission, the governor said.--Ziana

CSO: 3400/829

ZIMBABWE

KAPENTA INDUSTRY TO EARN FOREIGN CURRENCY

Harare THE HERALD in English 7 Mar 85 p 5

[Text]

THE small kapenta is now a foreign currency earner for the country and its demand keeps rising.

A spokesman for the Kariba Kapenta Association said since last year 247 000 tonnes of kapenta were exported through the World Relief Programme, bringing in \$750 000 in foreign currency.

He said the future of the kapenta industry was promising because of the good rains which had improved the water level in Lake Kariba.

And if the number of people who are registered with the Aquatic Ecology Department of the National Parks and Wild Life Management is anything to go by, fish farming is also bound to become a thriving peasant industry in Matabeleland.

An official in the department, Ode Nelson Mahamba, said the good rains this season had not only revived interest among established fish farmers but had attracted a lot of people seeking permits to farm fish on co-operative basis.

The Aquatic Ecology Department recommends that a fish farming co-operative should have at least 12 members.

"If we are satisfied that every criteria has been met by the groups, we then assist them by providing fish from our supply dams in the Matopos National Park and also offer advice and monitor the progress of the groups," Ode Mahamba said.—ZIS.

CSO: 3400/830

ZIMBABWE

6000 HECTARES SET ASIDE FOR COLLECTIVES

Harare THE HERALD in English 2 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Government has set aside 6 000 ha of State land for peri-urban agricultural co-operatives in Harare and more will be made available, the Minister of Local Government and Town Planning, Cde Enos Chikowore, said yesterday.

He told more than 100 members of co-operatives who visited Hatcliffe Estate, which was given to the Harare City Council by the Government that all State land which was being leased would be made available for agricultural co-operatives.

"We are not going to renew any leases and we will get all land when the leases expire, although there might be some exceptions."

About 30 peri - urban agricultural co-operatives were now registered and Harare City Council would soon hold a meeting with 'all concerned parties to discuss the distribution of the land.

Cde Chikowore said the Hatcliffe Estate would serve as a model and training centre for agricultural co-operatives in the city and an Agritex expert would be employed to conduct the training.

The Government would also hold seminars for co-operative members to ensure maximum, non-destructive production.

"We would like you to be well-trained producers — so much so that you compete with the commercial sector. In fact we would like all peri-urban agricultural co-operatives in the country to produce more than the commercial farmers."

Cde Chikowore said all co-operatives would be closely monitored by the city council to ensure that proper conservation methods and crop rotation were being used.

He lashed out at streambank cultivation, saying this year's harvest would be the last and no one would be allowed to grow crops along streambanks. Culprits would be severely dealt with.

He said the Government would do its best to find markets for all co-operatives as there were some which had complained that they could not sell their products.

Cde Chikowore said the Government's objective in encouraging peri-urban agricultural co-operatives was part of the socialist philosophy of bringing income to the people.

All local authorities had been requested to set up departments of co-operatives.

CSO: 3400/830

ZIMBABWE

NEW IRRIGATION SCHEME WILL BENEFIT 20,000

Harare THE HERALD in English 7 Mar 85 pp 1, 7

[Text]

WORK has started on Zimbabwe's largest small-scale irrigation scheme for the communal lands, the 600 ha Bonde project in the south of Buhera near Birchenough Bridge.

The scheme, which will cost \$6.8 million, will benefit more than 2 000 people directly and more than 20 000 indirectly. It will produce 1 600 tonnes of maize, 400 tonnes of cotton, 600 tonnes of groundnuts, 400 tonnes of beans and a variety of vegetables each year.

Work was inaugurated yesterday at a ceremony attended by the Governor of Manicaland, Bishop Joshua Dhubu, and senior provincial officials.

The Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Cde Moseni Mahachi, told the gathering, in a speech read on his behalf by the ministry's secretary, Dr Langford Chitsike, that the funds came from a technical co-operation agreement signed in November last year by Italy and Zimbabwe.

Italy has pledged a grant of \$4.5 million and the Zimbabwe Government will contribute \$2.3 million.

Cde Mahachi said Buhera had been one of the worst hit areas during the three-year drought and had been one of the most neglected areas in the days of the colonial regime.

"The high land pressure, resulting in incorrect land use compounded by the unreliable and poorly distributed rainfall, has played havoc with any attempts at agricultural production relying on weather."

In the last three years thousands of livestock died and the people were completely reliant on Government food aid. Even drinking water was scarce.

"The need for small-scale irrigation schemes in the communal areas has long been realised and emphasised by my ministry," said Cde Mahachi. In 1983 the ministry asked for a feasibility study of the identified Bonde irrigation scheme as part of the study in the Chamutsa and Chiweshe wards by Technosynopsis Spa-Rome.

The feasibility report was produced in May last year.

"This irrigation project was initially planned in the context of the integrated rural development strategy for the Chamutsa and Chiweshe wards.

"It was seen as the core of a major rural development project involving reclamation and radical land use reforms revolving around the establishment of an irrigation scheme."

The rest of the land in the two wards would be put to its correct use: livestock production through properly planned

grazing schemes.

"Indeed this is a major step towards rationalising the use of the most important natural resource mankind has inherited, the land; and this project marks the start of the integrated rural development process," said Cde Mahachi.

Water will be pumped, at the rate of 610 litres a second, from a small diversion weir on the Devure River, which forms the southern boundary of Buhera, to a command point. From there it will be fed by gravity to storage reservoirs for the three areas suitable for irrigation.

The 160 ha block A and the 190 ha block B would be surface irrigated while the 250 ha block C would use gravity sprinkler irrigation.

Cde Chitsike told The Herald that the system used depended on the availability of water and energy, the type of soil and, most important, how flat the land was.

Flat land with a gentle fall needed overhead irrigation while terraced land could use the cheaper surface irrigation.

Cde Mahachi said electricity had already been reticulated to the pumping site. Other developments would include housing for staff running the scheme, storage sheds for seed and fertiliser and implements, offices and a workshop.

About 1 000 local people would be employed on the implementation of the project, earning a total of \$1.2 million, the minister said, and 200 people were already in-

volved in clearing the bush under the food-for-work programme.

"But perhaps the most significant aspect of this project is that it will be the first small-scale irrigation scheme in the communal areas of Zimbabwe to be run on a co-operative basis. This will first be established in block B and then extended to the surface sections."

The Government, said the minister, placed much importance on co-operative farming "more so if it is such a productive, self-contained and economically viable project as this one".

In his briefing for The Herald, Cde Chitsike said the scheme would be managed by his ministry, although as time passed and the farmers progressed, it was hoped that they could gradually take over the management. Agritex would be responsible for the farming aspects.

The 600 ha would provide about 300 plots, he said. Various criteria would be used to choose plot holders. Local people would have preference, as would master farmers and those with experience in irrigation schemes.

The Devure River was perennial and there would be no problems supplying irrigation water, especially as the country's seventh largest internal dam, Ruti, was built on a tributary.

Cde Chitsike said the farmers would, through levies, pay the entire running costs of the scheme. Although it would be a good idea if the capital costs could be reclaimed from the farmers this would not be done immediately.

The scheme would not only benefit the farmers directly, but the area as a whole.

ZIMBABWE

AGRICULTURE MINISTER NORMAN REVIEWS STATE OF AGRICULTURE

Harare THE HERALD in English "Farming 85" Supplement 15 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Shakespeare Johnson]

[Text]

THE three-year drought has taught Zimbabwe many valuable lessons, says the Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman. In a wide ranging interview recently the Minister answers questions on what those lessons are and what the future holds for Zimbabwean agriculture this rainy season.

The drought has taught Zimbabwe many lessons; one of them must surely be the need to intensify the country's irrigation programme. Would you give us the major projects which have been launched in this area?

Numerous private dams are coming on, where commercial farmers are building dams, for one or more farms. In the communal areas Agritex are stressing the lessons to be learnt from the drought, especially the selection of the right crop, sorghum and millet instead of maize in low rainfall areas, and using techniques such as tie ridging or pot-holing, selection of soils with a high moisture retention capability.

The need for water storage; new irrigation projects have been intensified and identified by the recent three-year drought spell.

I have prepared a list of all the projects which are either underway, or will be underway in the near future. I have done it by regions and have broken them into smaller areas.

That is the fairly up-to-date situation as it stands at the moment.

I have also put down the hectares of irrigation which will be opened up — 23 458 ha — once these water storage schemes come into being. These projects will be starting once the rains are over — or they are either underway now — and they will be completed in 1986.

Would you give us details of other projects which are now in progress, or are in the offing, as a result of these lessons learnt from the drought?

We have started a campaign through the department of Agritex of moisture conservation methods. There are ways and means of conserving moisture even in a dry season by ridging, tying the ridges and pot-holing the lands.

Secondly, we have increased our research into drought-resistant crops so that crops can be grown in the drier areas of the country. Other

than these, we are putting quite a bit of effort into our sorghum and millet research programme.

The Government introduced last year, munga, rapoko and edible beans as controlled crops, controlled commodities. We have now put a minimum price into those commodities to stimulate production. This is to give the farmer an incentive to grow crops other than maize.

What needs to be highlighted here is part of the lessons learned, and what we are going to do about it is the correct stocking rate for cattle.

I believe that the livestock industry has actually suffered more over the three years of drought than the crop side of industry. We have had to move cattle from one end of the country to the other for three successive years. So we are now advising on the correct stocking rate that should be carried out in the various ecological regions.

In addition to that, we have various programmes going — particularly in the Midlands — of livestock management, rotating cattle (this means fencing) rather than letting them roam and eat it all.

In many areas we were overstocked. We had too many cattle for the amount of grazing and for the water available.

We are also putting a greater emphasis on veld management. In other words, introducing legumes into the veld to get greater benefit, nutritional value, long grazing for the livestock.

All these are on-going programmes which would have taken place but have been greatly accelerated because of the drought and the consequences of the drought.

I think that if we learn from the lessons of the drought, if we take notice of the mistakes that have been made, then we should go a long way, not in illuminating, but in reducing the effects of future droughts, if we

have improved management both in our cropping regimes and our livestock husbandry management programmes.

If there is a bumper harvest, is the infrastructure still intact enough to deal with it? Also, what immediate benefits can you see in the improvement of the economy?

Indeed the infrastructure is intact. The infrastructure for grain and cotton has been increased since independence. We have established 12 rural depots for the benefit of the communal farmers. There will be a minimum of three more depots established this year.

We have a new silo complex which will be opened in April. We have a second one which will be opened, hopefully, in September this year. We will start a further silo — depending on permission being granted — with the public sector investment programme towards the end of this year. This will be situated in the Bulawayo area.

So the infrastructure has not stood still despite the drought seasons. We have actually continued

to improve. There is no reason why we shouldn't be able to handle a record crop.

You will recall that in 1981 we took in two million tonnes of maize. Not only did we take in two million tonnes which was an all-time record for this country, but we took it in record time. We delivered it at a faster speed than we have had any crop delivered.

I think we can match any size of delivery that the farmers would like to throw up to us.

We have a taskforce already in being that overflows into other ministries like Transport, Local Government, Lands and they are doing the day to day planning at this moment.

I think that it will be of interest to readers to know that we are planning on how we can uplift the surplus product from the communal farmers who won't have the means of delivery themselves.

We are thinking along the lines of having pick-up points established in the communal lands where the vehicles will go and lift the crop and transport it to the depots. Details about that will be announced later but planning is fairly advanced.

What will be our benefits from this year's harvest?

First, we are going to have a record cotton crop this year. Most of our cotton crop is exported. Lint is exported.

Cotton is rapidly becoming one of the larger foreign currency earners to the country. The lint is sold on a fairly wide front, most of it going to Europe, and with an increased crop to sell, then we will have an increased earning coming back to us.

The tobacco crop at this stage, though lighter than last year, is of good quality.

We are fairly optimistic that we will sell at a high price, partic-

ularly when one considers how high the American dollar is.

We are now fierce competitors on a value-for-product basis. The tobacco floors will be opening toward the end of March, so we would soon be able to test what the market is. Those are the two earners of (foreign) currency.

In addition to that, we do expect to have an export surplus of grain which is a little too early to foretell what that surplus is going to be.

But if I were to stick my neck out and do that, it would be somewhere in the region of 700 000 tonnes. If the rains continue to the end of March, we could have as much as a million tonnes of grain surplus to requirement.

Discussions have already begun with potential purchasers—you are aware there is a shortage of food on the African continent — so we have

of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, talking recently about water conservation said: "We have started a campaign through the department of Agritex of moisture conservation methods. There are ways and means of conserving moisture even in a dry season by ridging, tying the ridges and pot-holing the lands."

already opened discussions with interested parties and interested countries who will be in a deficit situation.

The major earners will be cotton, tobacco and grain.

We are exporting an increasing amount of coffee. And I understand that the coffee crop is good this year. The prospects for tea are extremely bright. We have a good crop of tea. The improvement of the economy as far as agriculture is concerned will increase this year.

Do you foresee a time when agriculture will fall under one ministry, the Ministry of Agriculture?

I suppose that question should go to the Prime Minister, who has the responsibility of the allocation of portfolios and responsibilities.

All agriculture is under this ministry. We have responsibility for all agriculture production aids.

In other words, we have got research, we have got extension, we have got veterinary, we have got marketing, we have got financing through the Agricultural Finance Corporation, education through the colleges and institutes. What we don't have is a development role, which is the Ministry of Lands. — Zimpapers Feature Service.

Top Projects--by Regions

A LIST of all the projects which are either currently under way or will be under way in the near future, prepared by Senator Denis Norman.

It is done by regions and has been broken into smaller areas. It also gives the hectares of irrigation which will be opened up once these water storage schemes come into being.

Mashonaland West

Gache Gache (Kariba)	1 200 ha
Kanagamba (Zam. Valley)	30 ha (feasibility study)
Ngezi (near Beatrice)	400 ha
Chirundadzi	250 ha Mhondoro Comm.
Mudzongwe	200 ha Mhondoro Comm.

Midlands

Exchange Block	108 ha
Ingodoma	50 ha
Blackstones	150-200 ha
Biri Dam	50 ha Mberengwa
Hama Dam, Chillimanzi	120 ha
Insukamini	100

Manicaland

Watsomba	100 ha N. Nyamaropa
Donde (Buhera)	600 ha
Nyanyadzi (extension)	150 ha

Masvingo — Central

15 small-scale schemes	1 000 ha
Umshandizi impl. 1st July	300 ha

Matabeleland North & South

Rehabilitation of schemes:	
6 schemes	500 ha

Mashonaland Central

Wengi Stage II	2 000 ha
Bindura Dam	7 000 ha
Mukwadzi	9 000 ha
Mazwitsadeyi (?)	replace Darwendale

Numerous private dams coming on where commercial farmers are building dams, for one or more farms.

In communal areas Agritex are stressing the lessons to be learnt from the drought, especially selection of right crop — sorghum and millet instead of maize in low-rainfall areas — using moisture conservation techniques such as tie ridging or pot-holing selection of soils with a high moisture retention capability

ZIMBABWE

FARMERS' SYNDICATE PLANS BIG MAZOE RIVER AGRICULTURAL DAM

Harare THE HERALD in English "Farming 85" Supplement 15 Mar 85 p 12

[Text]

A syndicate of Bindura commercial farmers has made an ambitious proposal to the Government to build a huge agricultural dam — a third of the size of Harare's Lake Mellwaine — on the Mazoe River, about 10 km northwest of Bindura.

Mr Oliver Newton, the owner of Pimento Park, a farm near Bindura, is the chairman of the Bindura Dam Committee which is made up of the syndicate farmers who initiated the project.

Interviewed at his farm recently Mr Newton, said: "The farmers, the Bindura Rural Council and the mines around here put in some money to put up a report on the project."

According to the committee's summary of a survey done on commercial farms in the area, "the dam can serve 84 properties in the commercial area, and the number of farmers owning these properties is 60."

"Of the 60, 34 of them have been surveyed. The farmers have at their disposal 14 115 ha of irrigable soil. They could develop 1 410 ha of new winter irrigation from the Bindura Dam and they could add 7 096 ha of new summer supplementary irrigation."

The projected 81 000 10³ m³ litre dam, at full supply capacity level, is estimated to cost \$6,6 m to build, and it should bring in \$12,2 m in foreign currency earnings in a year. It would take three to four years to build.

Said Mr Newton: "The dam would bring benefits to the Bindura-Shamva district commercial farms, the mines and the neighbouring communal areas."

The Bindura-Shamva area is dryland farming area which sustained much hardships during the three-year drought period. It is also the high density area of commercial farmers of the country. These factors have persuaded the local farmers to take a serious look at the area's agricultural future.

Said Mr Newton: "The advent of the projected Bindura Dam on the Mazoe River has triggered off some serious thinking among farmers in this area in respect of the future of agriculture with or without irrigation."

The immediate benefits of the dam project in the area would create a basis for the establishment of a cotton gin, grain silos and both agricultural and industrial sectors in that part of the country.

The dam would also, as Mr Newton points out, "have a lot of leisure purposes; recreation, fishing and commercial".

But according to Mr Newton: "The farmers' commitment in this project is a long-term one. It is going to take up to 20 years for them to realise the benefits of the programme."

He spelled out the mechanics of implementing an irrigation scheme: "The costs of starting to irrigate a hectare from nothing from scratch, are enormous. They will add up to about \$3 000, before you can get anything going."

Mr Newton has been on his farm for 13 years, cultivating between 130 to 140 ha a year, his hectareage increase depending largely on the amount of rainfall of the season.

He and the other farmers of the area have come to appreciate the necessity of irrigation schemes, particularly during the past three years.

Said Mr Newton: "Last year I drilled 14 boreholes on my farm, but I can only use three of them. Each borehole cost me an average of \$5 000."

Mr Newton pointed to the ambitious borehole drilling on his farm to illustrate the necessity of irrigation, even during a season of good rainfall such as we have had this year.

He explained: "We came out of a drought at the end of last year and we have had good, continuous rains until about two weeks ago when there has been no rainfall. Those two weeks without rainfall can mean the failure of high-risk crops."

But the situation could be turned around, he added, "if you can irrigate during the two dry weeks and give your crops as little as 1 inch of water".

He also pointed out that many farmers had drilled boreholes to safeguard high-risk crops in a good rainy season — in the event of a short term drought —

borehole water can come in handy to make the difference between crop failure and success as supplementary irrigation.

"Dryland farming is becoming a high-risk venture not only for the farmer himself but for the institutions that finance agricultural operations both in terms of short and long term credit," said Mr Newton.

Although the capacity to produce high yields on Zimbabwean farms has increased significantly, most farmers — because of the past drought experience — have significantly reduced the production of high-risk crops such as maize, and increased the hectarages of low-risk crops such as sorghum, soyabeans and cotton.

During the recent drought season, good farming in a dryland area, a farmer could produce, from an acre, 18 bags of commercial maize and 38 of sorghum. But with irrigation facilities, those figures could have been bettered.

ZIMBABWE

HARARE AIMS TO HAVE ONE-CITY ADMINISTRATION BY JULY

Harare THE HERALD in English 4 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

LOW- and high-density suburbs in Harare will come under one administration from July this year in a bid to achieve the long-awaited "one city".

Harare City Council recently approved recommendations which will speed up the interchange among various municipal departments.

Councillors have been impatient to eliminate the anomalies in different administration for low- and high-density areas and recently expressed concern over slow progress in achieving the one-city concept.

The greatest anomaly is that the Town Clerk's valuation and estates division has been responsible for housing and estates in the low-density areas while high-density areas come under the department of community services.

When the one-city concept becomes operational the administration of residential renting and selling schemes and other municipal houses and properties will be under the department of community services.

The administration of trading premises, presently under the department of community services, becomes the responsibility of the Town Clerk's valuation and estates division.

Community services will be renamed the department of housing and community services which will be responsible for administering council-owned houses and providing various welfare services.

All vacant and unused council land will fall under the Town Clerk's valuation and estates division. Staff will be seconded if necessary to ensure the smooth transfer of various functions at the discretion of the Town Clerk, Cde Edward Kanengoni, and the director of community services, Mr Bev Taylor.

Cde Kanengoni is investigating the relocation of staff within the two departments.

Caretakers and estate teams who were responsible for minor property maintenance will be transferred to the department of housing and community services.

The council has still

not yet made any decision on the housing waiting list operated by the city valuer and estates manager, Mr John Cinnamon, and that by Mr Taylor.

Also to be looked into are the collection of income, action against defaulting tenants and buyers and the responsibility for policy for the administration of markets.

Commenting on the one-city recommendations the Mayor of Harare, Councillor Oliver Chidawu, told The Herald yesterday that the present two-city concept was undesirable. "We are wasting a lot of money duplicating services."

Clr Chidawu said a particular example was collection of rents and rates by community services in high-density areas while the city treasurer's department collected rates in low-density areas.

He said social services had to be equal in both low- and high-density areas. "Services in Highlands should also be available in Highfield," he explained.

The Mayor indicated that residents in both low- and high-density

suburbs would benefit from the one-city concept in that they would have similar municipal services.

"But I can foresee high-density residents being advantaged more than their counterparts in low-density areas because high-density areas like Dzivaresekwa, Highfield and others were neglected by past councils."

The major constraints inhibiting implementation of the one-city concept were legal problems, according to the Town Clerk, Cde Kanengoni.

Cde Kanengoni said there were two different sets of regulations applied in the control of buildings. The Model Building By-Laws (1977) applied to low-density areas and the city centre and the Salisbury (African Townships and Westwood) (Land and Buildings By-laws, 1972, and the Salisbury Public Buildings By-laws), applied in the high-density areas.

However, Cde Kanengoni, the municipal director of works, Cde Tongai Mahachi and Mr Taylor will examine the application of the by-laws.

15 April 1985

ZIMBABWE

REFUGEES PREFERRED FOR NEW JOBS BEFORE ALIENS

Harare THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 p 4

[Text]

REFUGEES will have preference over other non-Zimbabweans for jobs, according to regulations gazetted on Friday last week.

Under the Zimbabwe Refugees Regulations 1985, issued by the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare in terms of the Refugees Act of 1983, employers considering applications from foreigners shall give preference to recognised refugees or protected people.

The regulations set out the type of form to be used by those seeking refugee status as well as the forms to be used in processing applications, accepting and rejecting applications, hearing appeals and expelling refugees.

Under the Act an alien can be recognised as a refugee if he has a well founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or his political opinion.

Refugee status can also be given to those who have had to flee their homes because of external

aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order in part or all of their country. People can also be recognised as refugees under various international agreements.

A potential refugee applies on a form to any authorised officer (all police and immigration officers are authorised officers) for refugee status giving details of himself, his reason for leaving home and his method of entry into Zimbabwe.

The application is sent to the Commissioner of Refugees who issues temporary identity documents while the Zimbabwe Refugees Committee considers the application. The committee meets every two weeks and can be called into urgent sessions.

Those refugees and their families whose applications are successful are granted refugee status and issued with identity documents. There are also arrangements for transit centres and monthly welfare allowances if necessary.

CSO: 3400/830

ZIMBABWE

LENIN'S WRITINGS TRANSLATED INTO NDEBELE, SHONA

Harare THE HERALD in English 11 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

A PAMPHLET, The three Sources and three Component parts of Marxism, written by Lenin, has been translated into Shona and Ndebele by a group of intellectuals with the blessing of Zanu (PF)'s department of the commissariat and culture.

The ruling party's member of the political bureau and secretary for the commissariat and culture, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, told The Herald at the weekend:

"There has always been a need in this country for some kind of literature in vernacular to show the people and make them understand what we mean when we talk about scientific socialism." He said many people went to rallies and shouted slogans such as pamberi ne socialism without a proper grasp of what it meant.

"At times it leaves one with a sour taste in the mouth when you realise you are talking socialism to people who are not on the same wavelength with you," he said.

Cde Ushewokunze, who is the Minister of Transport, said the idea was to encourage as many people as possible to follow the example of the young men he had worked with so that "some of the concepts of Marxism-Leninism are translated into Shona, Ndebele and Kalanga."

He invited those interested to discuss their ideas with the commissariat "to make sure they are on course".

He said the commissariat and the party's department of information would help with the task of distributing and disseminating the revolutionary literature.

One of the translators, Cde Edgar Tafi Chigudu, who together with Cde Magiga Munashe Gahi and Cde David Kaulemi was responsible for the translation of the Leninist classic into Shona, said that what had brought the group together apart from the fact that they were cadres during the liberation struggle was ideological unity and dedication to the emancipation of the working people.

The translation into Ndebele was done by Cde Arnold Sibanda, Cde Mongosuthu Mvinjelwa Hallimana and Cde Ndebazekhaya Ginyilitshe Mathema.

Cde Mathema said that the group of translators could not have waited for experts in the two languages to do the translation because that alone was not sufficient to guarantee proper translation. He said what was important was to avoid the distortion of the Marxist-Leninist literature that could happen if

the translation were undertaken by enemies of the ideology.

He said the group looked at Marxism as a weapon in the class struggle and had chosen to translate the pamphlet by Lenin because it was one of the basic classics of Marxism.

He said the group would tackle next, the translation of another Leninist classic: The State and the Revolution, in order that "our people should read and understand the meaning of the state". He said the translation which took the group a year to complete, was a contribution to the development of Shona and Ndebele as languages.

"One way of taking Marxism to the people is to let Lenin speak in our own languages," he said.

This is the first time that a Marxist booklet has been translated into Shona and Ndebele and Cde Ushewokunze said he

hoped it would encourage debate among the working people throughout the country.

"We can only debate intelligently about issues we understand," he said.

Cde Sibanda said that the group was partisan from a class sense and was willing to defend its choice of words in the translation that had been done from a class perspective.

"To translate the word class itself was a big task but we found that it was a learning exercise to use our own language to spread revolutionary theories."

He said the reading would be hard and required dedication because just as any "other science, Marxism had its own kind of language."

The official launching of the pamphlet would be done soon under the auspices of the department of the commissariat and culture.

CSO: 3400/829

ZIMBABWE

PRESIDENT BANANA HAILS ARMY COLLEGE PLAN

Harare THE HERALD in English 23 Feb 85 p 1

[Text]

PLANS by the army's staff college to establish a military college for local defence forces and another for army personnel drawn from SADC countries, are highly commendable because they create an integrated force in Southern Africa, President Banana said yesterday.

Presenting certificates to 27 students who had completed an intermediate staff course (No. 8) at the army's staff college at the KG VI Barracks, Cde Banana said:

"I understand the staff college is looking forward to the possibility of setting up a purely defence force staff college, drawing on instructors and students from all elements of the security forces and envisaging also an eventual SADC defence college.

"This is an important issue and worthy of closer study. Whatever the outcome, these plans are commendable and . . . such a development would serve to create an integrated force for the overall good of Southern Africa," he told the graduating army officers.

The Zimbabwe Staff College offers selected army officers courses in strategy, tactics, training, administration and all facets of staff work necessary for the preparation and prosecution of warfare.

However, the proposed defence staff colleges will embrace an in-depth policy of co-operation with SADC member states in developing mutual agreements on strategy and defence and various other projects.

The possible participation of student officers from Mozambique in the next intermediate staff courses bore witness to future co-operation of this nature in the sub-region.

Commenting on the course, the President said higher standards of efficiency in the army were possible through knowledge, hard work and dedication. He was pleased that on visits to army and air force establishments in the country, all three qualities had been evident.

Since independence, many important changes had taken place, and this was evidenced by a boost in morale and an increase in the ability of the army to defend the nation.

But the army still had a long way to go before it fulfilled its goals and he urged commitment to realise these goals.

BASE

The Zimbabwe Staff College provided a professional base which ensured that the fighting forces were welded into disciplined and competent soldiers.

"We are most fortunate to have made such strides so soon after achieving independence, whereby the successive intermediate and now junior staff courses have been made available to us.

"These, I am certain, have appreciably influenced individual officers and the army as a whole and therefore bettered the standard all round. Proof of this, lies in comparison between the numerous units that existed immediately after independence and the more tightly-knit, knowledgeable army we have today," he said.

Cde Banana commended officials from both the public and private sectors and the British Military and Advisory Training Team (BMATT) for contributing their knowledge and skills during the 20-week course.

He also applauded the fact that police and air force officers had taken

part in the course. This would enhance the security of the country because all security enforcing agents were involved.

The President stressed the importance of discipline, loyalty and hard work. These virtues served to distinguish the professional from the amateur.

The graduation ceremony was attended by the Minister of State (Security), Cde Emmer-son Munangagwa, and several high - ranking army officials. After the presentation of certificates, Cde Banana was presented with a shield by Lt-Col. Francis Chirumuuta one of the graduating students.

The intermediate course, the highest level of professional training within the army aims to prepare students for major's appointments at army and brigade headquarters. The graduating group included lt-colonels, colonels, brigadiers and captains.

CSO: 3400/831

ZIMBABWE

NORTH KOREA PRESENTS 20 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS

Harare THE HERALD in English 23 Feb 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, yesterday commissioned 20 armoured personnel carriers (APCs) worth about \$5 million presented to Zimbabwe as a gift by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Speaking at 1 Mechanised Infantry Battalion based at Elphida Farm, Domboshawa, Cde Mugabe welcome the timely gift of the carriers which were now in army use.

He said the gift was another facility in building up the army into a modern sophisticated force of high mobility and balanced forces which would be capable of responding to any enemy attack with strength and purpose.

This year was an important landmark as Zimbabwe prepared to hold its first general election since independence and there were still elements in the country who refused to accept the will of the masses in 1980 and who were bent on overthrowing the Government.

Cde Mugabe said the dissidents had embarked on a campaign of terror, intimidation, murder (particularly that of Zanu (PF) officials), rape and robbery, and had betrayed the cause of peace and national unity through their deeds.

"We will no doubt eliminate them eventually from our society, but in the meantime, it is necessary for our security forces to be vigilant and stay ready to meet any new onslaught that the dissident groups, their supporters and leaders have planned."

The nation looked upon the security forces to protect them from those criminals and the political pariahs who encouraged and led them.

"It is a task of immense proportions and you must gear yourselves to it, knowing that the stakes are very high; you must not be found wanting by your country and all its people," he told members of the regiment.

He hoped that with the help of such friends as the Koreans, Zimbabwe would have the strongest armed forces in Southern Africa.

Ability

"Your ability must match the progress of our people, otherwise we are left wide open to the influence of those who do not agree with our principles and are envious of our success."

Good equipment did not win battles on its own, for it was the individual behind it who was the key factor.

The skill with which equipment was used was important and it was the driving force of discipline and belief in the cause that counted most.

"Should the occasion arise in the future that an invader does decide to cross our borders, we will be fighting from a position of strength; that right is on our side in defending our heritage, our land and our people." This, he said, was a mighty weapon in itself.

Cde Mugabe reminded the troops that the vehicles had to be handled with care during the necessary training programmes to ensure that their capabilities and limitations were understood. Only the best drivers and mechanics should be allowed to operate them.

"We must never be caught out with vehicles such as these in a state of disrepair at a time when they are most needed."

There could be no question of unrestricted use of the carriers and they should be used only for their specific purpose.

Using the armoured personnel carriers transformed the infantry from a slow response force with little protection to a speedy hard-hitting entity delivered to the point of battle and capable of dealing a devastating blow.

Extensive

With the country's extensive borders giving a potential invader many choices of crossing points, there was need for early response before the enemy could consolidate its forces.

"Hence the acquisition of the APCs gives us not only a most useful piece of equipment, but also one that is vital to our counter measures."

The Korean ambassador to Zimbabwe, Cde Li Zun Ok, said the equipment was sent to Zimbabwe with the support and solidarity of his country's people and president, Cde Kim Il Sung.

The ceremony was also attended by the Minister of State (Defence), Cde Ernest Kadungure, the Secretary for Defence, Cde James Chitauo, Air Vice-Marshal Josiah Tungamirai, Army Chief of Staff (A, Q) Major-General Jevan Maseko and other high ranking army officers.

CSO: 3400/831

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

WOMEN IN ARMY PRAISED--The purpose of training women in the Zimbabwe National Army was to enable them to carry out the duties to which they were assigned calmly and efficiently, the commander of 1 Brigade, Brigadier Edzai Chanyuka has said. Speaking at a passing-out parade for 13 members of the Zimbabwe Women's Service, three members of the CIO and four members of the Army Band at Brady Barracks at the weekend, Brig Chanyuka said every woman in the army must possess skills, understanding and faith in the cause for which she fought. "Passive endurance is not adequate. The will and capacity to fight and work must be maintained at the highest possible level." He said this could be achieved through thorough training, a high standard of discipline and good administration. All soldiers needed a fear to fight as opposed number of qualities to enable them to allay the fright. The qualities included loyalty, confidence, comradeship, courage, endurance, resourcefulness and discipline, he said. Brig Chanyuka said the role of women in the army had been identified and it had been found they were indispensable. By having weapons foundation courses for the Zimbabwe Women's Service, the gap between the ZWS and their male counterparts was closing. "By completing this course, you have proved beyond reproach that women can do what men can do despite tasks requiring a lot of physical stamina." Brig Chanyuka said the army's ultimate aim in war was to break the enemy's will to fight. To achieve this, the army must be an efficient fighting machine and must maintain cohesion, efficiency and professionalism. [Text] [Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 11 Mar 85 p 1]

HELICOPTER PURCHASES--According to informed sources, Zimbabwe plans to purchase 10 military helicopters. The government will choose among several pieces of equipment--namely, the Agusta-Bell-412 (Italy), the Dauphin made by Aerospatiale (France), the Westland (Great Britain) and the Puma (Romania, under license). In addition to two recently acquired Agusta-Bell-412 units, the air force now has about 30 French Alouette-III units and about 10 obsolete Agusta-Bell-205 machines which were used mainly during the Rhodesian war against the nationalist guerrillas. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jan 85 p 22] 8568

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